

2026

MAY

Trinity Times

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH • CAMARILLO, CA



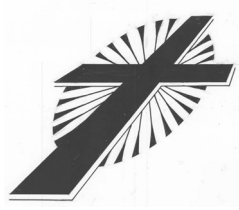
*“For you created my inmost being;
you knit me together in my mother’s womb.*

*¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully
and wonderfully made; your works are
wonderful, I know that full well.”*

Psalm 139:13-14 (NIV)

Trinity Times Monthly Newsletter
May 2026, Issue No. 201

Published by:
Trinity Presbyterian Church
2304 Antonio Avenue
Camarillo, California 93010



Loving Christ

Living for Christ

Leading others to Christ

Table of Contents

Cover...Psalm 139:13-14 (NIV)

2.....Table of Contents

3.....Prayers for the People & Weekly Prayer Gathering

4.....May Birthdays & Anniversaries

5.....Trinity Staff, Elders, Deacons, & Organizations on site

6-7.....From the Pastor's Desk & Presbytery at Trinity

8.....Cake on the Patio & Deacon's Education Scholarships

9.....Flock Sunday & Memorial Day Veterans Food Drive

10-11...Deacon Flock Lists

12.....Meal Share, Camarillo

13.....Session Highlights & Financial Report

14.....“Heaven's Agent, Alive and Active” by Don Sterrenburg

15.....May Calendar

PRAYERS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

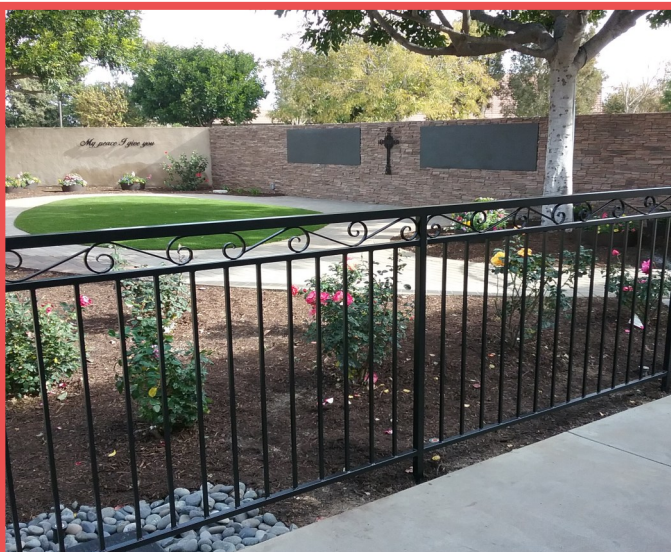
Jim Ampaya	Esther Johnson
Terry Ampaya	Ted Rains
George Anderson	Ed Vasquez
Marilyn Camper	Dorothy Vasquez
Betty Chavales	Nancy Wolf
Barbara Ewing	Carol Young
Bette Giles	Grant & Kathi Yule
Fawn Humphries	Marcia Zerkel

PRAYERS FOR FAMILY & FRIENDS OF THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:

Jackie Brooks
 Mac Dalgleish
 Marilyn Holthouse
 Curt Luft
 Sets Umeda
 Mati Varav
 DeAnn Young

PRAYERS OF HEALING AND COMFORT

Jim Ampaya	Jerry Harman	Gerry Mann
Terry Ampaya	Pat Harman	Tom McWaid
Dona Breitbarth	Sandy Hess	Linda Packham
Arcelia Dios	Jeff Hilgaertner	Linda Riewald
Pam Egbert	Nancy Jacobs	Martha Sanders
Bette Giles	Linda Kintner	Joni Swindle
Joyce Grasmick	Ted Rains	Ed Vasquez



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

May Birthdays

- 1st Carol Young
- 2nd Julie Hall
- 7th Sandra Henningsen
- 13th Karen Peters
- 14th Bob Miller
- 23rd Jim Graham
- 24th Jack Arnot and Grant Yule
- 26th Margaret Cobb
- 28th Joe Swindle
- 30th Nancy Wolf



Happy Anniversary!



- Roger & Kim Kelley – May 2nd
- Roger & Linda Riewald – May 4th
- Joe & Joni Swindle – May 12th
- Chuck & Karen Peters – May 20th
- Ted & Val Rains – May 27th
- Dave & Brenda Schearer – May 28th

- If you have a May 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, Joe Davis, Jorge Dios,
Lloyd Friesen, Steve Giles, and Fred Raniere

Deacons

2027:

Janie Paulger, Karen Peters, & Brenda Schearer

2028:

Peggy Antos, Michele Friesen, Sabrina Gilmor, & Sandra Henningsen

2029:

Mary Dall, Elena Davis, Arcelia Dios, Ruthie Kay, & Zoe Shirley

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



At our last Session Meeting we met with Pastor Matt Hoyt who is the head of The Ministry Partnership Team (MPT) of the Mission Presbytery. Matt spoke to us about the path churches take as they transition from one Pastor to the next. He referred us to ECO's Pastoral Search and Transition Guide that gives us a step-by-step layout to follow in this season of transition.

Things have changed since Pastor Jerry left over 13 years ago. The denomination no longer uses the term *interim* to describe the time between pastoral calls. The term that is used now is *transitional*. Matt Hoyt recommended that we look at this transitional time as a time when we, "*till the soil.*" By this he meant that we use this transitional period to ask ourselves questions that will prepare us for our next season of ministry. Questions that help us bring clarity to our unique identity and calling. For instance: *What has God uniquely called Trinity to be in this place and time? What do we do that is essential – not just traditional? Are we defined more by our past or by God's present calling? Who are we reaching? Where do we sense God is leading Trinity in the season ahead.*

ECO has Certified Transitional Pastors (CTS) who are specially trained to help churches discern God's leading during periods of transition. We have already been in contact with our denominational leadership to gather information that will help us find a suitable candidate to be our transitional Pastor.

This season of transition and change in the life of Trinity will require wisdom and Spirit-given insight, so I ask that you come alongside our Elders and Deacons as we pray for God's leading.

.....Continue on p. 7

From the Pastor's Desk (cont.)



I have been so grateful to serve here at Trinity since October of 2017. My wife and I have been blessed by your love for God and your desire to serve Him with all your heart. We will cherish our time here in Camarillo. Sunday July 26th will most likely be my last Sunday in the Pulpit. I hope you will plan on being with us, we would love to see you and worship with you. My family (along with Louie, my grand dog) are hoping to join us on that day as well.

We are already working on a list of Pastors who will fill the Pulpit between the time of my departure and the arrival of the Transitional Pastor. In the meantime, God's Grace and Peace be with you and always remember, *"God loves you and there is nothing you can do about it!"*

Grace & Peace

Pastor Tom



Presbytery at Trinity

Trinity will be hosting the Presbytery Meeting on Saturday, May 23rd. Registration will begin at 9:00 AM, and the event will end by 2:00 PM.

If you are able to help set-up or clean-up for this event, please contact Kris Armstrong at (805) 233-4448.

If you are planning to attend the Presbytery meeting, please contact Margaret Cobb at (805) 390-2970 with RSVP and lunch order.



Cake on the Patio

The Deacons will be serving cake on the patio on Sunday, May 10th to celebrate those with May birthdays and anniversaries.

Deacon's Education Scholarship

The deacons thank you for continuing to pray for and support our college students as they prepare for finals and begin to plan for the next school year. Here is a list of our current scholarship students:
Nouh Sepulveda, Jordan Bidingger, Katelyn Kelley, Oliver Cramer, Dominick Shirley & Kendall Kelley



❖ Nouh Sepulveda
UCLA

❖ Jordan Bittinger
Montana State

❖ Dominick Shirley
Moorpark College



❖ Katelyn Kelley
Pepperdine

❖ Oliver Cramer
UCLA

❖ Kendall Kelley
Biola University

Scholarship Applications for the 2026-2027 school year are due at the end of May. If you are a current college student or parent of a college student, or if you are planning to attend college in the fall, please inquire about the deacon's scholarship application.

Call the church office for information - (805) 484-0530.

Flock Sunday - May 17th

The church service will end early on May 17, so everyone can meet with their deacon and get acquainted/reconnected with the other members of their flocks. This will be a great opportunity to meet and connect with each other and to learn more about how we can carry out God's command to love one another.

Please plan to attend this important event.

If you consider Trinity to be your church home and live in the county of Ventura, you should be in a flock. Your Deacon Flock Leader should be reaching out to you in the coming days or weeks.

Please see the flock lists on the following pages and find your name and flock leader. If you do not see your name on the following pages, please call Kim in the church office (805) 484-0530, so we may get you added to a flock right away.



Memorial Day Food Drive

Trinity is participating in Gold Coast Veterans Foundation Memorial Day food drive (like the one we did for Labor Day) to help meet the needs of Veterans who are homeless, recently housed, elderly, or disabled. The food drive will start on Monday May 10th and will go through Friday, May 29th. You may bring items to the church office during office hours. We will also have the collection barrel out on the patio the following two Sundays: May 17th and May 24th. Please bring only sealed food (ex. cans of vegetables, bags of rice, boxes of pasta, etc.) No glass jars or bottles, please.



Arcelia Dios

Abbott, Shirley
 Chamberlain, Mary Louise
 Chavalas, Betty
 Engle, Martha
 Kay, Ruthie
 Lagerstrom, Pat
 Mew, Tom & Donna
 Ranieri, Fred
 Raymond, Kirk & Dory
 Rivera, Carmen
 Roland, Janelle
 Romero, Louise
 Swindle, Joe & Joni

Peggy Antos

Arstein, Don & Tena (Texas)
 Cole, David (Washington)
 Dawson, Mike & Corinne (Texas)
 Harris, Cindy (Washington)
 Hulac, Barbara (Nevada)
 Jacobs, Nancy (Yorba Linda, CA)
 Kintner, Linda (Granada Hills, CA)
 Knipe, Ken & Dori (Maine)
 Knipe, JoAnn (Maine)
 Mann, Gerry (Texas)
 Mello, Sue (Texas)
 Miller, Bob (Fresno, CA)
 Slack, Ellie (Morgan Hill, CA)
 Young, Carol (Minnesota)
 Yule, Grant & Kathi (Valencia, CA)

Brenda Schearer

Addison, Jackie
 Antonovich, Greg
 Conrow, Doug & Blanca
 Cramer, Clarke & Beckie
 + Oliver & Owen
 Danielsen, Tim & Roxanne
 Fox, David & Sandy
 Hallisey, John & Julie
 Hoffmann, Miriam
 Johnson, Esther
 Luft, Steve & Grace Salinas
 Sterrenburg, Don & Willa
 Thomas, Tom & Kim

Zoe Shirley

Beattie, Scott & Sandi
 Bidinger, Kelli + Jordan
 Camper, Marilyn
 Graham, Jim & Jenny
 Heatherly, Charles
 Hess, Sandy
 Luft, Beverly
 Matsumori, Kathy
 Rains, Ted & Val
 Rhymes, Dan & Linda
 Rom, John
 Torkelsen, Helen
 Zerkel, Marcia

Michele Friesen

Arnot, Stan & Nancy - (Ventura)
 Ertel, Ron & Betty
 Facciano, Hazel
 Hall, Todd & Julie
 + Carter & Graham - (Ventura)
 Johnson, Craig & Dorothy - (Oxnard)
 Michel, Steve & Jeanne
 Miller, Loueen - (Ventura)
 Riley, Rick
 Stermer, Bill
 Straeter, Tom & Sherry

Karen Peters

Ampaya, Jim & Terry (TO)
 Cobb, Gary & Margaret (NP)
 Conrad, Jack (Thousand Oaks)
 Dyer, Jay (Newbury Park)
 Egbert, Pam (Simi Valley)
 Gean, Bret & Karen (Moorpark)
 Humphries, Fawn (Thousand Oaks)
 Riewald, Roger (Thousand Oaks)
 Riewald, Linda (Thousand Oaks)
 Spahr, Mike & Jeanne (Somis)
 Wygant, Jerry & Grethe
 + Lindsey (Somis)



MEAL SHARE CAMARILLO...3.5 years of ministry serving a hot meal to our friends in our community. But...is it just a meal? No, it's friendship, conversation, caring for needs, sharing Scripture, and often wonderful music!!

Doug Conrow serenades us during many of our meals, singing and playing the guitar and mandolin.

Sometimes he brings a friend along with him or Ruthie Kay comes and plays her violin. It is like having a fancy restaurant right here at Trinity!

Invite your friends and neighbors to join us or come alone to have a good meal with friends. This ministry is for all, not just those who are unhoused.

NEXT MEAL THURSDAY MAY 7...HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



Session Highlights

- Membership stands at 181.
- Matt Hoyt (Head of the Ministry Partnership Team - MPT) spoke to the Session about transitioning from one pastor to the next.
 - Lloyd Friesen shared Trinity's Investment Strategy/Policy.
- Session approved Pastor Tom using pension for housing allowance.
 - Pastor Tom's last Sunday in the pulpit will likely be July 26th.
 - Session discussed fundraising for organ repairs.

Church Life/ Happenings & Upcoming Dates:

- Flock Sunday - Sunday, May 17
- Presbytery at Trinity - Saturday, May 23

Financial Report - February 2026

For the month ending 3/31/2026:

- Total Income for March was \$82,874.
- Total expenses for March were \$66,603.
- There was a positive operating result in March of \$16,272.

For the three months ending 3/31/2026:

- Total YTD income is \$188,634.
- Total YTD expenses are \$162,489.
- There is a positive YTD operating result of \$26,145.

Heaven's Agent, Alive and Active

Don Sterrenburg

Gadgets! The bane of us all. Some gadgets that we once considered 'essential' have now faded into history. Some, for which we once had an appreciation, have been either obliterated or replaced by new technologies – soon to be replaced by yet another set of 'improvements.'

Case-in-point. When you purchased your first car, your dad had already taught you the ins and outs of what you needed to know to operate it: how to start the car, what each foot pedal did, how the steering wheel performed, how to fill the fuel tank, check the tire pressure, change a tire, and, above all else, obey the rules of the road. Dad, or some other adult, was your instructor.

Fast forward to the present. You purchase a new car. It comes with not one book of instruction, but four books. The complexity astounds! What used to be called simply a dashboard is now an 'instrument control panel.' One of its features even shows you how well you are centered in the lane you're driving. One wonders how many collisions have occurred while eyes are affixed to the tiny diagrams, supposedly to encourage you to stay centered.

A far more important reason for staying centered is when we broaden our scope of vision to include both mental acuity and spiritual guidance. How we think and how we behave. The child of God has been blessed with the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit – our personalized instrument control panel in the spiritual realm.

One may justifiably ask about the chief function of the Holy Spirit inasmuch as He is invisible to the naked eye. The answer to that question can be found early on in Scripture. In Genesis 1:2 we find the Spirit of God hovering over the waters during creation of the world. The Hebrew word *ruah* (hovering) has been used to describe an eagle fluttering its wings above its young to encourage its flight, to nurture, teach and protect it. This description invites us to understand the vital nature of the Holy Spirit as the breath, wind, and spirit of God.

Because his presence is unseen, He is occasionally referred to as the "forgotten" God. Jesus, in his last days on earth, told his disciples that the world would "neither see him or know him." Those who invite Jesus into their life would find the Holy Spirit inhabiting their life when Jesus left this earth.

That same Spirit is definitely not absent today. For the one who has placed his faith in Christ, the Spirit has become his intercessor, his ambassador, taking our feebly-worded requests in prayer and directing them effectively before the throne of the Father. He provides wisdom where mere words fail. He is the giver of gifts, and provides spiritual buoyancy to keep the ships of God's church afloat.

The Holy Spirit, Heaven's agent.

He is alive, active, and ready to work through you and me.



April 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		

May 2026

June 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				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc. 10:00a BH-VIP Day- field & court	2 6:30p Iglesia - FH
3 * 9:30a Communion Service- Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 10:45a "Tactics"-FS 10:45a HandBells- Sanc.	4 6:45p CIH Chorus - FH 8:30a BH Chapel-Sanc.	5 9:30a Staff meeting - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH	6 2:00p Cust.Mtng- SL 6:00p Ladies Study - FS	7 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc. 5:00p Meal Share (Trinity) - PH 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	8 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc. 10:00a BH - TeacherLunch-PhCY	9 6:30p Iglesia - FH
10 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	11 6:45p CIH Chorus - FH 8:30a BH Chapel-Sanc.	12 9:30a Staff meeting - PO 6:30p Deacon's - FS 7:00p Brass Band - FH	13 6:00p Ladies Study - FS	14 8:30a BH Art Show - PH 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	15 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS	16 6:30p Iglesia - FH
17 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 10:45a Flock Sunday 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	18 8:30a BH Chapel - Sanc. 6:45p CIH Chorus - FH	19 9:30a Staff meeting - PO 3:30p Personnel - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH 8:30a BH Chapel-Sanc.	20	21 8:30a BH Music Chapel 5:00p Meal Share (NOT Trinity) 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	22 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 8:30a BH Chapel- Sanc.	23 9:00a Presbytery at Trinity 6:30p Iglesia - FH
24 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 11:00a HandBells - Sanc. 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	25 2:00p Iglesia Picnic - grass area	26 9:30a Staff meeting - PO 7:00p Brass Band - FH 8:30a BH Chapel-Sanc.	27 6:00p Ladies Study-FS	28 6:30p Choir Prac. - Sanc.	29 7:00a Men's Bible Study - FS 10:00a BH-Gold Rush(4) - CY	30 6:30p Iglesia - FH
31 9:30a Worship Serv.-Sanc. 10:00a TAPCVC- FH 5:00p Iglesia- FH, SR, Rm 8	<p>PH = Piper Hall FS = Fireside Room Sanc. = Sanctuary SL = Staff Lounge FH = Fellowship Hall PO = Pastor's Office YR = Youth Room CY = Court Yard OMC = Outdoor Ministry Center</p>					

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