

# TRINITY TRUMPET

Since 1973 Vol. 54 No. 4

APRIL 2026

A Newsletter for Covenant Partners and friends of Trinity United Presbyterian Church, Modesto, California



## *The Wright Angle*

### *Spring Greetings, Church Family!*

Some of the most important things in life are the things we never actually see. They're working their quiet magic while we're busy sipping coffee or stuck on the Briggsmore overpass—or wondering where we put the Sudafed!

A few weeks ago, I stumbled onto a podcast that left me wide-eyed. It was all about the tiny, invisible happenings right under our feet—microscopic organisms throwing a non-stop celebration in the soil. These little guys are breaking down old leaves, stirring up nutrients, and working nonstop so seeds can pop up and say “Hello!” Without them? No flowers, no trees, no fresh strawberries at the farmers’ market, the world as we know it would just be dull. By the time we notice the first daffodil revealing its elegant beauty, the real work underground has been going on for weeks in total secrecy.

Jesus knew all about this kind of behind-the-scenes wonder. In Mark 4, He painted the most delightful picture of the kingdom of God: “A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how.”

I love that. Growth is happening even when we're not seeing it. Life is quietly doing its thing underground. God is at work in the most delightful and invisible ways.

Spring is practically shouting this truth at us right now. Trees that looked like they'd given up for good are suddenly dressed in bright green again, like they woke up, stretched, and decided, “Let's try this again bigger and brighter!” Lawns are turning into cheerful carpets. Bare patches of dirt are bursting into color that no one saw coming.

We get to watch this miracle every single week right here at Trinity—thanks to our amazing Tuesday Crew. These folks are the unsung heroes who show up week after week, trimming, planting, weeding, watering, and generally making our campus look like it belongs on a greeting card. Most of us are busy with this or that while their work rarely gets applause, but wow, does it ever get noticed by everyone who walks on to the campus.



# TRINITY UNITED

1600 Carver Road  
Modesto, California 95350

(209) 529-3228

[www.tupc.org](http://www.tupc.org)

E-mail: [tupc@tupc.org](mailto:tupc@tupc.org)

### Preschool

(209) 578-5625

[tupc.org/trinitypreschool](http://tupc.org/trinitypreschool)

E-mail: [trinitypreschool@tupc.org](mailto:trinitypreschool@tupc.org)

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### Ministerial Staff

Rev. Dr. Craig Wright      Senior Pastor

Rebecca Duque              Administrator

La Mar Owens              Music Director-  
Contemporary

Wade Patton                Director of  
Youth Ministry

Wendy Warner              Music Director-  
Traditional

Marcy Wright              Director of  
Children's Ministry

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### Trinity Preschool

Rebecca Duque              Administrator

Cassi Torrez                Director

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Char Wickman      Circulation Manager

Thanks to many Volunteers!

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## DEADLINE FOR PUBLICATION

# 15<sup>TH</sup>

OF EACH MONTH  
FOR THE NEXT MONTH'S  
PUBLICATION

Materials are collated  
on the fourth Tuesday  
of each month.

The Wright Angle continued from page 1

When visitors pull in and say, "Your grounds are so beautiful!" they're really seeing hundreds of faithful hours of love poured out by the Tuesday Crew.

The Apostle Paul nailed it when he reminded us that in the body of Christ, the parts that seem "less visible" are often the most vital. That's exactly why our church thrives—because of people who serve with joyful hearts in ways that never make the bulletin, never get a spotlight, and yet keep the whole Trinity United garden growing.

So, as our campus bursts into bloom again this season, let's pause, smile, and say a big, heartfelt "thank you." Thank you to every person whose faithful, often unseen work helps Trinity flourish.

Because sometimes the most important things really are the little things. And sometimes the most beautiful growth happens when no one is looking... except, of course, for the One who sees every seed, every smile, and every act of love. Our Heavenly Father sees all your work and smiles!

Keep blooming!  
Pastor Craig

### February 2026 Finance Summary Fiscal Year = September 1, 2025 to August 31, 2026

	ACTUAL	
	February	Year to Date
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>		
Receipts	\$38,040	\$424,993
Expenses	\$63,214	\$370,817
Receipts over Expenses	<b>-\$25,174</b>	\$54,176

February giving totaled \$38,040, while expenses came to \$63,214, resulting in a shortfall of \$25,174 for the month. Even with that, we are still \$54,176 ahead for the fiscal year to date.

**As we head toward the summer months, giving typically slows a bit, so we wanted to share that as a reminder. Thank you for your faithful giving and for continuing to support the work of Trinity United.**



## *A Moment with Marcy*

**April 2026**

Sharing the truth of Jesus' resurrection with children is a beautiful privilege. We are so blessed to be able to teach the Good News in such a fun and lasting way. Our Easter Eggstravaganza allows us to share the resurrection over and over and over in a variety of ways. Paint a heart suncatcher and remember every time you see it hanging in your window that Jesus came because He loves you. Fill a cross necklace with colored sand. Every time you touch it and play with it, remember Jesus died on the cross for our sins. Create a delicious empty tomb snack and notice the stone has been rolled away. He is not there! He is risen, just as He said! Have a sack race with your buddy and think about Peter and John racing to the tomb. Light a cross paper lantern with a battery-operated candle and know that Jesus is the light shining in the darkness. Learn the whole story of Easter, starting with the Triumphal Entry and ending with the empty tomb by filling a set of Resurrection Eggs. Take them home and open them to share the story with your family and friends. Such a plethora of ways to teach the gospel story! Thank you for making this incredible opportunity possible.



## *Cassi's Corner*

**Hello There Family and Friends,**

*"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify you Father which is in heaven."*

Matthew 5:16

We are getting excited for the sunshine that is becoming more present, and for all the blooming flowers and clear blue skies. The kiddos love to look up, make animals out of the clouds, and point out all the airplanes. We will be welcoming three new families this month (in our infant class, twos class, and Pre-K class).

Easter is such special time as we learn about the depth of God's love for us all. He sent His only son, who died on the cross for our poor choices and sin, and was then resurrected so that we may have eternal life with Him in heaven. The children will enjoy celebrating Easter with an egg hunt, crafts, scripture, and prayers throughout the month.

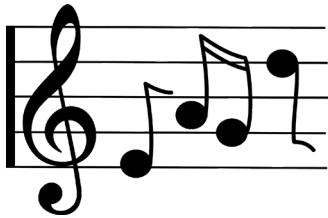
As always, please keep the preschool in your thoughts and prayers.

Many Blessings,  
Cassi Torrez

## *Sharing Our Joys and Concerns*

Trinity Partner Grace Brummel died on March 1, 2026. Please keep her family and friends in your prayers. A Celebration of Life service was held here at Trinity United on March 21.

## Wendy's Writings



***Jesus Christ is risen today!***

***Alleluia!***

Every Easter we sing this wonderful hymn! Such a song of triumph, of victory, of JOY! We sing it because:

**WE ARE THE EASTER PEOPLE!!!**

But what does that mean? What does it mean that we are EASTER people?

Remember that at the Last Supper, Jesus said of the wine offered to his disciples, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for the forgiveness of sins."

Do we live as people who are forgiven? Do we accept the enormous GIFT of forgiveness—this gift given to us at such great cost?

Think of the students we see every day walking to and from school weighed down with their heavy backpacks. The weight of their packs causes shoulders to slump, backs to bend under the load, and heads to fall forward...

And then, when the heavy pack is removed, the student is able to once again stand straight, lift their head, and SMILE, released from their burden!

Good Friday is the day of release, the day of freedom for us, the day when we are able to take off the heavy pack which we have carried around—the weight of our guilt, our shame, the burden of our past wrongdoings is lifted from us through the death of Christ on our behalf!

It is the day of Victory—over our past!  
And so, as Easter People we proclaim:  
**CHRIST IS RISEN!**  
**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**  
**ALLELUIA!**

May you know a Jubilant Easter!

Rev. Wendy Warner  
Music Director - Traditional

*2026 Operation  
Christmas Child*

*Submitted by Leslie Cooley*



It's that time again! Time to start praying for our 2026 Operation Christmas Child event, as it is a year-round mission outreach. It may seem early, but November will be here before you know it. Everyone is invited to join us for our Operation Christmas Child **Soup Luncheon and Shoebox Packing Party on Sunday, November 1.**

OCC Shoebox collection is Sunday, November 16.

Please remember that our collection tote, "Joy in a Box," is in the church office on a full-time basis. You may bring items all year long: baby dolls, dominoes, underwear, socks, bracelets, pencil sharpeners, lovies, and more! As you're out shopping, please look for special deals (Valentine's Day items, Easter items, Back-to-School items, etc.) and bring them to the church office. May God bless you as you bless children around the world!

With sincere thanks,  
Marlin Sena, Marilyn Sena, and Leslie Cooley

## Prime Timers

Submitted by Marilyn Sena

### Funstammers, Fellowship, Food, So Filling at Prime Timers April Gathering

Trinity Prime Timers, guests, and friends will be treated to a real musical show Saturday afternoon, April 4, when the Modesto Funstrummers Ukulele Band performs and makes music that is lighthearted, upbeat, easy to play, and fun to sing at the monthly meeting in Telle Center. The group has played for many years and has all levels of experience. They are under the direction of Lorrie Freitas.

The group will enjoy a noon lunch of ham, scalloped potatoes, green bean casserole, and delicious dessert for a \$10 donation. Dana Coates will give a devotional and Sam Graham will serve as group leader.

At our February meeting, Jenny Currie asked, "Are you a homebound or wanderer kind of person?" during her talk and slide presentation about the many travels she took with her late husband, Chris, as well as her most recent ones as a solo traveler. Her inspiring presentation led to many questions and prompted attendees to reflect on their own lives and future plans. Charlie Crane gave a musical devotional prior to lunch was served and announced his 90th birthday would be the next day, Sunday, March 8th. Happy Birthday wishes and prayers were offered.



### Trinity's Women's Ministry is hosting a... Garden Party

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**11:00 am - 1:00 pm**

**Becky Pombo's Garden**

**\$10.00 per person**

**Sign ups on the patio**

A delicious salad luncheon will be served, followed by our Guest Speaker Jeanne Oosterman, who will be presenting "Flower Arranging - Tips & Tricks."

### Guatemala Fundraiser

Submitted by Marcy Wright

The Trinity United Guatemala Mission Team would love for you to join us for a yummy tri-tip luncheon Sunday, April 19 following worship. Come fellowship with each other and see how Trinity is making a difference in Guatemala.

## Men's Ministry Experience

Submitted by Ted Benson

The Trinity United Men's Ministry Experience team would like to thank everyone who attended the kickoff breakfast on Saturday, February 28. Approximately 30 men across a wide array of life experiences enjoyed a hearty breakfast of steak and eggs prior to Pastor Craig's thought-provoking commentary on our roles in modern society. Looking ahead, a number of possibilities for MME events were discussed, supported by several intriguing written suggestions. Overall, the morning made it clear how much MME means to Trinity men, and our fervent desire to keep moving forward.

Stay tuned for news regarding future events!

## Youth Winter Camp 2026



*We are devoted to love for one another, joyfully welcoming the stranger, eagerly expecting heaven's surprises!*

*(Hebrews 13:1-2)*

## Senior Ministries Trip

Submitted by Margaret Wolfe

### Filoli Gardens and House

The next trip for Senior Ministries will be on May 13, 2026, to Filoli Gardens and House. The cost is \$100. Contact Jeanne Nelson at 209-402-1506 to reserve your spot on the church bus or to be added to the waitlist.

We will meet at 7:30 AM for coffee, donuts, and a devotional.

We will enjoy a guided tour of the house and gardens. Please note that this tour involves more walking than usual, although there are a few places available to stop and sit.

Lunch will be at the Quail Cafe at Filoli Gardens.

The bus will return to the church around 6:00 PM.

# Trinity United Family Prayer Calendar

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Karen Chamberlain  Debbie Chin	<b>2</b> Rich and Sue Colla  Loi Collins	<b>3</b> Walt and Leslie Cooley  Marty and Karen Cox	<b>4</b> Rick and Bonnie Crabtree  Bryan Crabtree
<b>5</b> Charlie and Sherry Crane  Jenny Currie	<b>6</b> Milt David  Delma Davis	<b>7</b> Leonard Davis  Carol Decker	<b>8</b> Chris and Linda Dickinson  Tim and Trish Duncan	<b>9</b> Rebecca and Earl Duque  Robin Eldaly	<b>10</b> Twyla Engel  Kathy Evans	<b>11</b> Renee and Fred Fellows  Elvio and Susan Filippi
<b>12</b> Frank and Betty Flaim  Bill and Joy Fox	<b>13</b> Liz and Jonathan Fung  Greg Fusi and Janice Lucero	<b>14</b> Debbie George  Darlene Ghorso	<b>15</b> David and Judy Glaister  Sam and Claire Graham	<b>16</b> Janice Gray  Sarah and Chris Haberman	<b>17</b> Dick and Teresa Hagerty  Steve and Nina Hanna	<b>18</b> Lynnsey Hardy  Alicia Heim
<b>19</b> Melinda Heim  Chris and Marti Hennings	<b>20</b> Devon and Rosalie Hill  Brian and Stacy Hoekman	<b>21</b> Lois and Rex Holm  Sue Husted	<b>22</b> Helen Johnson  Sharon Johnson	<b>23</b> Doris Jones  Dave and Gayle Kerr	<b>24</b> Joy Kerr-Owens  Duane and Susan Kirk	<b>25</b> Nannette Knockum  Dyann LaMantia
<b>26</b> Christina Latino  Merilyn Lewis	<b>27</b> Sally Lindberg  Bert Lippert	<b>28</b> Robb Loeser  Sue Lorenz	<b>29</b> Eunice Lovi  Wendy Lucas	<b>30</b> Luther and Vicky Lundebly  Monica Maddock		

- Bethany Christian Services  
Sandra Hiatt
- Bethel Ministries International  
Bryan Crabtree
- Bethel Ministries International  
Ben and Emily Mooney
- Calvin Crest  
Tiffany Staman
- Cru  
Kelly and Vicki Londoni

- Intervarsity Christian Fellowship  
Lo McDermott
- Mesa Global  
Todd and Sarah Hunnicut
- Modesto Gospel Mission  
Jason Conway
- Modesto Pregnancy Center  
Erin Koolhaas
- Operation Christmas Child /  
Samaritan's Purse

- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance  
Liz Benson
- Reclaim, Bangladesh  
Dr. Jay Litchfield
- Rock of Ages  
Sidney Stone
- Trinity United Basket of Hope Food Distribution  
Jim Bucknell and David Zellman
- Trinity United Guatemala Mission Team  
Marcy Wright

- Valley Recovery Resources  
Steve Berkowitz
- Vine House  
Cheryl Van Horn
- Youth for Christ  
Ken Sylvia

Pray for one of our supported Mission Families each day of the month.



# TRINITY UNITED

1600 CARVER ROAD MODESTO, CA 95350  
(209) 529-3228 | [WWW.TUPC.ORG](http://WWW.TUPC.ORG)

## JOIN US FOR HOLY WEEK

Wednesdays United - April 1, 5:30 PM  
Communion Service - April 1, 6:15 PM  
Good Friday - April 3, 7:00 PM  
Eggstravaganza - April 4, 9:30 AM  
Easter Sunday Service - April 5, 10:00 AM

### LEADERSHIP

#### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS COMMISSION:

Tuesday, April 21, 8:30 AM

DEACON MEETING: Tuesday, April 7, 3:30 PM

SESSION MEETING: Tuesday, April 14, 6:30 PM

STEPHEN MINISTRY: 2nd/4th Mondays, 3:00-4:30 PM

WOMEN'S MINISTRY TEAM MEETING: Wednesday, April 1,  
9:00 AM

### SERVE

BASKET OF HOPE DISTRIBUTION: Friday, April 17,

9:00 AM-12:00 PM in the North Parking Lot

TUESDAY GROUNDS CREW: Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 AM

TUTORING: Wednesdays, 4:00-5:30 PM

### WEDNESDAYS UNITED:

5:30-6:00 PM Dinner in Telle Center

6:00-7:30 PM Bible Study Programs for everyone!

Childcare Provided

### STUDY

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays, 8:30 AM, various locations on campus

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: Thursdays, 9:15 AM, Room #203

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL: Sundays, 9:00 AM, Youth Center

### PRAISE

COMMUNION: Sunday, April 12

GOOD FRIDAY: Friday, April 3, 7:00 PM

HOLY WEEK COMMUNION SERVICE: Wednesday, April 1, 6:15 PM

WORSHIP ONSITE and ONLINE: Sundays, 10:00 AM

### FELLOWSHIP

CHOIR REHEARSAL: Wednesdays, 6:15-7:30 PM,

EGGSTRAVAGANZA: Saturday, April 4, 9:30-11:30 AM

FELLOWSHIP: Sundays, 11:15 AM

GUATEMALA FUNDRAISER LUNCHEON: Sunday, April 19, 11:30 AM

PRIME TIMERS LUNCHEON: Saturday, April 4, 12:00 PM

TRINITY QUILTERS: Mondays, 12:00-3:00 PM, Telle Center

WOMEN'S RETREAT: April 24 - 26, Calvin Crest

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Electronic Version Online at [www.tupc.org](http://www.tupc.org)

See Online Calendar for changes.

Worship Services are livestreamed on [www.tupc.org](http://www.tupc.org)



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