

# July/August 2010

# Steeple Talk

Trinity Presbyterian  
Church, Santa Cruz



## Gospel Living

As I write this Steeple Talk article for our July/August issue my family and I are returning from a long 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend in Louisville, Kentucky. We had a great time visiting the people and places we love in Louisville.

You may recall that Louisville is home to the headquarters of our denomination, the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Because of this I think, Presbyterians get a bit more press in Louisville than we do other parts of the country. When in Louisville I always enjoy seeing what the local newspaper, the Courier-Journal, is covering with regard to Presbyterians. I was treated to an abundance of press about Presbyterians during our stay in Louisville this time as our national General Assembly began during the time we were there. The paper is running continuing coverage of the assembly and some of the more controversial issues that are before the commissioners.

It was a feature story on a different aspect of church life, however, that particularly caught my attention last week. The article opened with the question, “How do Christians sell their faith to people who’ve heard it all before and aren’t buying it?” Some local Presbyterian pastors were quoted as saying, in effect, ‘stop trying so hard’. The old saying, “Preach the gospel, and if necessary use words,” is as true as ever. The pastors talked of how they and their congregations are remembering that it is often our actions rather than our words that most effectively bear witness to God’s life giving love we know through Jesus Christ. The pastors talked of how the most effective evangelism in their congregations happens when church members spend time in service to their communities and simply share their lives and journeys.

This is not really new news. I see this happening all the time at Trinity. But, amid all the controversies and challenges we have as we work to live together as a denomination, it is nice to remember that the grace and love of God we know in Christ continues to flow in us and through us as we live our lives with our neighbors here in Santa Cruz.

In Faith,  
Evie

### Inside this issue:

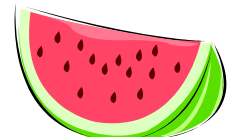
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### Meetings:

**Administration Committee,** July 8, 4:00 pm, Library  
**Mission Committee,** July 8, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room  
**Fellowship Committee,** July 13, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room  
**Outreach Committee,** July 18, following worship  
**Deacons, No July Meeting,** August 11, 4:00 pm, at Joanne Clever’s Home  
**Session,** Aug. 19, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room

### Dates to Remember:

**Summer Breakfast Fellowship,** July 18 & August 15, 9:00 am  
**Sweet Pea,** July 10 and August 14, 9:00 am—4:00 pm, Youth Room  
**Work Day,** July 10, 9:00 am—noon  
**Boutique,** every Tuesday, 9:30 am—12 noon, in the Youth Room  
**Book Club,** July 26, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room



## Trinity Committee News

### Session Meeting Report

The meeting was opened with a reading from Eugene H. Peterson's "Practicing Resurrection."

Pastors Report: Alisa Sutherland's resignation letter from the position of Youth Director at Trinity was received. The effective date of Alisa's resignation is June 30. Linda Wichelmann has requested that her membership status be changed from inactive to active. This was approved.

Trinity now has wireless internet in the church office. It will soon be available in other rooms at the church as well. Thanks to Bruce Miller for his effort. Evie will be away from July 12 - 16.

Committee Reports:

Spiritual Enrichment: Barbara Lopez will be coordinating the music for July and August. Sunshine Duffus will be coordinating summer Sunday school classes. Plans for the Vacation Bible Camp are progressing.

Fellowship: Breakfast before church will be held on July 18 and August 15. All are invited to attend.

Safe Church Practices: All Vacation Bible Camp leaders, church officers, and Sunday school teachers must go through the hour and half training. Wayne Norton is working on setting up training sessions.

Administration: A workday is scheduled for Saturday, July 10 from 9-12. A new contract with the Waldorf School is in effect.

Mission: Sunshine Duffus has planted a vegetable garden on the Poplar Street side of the church. A plan is being formulated for the food purchases for the Saturday homeless lunches.

### Fellowship—Trinity Breakfast

The Fellowship Committee is planning two breakfasts this summer at 9:00 AM on July 18 and August 15. For the first one, the committee will provide French toast casseroles, scrambled eggs and fruit salad; for the August breakfast we will bring muffins, bagels, coffee cakes and fruit. If there are any volunteers who would like to help the committee with any of this, please let us know (Karen Wichelmann, Ann Collins, Jane Beach, Sheena Adams, Mary Ann Hobbs, Betty

### Youth News

After much prayer and reflection Alisa Sutherland has submitted her letter of resignation from the position of youth worker at the church, effective June 30. Alisa has decided she wants to focus her time and energy on Samantha and her family. We celebrate Alisa's ministry among us and wish her well in her new life as a parent. Alisa, John and Samantha will continue to be a part of the Trinity family.

The personnel committee of the church is working to explore what the youth ministry program at the church will look like in the future. A meeting of youth, parents and session members will be scheduled in the late summer or early fall to share ideas. More information will follow soon.

### Engaging Spirituality Workshop and Retreat—July 31, 2010

Workshop: 9:00 am—12 noon

Lunch: 12 noon—1:00 pm

Retreat: 1:00 pm—4:00 pm

JustFaith Ministries presents a spiritual deepening process that invites small groups of adult Christians to explore the intersection between contemplative presence and social action, as it is lived out in their own lives. Engaging Spirituality focuses on the practical challenges of following Jesus into the broken heart of our world, inspired by the urgency and spirit of the Gospel message to our lives, to our relationships, and to our times. Participants practice "the undivided life" of Christian discipleship-engaging in contemplation while immersing ourselves in the heart of our fragmented world.

Engaging Spirituality ...is accessible and practical, inviting people to plumb their own depths.

- Introduces seekers to a breadth of contemporary and ancient wisdom.
- Moves us out to embrace current social realities from our hearts.
- Seeks a "grounded spirituality" for contemplative-prophetic living today.

Email Pat Plant at [pat@sanjosepbym.org](mailto:pat@sanjosepbym.org) or call her at (408) 279-0220 if you would like to attend.

## Ink Cartridge Recycling

If you have empty ink cartridges that you want to get rid of, consider donating them to Trinity. We can turn in up to 10 cartridges per month and beginning in July we will get a \$2.00 credit for each one, which will help pay for office supplies. Staples accepts HP, Brother, Canon, Dell, Epson, Kodak, and Lexmark cartridges.

## Things That Make Us Happy. . .

- To hear that Bruce Miller (Frank and Kate Miller's son) is installing wireless internet service to the church buildings. We now have wireless access in the Sanctuary/Office building. Soon we will have access for meetings in the Fellowship Hall, the library, and Fireside Room.
- To have parish associate, Kathleen Eschen-Pipes preach and lead worship on July 4. Thank you Kathleen!
- To see the beautiful renovations to LeAnn and Evie's offices. Many people painted, hung bulletin boards, built cabinets and *cleaned*. The rooms look great. Stop by and take a look!
- To hear that Linda Wichelmann has requested that her membership status at Trinity be moved from inactive to active status. Welcome back Linda!
- To hear that Sunshine Duffus has taken over responsibility for the Sunday School this summer while Ellen is away. She has recruited several teachers to assist with the teaching. Thank you Sunshine.
- To see the new vegetable garden replacing some of the lawn on the Poplar side of the church. The garden is an endeavor of the mission committee. Sunshine Duffus planted the garden. If you would like to take part in this new mission effort speak with Sunshine.



## Vacation Bible Camp coming to Trinity

Save the dates of August 2-6 for The Great Bible Reef Vacation Bible Camp at Trinity Presbyterian Church. Click on Summer Fun for Kids on Trinity's homepage at [www.trinitypressc.org](http://www.trinitypressc.org) for more information. You can register online or fill out a registration form in the Narthex and drop it off or send to the church office. If you are interested or have questions please speak to Ellen Bauerle or Katherine Macway.



## Trinity Book Club

The Book Club continues to meet at 7:00 pm on the fourth Monday of each month in the Fireside Room at Trinity. New faces are always welcome, or feel welcome to come if we happen to be reading a book that is a favorite of yours. Future reading will be:

July - "*People of the Book*" by Geraldine Brooks

August - "*Cutting For Stone*" by Abraham Verghese

## Trinity Birthdays and Anniversaries

### July Birthdays

6 Sue Yeaney  
13 Chet Bauerle  
29 Laverl McSweeney

### July Anniversaries

1 John and Gail Kountz

### August Birthdays

16 Edwin Taylor  
20 Kathleen Eschen-Pipes  
23 Charlie May  
25 Casey Powers,  
Katherine Macway  
27 Mark Pollard  
28 Jeane McDade  
29 Millie FitzGerald

### August Anniversaries

4 John and Annalea Collins  
10 Harry and Mary Blanchard  
22 George and Elizabeth Bunch  
29 Darrell and Sue Yeaney  
31 Lenore and Kostas Spalaris



If you don't see your birthday or Anniversary listed and would like it to be, please email the office at [trinitysc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:trinitysc@sbcglobal.net) or call 423-8995 and let us know.

## Year to Date Finance Report

January through May 2010

Total Income	\$101,540.32
Total Expense	74,617.33
Net Income	26,922.99



## Vacation Bible Camp Supplies Needed

If you can donate items to the Vacation Bible Camp craft program that are ocean related, we'd be delighted. Below are some of the items we need. A box is located in the narthex marked VBC for your contributions.

- Clean 1 liter pop bottles
- Cellophane wrapping-all colors accepted
- Blue and green fabrics; metallic fabric
- Yarn, yellows, blues, and greens
- Plastic containers (1-2 cups)
- Blue, green, and yellow crepe paper rolls
- Sea shells
- Fish netting
- Sponges

Thanks for helping make Vacation Bible Camp crafts a success!



## Thank You

Dear Trinity Family,

Thank you for the fun celebration for the graduating seniors! I enjoyed having a chance to celebrate with my church family. Thank you also for the bookmark and generous gift. I am so happy that I get to be a part of Trinity!

Love, Sarah Macway

## Devotionals

Trinity Presbyterian Church provides a few copies of "These Days" daily devotions free to our members and friends. The July/August/September issue is on the table in the narthex. Feel free to pick one up.

## Guest Organist

Barbara Lopez attended the University of Chicago from 1968 to 1970. In 1990, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Santa Cruz, with an emphasis on piano performance. In 1993, Barbara graduated from San Jose State University, with a Master of Arts in Music, with an emphasis in composition, including MIDI, synthesizers, computer software, film scoring, and recording.

Barbara is currently on the faculty at Cabrillo College in Aptos, and also instructs students in all levels and styles of both piano and voice in her private studio.

Barbara has served as Organist, Pianist, and Music Director for churches in the bay area, and has a total of fourteen years of experience in church music, including directing choirs.

We are happy to welcome Barbara to our church family for the summer.



## Hymn Sing Sunday - July 18 Breakfast too ...

Remember all those favorite hymns you love to sing? Sunday, July 18, we will have a 'Hymn Sing Sunday' when a major portion of our worship service will be devoted to singing hymns of your choice. Please suggest some of your favorites by emailing or bringing them into the church office. Old time gospel, spirituals, praise music, youth camp favorites - they are all welcome!

We will try to sing as many as possible on the 18th. If we do not get to all of them we'll try to use them this summer or in the coming months. If your favorites are not in one of the hymnals in or pews we will do our best to find them and provide copies. We will make a few song books available in the narthex this Sunday, July 11, to help jog your memory as well.

Mark your calendar for Hymn Sing Sunday, July 18, and send us your favorites! And come early to share breakfast with our church family on the 18th as well. See article on page 2 for details.

## Physics and Faith

Most of us have had the experience of learning something new or gaining a new insight for the first time ever, and then discovering that it applies to something else, seemingly completely different and disconnected. This happened to me recently as I delved into the mysterious physics of atomic particles.

Nature seems to play tricks on us human observers when we try to probe it in far-out ways. Up until a bit more than one hundred years ago it wasn't possible to measure the size of an atom or the mass of an electron and scientists went along smugly with the concept that very small particles, say one million millionth the size of everyday objects, acted according to the laws that had been figured out by Newton back around 1670. But when, around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it became possible to "look" at really small stuff views changed. It seemed that an electron, for example, shouldn't be thought of as being exactly at one place in space at a particular moment in time. Instead, before you measure it, you should describe it as a "probability wave" that extends in all directions forever. But then, once you do measure it, it turns out to be confined exactly to a very small region of space. Very Alice-in-Wonderlandish.

It took a while for physicists to get their minds around some of these discoveries. But gradually they found ways to cope. Much of the amazing technology that has come along during the past eighty years such as nuclear energy and microchips is based upon their revolutionary work. This was possible because scientists dealt with uncertainty and ambiguity using powerful and creative analytic techniques. They forged ahead by extending their intuition through new thinking that, while based upon the old, extended it to cover previously unknown situations.

Scientists were enabled to keep going, in spite of all the strangeness and uncertainty, because they had an overriding sense, faith, if you will, that nature is comprehensible and that, underlying all of its surface complications and seeming eccentricities, there is a deep-down simplicity and regularity that can be discovered. It seems to me that there is a way in which our Christian faith is also like that.

We learn as children, and celebrate in our liturgy, stories and concepts that go back thousands of years. We find that these echoes from the deep past constantly enrich our faith and permeate, through our practice, into our lives and our relations with fellow humans. Still we know, in some sense, that these concepts and stories are metaphors that, if treated as literal, can be misleading and confining. We do better when we probe more deeply and allow our faith to grow.

Just so, scientists continue to use older concepts such as particles and waves to aid and motivate their intuitions about physical reality. But they don't let themselves be confined by what evolution has provided us in the way of sensory experience and its interpretation. They move ahead, not by throwing away the old ideas but by building new ones solidly, block by block, that embrace and in some sense account for what went before. Similarly we must work, I believe, to grow our Christian faith

If you look on our Trinity website under *About Us; Our Character* you will find the words, "**We are both traditional and progressive,**" followed by examples of how we try to manage that. At the end of that statement there are these further words:

*How can we be so broad... so many things to so many people? Doesn't it mean that our faith is a mile wide but only an inch deep?*

No! Faith doesn't measure out that way, like some puddle. It is more like the ocean, both broad and deep. In fact, the broader it is the deeper it must go. And in the strengths and weaknesses of our humanity we value and love one another, finding our commonality in the depths of our faith.

Paul Seever

# July 2010

Sun

Mon

Tues

Wed

Thurs

Fri

Sat

				<i>1</i> AA 7:00-9:00 pm, Youth Room	<i>2</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i> Worship, 10:30 am  AA 8 pm - 9 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>5</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<i>6</i> Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, Fellowship Hall  AA 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall Boutique, 10 am - 12 pm, YR	<i>7</i> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library	<i>8</i> AA 7:00-9:00 pm, Youth Room Administration Meeting, 4:00 pm, Library Mission Commit- tee, 5:30 pm, FS	<i>9</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>10</i> Sweet Pea 9:00 am -2:00 pm, Youth Room  Work Day 9-12 noon
<i>11</i> Worship 10:30 am  AA 8 pm - 9 pm Fellowship Hall	<i>12</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<i>13</i> AA 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall Fellowship Meeting, 6:30 pm, FR Boutique, 10 am - 12 pm, Youth Room	<i>14</i> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library	<i>15</i> AA 7:00-9:00 pm, Youth Room Cub Scouts, 6:30 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>16</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i> Summer Breakfast , Fellowship Hall Worship 10:30 am Outreach Meeting 11:40 am AA 8:00 pm—9:00 pm, Fellowship	<i>19</i> AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<i>20</i> AA 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall  Boutique, 10 am - 12 pm, Youth Room	<i>21</i> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library S.C. Neuropathy Group, 1:00 pm, Fireside Room	<i>22</i> AA 7:00-9:00 pm, Youth Room	<i>23</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i> Worship 10:30 am  AA 8 pm - 9 pm, FH	<i>26</i> Office Closed Book Club, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<i>27</i> AA 5:00 pm, Fellowship Hall AA 7:30 pm, Potluck  Boutique, 10 am - 12 pm, Youth Room	<i>28</i> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library Ombudsman 12:00—2:30 pm, FS	<i>29</i> AA 7:00-9:00 pm, Youth Room	<i>30</i> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<i>31</i>
					YR=Youth Room FH=Fellowship Hall FS=Fireside Room	

# August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> Worship, 10:30 am AA 8 pm - 9 pm, FH	<b>2</b> Office Closed AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room Vacation Bible Camp 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm	<b>3</b> AA 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Boutique 9:30 am-12 noon Youth Room VBC	<b>4</b> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library  VBC	<b>5</b> AA 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Room  VBC	<b>6</b> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall  VBC	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> Worship, 10:30 am AA 8 pm - 9 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>9</b> Office Closed AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>10</b> AA 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Boutique 9:30 am-12 noon Youth Room	<b>11</b> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library Deacon's 4:00 pm Fireside Room	<b>12</b> AA 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>13</b> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>14</b> Sweet Pea 9:00 am -4:00 pm Youth Room
<b>15</b> Summer Fellowship Breakfast, 9:00 am Worship, 10:30 am AA 8 pm - 9 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>16</b> Office Closed AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>17</b> AA 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Boutique 9:30 am-12 noon Youth Room	<b>18</b> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library SC Neuropathy 1:00-2:30 pm Fireside Room	<b>19</b> Session 5:30 pm Fireside Room  AA 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>20</b> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> Worship, 10:30 am AA 8 pm - 9 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>23</b> Office Closed AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room Book Club 7:00 pm Fireside Room	<b>24</b> AA 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Boutique 9:30 am-12 noon Youth Room	<b>25</b> 12 Step 6:45-8:45 pm, Library Ombudsman 12:00-2:30 pm Fireside Room	<b>26</b> AA 7:00-9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>27</b> Office Closed  AA 7:30-9:00 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> Worship, 10:30 am AA 8 pm - 9 pm, Fellowship Hall	<b>30</b> Office Closed AA 7:30 - 9:00 pm Youth Room	<b>31</b> AA 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall Boutique 9:30 am-12 noon Youth Room				
					<i>YR=Youth Room FH=Fellowship Hall FS=Fireside Room</i>	

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We're on the Web  
[www.trinitypressc.org](http://www.trinitypressc.org)

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, or if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please send us an email or give us a call. Thank you!

## Sunday Saints



### July 4 Communion Servers

Elders—*Charlie May and Frank Miller*

Deacons—*Kate Miller and Sally Walters*

### Greeter

### Coffee

### Usher

July 4	Frank and Kate Miller	Kate Miller	Mary Ann and Russ Hobbs
July 11	Betty Gangware	Betty Gangware	Karen and Tom Wichelmann
July 18	The Bunch Family	Barbara Christie	David Gomez
July 25	Reed and Sunshine Duffus	Jennie Edwards	The Blanchards or Scotts
Aug. 1	Barbara and Michael Christie	Reed and Sunshine Duffus	Paul Seever
Aug. 8	Lenore Spalaris	Mary Ann and Russ Hobbs	Betty Gangware
Aug. 15	Jane DeVette and David Gomez	Emily and Lee Duffus	John Collins
Aug. 22	Mary Ann Hobbs	Bookie Nichols	The Blanchards or Scotts
Aug. 29	Karen Wichelmann	Kathleen Eschen-Pipes	Louise Pollard

### August 1 Communion Servers

Elders—*Emily Duffus and Wayne Norton*

Deacons—*Katherine Macway and Bookie Nichols*