

TRINITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MARCH TRINITY VIEW

Spring is a season of resilience —
blooming after the storm and rising after
the fall.

"Just like moons and like suns, with the
certainty of tides, just like hopes
springing high, still I'll rise."

Like flowers in spring, we rise gently,
boldly, and beautifully. Let this season
remind you: growth comes after
darkness, blooming takes courage, and
you have the power to rise again -
Maya Angelou



WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday

Choir Rehearsal: 9:15 am
Worship Service: 10:00 am
Social Hour: 11:15 am
Sandlot Bridge: 11:30 am

Monday

Knitting etc. Group: 2:00 pm
Literacy for Life: 7:00 pm

Tuesday

Tuesday Work Crew: 9:00 am
Food Box Distribution: 10-noon
AA Meeting: 12:00 pm

Wednesday

Prayer & Care Group: 11:30 am
AA Meeting: 12:00 pm
Trinity Ringers: 6:00 pm
AA Meeting: 7:00 pm
Chancel Choir: 7:30 pm

Thursday

AA Meeting 12:00 pm
Literacy for Life: 7:00 pm

Friday

Food Box Distribution: 10-noon

MEETINGS

Thursday, March 3, 2:00 pm
UWF Board Meeting

Thursday, March 10, 2:00 pm
UWF Unit Meeting

Sunday, March 15, 11:30 am
Church Council Meeting

Tuesday, March 17, 1:30 pm
Finance Committee Meeting

**Wednesday, March 25, 10:30
am**
Trinity Love and Care (TLC)

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday, March 14, 10:00 am
Turri Road Clean-Up

Sunday, March 8
Daylight savings time begins

Lenten Study Tuesdays,
March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 3:30 pm
in the Social Hall.

Sunday, March 8, 11:15 am
Girl Scout Cookie Sales after the
worship service. \$7.00 a box

Friday, March 20
Spring Equinox

Sunday, March 29
Palm Sunday

SAVE THESE APRIL DATES:

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday Service, Time TBD

Sunday, April 5: **Easter Sunrise Worship Service** at Sweet Springs Nature Preserve, 6:30 am.

Saturday, April 18: **Grand Opening of the Trinity Community Educational Garden**, 11:30 am



Chaos to Community

The March for Immigrant Justice—which many of our clergy and our Bishop of Cal-Pac attended on February 25, 2026, in Washington, D.C.—stands as a testament to our mission.

From Gaza and Ukraine to Minneapolis, Los Angeles, and Chicago, we see the strife and chaos these areas of our nation and world have experienced. We see it in gang members divided by red and blue, and in the monks walking across America for peace. We see it in the stories of Jesus, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Roman authorities—and among those living in "normalcy" who simply want everything to stay the same and comfortable.

At the beginning of February, I had the opportunity to sit, listen, and ask questions of Father Greg Boyle, the founder of Homeboy Industries—or as the "Homeboys" and "Homegirls" call him, "Papa" or "G." My home conference, the California-Nevada Annual Conference, called Fr. Boyle, to help us navigate the journey from "Chaos to Community." Clergy, laity, and all churches in the United Methodist system have experienced too much chaos lately; instead of that turmoil, we all want community.

Fr. Boyle has a lifetime of experience in turning chaos into community. He reminded us that chaos has been present since the beginning. In the Book of Genesis, our foremother and forefather lived in paradise, but through temptation and the desire to be "God-like", they were led astray, and chaos entered the world. Throughout the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament, chaos often seems to rule. Yet, through scripture and oral tradition, we know that no one truly wants to live in chaos; instead, we desire the connection of a community where love and understanding are nurtured.

If we are seeking community, then we need to accept the idea that no one is a villain. We know from experience how hard it is to let go of the "villains" in our lives, but we must choose community over chaos. For love to be the prime mover in our lives, we must shift our perspective.

As Fr. Boyle writes in his book, *Cherished Belonging*:

"Freud thought that 'Love your enemies' was unrealistic. Yet Jesus was dedicated to reality. Everything shifts when we decide to look at enemies and only wish well-being for them—and when we cease to see them as enemies at all. Our decision to be a well-wisher is born of our having been cherished in this same way... Only a healed person can do that."
— Gregory Boyle (pp. 89-90).

During Lent, let's find ways to foster a community of healed people rather than lost, hateful, hurtful chaos. That is easier said than done. Jesus knew chaos intimately, but he wanted us to live in a community with healed minds and bodies. He wanted us to ensure that the weight we all carry does not become a hindrance to the community. It is difficult not to get caught up in the chaos of our individual lives and the world, but as Fr. Boyle says, we need to see the "unshakable goodness" inside of all people.

Thinking of this, a wonderful church member gave me a "COEXIST" bumper sticker that deeply resonates with how I try to live. If we can love those who are different, those who worship or hold different doctrines than us, or those who think differently than we do—and if we remember that all people possess unshakable goodness—then we can truly choose Community over Chaos.

Lent is a season for reflecting on how we can pursue this goal as a community, even amid chaos. As a church, we are on a spiritual journey to fight injustice, support those on the margins, and cultivate a vibrant community of spiritual contributors. We serve as a guiding light amid life's struggles and brokenness. We are making progress and creating change, but there is always more to accomplish. Join us in prayer and become part of a community that invites people to be rooted in transformational love—a community that rises above chaos to demonstrate that believers with open hearts, doors, and minds welcome everyone, because **All Means All**.

Soul Searching and Heart Changing
Les

“Honoring Our Elders”



James Wesley Stanfill

Jim Stanfill was born on September 12, 1932, in Independence, Kansas to John and Vera Barker Stanfill. He had an older brother, Bob, and a younger sister, Patricia. His parents separated and his mother and the children moved to the home of her parents, Charlie and Emily Barker. Charlie operated a sawmill in Independence but in 1942, he moved his business and family to Durango, Colorado where Jim grew up and went to high school. He is still close with the Barker family and plans to attend their 64th annual family reunion this year.

When Jim graduated from high school, he received a four-year scholarship to the University of Colorado at Boulder. He joined the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity, doing light janitorial work to pay rent and his dues. He received most of his meals by doing kitchen work at a boarding house. Jim met his future wife, Margaret (Peg) Farrier, at Boulder. They were married on September 1, 1953, in Los Angeles where her parents lived. Because Jim was eleven days short of being 21 and needed a parent's permission to marry, his future in-laws temporarily adopted him.

Receiving his degree in 1955, Jim had had a draft deferment from the Army while a student and, instead of waiting to be drafted, he chose to join. He was stationed in Germany for 16 months, working in the Replacement Company in the personnel office. He finished his service commitment at Fort Carson at Colorado Springs and was discharged in 1958, immediately moving to California and beginning his teaching career.

His first teaching jobs were in Redlands schools where he taught, second, fourth, fifth and sixth grade. He also had experience as a principal at two other schools. Jim joined the district office in 1969 and became Coordinator of Special Projects, supervising programs such as preschool, Head Start and the Miller-Unruh program.

During the years he was teaching, he was also earning a Master's Degree in school administration from the University of Redlands and, in 1975, a Doctorate Degree from USC in school administration and curriculum development with an emphasis on early childhood education.

After another stint as principal, Jim transferred to a school in Loma Linda. In his role as principal, he became the chairman of a county-wide task force to develop early childhood education (K-3) programs in the elementary schools. After the program was developed and implemented, he was invited to visit the districts to observe the results. Julia Coleman, a reporter on staff in the county superintendent's office, was assigned to accompany him to provide public awareness.

At the time, his marriage to Peg was unraveling and they were divorcing. They had four children: Mike, Ron, Jerry and Susan. Jim and Julia's travels visiting the various schools brought them together as friends which later led to marriage in 1974. Julia's son Charles was welcomed into the family. They will celebrate 52 years of marriage this year.

In 1975, Jim became principal of a school in Huntington Beach, once again becoming chairman of special programs. While there, in 1982, he applied and was accepted for the position of Superintendent of Schools in San Carlos. One of his initial tasks was to balance the budget, which he accomplished in short order by closing one school and moving sixth grade into middle schools.

During his 10-year tenure at San Carlos, he helped establish the San Carlos Education Foundation, an organization whose purpose was to raise funds to bridge the gap between district needs and state funding. It is still in existence today.

Jim took an early retirement and when he and Julia left San Carlos in 1992, they decided to look for a home on the central coast. They found Los Osos and were shown the perfect house located in a semi-rural area with a great view of Hollister Peak and have lived there ever since.

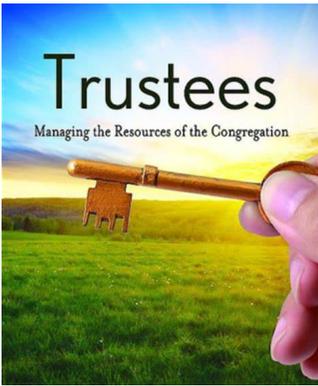
Jim created Stanfill Associates, Inc., an educational consulting firm to administer State Education Department grants. With one of the grants, he collaborated with other educators in creating Golden State Exams designed to evaluate high school students' results in various courses.

He transferred his Rotary membership to Los Osos and also began volunteering. He has been president of the Chamber of Commerce twice and was honored twice –Citizen of the Year, 2005 and Volunteer of the Year, 2007. He is still on the board. Presently, Jim is president of Friends of the Library, Chair of Los Osos Cares, and the Treasurer of the Los Osos Community Advisory Council, and much more. He has taught classes at Cal Poly and also, for 10 years, he and his son Charles operated Cad's coffee shop. He and Julie became involved with 4-H when their granddaughter joined and eventually became leaders of the Los Osos Club for 15 years. They joined Trinity United Methodist Church soon after their arrival and have been active members, attending services regularly and serving on various committees.

In Jim's long career in education, he will especially be remembered for his work in Early Childhood Education, K-3, years which are formative for success in upper grades and for life.

He has been an influence in the lives of countless children and youth.

Submitted by Alta Hall



Many members of the congregation have wanted to know what each TUMC Committee does. Each month I will try to provide a brief description of what is each committee's purpose.

WHAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ARE CALLED TO DO:

- Oversee, maintain and supervise all TUMC church properties.
 - Report annually to the Charge Conference on the state of the church's property, equipment, and resources.
 - Ensure that the articles of incorporation of the congregation are kept up to date.
 - Be responsible, *in conjunction with the pastor*, for all use of the church buildings and grounds.
-
- Maintain adequate insurance coverage on all church property and develop appropriate risk management policies.
 - Submit to the committee on finance the annual budget requests for insurance, property maintenance and improvement, and new property purchases.
 - Be accountable to the Charge Conference and to the Church Council.

(Trustees, Manage the Resources of The Congregation. (2016) Cokesbury)

Board of Trustees for 2026: Ray Purcell (Chairperson), Karen Shong, Bob Crizer, Alta Hall, Patti James, Bill Awbrey, and Janet Oliver

Please let them know that you appreciate all their hard work and dedication.



February 22, the TUMC Board of Trustees voted to go forward with one of three bids to tent the church for termites. Tenting was recommended in 2018 with the discovery of termite infestations and damage, but at that time the Board opted for spot treatment. Today in 2026 the termite damage has gotten worse which is why the emergency exit stairs upstairs has been closed until the damage can be repaired.

Key Termite and Pest Company will begin repairs the first week in March and the actual tenting will take place on Monday, March 23 and will continue for four days with the entire facility being closed during that time.

The cost for the repairs and tenting is \$37,822 and the funds will be withdrawn from the Maintenance Trust Fund. Key Termite Company will be sending the preparation instructions soon, which I will pass along to the affected groups. This will mostly involve our food pantry program, food will need to be double bagged, along with other procedures. Also affected are the grounds surrounding the facility. Shrubs and plants will need to be cut back away from the building.

All agencies, AA groups, Literacy for Life, Chancel Choir, Trinity Ringers, Lenten Study group, Wednesday Prayer Group and Food Pantry will need to cancel their activities during that week. VCC is closed that week for Spring Break so the tenting will not affect their schedule. If you have questions about the tenting, you can reach out to Ray Purcell or Pastor Les.



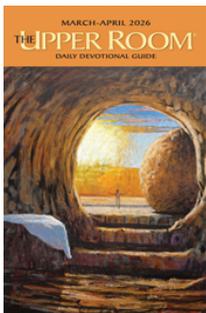
*May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us;
establish the work of our hands for us—
yes, establish the work of our hands.
Psalm 90:17*

We are into our first quarter of the year, and the one constant with our finances is constant change, as we move into our new budget. Many thanks to all of you who are keeping up with your pledges, and who have already donated your extra pledge to accommodate the Music Director's salary staying the same.

In January we sent out our year-end giving statements. They have a new look, complete with our letterhead and all the information that you need for your taxes. I have not heard about any problems with the statements but be sure to let me know if you find one.

Our biggest focus right now is working with the Trustees to figure out how to pay for major maintenance projects. As you know, the heaters are in. Their next task is handling the termite issues. Luckily our equity funds are solid enough to absorb this in the short term while we make plans.

Debbie Livingston
Finance Committee Chair/Treasurer



Copies of The Upper Room for March / April 2026 are available on the cart in the narthex. The suggestion donation is \$3.00.

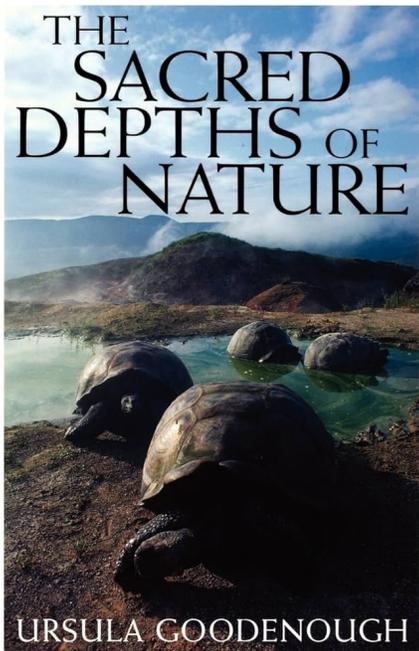


Local Girl Scouts will be at Trinity after the worship service on Sunday, **March 8**. Cookies are still a bargain at \$7.00 per box. Let's all support these girls and purchase some cookies!



The TUMC congregation celebrated these two gentlemen's birthdays on Sunday, February 22nd. A tri-tip dinner was served, barbecued by our grill master extraordinaire Bill Rodenhi. Garlic bread and other side dishes were provided by Emily, Beth, Colleen and Scott, along with a lovely selection of desserts.

Joe Asire celebrated his 90th birthday milestone and Bob Crizer, let's just say he's repeating his 21st birthday. Happy Birthday to both of these amazing men.



Spring Book study: “The Sacred Depths of Nature”

by Ursula Goodenough

What? Small group book study gatherings in your neighborhood with discussion questions to ponder over

Why? To eat together, pray together, and wonder together at the amazingly complex beautiful earth we live on

When? Once weekly during Eastertide - 6 times from Easter (4/5) to Pentecost (5/24) - Day and time set by the house hosts. Are you interested in hosting a small group of about 8 people, once a week for a potluck dinner and talk time? You choose the day of the week and time.

Where? At a TUMC neighbor’s house or yours. The goal is to get a few small groups gathering in the various neighborhoods of the church family. (David and Rebecca will be hosting one at their house in San Luis Obispo.)

Who? All ages are welcome. Minors, please bring an adult with you.

How? Signups will be posted soon in the church entry hall, or you can email Mary Anne in the church office.

Any questions? Call Rebecca and David at 650-868-5884.



Groundhog Day Senior Luncheon

50 active seniors enjoyed a delicious Groundhog Day Luncheon, on February 2. Many thanks to these great folks that made it happen: Sandy, Beth, Scott, Susan, and the awesome cleanup and dishwashing crew, Marian and John. Photo credits, Sandy Green

Are you ready for a safe, fun outing, while getting in your steps for the day? Please join the Turri Road Cleanup Crew on **Saturday, March 14**. We will meet up at 10:00 am at the corner of Turri Road and South Bay Blvd and we are usually done by noon.

See you there! (**Rain will cancel the clean-up.**)





Welcome to March. Television morning news reporters will all be asking, “Can you believe it is March already?” That statement is often a feature on most first days of any month. Anyway, can you believe it is March already? While we have been plugging along with the first two months of the year with their short days and sometimes dreary skies, suddenly, we are enjoying sunshine and longer days. Spring is on its way.

UWF observed the annual Call to Prayer program at the meeting on February 12. This year’s program, “The Future is Now: Invest in Our Children”, focused on the work of UWF’s National Mission Institutions (NMIs), one of which our local unit supports—David and Margaret Youth and Family Services in La Verne, CA.

The Ash Wednesday service at noon on February 18 was the beginning of the Lenten season. Pastor Les will be leading a study, “24 Hours That Changed the World” beginning March 3rd, another meaningful way to prepare for Easter.

Several UWF members will be attending the Women’s Retreat this Saturday, February 28. We appreciate the Women’s Retreat committee for offering this one-day event locally every other year.

The program for UWF’s March meeting is still in the planning process. Look for it in the Sunday bulletins.

UWF’s next board meeting is Thursday March 5 at 2:00 in the social hall. The next general meeting is Thursday, March 12 at 2:00, also in the social hall. As always, all women are invited to attend. If you need more information or a ride, please call me—805-528-2021.

Peace.

Alta Hall



Did you know that our very own Mike Lindsay was nominated for 2025 Los Osos Citizen of the Year? Congratulations Mike!

To the Los Osos Citizen of the Year Selection Committee,

It is with immense pride and deep respect that I nominate Mike Lindsay for the Los Osos Citizen of the Year award.

Mike is a retired veteran who is consistently working behind the scenes to make Los Osos a more supportive and resilient place to live.

Mike’s dedication is a tapestry of service. As a cornerstone member of the Los Osos Hour Exchange, he has applied his considerable skills to assist countless neighbors with essential home repairs and fixes. His spirit of collaboration extends to public safety, where he volunteers with the local ham radio group to provide critical communications support for community events like bike races and, most notably, during fire emergencies where they assist in the safe evacuation of horses.

His contributions are equally vital at the Los Osos United Methodist Church on LOVR. Mike is a multifaceted pillar of the congregation, managing the audio-visual systems to ensure seamless services, contributing his handyman skills with the Tuesday maintenance Crew, and playing an integral role in operating the food bank. On more than once occasion, he has personally helped provide temporary housing for community members in acute need.

What truly distinguishes Mike is the quiet, selfless humility with which he operates. Mike Lindsay embodies the very spirit of community, demonstrating that true citizenship is found in consistent, compassionate action. He is an inspiration to all who know him, and his quiet dedication makes him a most deserving candidate for this honor.

Thank you for your consideration of the exceptional individual.

Trinity United Methodist Church is proud that Mike was nominated, he was an excellent choice, but after much thought and discussion it was decided to select two Citizens of the Year: Elizabeth Denny and Margarete Schmidt.



Bill and Carole have been too busy to write a column this month. Bill promises he'll be back to writing next month.



Come and tour our
composting area and
worm farm.

A chance to reserve your
Community Garden bed!

\$10. per month

\$100. per year

Email us:

TCGarden2025@gmail.co
m

Invite your friends and
neighbors.

Enjoy a BBQ Lunch

Meet our established
gardeners and get some
gardening tips.

ALL ARE WELCOME

SAVE THE DATE

GRAND OPENING OF THE TRINITY EDUCATIONAL COMMUNITY GARDEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026, AT 11:30 AM.

490 Los Osos Valley Road

Prayer List

Asking for your continued support in prayer for those in need.

If you or someone you know needs to be included on the prayer list, please fill out a prayer request located in the pew. Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks unless otherwise requested. To be removed from the list, please contact the church office, 805-528-1649.

Ben Eggleston
Gary Dove
Glen Jones
Emily Rodenhi
Rachel Stones
Linda Wagner

Arden Beavers
John Brandt
George Case
Dani Cobb
Family of Donna
Cuvelier
Evelyn Ellis
Victor Feliciano
Gail
Robert Gale
Debbie Geydayloo
Pam Gray
June Grillo
Sharilyn Hamilton

Gary & Pam Held
Hilary Hopkins
Brian Jensen
Randy & Mary Jost
Kealin Kane
Paul Klasterman
Sharon Kraff
Joan Landis
Marge
Scott Mace
Baby McCabe
Dan McCabe
Dianna McFarland
Lynn Meador
Sally Peters
Marliss Peterson
Mary Price
Monica Rochte
Dana Roske
Nancy Schneider
Penny & Karl Schwartz
Randy Spears
Steinnar Svennugsen
Meg Syfan
arrie Trujillo

Please pray for the following North District Churches during the month of March 2026:

- 3/1 Tujunga UC
Crescenta Valley UMC
- 3/8 Friendly Valley Community UMC
Community UMC of Inyokern
- 3/15 First UMC of Arroyo Grande
Hindi-Urdu UM Mission
- 3/22 Immanuel UMC of Los Angeles
La Cañada UMC
- 3/29 North Oxnard / Garden Church



- March Birthdays
- 3/2 Matthew Fochtman
 - 3/2 Therese Kersten
 - 3/2 Kathy Lindsay
 - 3/3 Ron Rose
 - 3/4 Julia Sidener
 - 3/5 Joan Heinsohn
 - 3/8 Mary Anne Meyer
 - 3/9 Sabra Scott Lodge
 - 3/12 Taryn Mohler
 - 3/17 Janet Oliver
 - 3/18 Mary Jefferson
 - 3/19 Jan Carpenter
 - 3/20 Beth Mott
 - 3/22 Jann Bruggenkamp
 - 3/26 Bill Fairbanks
 - 3/27 Kay Bolin
 - 3/27 Brandon Dove



*Happy
Wedding
Anniversary!*



Happy Anniversary

March 9 Kasey P. Lindsay & Matthew Fochtman

March 24 Ray & Lisa Purcell

CONTACT US

Church email: church@trinitylososos.org Phone: 805-528-1649 Pastor's email: pastor@trinitylososos.org
Website: www.trinitylososos.org or follow us on Facebook: Trinity United Methodist Church, Los Osos, CA
Bishop: The Rev. Dottie Escobedo-Frank District Superintendent: The Rev. Garth Gilliam
Pastor: The Rev. Les Lungren Director of Church Administration: Mary Anne Meyer
Interim Music Director/Bell Choir Director/Pastor Emeritus: Rich Bolin
Pastor Emeritus of Visitation: Mike Eggleston Director of Media Ministries: Kasey P. Lindsay
Lay Leader: Beth Crizer V.C.C. Director: Bonnie Luther



LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge with gratitude the yak tityu tityu yak tilhini (ytt) / the Northern Chumash People, and the Salinan Tribe / the T'epot'aha'l, "People of the Oaks," on whose ancestral homelands we gather, and whose vibrant culture continues today.

May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world.

Trinity United Methodist Church
P.O. Box 6775
Los Osos, CA 93412-6775

