

2026

FEBRUARY

Trinity Times

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CAMARILLO, CA

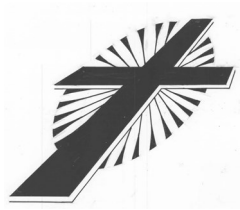
The background of the central image is a light gray, wood-grained surface. It is decorated with several felt hearts of various sizes and colors, including red, orange, and pink. A white, scalloped-edge border frames the central text area. The text is written in a mix of serif and script fonts, with some words in red and others in a darker red or black.

The LORD is
compassionate
and
gracious,
slow to
anger,
abounding
in love.

Psalm 103:8, NIV

Trinity Times Monthly Newsletter
February 2026, Issue No. 198

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Loving Christ

Living for Christ

Leading others to Christ

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PRAYERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

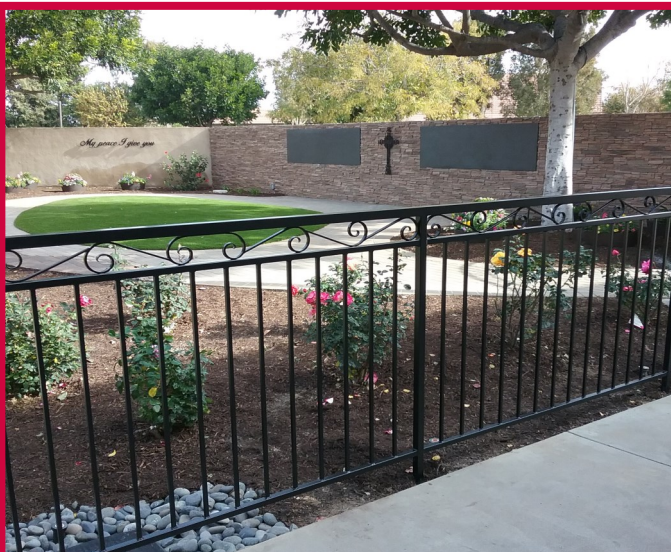
Terry Ampaya	Ted Rains
George Anderson	Ed Vazquez
Marilyn Camper	Dorothy Vazquez
Betty Chavales	Nancy Wolf
Barbara Ewing	Carol Young
Fawn Humphries	Grant & Kathi Yule
Esther Johnson	Marcia Zerkel

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

June Arakawa
 Kay Brethauer
 Kay Carpenter–Dorner
 Curt Luft
 Bobbie Pittman
 Sets Umeda
 Deeann Young

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND COMFORT

Jim Ampaya	Pat Harman	Linda Kintner
Terry Ampaya	Charles Heatherly	Gerry Mann
Dona Breitbarth	Sandy Hess	Tom McWaid
Arcelia Dios	Jeff Hilgaertner	Linda Packham
Pam Egbert	Marilyn Holthouse	Val Rains
Michele Friesen	Nancy Jacobs	Linda Riewald
Joyce Grasmick	Craig Johnson	Martha Sanders
Jerry Harman		Brian Smith

**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

February Birthdays

- 4th Beth MacArthur and Yvonne Wooff
6th Shirley Abbott
8th David Cole
10th Susan Adair
13th Ann Bornhoeft and Ted Rains
14th Corinne Dawson
10th Cindy Harris
15th John Packham
17th Hazel Facciano, Linda Riewald, and Nancy Vickers
24th Peggy Antos and Annette Coe
25th Martha Swartz Sanders
26th Lynne Giles



Happy Anniversary!

Dan & Linda Rhymes – February 1st
John & Linda Packham – 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.

Trinity Staff

Tom Straeter, Pastor: ptstraeter@gmail.com

Kim Kelley, Administrative Assistant: trinitychurchcamarillo@gmail.com

Debbie D'Auria, Financial Assistant: finance@trinitycamarillo.org

Gary Cobb, Organist

Linda Rhymes, Choir Director

Dan Rhymes, Bell Choir Director

Frank Vazquez, Worship Leader

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 (moved), 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



I am writing my article for the Trinity Times this month as I sit next to my Mother-in-law in her hospital room. It has been over 21 days since she fell and broke her hip. Before being released from rehab, an ulcer began bleeding excessively. The only remedy was to do a medical procedure to stop the bleeding. During this procedure, the physician perforated a bowel and things got very serious. I have come to learn that a perforated bowel is a severe medical emergency where a hole forms in the intestinal wall, allowing digestive contents to leak into the abdomen, causing widespread infection. Because of her age, the tissue that had been perforated takes a long time, if ever, to heal. Sherry and I can't thank you enough for all your love, prayers and support these few weeks. We have truly felt them.

As I mentioned in one of my recent sermons, this event has helped me see the importance of hiding God's word in your heart. You never know when you will need to draw on God's promises. Psalm 119:11 says *"I've banked your promises in the vault of my heart."* When we keep God's word in our hearts we can make withdraws when needed. What a blessing it was sharing God's word with Jackie each day.

As this article hits the streets, I will be back in Atlanta for our annual denominational meetings. When I return we will be holding our Congregational meeting on February 8th. At the meeting we will go over the 2026 budget, provide committee reports, and elect Elders and Deacons as well as this years nominating committee.

Continue to pray with me that we will be used by God to tell others of the night and day difference Jesus has made in our lives.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Tom



Dear brothers and sisters of Trinity Presbyterian Church & Rev. Tom,

Greetings to you from Tirana, Albania!

On behalf of Emanuel Evangelical Church in Tirana, Albania, I am writing to say Thank You very much for your support for me to be able to attend the ECO Gatherings in the US. I am indeed grateful for your love, prayers and support, and I am very grateful for the huge encouragement I have received through the participation in the ECO Gatherings and the Mission Presbytery meetings.

I look forward to seeing you in the near future.

In Christ's Love,

Zefjan Nikolla, Pastor of Emanuel Evangelical Church Tirana, Albania

2026 Annual Congregational Meeting



Trinity's 2026 Annual Congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, Feb. 8th at 10:45 AM in Piper Hall. The meeting will include Trinity's budget presentation for 2026, and Covenant Partners will vote on new Elders, Deacons, and Nominating Committee members.

Super Bowl Watch Party!

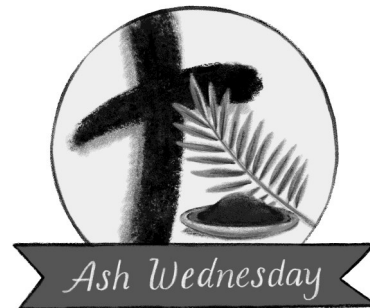
Come watch the Super Bowl on our big screen TV in Piper Hall at 3:30 PM on Sunday, Feb. 8th.



Kay Brethauer Celebration of Life

You are invited to the celebration of life for Kay Brethauer on Tuesday, Feb. 17th at 4:00 PM in the Trinity Sanctuary.

There will be a reception with refreshments in Piper Hall following. The service will be Livestreamed on our YouTube channel as well. Search YouTube for: trinitypres camarillo



Ash Wednesday is Feb. 18th! Join us at 1:00 PM in the Reflection Garden for meditation and the imposition of ashes.

Save the Date:

The 2026 CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sun., March 8. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

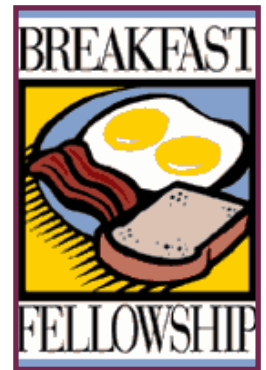


The Friday Morning Men's Bible Study is pleased to inform you of an upcoming event early this year whereby our church family and members of the community will be invited to enjoy a delicious Trinity Men's Breakfast followed by

Three Woodcrafters:

Bowls, Boxes, and Bookends: A Presentation of Artisanry in Wood
Saturday, February 28, 2026 / 9:00 a.m.
Trinity Church Camarillo / Piper Hall

Come and enjoy *free* breakfast
and a presentation featuring professional
work in wood done by local craftsmen.
Save the date and notify friends and neighbors
in the community that they are welcome.



Meal Share Camarillo

Trinity is serving Meal Share on Thurs, Feb. 5th.
Look for the email from Mary Walling to sign up.

If you want to help and do not receive the
email, please contact Betsy Phillips at:
(805) 795-7712.

ALL are welcome to attend Meal Share.
Come for a hot meal & enjoy good company.
Invite others to come too.



Cake on the Patio

The Deacons will be
serving cake in Piper
Hall on Sunday, Feb. 8th
to celebrate those with
February birthdays
and anniversaries.
Grab your cake and
stay for the Annual
Congregational Meeting.

Session

Due to recent circumstances, the Session meeting had to be postponed until Feb. 1st. There was no Session Meeting held during the month of January.

Church Life/ Happenings & Upcoming Dates:

- ECO National Gathering - Atlanta, GA (Feb. 2nd—Feb.5th)
- Annual Congregational Meeting - Sun. Feb. 8th (10:45 AM)
 - Super Bowl Watch Party - Sun. Feb 8th (3:30 PM)
- Kay Brethauer Celebration of Life - Tues. Feb. 17th (4:00 PM)
 - Pastor Tom Vacation (Feb. 10th—Feb. 18th)
 - Ash Wednesday Meditation & Imposition of Ashes - (Pastor Tracy Vining) - Feb. 18th (1:00 PM)
- Pancake Breakfast featuring 3 woodcrafters from Trinity - Sat. Feb. 28th (9:00 AM)

Financial Report - December 2025

For the month ending 12/31/2025:

- Total Income for December was \$92,804.
- Total expenses for December were \$67,874.
- There was a positive operating result in December of \$24,930.

For the twelve months ending 12/31/2025:

- Total YTD income is \$746,073.
- Total YTD expenses are \$727,988.
- There is a positive YTD operating result of \$18,085.

“Beginning the year with Babel babble

Don Sterrenburg

As we now have stepped over the threshold of a new year, we will face a whole fresh set of challenges. No question about it. I am always amused by that column in the VC STAR, page two of the New Years Day edition, which wistfully informs us, “there are 359 days left in the year.” In truth, there will be set after set of new beginnings.

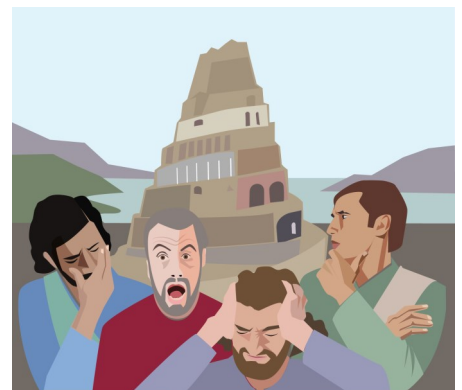
New beginnings. Is there any other document that better describes what happened at the outset of time than Genesis 1: 1 – “In the beginning, God created,..”? Or foretold the arrival of God in the flesh, John 1: 1 – “In the beginning was the Word,..”? The noun “word”, in the ancient Greek lexicon, has been translated as “logos.” In his book “The Body,” John Colson says that the Greeks believed its meaning “embraced what we would call intelligence, reason, and truth – that which is embodied in the very plan of creation itself.”

Words. We are *obligated* to employ them, whether they are spoken, written, printed, texted, or silently conveyed by hand-signs. Even so-called body language is insufficient to fully describe a full spectrum of meanings behind words.

Words, of course, are essential elements of language. Early in Scripture, Genesis 11, we are told that the entire world had only one language, a common speech. At one point people converged on a Mesopotamian plain. There they decided to build an enormous tower, intending to “reach into the heavens, and make a name for themselves.” At the outset of this effort, God descended on their action, scrambled their language, and scattered them abroad over the earth. It was called Babel, a word meaning *confusion*. Communication went into chaos around the world. That happened approximately 400 centuries ago. Today, we are informed by Wycliffe Bible Translators that, spread throughout 173 countries over the globe, there are a shade over 5,000 languages spoken.

Does any of this sound intimidating to you as we enter the New Year? We are constantly pummeled over the media and assaulted on social platforms. How do we sift through a language to find *words* we can trust? Why not start with words from the mouth of Jesus, the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End, when he said to the Father, “Your *word* is truth.”

Sure beats Babel babble.



THE TOWER OF BABEL

March 2026						
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				

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

(Not for Temporarily Away)

**2304 Antonio Ave
Camarillo, CA 93010**

Phone: 805-484-0530

We're on the Web!

www.TrinityCamarillo.org