



TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER SPRING 2025

Upcoming Events

Dear friends in Christ,

As we near Lent, I have a lot of exciting opportunities to tell you about. Remembering that Lent is the time that we join Jesus in journeying to Jerusalem and the cross, let us connect to Jesus as much as possible in the weeks ahead through church programs, events, worship and missions. The journey is difficult but it leads to a greater unity with God's compassion and joyful new life. At the end of the dark cross is the light of eternal life.

So in the pages that follow, please consider what you might join or what you might otherwise do to

engage our community better with the love and compassion and justice of Jesus.

Sincerely yours,
Pastor David



March 1-2
Garage Sale

March 4
Shrove Tuesday Mardi Gras Party

March 5
Ash Wednesday

March 9
Growing Together

March 30
Trinity Softball Begins

April 5-10
Mexico Mission Trip

April 13
Palm and Passion Sunday
Growing Together

April 18
Good Friday

April 20
Easter

April 25-27
Great Getaway (GGA)

FAT TUESDAY MARDI GRAS PARTY MARCH 4

Shrove March 4

5:30-7:00 p.m.

Arrive between
5:30 & 6:45 p.m.

Free with Suggested
donations of
\$10 per adult and \$5 per child

All are welcome!
Please RSVP to Donna
dvavu@yahoo.com



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH 1106 Alameda,
San Carlos

Other Names:
Mardi Gras
Fat Tuesday
Pancake Day

- Pancakes,
Sausage, and Fruit
- Games(inc. Netflix
Squid Games), Music,
and Activities
for all ages!

**Feast in the Spirit of
Love, Welcome and
Mercy before
the fast of Lent.**



Come join a 'Fat Tuesday Mardi Gras Party' on **Tuesday, March 4th between 5:30 pm and 7:00pm** at Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1106 Alameda de las Pulgas, San Carlos. We will be serving pancakes*, sausage, bacon, applesauce and fruit. The Mardi Gras music will be joyful as you eat, play games and participate in activities with your kids and friends.

Come one and all for the Mardi Gras 'Feast before the Fast' of Lent. Suggested donations of \$10 per adult and \$5 per child will cover costs and then support our ministries to the hungry. (*Gluten free will be available, along with many drinks.)

Please RSVP to Donna at dvavu@yahoo.com, and let her know how many will be attending. We are also looking for a few more people to help with setup, decorating, cooking, cleaning, games, activities, and more. Please contact Pastor David at djahnke@trinity-pres.org if you can take an hour long or more shift anytime between 4:00pm and 8:15pm.

Ash Wednesday Service Maundy Thursday National Day of Prayers

As I continue to forge relationships with colleagues and friends from other churches and faith traditions, we are all invited to **Trinity Lutheran Church in San Carlos** to remember that 'from dust we came, to dust we shall return (and perhaps we will even remember that 'from dust we shall be recreated'.) Joshua Serrano, pictured fourth from the right, is the pastor of the church. **This Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6pm on March 5th.**

Others pictured starting from the left are Deacon Ernie from St. Charles, Rev. Jim from the UCC in San Mateo, Richard from the UCC here in town, Courtney from the Lutheran church in Redwood City and Father Roy from St. Charles. This newly formed Interfaith Clergy Support Group meets once a month. We will probably go to **Woodside Road Methodist Church for Maundy**

Thursday Service at 6:30pm and they may come to Trinity for Good Friday. Finally, please put the Interfaith National Day of Prayers Service down on your calendars for **May 1st at Community Church, San Carlos. It will be at 7 or 7:30pm.**



Holy Week

PALM SUNDAY CELEBRATE THE KING

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 13 at 10am

I still have hopes to do a pageant but that (and the Good Friday service below) will depend on how quickly we wrap up our searches for new staff. No matter what, we will joyfully celebrate the coming of God's King into the city of God and begin to remember his passion as well.

Good Friday Service

'Lovelight' Dramatic Presentation

April 18 at 7pm

This service beautifully remembers Jesus' life, trial and death from the perspective of Mary, Jesus' Mom. Readers will be reading a script based on scripture but with nicely added textures and imaginative suggestions. There are slides to accompany the story as well and beautiful solos, choral and congregational music interspersed. Thank you for your prayers.

GOOD FRIDAY



Easter Sunday ***April 20 at 10am***

Joyful Celebration of the Resurrection

Easter Sunday
HE IS RISEN



There is no day like Easter. We will celebrate the resurrection with your favorite hymns and hear the good news of Jesus' rising from the grave, shocking the guards and appearing to Mary Magdalene and eventually the disciples. New Life abounds for all as we rejoice in the stone being rolled away and Jesus walking out with a new body. It just hit me that the stone only needed to be rolled away for the women since he could walk through matter at this point with his transformed and imperishable body.

CALM

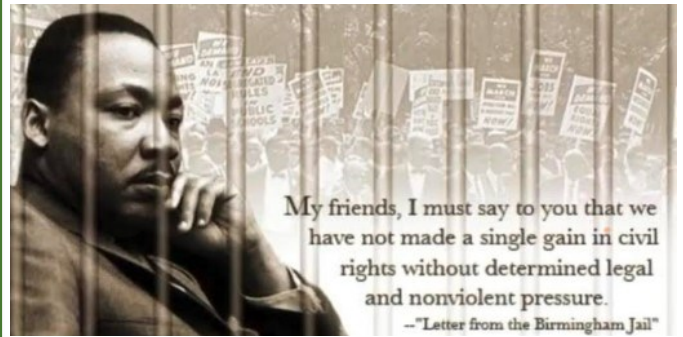
Change a Life Ministry

The average American has thousands of dollars in credit card debt. Credit card debt is seen as a sign of a lavish, irresponsible lifestyle. However, many people resort to using credit cards as a means of survival.

Martha (not her real name) is a single mother of three. Martha worked at a grocery store during the night shift, allowing her to be at home during the day to care for her children (her teenage son took over babysitting duties while she was at work). However, Martha's schedule was changed to a day shift. She had no one to care for the children during the day, and she was determined to keep her family together. Because Martha could not work during these hours, her hours were cut. With reduced income, Martha started using her credit cards to make ends meet. Suddenly, she went from being a woman who always paid her bills on time to someone who was drowning in a sea of debt.

Martha contacted Change a Life Ministry (CALM) for help. CALM's mission is to endow one-time grants to promote a positive change in a person's life. With careful consideration, CALM approved a grant to pay off most of her credit card debt. When Martha was told of the approval, she asked to hear the news again—she was in disbelief!

With this ease in her financial situation and a renewed confidence and faith in herself, Martha was able to get some of her work hours restored. She is working steadily to get completely out of debt. Martha was grateful for the help she received from CALM. Thank you, Trinity, for making this upward trajectory in Martha's life possible!



Trinity Presbyterian Church is proud to have participated in the public action of witness on January 20th. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s timeless words in "*Letter from Birmingham Jail*" echoed out from the County Plaza in Redwood City and radiated compassion, justice and equity across every boundary intended to separate us. The tangible gathering of over 35 organizations embodied the power of togetherness and lay the groundwork for the work of solidarity ahead in the coming years. There is a fierceness that is borne from love that compels us to stand for what is right, what is just and what is good. That love leaves no one behind. Watch the inspiring event at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=20sx_A2xBTk



Global Outreach

Mission Aviation Fellowship's John Woodberry

Trinity's Global Outreach Ministry Team has long supported the mission of MAF, focusing on the vital work of John Woodberry. For the past 3 years, John has been the program director charged with reestablishing MAF's program in a restricted country in South Central Asia.

Big News! John has now been asked to lead the relaunch of a program in Bougainville, located east of Papua New Guinea. He will oversee the Bougainville Launch Team, which will establish initial aviation and technology operations, form a team structure, recruit personnel, and refurbish and build infrastructure and airstrips.



*Background-*MAF International last served the province 50 years ago. A 10 year civil war that began in 1988 destroyed much of the areas infrastructure, creating many challenges for the relaunch of this program. A peace process followed the civil war, and today, the autonomous region of Bougainville is on the brink of independence from Papua New Guinea. There are great needs for medical care, churches, missions, and education.

Following extensive training and orientation, John and his wife Corinne will move to the capital Buka, in March. He has asked that Trinity will pray for this upcoming trip, and for God to open the right doors to get this new program launched.

All Church Retreat Great Getaway (GGA)

April 25 - 27, 2025



Mark your calendars to gather with your church family for a weekend of relaxation, rejuvenation and encouragement! If you've not attended GGA in the past, now is your time - and if you have, you know what a rewarding time it is!

At this year's GGA, we'll explore **BEING** with God, **BEING** the Body of Christ, and **BEING** the Church to a wounded, weary, and wandering world.



Our guest speaker, Rachael Wade is a Bible teacher, writer, and seminary student passionate about encouraging and equipping men and women with the Word of God. She believes in the power of the "in process" story. For this reason, she created Olive Us (<https://www.oliveus.net>), a ministry where women recount to remember the goodness and faithfulness of God.



Signups begin Sunday, February 23 online at <https://trinity-pres.org/great-getaway> and after worship in Fellowship Hall. We look forward to **BEING** with you!

Volunteer Spotlight: Mike Garoutte



TAKING THE HIGH ROAD HOW A FORMER PILOT HAS KEPT THE VILLAGES MOVING

This month, we are thrilled to shine a spotlight on Mike Garoutte, a remarkable volunteer whose unwavering dedication and service have had a profound impact on so many of our Villagers' lives. Mike comes from South Pasadena, California where a passion for service took flight early on - literally! After graduating from Occidental College, he pursued flight

training and flew C123s and later C141s during his service in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam. Mike not only survived the harrowing challenges of the Tet Offensive, but he also went on to build a full life rich in service to others.

Since moving to Belmont over 50 years ago, Mike has seamlessly woven his commitment to community into the fabric of his daily life. He's not just a devoted husband to Sherri - his wife of nearly 58 years - but also an active retiree engaged in numerous activities, from leading a weekly Bible study to bowling on Friday mornings. Mike's spirit of service extends to his leadership roles at Trinity Presbyterian Church as well as taking on the responsibility of Treasurer for the Masonic Lodge of Menlo Park and participating as Secretary for SIRS (Sons in Retirement).

Since joining VSMC in 2015, Mike has become a lifeline for many, providing essential transportation for members who need rides to medical appointments, airport pick-ups, and more. With an impressive tally of 966 rides - inching toward the landmark of 1,000 - he's known for his reliability and willingness to commit to the more challenging transportation requests like a late-night airport drop-off, "I yam what I yam!" he humorously asserts.



FEATURED ARTICLE

FROM VILLAGES OF SAN MATEO COUNTY

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025

Visit <https://www.villagesofsmc.org/>
to read the full newsletter

Mike's dedication glows brightest when it comes to critical rides. He stepped up to assist a member requiring weekly dialysis treatments, making those early morning drives a regular part of his week. "I'd be ready and waiting in the parking garage at 4:50 AM," he recalls with a chuckle, embodying the dependability that VSMC and its members have come to rely on.

His ability to make each ride more than just a drive - offering companionship and support - has earned him the heartfelt gratitude of many and the reputation as a flexible, caring person that is so much more than just a guy behind the wheel.

Mike Garoutte is a stellar example of what it means to serve others, and we are incredibly grateful for the countless lives he has touched. Thank you, Mike, for your big heart, your commitment, and your unwavering support of our community!



I feel an inward sigh of relief when Mike is taking me. I trust him; I feel comfortable; he knows where he's going, and good-natured conversation is the cherry on top.

A VSMC member



COMMUNITY
OUTREACH



RJAG serving coffee on MLK, Jr. weekend



Game Night in Fellowship Hall

Life of the Church



Growing Together



Small group at Pinstripes bowling



Hiking Club

Trinity softball team celebrating fellowship and fun



Christmas caroling on Eucalyptus



RJAG activity inspired by Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech

37th Annual Trinity Garage Sale

Saturday, March 1st and Sunday, March 2nd



March 1st pre-sale 8am-8:30am (\$10 entry),
8:30am-3pm, free entry to all.
March 2nd sale from 11am-3pm.

Come and support Trinity's Youth Mexico Mission trip where High School students and advisors travel to Mexico with Amor Ministries to build houses for the poor.

We need volunteers to help with set up, the sale and clean up. More information at <https://trinity-pres.org/connect/upcoming-events>



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