

November 2010

Steeple Talk

Trinity Presbyterian
Church, Santa Cruz



Community

I am writing this article a few days after the last miner has been lifted from the shelter deep under the earth in Chile. The world has been captivated by the story of 33 men who survived a wall collapse in a mine and have lived for over two months 2000 feet below the surface of the earth in a cave the size of a small apartment.

For 69 days we watched and prayed for the miners, their families and the team of rescue workers. And then we watched in fascination and joy as each miner took what turned out to be about 15 minute ride, up through the earth in a capsule not much bigger than himself, out to waiting family and friends. The story of these miners and the community that surrounded them near the San Jose mine in northern Chile is a story of hope, faith, creativity, and hard work.

Now, as the miners and their families sort their way through the aftermath of this event, their lives forever changed, we too reflect on just what a story like this means. This event does not have the same impact for us as it does for those 33 men and their families but it does stir in us, I think, a potent reminder of our connections one to another and the miraculous power of community.

As we move through our fall together may we be mindful of the ways in which God is at work here and now through the community of faith we share here at Trinity.

Gratefully,
Evie

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Meetings:

Administration Committee, November 4, 4:00 pm, Library
Mission Committee, November 4, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room
Spiritual Enrichment Committee, November 9, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room
Fellowship Committee, November 9, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room
Session, November 18, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room
Deacons, November 28, following worship, Fireside Room

Dates to Remember:

Sweet Pea, November 13, 9:00 am—4:00 pm, Youth Room
Boutique, every Tuesday, 9:30 am—12 noon, in the Youth Room
Bible Study, continues Thursdays, 1:00 pm, Fireside Room
Book Club, November 22, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room
Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon, November 23, 12 noon, Fellowship Hall
First Sunday of Advent, November 28.

Board/Committee Reports

Session

The October Session meeting was opened with prayer by Evie Macway. Charlie May led the devotion.

Some of the highlights of the meeting include:

Stewardship: Frank Miller reported on the Stewardship Luncheon held on October 10. The stewardship effort for 2011 is well underway. Thanks was expressed to Frank for the work of the stewardship committee.

Personnel: The personnel committee has not had many responses to the job posting of the youth worker position. The posting will remain up at the local universities.

Safe Church Practices: Another Safe Church Practices training will be held after the first of the year.

Outreach: The Seniors Luncheon will be next Tuesday, October 26.

Spiritual Enrichment: Ellen Bauerle reported that the committee is looking toward Advent and making plans for the Advent/Christmas season. Juanita Stock has offered to make the Advent candles to be used in the sanctuary this Advent season.

Nominating Committee: Juanita Stock reported that the committee has been successful in obtaining a full slate of deacons and elders. Emily Duffus and Peggy Minier have agreed to be nominated for elders the Class of 2013. Joanne Clever, Gwen May, and Carolyn Brothers have agreed to be nominated as deacons for the same class.

It was moved, seconded and passed that October 24 will be brought to the congregation's attention as Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Fellowship Committee

October has been a busy month for the Fellowship Committee. We were pleased to welcome Sue Yeane as a new member of our committee.

A Stewardship Luncheon was held on Sunday, October 10 after church, with the members of the Fellowship Committee providing the fixings for a taco salad bar and apple crisp for dessert.

Dolly Bass graciously provided a delicious lunch for the Membership Exploration Class on Sunday, October 24. Thank you, Dolly!

Kate Miller and Karen Wichelmann are organizing the food for the October 26 Senior Luncheon. Thank you, Kate and Karen!

On Sunday, October 31, the youth are holding a Halloween Party as a fundraiser for their summer mission trip. The Fellowship Committee is providing the lunch of lasagna, salad, garlic bread, and cookies. Plenty of fun and good food is in store for everyone!

Our annual Christmas Cantata will take place Sunday, December 19. As a thank you to the choir, the Fellowship Committee will be serving Christmas cookies afterwards. Please plan to join us for beautiful music and some goodies in celebration of the Christmas season.

Deacons

Deacons met on Sunday, October 24th, right after church. Joanne Clever agreed to serve on the Church Nominating Committee for next year. It was decided to adopt 3 families of 4 to 6 persons through the Adopt-A-Family program for Christmas this year. Deacons will provide food vouchers to cover whatever isn't donated by parish members. Deacons are investigating ways that the Trinity Church family can reach out to our community. The following possibilities will be investigated. Food for the Homeless Shelter—Elizabeth Bunch, Second Harvest Food Bank Barrel—Karen Wichelmann, Homeless School—Kate, Miller, Branciforte Middle School—Joanne Clever, Coats for Kids—Sally Walters. Suggestions from members of the congregation for other possibilities would be most welcome. Just share your thoughts with any Deacon.

Year to Date Finance Report

January through September 2010

Total Income \$156,789.85

Total Expense 141,490.04

Net Income 15,299.81



Looking Ahead to Advent

More details will follow in the December issue of Steeple Talk but please mark your calendars for these special activities in the life of the church during the Advent season at Trinity.



Wednesday Night Advent Studies

The theme for our Wednesday evening Advent studies this year will be *Night Visions: Waiting Together for Christmas*. We will focus on three aspects of waiting. Waiting is not an easy task for many of us, yet it is often a very real aspect of our faith. As we wait once again, as individuals and as a church, for the coming of Christ into our world at Christmas, the Advent season provides us an opportunity to practice waiting and to explore some of the ways our faith may grow as we wait. On the Wednesday evenings of Advent this year we will wait together as we share a meal and time of study and discussion.

The topics for the evenings are taken from a book by Jan L. Richardson entitled, *Night Visions: Searching the Shadows of Advent and Christmas*. The dates and topics are as follows:

December 1 *Darkness*

December 8 *Desire*

December 15 *Preparing a Space*

Trinity Choir Advent Cantata

The talented Trinity Presbyterian Church Choir will lead worship on Sunday, December 19, as they share an Advent Cantata with the church community. The cantata, arranged by Joseph Ribeiro and Evie Macway is entitled *To Us a Child is Born* and will be a combination of musical pieces and spoken word. It will be a part of our regular Sunday morning worship on the 19th. We look forward to this special Advent service.



Bulletin Cover Artwork

Have you noticed the photos that have been the cover art for our Sunday worship bulletins many of the recent Sunday mornings? Professional photographer and church member, David Gomez, has made his photo library available to the church for use on our bulletin covers. A special thanks to David for sharing his talent with the Trinity community in this way. We look forward to many beautiful bulletin covers in the future. David also took all the photos of the church windows that we are seeing in our stewardship materials this fall.

First Presbyterian Church Palo Alto

The First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto will host Diana Butler Bass, November 5-7, 2010. She is a former religion columnist for *The New York Times* syndicate, writer for *The Huffington Post* and *BeliefNet*, author of *A People's History of Christianity and Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the neighborhood Church is Transforming Faith*, and commentator for *USA Today*, *Time*, *NPR*, *Newsweek*, *The Washington Post*, *CNN* and *PBS*.



This event is part of the Robert McAfee Brown Lectureship. For a schedule of events and map: <http://www.fprespa.org/lecture.htm> or call Sarah at 650-325-5659, ext. 100.

First Presbyterian Church, 1140 Cowper (at Lincoln), Palo Alto.

Bountiful Holiday Boutique

The third annual Holiday Boutique and Bake Sale/Tea Room will be Saturday, December 4 from 9:00 am—2:00 pm in the Youth Lounge and Fireside Room.



Mark your calendars and plan to bring a friend to the event. As usual there will be holiday wreaths, ornaments, table runners, tote/shopping bags, vine gift bags, scarves. New this year are Advent calendars (these will be available before December 1), small Santas, Wisemen figures, women's purses, Holiday cards and more.

Help spread the word on the date and time of this annual event. We look forward to helping you get your holiday season underway.

Things That Make Us Happy. . .

- To welcome Dan Olivieri to the pulpit last month. Dan is a chaplain at Dominican Hospital. It was a pleasure to have him with us.
- To hear and see the stewardship presentation at the luncheon in October. Thank you to all who provided the delicious lunch and the stewardship committee for their work in sharing our dreams and plans for ministry at Trinity in 2011.
- To celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Sunday at Trinity.
- To hear that Jenny Macway received the Open Heart Award, given each year to a graduating senior, from the Cal-Aggie Christian Association of UC Davis. The award is given to a student who contributes to the life and work of the community.



Holiday Office Hours

During Thanksgiving week, the office will be open Monday and Tuesday, the 22nd and 23rd and closed Wednesday and Thursday, the 24th and 25th.

Christmas week the office will be open Monday, December 20th through Wednesday, December 22nd and closed December 23rd.

Prayers

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Carolyn Moyer. Carolyn passed away on October 14 at her home. Although Carolyn was not an official member of Trinity she was a regular worshiper with us, a faithful member of the Tuesday morning boutique group and a friend to many.

Trinity Birthdays and Anniversaries

November Birthdays

6 Barbara Scott
8 Jane DeVette, Hal Morris,
Joanne Clever
12 Jenny Macway
29 Darrell Yeane
30 Weston Gomez

November Anniversaries

19 Charlie & Gwen May



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

Stewardship 2010

We have now completed our planning of next year's program, which has been initiated as of October 10th at our Stewardship Luncheon. The Committee wishes to thank many of you for your enthusiastic support. In particular the Deacons and Elders, and the Session Committees and their members made this possible through their efforts in creating our dream budget for next year and to Fellowship for preparing the delicious lunch.



To David Gomez, we give thanks for the beautiful photographs of the sanctuary windows that helped make our theme vision window that now stands in the Sanctuary with 10 percent of its many stained glass pieces being colored so far. The window will remain in place over the next 3 or 4 weeks waiting for all of our responses of caring and sharing. The dream budget includes the Session's major goal of achieving a ten percent allocation for local, national, and international mission programs.

These commitments of Talent, Time, and Treasure will enable our window to be completely colored and thereby clear the way for total budget approval. Thank you for your support.

Trinity Book Club

If you love to read and want to be part of a group of others who enjoy the same thing, come to the book club. The Book Club meets at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of each month in the Fireside Room at Trinity Presbyterian Church. New faces are always welcome!



Novembers selection is: "Daughter of Persia" by Sattareh Farman Farmaian

December: No meeting

Look for upcoming selections in the newsletter or on trinity's website at www.trinitypressc.org after the new year.

Boutique Fall Fundraiser

The boutique ladies will be selling wreaths and other fall decorations on November 21 during coffee hour. This sale is just in time for your Thanksgiving holiday tables. They will also have Advent Calendars available for purchase.

Hospice of Santa Cruz County

Hospice of Santa Cruz County Invites You and Your Loved Ones to:

An Interfaith Memorial Service, on Tuesday, November 9 at 7:00 pm at Resurrection Catholic Community Church, 7600 Soquel Drive, Aptos. This is a time to share, remembering those we have lost. Bring a photograph or object of your loved one for our remembrance table. There will be refreshments immediately after the service.

Coping with Grief During the Holidays

When: Wednesday, December 1, 2010
6:00—8:00 pm

Where: Hospice of Santa Cruz County
940 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley

RSVP: Grief Support Program, 831-430-3000

The holidays can be painful and difficult when someone you love has died. Join with others to remember the gift of love and learn tools for coping. Come by yourself or with family and friends. Children ages 5-18 are welcome for a separate group with creative and fun activities. Children will be invited to join the adults for a shared closing.

Tree of Lights

Join us for our Annual Tree Lighting Ceremonies as we remember our loved ones throughout the holiday season.

Sunday, December 5, 2010
5:30 pm at Hospice Headquarters
940 Disc Drive in Scotts Valley

Tuesday, December 7, 2010
5:30 pm at Deer Park Plaza
(above Deluxe Foods) in Aptos

If you would like to purchase a symbolic light in remembrance of a loved one, please call 430-3000 or go to our website, www.HospiceSantaCruz.org

For more information about any of these events, see the flyers posted on the bulletin board or call 430-3000.



The "Jesus Seminar" Opens the Scripture

Which is the first "book" in the Bible to mention the resurrection of Jesus from the dead? Matthew? Mark? Luke? John? No, none of these, say the 100 or more Biblical scholars who make up the "Jesus Seminar" which celebrated its 25th anniversary at its Fall gathering in Santa Rosa, CA. from October 13- 16, 2010. The first mention of the resurrection of Christ in the New Testament canon is found in Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians which was written several decades before the first Gospel accounts.

This is one of the many interesting and significant things Pastor Evie, Paul Seever and Darrell Yeaney learned while they attended the Jesus Seminar in October. The scholars of the "Jesus Seminar" have been focusing their considerable exegetical skills exploring the writings of the Apostle Paul for the past five years. Several books have come out of this intensive study including The Authentic Letters of Paul: A New Reading of Paul's Rhetoric and Meaning.

A person might suppose that the Jesus Seminar and the publications which it produces are too esoteric and difficult for the average lay person to understand. But such is not the case. In fact, the Jesus Seminar was originally founded for the very purpose of making biblical scholarship available for the average reader and, hopefully, producing a more intelligent and biblically literate church.

Now here is the really exciting news. You do not have to go to Santa Rosa, California, or Salem, Oregon the home of the Jesus Seminar, to get a taste of this rich new resource in biblical understanding. A group of congregations in Santa Cruz, including Trinity, are sponsoring a "Jesus Seminar On the Road" event here in Santa Cruz to which you are all invited.

It is scheduled for March 4-5, 2011 and will be held at the First Congregational Church. Put it on your calendar now and plan for a mind expanding exploration of the topic, "Jesus, Politic and Empire: Then and Now." You will hear more about this later, but don't hesitate to ask Evie, Paul or Darrell about their experience of four days with the Jesus Seminar last month.

Food and Clothing Donations

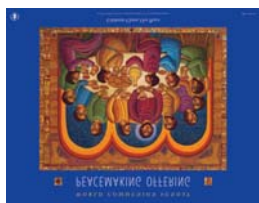
Keep your eyes open for ways to donate food and clothing....Deacons are working on these projects. If you see a container in the narthex some Sunday soon, notice what it is there for, and plan to help fill it next time you pass by.

Marjorie Bunch

After a struggle with weakness and recuperation from pneumonia, Marjorie Bunch died October 21 at age 97. She moved to Santa Cruz less than a year ago and appreciated her Trinity friends, her family, and trips to the ocean. Memorials to Trinity Presbyterian are invited by George and Elizabeth.

Peacemaking Offering

Trinity collected \$825.52 for the Peacemaking Offering taken on October 3. Trinity will retain 25% (\$206.38) to be used for the Pennies for Peace program.



Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon

Please join us for our Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon on November 23rd 12:00-1:30 in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity. The program will be on winter safety and Holiday Carols.

National Memory Screening Day

When: Tuesday, November 16, 10:00 am—4:00 pm
Where: Áegis of Aptos
Free and open to the public. Refreshments served.
Call Michelle Holland, 831-684-2700 for information.

Thank You

Dear Trinity Presbyterians,
Thank you, yet again, for your faithful support of Bernie and Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta. You are a blessing to their ministry and to the mission of the entire PC(USA). Thanks! Bruce Whearty

Santa Cruz al Salvador Papusa Benefit Meal

On Sunday, November 7, 10:00 am— 1:00 pm, at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 2500 Soquel Avenue.

A Thanksgiving Day Prayer

Lord, so often times, as any other day
when we sit down to our meal and pray,

we hurry along and make fast the blessing,
thanks, amen, now please pass the dressing.

We're slaves to the olfactory overload.
We must rush our prayer before the food gets cold.

But Lord, I'd like to take a few minute more
to really give thanks to what I'm thankful for.

For my family, my health, a nice soft bed,
my friends, my freedom, a roof over my head.

I'm thankful right now to be surrounded by those,
whose lives touch me more than they'll ever possibly
know.

Thankful Lord, that You've blessed me beyond
measure. Thankful that in my heart lives life's
greatest treasure.

That You, dear Jesus, reside in that place and I'm ever
so grateful for Your unending grace.

So please, heavenly Father, bless this food You've
provided and bless each and every person invited.
Amen! --Scott Wesemann

<http://christianity.about.com/od/thanksgivingverses/a/thanksgivingpra.htm>

Knitting for Premies

A reminder that we have an ongoing program of knitting hats for premies at the neo Natal program at Dominican Hospital. There is a basket on the table in the narthex with patterns if you need one. These tiny hats don't take very long to make, are a good use for your odds and ends of yarns, and are needed to keep the heat in the heat in the tiny bodies of God's littlest babies. So, when looking for a way to use an hour or two wisely, get those needles clicking—and don't forget to knit a bit of love in every stitch.



November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Office Closed AA, 7:30-9 pm, YR	2 Boy Scout Parents, 6:30 pm, YR Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am - noon, YR AA, 5:00 pm, FH	3 12 Step, 6:45-8:45 am, Library Neighbor to Neighbor Community Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room	4 AA, 7 - 9 pm, YR Administration Committee Meeting, 4:00 pm, Library Mission Committee Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room	5 Office Closed AA, 7:30—9 pm, Fellowship Hall	6
7 Choir, 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Papusa El Salvador Benefit meal, 9am-1:00 pm, St. Stephens Lutheran Church AA 8 pm—9 pm, FH	8 Office Closed AA, 7:30-9 pm, YR	9 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am - noon, YR AA, 5:00 pm, FH Spiritual Enrichment Committee Meeting, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room Fellowship Committee Meeting, 6:30 pm, Fireside Room	10 12 Step, 6:45-8:45 am, Library	11 AA, 7 - 9 pm, Youth Room	12 Office Closed AA, 7:30—9 pm, Fellowship Hall	13 Sweet Pea 9 am—4 pm, YR
14 Choir, 9:00 am Worship, 10:30 am AA, 8 - 9 pm, FH	15 Office Closed AA, 7:30-9 pm, YR	16 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am - noon, YR AA, 5:00 pm, FH	17 12 Step, 6:45-8:45 am, Library SC Neuropathy, 1-2:30 pm, FS December Newsletter Article Deadline Ombudsman, 12 noon—2:30 pm, Youth Room	18 AA, 7 - 9 pm, Youth Room Session, 5:30 pm, Fireside Room	19 Office Closed AA, 7:30—9 pm, Fellowship Hall	20
21 Choir, 9:00 am Worship, 10:30 am AA, 8 - 9 pm, FH Deacons Meeting 11:45 am, FR	22 Office Open AA, 7:30-9 pm, YR Book Club, 7:00 pm, Fireside Room	23 Office Open Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am - noon, YR AA, 5:00 pm, FH Trinity Fourth Tuesday Senior Luncheon, 12 noon, FH	24 Office Closed 12 Step, 6:45-8:45 am, Library	25 Office Closed Thanksgiving Day	26 Office Closed AA, 7:30—9 pm, Fellowship Hall	27
28 Choir, 9:00 am Worship, First Sunday of Advent 10:30 am AA, 8 - 9 pm, FH	29 Office Closed AA, 7:30-9 pm, YR	30 Boy Scouts, 7:30 pm, FH Boutique, 9:30 am - noon, YR AA, 5:00 pm, FH			YR=Youth Room FH=Fellowship Hall FS=Fireside Room	

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Email: trinitysc@sbcglobal.net



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



November 7 Communion Servers
Elders—Juanita Stock and Charlie May
Deacons—Katherine Macway and Elizabeth Bunch

Greeter

Coffee

Usher

November 7	Michael Christie	Sally Walters	Harry and Mary Blanchard
November 14	Dolly Bass	Dolly Bass	Charlie and Gwen May
November 21	The Macway Family	Bookie Nichols and Karen Wichelmann	David Gomez
November 28	Frank and Kate Miller	Lenore Spalaris	Bob and Barbara Scott

December 5 Communion Servers
Elders—Ellen Bauerle and Wayne Norton
Deacons—Pete Halper and Karen Wichelmann