


2025  
SEPTEMBER

# Trinity Times

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CAMARILLO, CA

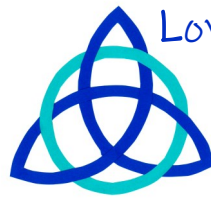


BE PATIENT, THEN,  
BROTHERS AND SISTERS,  
UNTIL THE LORD'S COMING.

JAMES 5:7 (NIV)

**Trinity Times Monthly Newsletter**  
**September 2025, Issue No. 193**

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*Loving Christ*

*Living for Christ*

*Leading others to Christ*

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**PRAYERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND**

Terry Ampaya	Curt Luft
George Anderson	Ted Rains
Kay Brethauer	Nancy Wolf
Marilyn Camper	Carol Young
Barbara Ewing	Grant & Kathi Yule
Fawn Humphries	Marcia Zerkel
Esther Johnson	

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

Shirley Anderson  
Fred Engle  
Don Grasmick  
Dorothy Miller  
Sue Mooney  
Paul Wood

**PRAYERS OF HEALING AND COMFORT**

Jim Ampaya	Jeff Hilgaertner	Ted Rains
Dona Breitbarth	Marilyn Holthouse	Val Rains
Kay Carpenter-Dorner	Nancy Jacobs	Linda Riewald
Michele Friesen	Linda Kintner	Martha Sanders
Joyce Grasmick	Gerry Mann	Brian Smith
Jerry Harman	Tom McWaid	Ed Vasquez
Pat Harman	Linda Packham	Dorothy Vasquez
	Bobbie Pittman	

**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 Celebrations

### Happy Birthday!

#### September

5th Rick Riley  
7th Dick Searl  
12th Ken Knipe  
13th Nancy Arnot  
15th Ed Curtis  
19th Zoe Shirley  
21st Pastor Tom Straeter and Sherry Straeter  
22nd Betsy Phillips and Ed Vasquez  
25th Suzanne Hartwich  
28th Roger Kelley and Bobbie Pittman



### Happy Anniversary!



John & Julie Hallisey - September 7<sup>th</sup>

Darren & Kiley Hartwich - September 7<sup>th</sup>

Mike & Corinne Dawson - September 30<sup>th</sup>

Todd & Julie Hall - September 30<sup>th</sup>

- If you have a September 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.



### Trinity Staff

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

**Joe Davis**, Student Ministries, AV Tech, and Custodial Supervisor:  
[youth@trinitycamarillo.org](mailto:youth@trinitycamarillo.org)

**Gary Cobb**, Organist

**Linda Rhymes**, Choir Director

**Dan Rhymes**, Bell Choir Director

**Frank Vasquez**, Worship Leader

**Austin Kelley**, Choral Section Leader

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

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

**Daniel Szany**, Custodian

**Eliseo Zavala**, Custodian

### Elders

Dan Bornhoeft, Ed Curtis, Lloyd Friesen, Steve Giles,  
Betsy Phillips, and Fred Raniere

### Deacons

**2026:** Ruthie Kay, Pat Lagerstrom, Dory Raymond,  
Zoe Shirley, and Jeanne Spahr

**2027:** Janie Paulger, Karen Peters, Tim Phares and Brenda Schearer

**2028:** Peggy Antos, Corinne Dawson, Michele Friesen,  
Sabrina Gilmor, and Sandra Henningsen

### Contacts: Other organizations on site

#### **Beacon Hill Classical Academy**

Lindsay Leeds - 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

## From the Pastor's Desk



It was such a blessing to have Pastor Tracy Vining in the pulpit last month. To use a baseball idiom, **"He hit it out of the park!"** When I think of Tracy, I can't help but think of someone who enjoys the great outdoors. If he is not preaching, he is up at his mountain cabin fishing or hunting. Tracy can tell you a lot about fishing both as a fisherman and as a pastor.

When Jesus called His first disciples, He didn't ask them to take a class, read a few books or even memorize a speech. He gave them a simple but powerful invitation: **"Follow Me."** And then He added a promise: **"I will make you fishers of people."** This is language Pastor Tracy, as well as the disciples understood because of their love for fishing. Like Tracy, the first disciples knew the patience, skill, and hard work required to catch fish.

At our last Session meeting we talked about fishing and how as followers of Jesus, we are called to fish for people. **So how do we fish for people?** Matthew 5:16 says, **"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."** The way you treat others, your kindness, your integrity, your love and your compassion is how Christ's light shines through you. The people you spend the majority of your time with may not read the Bible, but they will *read* your life.

The Apostle Paul wrote in 1 Thessalonians 2:8, **"We loved you so much that we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well."** **We fish for people by building relationships with others.** I once heard that, *"The greatest net we can cast is an act of kindness."* This act of kindness is often seen in the way we serve and come alongside others. Fishing for people isn't about pressure or manipulation, it's about love. Tracy, with his Pastor's heart, would say... **"Jesus is the one who saves; we are simply called to cast the net."**

**My hope is that we would live in such a way that people would see Christ in us.**

**God's Grace & Peace**

**Pastor Tom**



### **Session Highlights**

- Membership stands at 182.
- Session voted to use a banking service that would allow Debbie (financial assistant) to verify transactions on a regular basis.
- Employee Training on new Employee Handbook will take place on Sept. 2nd (during staff meeting).
  - Nominating Committee will be meeting on Aug 26th.
- Session approved funding for transformer needed for outdoor sign.
  - Session approved new check signers (Clarke Cramer, Norm Clarke, and Elena Davis).

### **Church Life/ Happenings & Upcoming Dates:**

- The Chosen Season 5 - starting in September
- New Member Class - date to be announced
- Music on the Lawn - Sept. 13th at 5:00 PM

### **Financial Report - July 2025**

#### **For the month ending 7/31/2025:**

- Total Income for July was \$56,728.
- Total expenses for July were \$59,370.
- There was a negative operating result in July of (\$2,642).

#### **For the six months ending 7/31/2025:**

- Total YTD income is \$425,777.
- Total YTD expenses are \$432,140.
- There is a negative YTD operating result of (\$6,363).

## Deacon's Education Scholarship Recipients:

Thank you to the Deacons and to all of you who have donated to the Deacon's Education Fund.

Your generous gifts have gone to these 6 incredible students and are very much appreciated by each and every one of them. Please continue to support the Deacon Education Fund as you are able and as you feel led.



**Jordan Bidinger**

Montana State University, Bozeman

*"Thank you for all your help and wish me luck in this new year."*



**Oliver Cramer**  
UCLA

*"I'm so grateful for all the support the Trinity family has blessed me with, it truly guides and encourages me as I continue my studies at UCLA."*



**Katelyn Kelley**  
Pepperdine University

*"Thank you so much to the Trinity family for continuing to pray for me and support me throughout my education"*





**Kendall Kelley**  
Biola University

*"Thank you Trinity Family for being so supportive of me and of my educational goals."*



**Nouh Sepulveda**  
UCLA

*"I am deeply grateful to the Trinity family for your prayers and support, which have been a constant source of strength as I navigate my studies and life at UCLA."*



**Dominick Shirley**  
Moorpark College

*"I want to thank Trinity for all the support throughout the years of my life."*

Please keep these students in your prayers throughout the year. Please be praying for their education, for their health and well being, and for their continued faith and walk with the Lord.

## TRINITY YOUTH MINISTRIES

### Sunday Schedule

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

**September 7th:** Cooking

**September 14th:** Games

**September 21st:** Movie

**September 28th:** TIFA & Games



### Bible Study & Dinner

Wednesdays

**September 3rd** – 5:30-7:30

**September 10th** – 5:30-7:30

**September 17th** – 5:30-7:30

**September 24th** – 5:30-7:30

Drop-off and Pick-up at Trinity

Joe Davis also 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)





### 🎵 Music on the Lawn... 🎵

Frank Vasquez & Britta K  
Bring your blanket or lawn chairs  
Saturday, Sept. 13th...  
5-6:30 PM

TRINITY CHURCH CAMARILLO  
Outdoor Ministry Center

🌮 Food sold by TACOS IV Life 🌮

Admission FREE for all ages!



Pastor Tom will be leading a **New Member Class**  
at Trinity on **Saturday, Oct. 25th** (9:00 AM-12:00 PM).

If you are interested in joining our church family,  
or just want to learn more about Trinity, call Kim in the church  
office to sign up: 805-484-0530 or email:

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





## From the Choir Director - Linda Rhymes



Choir is back this fall!

Rehearsals are Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm  
in the sanctuary and last about an hour and a half.

I would like to welcome back all of our regular members and invite new folks to join us. Trinity Choir is a wonderful, supportive, and encouraging family, blessed to be a blessing each Sunday. We sing to worship and praise our God and to spread His word to all who listen. You don't have to be a strong singer or music reader, but only need to have a willingness to learn.

Come be a part of our musical family here at Trinity.

If you're interested, please see me on Sunday morning, or  
you may call or text me at: 805-796-2730.

I'll have a folder ready for you!

NEXT REHEARSAL IS THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2025 at 6:30 PM.

## Join the Trinity Handbell Choir

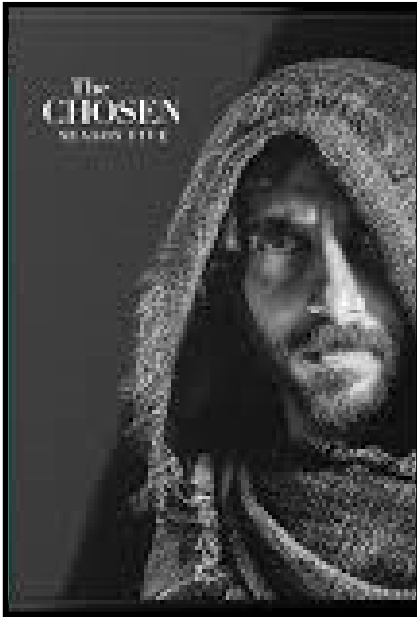


All you need are basic music reading skills.  
We will rehearse every Sunday at 11:00 AM.  
Starting September 7, 2025.

Questions? Call Dan Rhymes (805) 231-1303







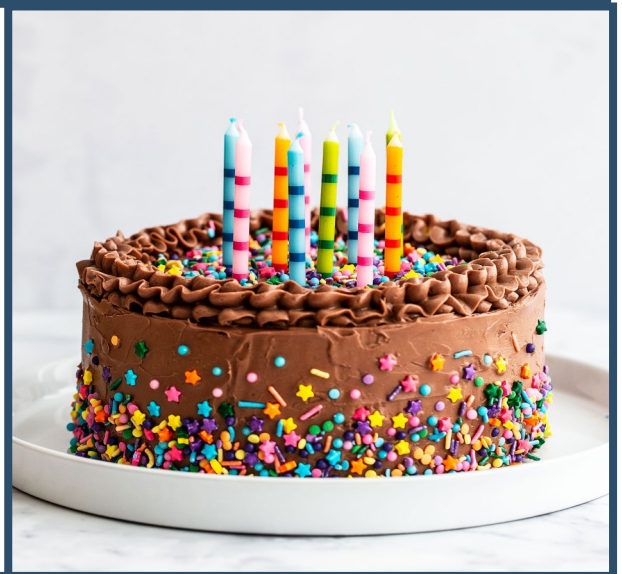
Pastor Tom will be starting a group on Sunday mornings after the worship service to view and discuss **“The Chosen” Season 5** (starting Sept. 7).

Betsy Phillips will be starting up a small group to view and discuss **“The Chosen” Season 5**. The group will meet on Mondays at 12-noon in the Fireside Room from Sept. 8th — Oct. 27th. Bring a lunch or snack with you!

### Cake on the Patio

The Deacons will be serving cake on the patio on September 14th in celebration of those with September birthdays and anniversaries.

The hospitality café will offer some healthy alternatives, as well.



Trinity is serving Meal Share on Thurs, Sept. 4th. Look for your email invite from Mary Walling to sign up.

If you want to help and do not receive the email, please see Betsy Phillips on the patio or call her at: (805) 795-7712.

ALL are welcome to attend Meal Share. Come for a hot meal or for the company. Invite others to come too.

## Conquering the Insurmountable

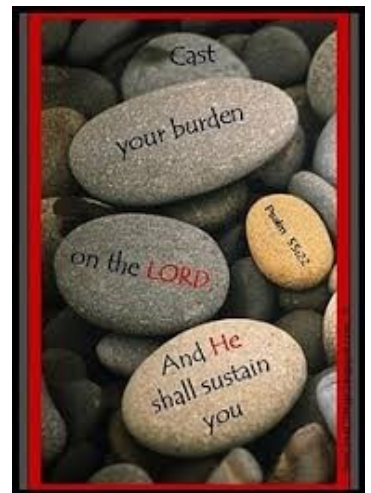
Don Sterrenburg

Good friend Joseph Cavallo opened his front door, and was promptly slammed in the face and buffeted about the head by noxious fumes. If he dared take a desperate breath, attempting to suck in clean air, he would risk his lungs collapsing from the toxic aromas. Fires in the Altadena neighborhood had caused a variety of poisonous atmospheric-borne minerals to invade his house. Before he could even consider reentering the house as home base, it would take 50,000 dollars to meticulously cleanse the interior in advance of making his home habitable again. While the main house did not catch fire, to add to the misery, four other structures on his properties were burned to the ground. Joe, an avid collector of valuable books, had customized his garage as an office and a library filled with expensive editions. These, too, were consumed by flames, including a cherished Bible.

Thankfully, we live in a world of ‘first responders’ who constantly keep vigil on our safety and well-being in so many areas of everyday living. As dependent as we are on their services in our culture, it is impossible for the responders to address the entirety of every experience where loss is involved. Who can protect us from the loss of a spouse or a child under uncontrollable circumstances? Then there is disease, blunt force trauma, lack of food, loss of income, mental collapse, -- or, death itself. The ‘loss landscape’ is enormous. At some moment or another during our journey on earth, most of us are bound to be overwhelmed by an unexpected, seemingly insurmountable loss – or losses.

Is there no cure, no care, no means to answer and help us deal with the onslaught of these circumstances? Why not begin with what the word of God instructs us to do? For starters, try King David’s advice by “Casting your burden on the LORD, and He shall sustain you.” And the Apostle Paul follows up with, “Yet in all these things *we are more than conquerors* through Him who loved us.” In that vein of thought, Joe Cavallo now views the loss of his possessions as “a new beginning.”

Several Sundays ago, our own beloved Shirley Anderson blessed us with a powerful ‘farewell’ as she quoted this scriptural admonition from the prophet Jeremiah: “*Because of the Lord’s great love we are not consumed, for His compassions never fail.*”



## August 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						

## September 2025

## October 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 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	2 7:00p Brass Band - FH 10:30p Staff Meeting - PO	3 * 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 10:00a Facilities- SL 2:00p Custodial Mtng- SL	4 5:00p Meal Share- PH 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	5 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	6 6:30p Iglesia - FH
		8:30a BHCA Chapel - Sanc.				
7 9:30a Communion Service - Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	8 12:00p "The Chosen" - FS 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	9 * 9:00a Staff meeting - PO 1:30p Finance - FS 6:30p Deacon's Meeting - FS	10 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Ladies' Bible Study - FS	11 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	12 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	13 5:00p Music on the Lawn - OMC 6:30p Iglesia - FH
		8:30a BHCA Chapel - Sanc.				
14 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	15 12:00p "The Chosen" - FS 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	16 9:00a Staff meeting - PO 6:30p Session- FS 6:30p Personnel - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH	17 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Ladies' Bible Study - FS	18 5:00p Meal Share- PH 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	19 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	20 6:30p Iglesia - FH
		8:30a BHCA Chapel - Sanc.				
21 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	22 12:00p "The Chosen" - FS 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	23 9:00a Staff meeting - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH	24 10:00a Ladies' Ensemble- Sanc 6:00p Ladies' Bible Study - FS	25 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	26 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	27 6:30p Iglesia - FH
		8:30a BHCA Chapel - Sanc.				
28 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	29 12:00p "The Chosen" - FS 5:30p Men's Bible Study- PH 7:00p CIH Chorus- FH	30 9:00a Staff meeting - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH				
	8:30a BHCA Chapel - Sanc.					

PH = Piper Hall

FS = Fireside Room

Sanc. = Sanctuary

SL = Staff Lounge

FH = Fellowship Hall

PO = Pastor's Office

YR = Youth Room

OMC = Outdoor Ministry Center

# **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)**