

2025  
FEBRUARY

# Trinity Times

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CAMARILLO, CA

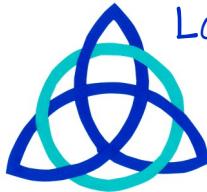
LOVE IS PATIENT,  
LOVE IS KIND.

1 Corinthians 13:4



**Trinity Times Monthly Newsletter**  
**February 2025, Issue No. 186**

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Loving Christ  
Living for Christ  
Leading others to Christ

## Table of Contents

### Cover: 1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV)

- 2 Table of Contents, Trinity Staff**
- 3 Prayers for the People**
- 4 Current Elders and Deacons, Deacon's News**
- 5 Session Highlights, Financial Report**
- 6-7 Arstein Update**
- 8 February Birthdays & Anniversaries**
- 9 Cake on the Patio, Annual Congregational**
- 10 Youth and College Ministries**
- 11 Meal Share Camarillo**
- 12 Sap, Syrup, and Servanthood: by Don Sterrenburg**
- 13 CROP Hunger Walk, Hospitality Café, Prayer Gathering**
- 14 Trinity Staff, Other organizations on Site**
- 15 February Calendar**

### PRAYERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

**Terry Ampaya**  
**George Anderson**  
**June Arakawa**  
**Kay Brethauer**  
**Barbara Ewing**  
**Esther Johnson**  
**Carol Young**

### PRAYERS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

**Dale Ackerman**  
**Jan Ackerman**  
**Chris Bogdan**  
**Earl Breitbarth**  
**Fred Engle**  
**Betty Ericsson**  
**Franki Giffin**  
**Don Grasmick**

### PRAYERS OF HEALING AND COMFORT

**Jim Ampaya**  
**Don Arstein**  
**Kay Brethauer**  
**Marilyn Camper**  
**Bill Cashdollar**  
**Jorge Dios**  
**Pam Egbert**  
**Joyce Grasmick**  
**John Hallisey**  
**Jerry Harman**  
**Pat Harman**  
**Jeff Hilgaertner**

**Fawn Humphries**  
**Marilyn Holthouse**  
**Nancy Jacobs**  
**Craig Johnson**  
**Linda Kintner**  
**Gerry Mann**  
**Tom McWaid**  
**Sue Mello**  
**Dorothy Miller**  
**Sue Mooney**  
**Linda Packham**  
**Janie Paulger**

**Ted Rains**  
**Linda Riewald**  
**Martha Sanders**  
**Rita Scott**  
**Brian Smith**  
**Ed Vasquez**  
**Dorothy Vasquez**  
**Nancy Wolf**  
**Carol Young**  
**Grant Yule**  
**Kathi Yule**  
**Marcia Zerkel**

**If you would like to be added to or taken off of this prayer list,  
please call the church office, so we can keep our list accurate.**

## Elders (2024-2025)

Jim Antos, Dan Bornhoeft, Kay Dorner, Jorge Dios,  
Steve Giles, Cindy Harris, Betsy Phillips, and Fred Raniere

## Deacons

### 2025

Peggy Antos, Arcelia Dios, Sandra Henningsen,  
JoAnn Knipe and Bill Stermer

### 2026

Ruthie Kay, Pat Lagerstrom, Dory Raymond,  
Zoe Shirley, Jeanne Spahr and Sherry Straeter

### 2027

Janie Paulger, Karen Peters,  
Tim Phares and Brenda Schearer

## Deacon's News

Home Communion is an important way  
for our online congregation and  
homebound members to stay connected.

Communion helps us to remember all  
the Lord has done for us, and is also a  
reminder of our place in the body of  
Christ. Please ask your deacon flock  
leader or Pastor Tom to bring Com-  
munion when they come for a visit. You  
may request a visit through your flock  
leader or by calling the church office.



## Session Highlights

- Membership is at 187 with the recent passing of both Earl Breitbarth and Don Grasmick
- Trinity ByLaws need to be updated in the near future to correlate with the ECO Constitution.

### Church Life/ Happenings & Upcoming Dates:

- Missionary Sean Whiting visiting and preaching - February 2nd
  - Westmont College Conference: Theology of Music - February 5th at 4:30 PM (Betsy Phillips & Elena Davis will attend)
  - Annual Congregational Meeting - February 9th at 10:45 AM
  - Fred Engle Celebration of Life - February 22nd at 1:00 PM
  - Cultivating Flourishing Churches is being rescheduled: TBD

## Financial Report - December 2024

### **For the month ending 12/31/2024:**

- Total Income for December was \$85,237.
- Total expenses for December were \$87,719.
- There was a negative operating result in December of \$2,482.

### **For the twelve months ending 12/31/2024:**

- Total YTD income is \$733,343.
- Total YTD expenses are \$703,352.
- There is a positive YTD operating result of \$29,991.

## Arstein Update: Howdy and Happy New Year from cold and freezing Texas

We had another 17-degree night last night. We didn't have the fifty mile an hour wind today, that made walking the dog colder than skiing in subzero weather.

We have three houses being built on our street and it took the builders three days to frame the houses. Incredibly fast workers. There obviously are no union rules because they work morning til dark, seven days a week. They did take Christmas Day off, but some showed up to check their measurements.

Our house is very tight and the workers' Mexican music is relatively soft from inside the house. The garage has no windows, and has no light leaks. I was used to my Camarillo garage that had windows in the garage door, and several times I got completely lost when I turned the lights off before opening the door into house.

Tena and I are now completely Texans. We got our Texas license plates and our Texas drivers license today. They took our California Driver's license away from us, and I feel like I have lost my identity.

We have three functioning beds and three functioning bathrooms, all we need to take care of guests. Our new dining table and chairs are coming in tomorrow. Our couch is not going to be here until January 28th, much to Tena's chagrin; we have not ordered our third bedroom furniture, but Tad and Kathy have a favorite kind of bed which they ordered for them to use when they helped us move in. The kitchen is very functional and we are slowly filling up our new refrigerator.

The major problem we have now, is Barney has no easy way to get to the outside to take care of business. We had left him in the house this morning while we got our driver's licenses, and he rewarded us with a terrible smell when we got home. The first time since he was a baby that he had a mess in the house.

We have heard that Southern California is facing another huge possibility of a catastrophic wind storm. Fires are always a possibility when the winds are blowing. Camarillo suffered mightily with the last big blow.

We are facing the probability of snow tomorrow. They say the area will be shut down. The bible studies that we were scheduled to attend have been cancelled. The danger, apparently, is ice on the road. Shawn said that the Texas drivers were way worse than California drivers in the white stuff.

Continue on page 7....

My turn! Don has tried to get an update sent and I have been trying to finish sending Christmas cards! Our communications stopped once Tad and Shawn arrived in Camarillo for the big move and we are hungry for contact with all of you again, even if just a screen touch!

The last month has been filled with miracle accomplishments and some overwhelming challenges for me. Tad and Shawn pulled off the move itself like pros and Kathy joined them in steering the moving in and adjusting. Don hasn't missed a beat in all the myriad of business, medical, financial and legal changes required and driving all over Fort Worth to get us functioning.

The house is lovely, especially the kitchen - we are fully functioning there even though my meal-planning skills disappeared in two months of not cooking. Our new dining table and chairs have now arrived. We can seat ten, maybe 12 for family dinners and guests! Our denim-look sectional with chaise is scheduled for January 28. We are wearing out our 2 Lazy-Boy recliners and 2 rattan chairs.

Church services have been welcoming and people are friendly even in the GIANT grocery stores! Barney has two puppies in the family he loves and two great-granddaughters who are loving him.

Only now am I letting myself think about Camarillo very much. Reality is slow in setting in. I believe God was clear in His call to come, but I am slow to comprehend it all. I welcome your prayers for me to joyfully embrace every precious moment and person that God blesses us with each and every new day!!!

You are all so special in our lives and we treasure our connections. Let's keep in touch frequently!!! ...and PLEASE come visit us!

MUCH LOVE,  
Tena and Don



## Trinity Celebrations

### Happy Birthday!

#### February

4th Beth MacArthur and Yvonne Wooff

6th Shirley Abbott

8th David Cole and Dorothy Miller

10th Susan Adair

13th Ann Bornhoeft and Ted Rains

14th Corinne Dawson

15th John Packham

17th Kay Brethauer, Hazel Facciano, Linda Riewald,  
and Nancy Vickers

24th Peggy Antos and Annette Coe

25th Martha Sanders

26th Lynne Giles



### Happy Anniversary!

Dan & Linda Rhymes – February 1st

Ron & Nancy Lindsay – February 24th

- If you have a February birthday or anniversary that did not make it into the Trinity Times, please call the church office at (805) 484-0530, so we can update our database.

## Cake on the Patio

The Deacons will be serving cake  
In Piper Hall on February 9th  
in celebration of the February  
birthdays and anniversaries.  
Grab your cake before the  
Congregational Meeting begins.



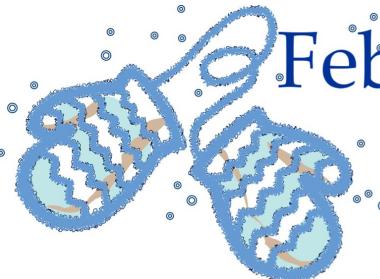
## 2025 Annual Congregational Meeting

Trinity's 2025 Annual Congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, February 9th at 10:45 AM in Piper Hall. The meeting will include Trinity's budget presentation for 2025, and Covenant Partners will be asked to vote on new Elders, Deacons and Nominating Committee members.

Head over to Piper Hall, following the worship service, and grab some cake and goodies before the meeting begins.



## TRINITY YOUTH MINISTRIES



### Sunday Schedule

3:00-4:30 PM  
in The Youth Room  
(unless otherwise stated)

**February 2nd:** Cooking

**February 9th:** Games

**February 16th:** Movie

**February 23rd:** Tifa Gelato &  
Games (meet at Tifa)

### Bible Study & Dinner Wednesdays

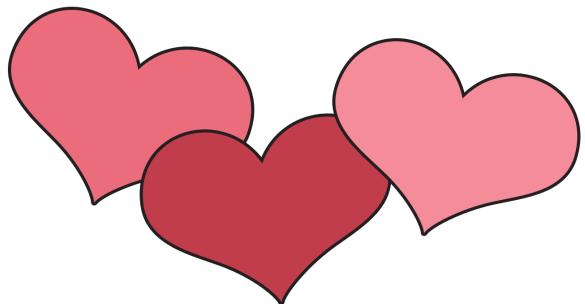
**February 5th** – 5:30-7:30

**February 12th** – 5:30-7:30

**February 16th** – 5:30-7:30

**February 26th** – 5:30-7:30

**Drop-off and Pick-up at Trinity all weeks**



Joe Davis leads a Bible Study for college students on Zoom at 9:00 Am on Monday mornings. If you are interested in joining this Study, contact Joe Davis in the church office : (805) 484-0530 or email: [youth@trinitycamarillo.org](mailto:youth@trinitycamarillo.org)



## Meal Share Camarillo



**January 2025 - We are so excited to have so many participating in this ministry!**

**We do still need help in 2 areas:**

**1) Clean up 5:45-6:15 pm**

If you do not get the invite to [signup.com](https://www.signup.com), please contact  
Mary Walling - [mwalling43@gmail.com](mailto:mwalling43@gmail.com)

**2) Someone (or group) needed to wrap utensils in napkins for our meals - contact Betsy Phillips - [heartprint4u@gmail.com](mailto:heartprint4u@gmail.com)**



**Meal Share  
Camarillo**

...eating & sharing together...



## Sap, Syrup, and Servanthood

*Don Sterrenburg*

February in New England is the month when winter snows typically start to retreat. The warm rays of the sun begin to coax strains of sugar-laden sap up the vascular system within maple trees. While any evidence of colorful fall leaves have long-since vanished, and ski slopes begin to lose their luster, another excitement abounds. Prospects arise for a healthy new season producing gallons of delicious maple syrup.

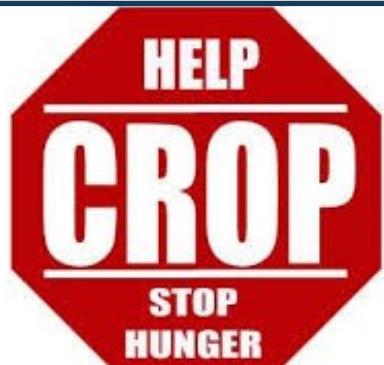
The conditions under which sap must flow require that sap freezes during the night hours. Then, as the day warms up, the tree begins to act like a pump, setting sap in motion to flow up the tree. Tubes are plugged into the trees, where the sap seeps out, beginning its journey to awaiting sap trucks, which will offload their treasure at a sugar farm. There this frothy, uncomely substance will be processed into the final product. Since the sap is mostly water, it must travel through a labyrinthine system of heated metal channels, causing most of the water to evaporate. It takes approximately 40 gallons of sap to produce one gallon of syrup.

It should become obvious that much is involved to appreciate and enjoy the many benefits of this tasteful delight. Significant effort and time lie behind making maple syrup and all its associative products.

The growing believer can find a parallel in the transformation of sap into a delicious and useful product. As a child of God, and in the process of reaching a maturity in Him, we may expect to travel through the heat of uncomfortable circumstances: losing a loved one, having to evacuate a home threatened by devastating fires, being faced with a move we do not want to make, and the list goes on.

Those are precisely the times when our Comforter, our Counselor, the Holy Spirit goes to work as our dependable “delivery system”. If anyone knows and understands our plight, He does. We are in a refining process. While there may be twists and turns and difficult challenges,

God is there to help keep us focused. It is a constant quest to see us mature in servanthood, and the obedient child of God is rewarded with the ‘flavor’ of His grace. King David said it the best: “Taste and see that the Lord is good.”



## Save the Date:

The 2025 CROP Hunger Walk  
will take place on March 9th.  
Look for more information  
in the coming weeks.

## Hospitality Café

Thank you to Jean Hakes who has diligently organized and led Trinity's hospitality café volunteers for the past several years.

She has done an incredible job with this important ministry.

Thank you also to Jeanne Spahr who has agreed to step in and take this position over for Jean for the time being. I know Jeanne will do an amazing job, as well! Thank you so much to all of our hospitality café volunteers who help to make our patio time such a wonderful time of food and fellowship each week.

If you would like to help contribute to this ministry, please contact Jeanne Spahr:

[jspahr19454@gmail.com](mailto:jspahr19454@gmail.com).



## Weekly Prayer Gathering

You are invited to join us for a time of prayer in the Reflection Garden (or Fireside Room) each Thursday at 1:00 PM.

Questions: Call the church office: (805) 484-0530

## Trinity Staff

**Tom Straeter**, Pastor: [ptstraeter@gmail.com](mailto:ptstraeter@gmail.com)

**Joe Davis**, Student Ministries: [youth@trinitycamarillo.org](mailto:youth@trinitycamarillo.org)

**Gary Cobb**, Organist

**Linda Rhymes**, Choir Director

**Jonathan Meenk**, Worship/ IT

**Debbie D'Auria**, Finance Assistant:  
[finance@trinitycamarillo.org](mailto:finance@trinitycamarillo.org)

**Kim Kelley**, Secretary: [trinitychurchcamarillo@gmail.com](mailto:trinitychurchcamarillo@gmail.com)

**Daniel Szany**, Custodian

**Eliseo Zavala**, Custodian

## Contacts: Other organizations on site

**Beacon Hill Classical Academy**

Lindsay Leeds - Grammar School

Asst. Administrator - (805) 389-6581

**Iglesia Cristiana Reformada de Camarillo**

Pastor Ricardo Aragon - (805) 482-8511

**Taiwanese-American Presbyterian Church of Ventura County**

Ted Lin - contact for church - (805) 218-9340

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# February 2025

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 6:30p Iglesia - FH
2 <i>Groundhog Day</i> 9:30a Worship- Sanc 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a Bells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	3 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	4 7:00p Brass Band - FH	5 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 2:00p Custodial Mtng- SL 6:00p Women's Group- FS	6 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc. 10:30a Men's Bible Study - FS 5:00p Meal Share- PH 6:30p Choir - Sanc.	7 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc. 1:30p Facilities- SL	8 6:30p Iglesia - FH
			8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc.			
9 9:30a Worship Service - Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 10:45a Annual Cong.Meeti ng - PH 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	10 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	11 1:30p Finance - FS 7:00p Brass Band - FH	12 <i>Lincoln's Birthday</i> 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Women's Group- FS	13 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc. 10:30a Men's Bible Study - FS 6:30p Choir - Sanc.	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc. 10:00a BH - Val. Cookies - Patio	15 6:30p Iglesia - FH
			8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc.			
16 9:30a Worship- Sanc 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a Bells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	17 <i>President's Day</i> 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	18 3:30p Personnel mtng - PO 6:30p Session- FS 7:00p Brass Band - FH	19 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Women's Group- FS	20 10:30a Men's Bible Study - FS 5:00p Meal Share- PH 6:30p Choir - Sanc.	21 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	22 <i>Washington's Birthday</i> 1:00p Freg Engle Celebration of Life 6:30p Iglesia - FH
23 9:30a Worship- Sanc 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a Bells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	24 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	25 7:00p Brass Band - FH	26 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Women's Group- FS	27 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc. 10:30a Men's Bible Study - FS 6:30p Choir - Sanc.	28 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc.	
			8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc.			

**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
**2304 Antonio Ave.**  
**Camarillo, CA 93010**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Not for Temporarily Away)

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**2304 Antonio Ave**  
**Camarillo, CA 93010**

**Phone: 805-484-0530**

**We're on the Web!**

**[www.TrinityCamarillo.org](http://www.TrinityCamarillo.org)**