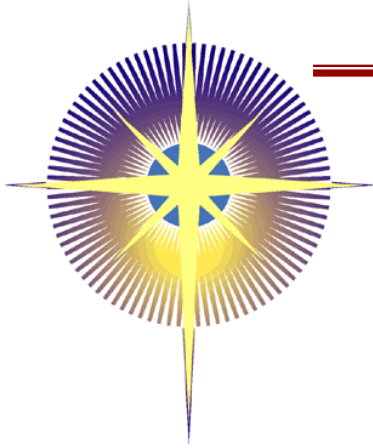




# Trinity Press

December 2010



## DECEMBER 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

5:00PM - Family-friendly Service with

Children's Pageant and Carols

7:00PM - Traditional Candlelight Service

with Choir, Chimes and Carols

11:00PM - 'Midnight' Candlelight Service with Carols

### Inside the Press:

From Pastor Steve	2
Latino Corner	3
Prayer Ministry	4
Congregational Care	5
Up Coming Events	7-12
Out of The Box	13
Youth Ministries	14
Calendar	15

### Sunday Worship Services

9:00 a.m.

Family-friendly

Contemporary

\*\*\*\*

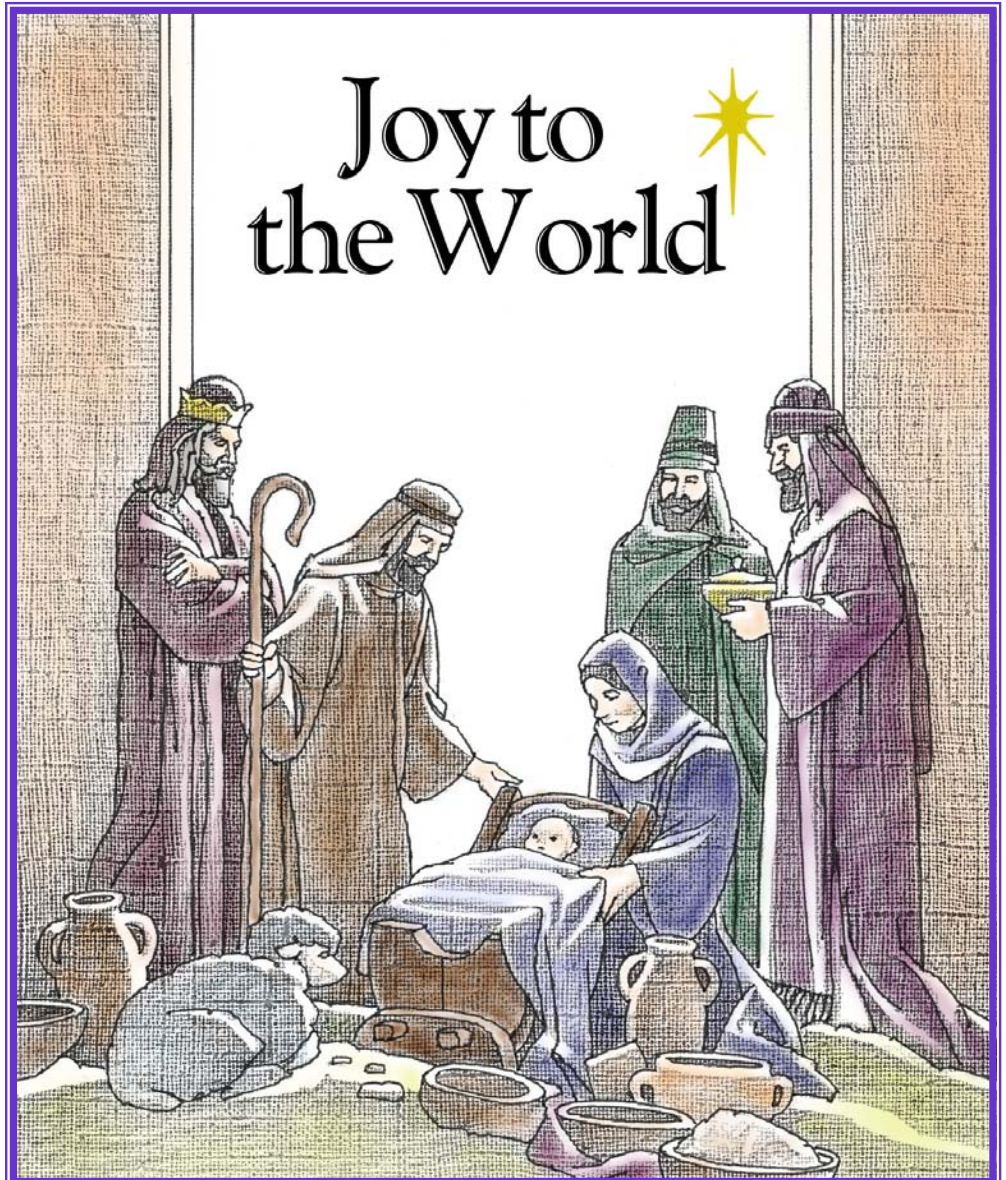
11:00 a.m.

Blended/Traditional Service

\*\*\*\*

Kids class & loving

childcare at all  
worship services



## We're Not the Same Without You.

People have asked me this question for my whole career as a pastor (and before then too, for that matter). It's one of the most often asked questions that pastors face. Ready? Here it is: "Does it really matter if I come to Sunday worship?" After all, we can do the same things on our own, right? We can praise God, we can sing, we can pray, we can read the Bible. If we want someone else's perspective, we can read a book or watch a video. We can send our offering along in the mail or with a billpay system. So why do we need to gather?

Does it really matter if I come to Sunday worship?

The Bible doesn't have too much to say about that. I believe it's because the question didn't come up much while the Bible was being written. People couldn't read so if they wanted to hear the parts of God's word that they hadn't memorized yet, they *had* to gather. Also, the people of Israel were really, really community-oriented. I believe that the need to gather as the people of God was just assumed.

But when the gospel made it to Greek speakers, things changed. These were people without a Jewish background. They hadn't grown up with the annual festivals and weekly Sabbath. And it seems that the question did come up eventually.

The book of Hebrews addresses it directly in Hebrews 10:24-25:

**"And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."**

There's an interesting point. How can we provoke each other to love and good works if we don't know each other and see each other? People who know each other and worship together can encourage and challenge one another!

Also, part of a pastor's job is to preach things that may not be comfortable to the congregation. When we select our own topics of prayer and study, we're less likely to choose the stuff that challenges us in our weak areas.

Also, when left to our own devices, it's much easier to ignore God's call in our lives. Trust me, I spent much of the 90's doing just that.

Have you heard the old story about a pastor who was visiting a church member who had stopped coming to worship.

The pastor sat down with the man in front of his fireplace to check in with him and tell him how much the church had missed him. "Why should I come to church?" the man asked the pastor. The pastor said nothing but took the fireplace tongs, grabbed a glowing ember, and placed it away from the fire. In a few minutes it had died out. Then the pastor placed it back with the burning logs and glowing embers. Almost immediately it began to glow again.

Alone we lose our flame. We lose our sense of call. We find ourselves feeling distant from God. After long enough, that becomes OK with us. But together, we're strong. We spur each other on. We encourage each other. We challenge each other. We pray for each other. We keep each other strong in the Lord. God transforms lives when we gather together.

I invite you to join with your fellow glowing embers to catch fire again this Advent season as we await the arrival of Jesus Christ in our hearts once again.

Welcoming Jesus with You,



Pastor Steve

## ESQUINA LATINA – LATINO CORNER

**Gracias a Dios! We thank God because the Latino group is coming back to life!**

**We had a successful “Day of the Dead” celebration on Nov. 2. And we’ve resumed our Wednesday evening get-togethers in Spanish. Other**

**November activities: a *pozole* party on Nov. 17, a *tostada* Thanksgiving on Nov. 24, and a *mini-posada* at our Advent Festival. And we will then enjoy all the Christmas festivities at Trinity.**

**Then... after New Year’s 2011, we look forward to our annual Three Kings Day!! We plan to finish off the Christmas season with a bang, Mexican style. We’ll do this on Thursday, January 6, 2011. Look forward to seeing you all – and the whole family!**

**Pastora Tina**



## This Year’s Advent Message Series: “Christmas God’s Way”

Each year we celebrate “Advent,” the season in which we remember Jesus’ coming 2000 years ago, look ahead to his return, and open our hearts to Jesus once again. This year for the four Sundays before Christmas, we’re going to consider how God would like us to celebrate the coming of the Savior of the World. And what we discover will shape our lives as Christians and as a church. [Here’s the plan:](#)

Sunday, November 28 “What Matters Most?”

Sunday, December 5 “Is There Room in Our Inn?”

Sunday, December 12 “Preparing My Life for Jesus”

Sunday, December 19 “Gifts for the Birthday Boy”

Christmas Eve, December 24 “Living in the Light”  
John 1

The series promises to be challenging yet rewarding. Join us on our Advent journey!



### *Advent Schedule*

Read Mark 13:31-37

Read Luke 2:1-10

Read Matthew 3:1-12

Read Matthew 2:1-2,9-11

Read Isaiah 9:2-7 &

## December 2010 Prayer Ministry News—Collecting Prayer

*Debbie Johnston, Prayer Ministry Coordinator*

This season, when we are all likely to feel fragmented, is a great time to practice what the ancient church called “Prayer of Collection” (or Recollection). In modern terms, this is a form of prayer where we ask God to help us turn down our internal brain noise. How do we do it?

1. Find a relatively quiet place (for those of us with big, busy families that might be the bathroom, garage or car).
2. Rest in God’s presence (seated or lying comfortably with eyes closed and your arms and legs relaxed).
3. Take a few slow, deep breaths (breathing in to a count of 5; blowing out to a count of 10).
4. Ask God to gather the fragments of your life and help you center your spirit.
5. When distracting thoughts come up, write down one word to summarize the distraction. Let the thought go and continue resting in God.
6. It might be helpful to gently hold one of God’s attributes or names in your heart while you rest: “Peace,” “Strength,” “Love,” or “Jesus,” “Father,” “Spirit,” etc.
7. Start with 5 minutes and work up to 10 minutes, then look at all the words you have jotted down. What seems to be the focus of your brain activity?
8. Affirm that you are not called to control or solve all that disrupts your life. Jesus has promised that his yoke is easy and his burden is light.
9. Imagine placing all these concerns in God’s hands.
10. If a distraction comes back, invite Jesus to look at it with you. What does he want to say to you about it?  
Give it back to him and settle back into rest. When time is up, thank him for the gift of his presence.

Of course, collecting prayer is much easier to do if you’ve already practiced it during a time of relative calm. Why not start today and give yourself the gift of serenity this Christmas?

**5-6 pm Wed. TRINITY’S “MINISTRY CARE” Prayer (Sanctuary) Jim Phipps** leads us in a time of prayer for the leaders and ministries of Trinity. The last ten minutes are reserved for urgent individual or familial prayer concerns.

**6 pm Sun. “URGENT CARE” Healing Prayer (Sanctuary) Jim Phipps, Debra Johnston & other healing prayer team members** are available to pray with you immediately following the Last Call service. At your request, we will also forward your concern to Trinity’s Prayer Chain. You can always schedule an appt. for private prayer by phoning Debbie at the church office.

**“Prayer in Practice” Services:** happen during “Last Call.” **Our next service will be December 12<sup>th</sup>.** These services are a great way to learn about the varieties of prayer as we practice praying beyond our individual needs to embrace the needs of our community and God’s world.

**Emergency Prayer Chain** – Karen Metcalf is the **Coordinator** of Trinity’s Prayer Chain. If you have an urgent prayer request, please call Karen at 617-2110, day or night. She will immediately forward your request to our Prayer Chain members. **Call her if you’d like to become part of this vital ministry for members in critical need.**

*The Prayer Team wants to wish you and yours  
the gift of heavenly peace this Christmas!*

## **Caring for Your Spirit: *Beating the Christmas Blues***

*Debbie Johnston, Director of Congregational Care*

***The secular world is throwing a big family party at Christmas, or at least, according to every television program and commercial, it seems to be. But if you have experienced significant losses in the past year it can feel impossible to celebrate.***

However, celebrating Christmas has almost nothing to do with the Norman Rockwell family gatherings or Santa Claus/department store images of presents in abundance fed to us every year. The truth is, when we have lost someone with whom we always spent Christmas, or a job that afforded us comfortable or even lavish holidays in the past, these images of cultural idolatry very quickly turn to ash. It is no surprise, then, that this is the time of year when many lapse into deep depression or even thoughts of suicide. You can often hear people mumble, "I can't wait till the Christmas season is over!"

At its heart what Christmas is meant to celebrate is the incredible miracle of God becoming one of us in the form of a tiny baby. We are celebrating the birth of hope, the promise of eternal life... the promise of a glorious future with God for each of us that can never be torn away.

What are some practical ways that can help us get through a difficult holiday season? Especially if there has been a death in the family, it is important to create new traditions. Think about getting together with family members or friends you have not seen in a long time. The Christmas following my mother's death, my family went to my brother's house to see his new baby girl. We then went to Williamsburg, VA, to see how the colonists celebrated a spare but elegant Christmas. Emphasize religious services or concerts over parties. There have been Christmas Eves I have attended services in three different Christian churches. There is great beauty in the variety of ways each tradition celebrates Christmas.

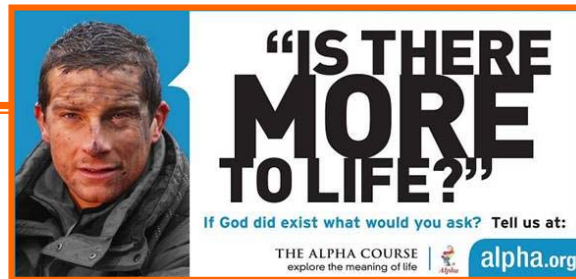
As for gift-giving, cards will be appreciated by friends who may also be going through tough times, and handmade ornaments or gifts of homemade goodies can be treasured when expensive gifts may never truly be appreciated or reciprocated. It is, after all, Jesus' birthday! Try turning your emphasis from what you give friends and family to what you, or you and a few friends or family members, could do as your personal gift to Jesus this year.

A wonderful meal with good company is always a mood lifter, so if you cannot travel to loved ones, no longer have a place where you are expected for Christmas, or no longer have the energy to entertain, try coming to Trinity's Christmas dinner. I have been doing this myself for the past several years, and it has become a favorite part of my new Christmas traditions. And while you're at it, notice if someone else out there is having a hard time. Invite them to Trinity's dinner, a worship service or concert, or just out for coffee. You may be warming a heart that was in danger of growing cold in despair. Take good care of each other, and Merry Christmas! Debbie

## Congregational Support News: Debbie Initiates “State of the Soul” Chats

Debbie Johnston, Dir. Of Pastoral Care

Calling All Trinity's Long-Term Members You can expect to receive a phone call & visit from me over the next couple of months. As Pastoral Care Director, I really want to know what Trinity has meant to you over the years and what you hope for Trinity's future (as well as what goals you have for your own spiritual lives). We have long wanted to be able to make visits that weren't related to crisis or illness, so finally you'll get your chance for a “state of the soul” chat. I'm very much looking forward to it. See you soon!



### Alpha Course Beginning in January

Alpha is a course for everyone who thinks there may be more to life than meets the eye. At an Alpha course people explore the Christian faith in a relaxed setting over ten thought-provoking weekly sessions, with one retreat weekend. It is a great opportunity for new Christians, those investigating Christianity or Christians interested in deepening their relationship with God. It is a low-key, friendly and fun course supported by all the main Christian denominations. People attend from many different backgrounds, religions and viewpoints. Dinner and childcare are provided free of charge to all participants.

Our next Alpha course will begin with a Celebration Dinner on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Café. We will share a meal and watch a short video introduction to the Alpha course. We will complete the evening by hearing from our current Alpha graduates. You may come to the Celebration Dinner without any obligation to continue with the course. Please RSVP to the office (916-371-5875 or [info@TrinityWestSac.org](mailto:info@TrinityWestSac.org)) if you plan to attend. The Alpha course will begin on January 30<sup>th</sup> and be held every Sunday evening for ten weeks. We look forward to seeing you!



### DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

- 5:00 p.m. Family Friendly Service
- 7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service with Choir
- 11:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service w/Music Ensemble

Please bring your family and friends to one of these services!



### DECORATING THE CHURCH WITH POINSETTIAS

Bring your poinsettias to the church **no later than** Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> and we will decorate the Sanctuary and Café for the holidays. Please be sure to water them before you bring them.

Call or stop into the office and let the staff know if you would like to dedicate your poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special and their name will be put in the bulletin. Have a Blessed Christmas! Your Worship Team



### Trinity Goody Bags



Time to stuff those special Christmas bags again! Please join us between A.M services on Sunday, Dec. 5 in Room 9 to fill the bags with everyday essentials for our community's less fortunate folks. The bags are distributed through the West Sacramento Christmas Basket Project. To make a contribution, please make checks payable to Trinity and making the notation "Goody Bags." Questions? Call Glenda @ 372-2132.

# CHRISTMAS DINNER ANYONE?

## CHRISTMAS DAY AT THE TRINITY CAFE



Are you going to be home Christmas day wondering - *"What's for Dinner?"*  
Do you not have family in the area or just can't meet up with them this year?  
Are you having company for Christmas and wondering *How am I going to fix dinner?"*

Do you have a neighbor or friend who is going to be sitting home on Christmas Day too?

Well....tell them they're going with you to Trinity for Christmas dinner!

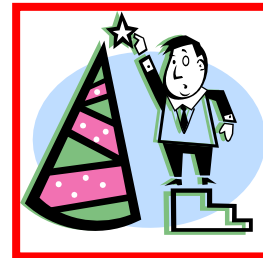
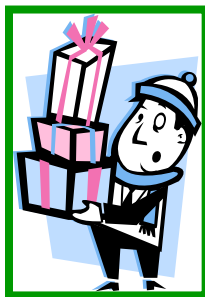
The festivities will begin at 4:00 pm and dinner will be served at 5:00 pm on Christmas day. We'll celebrate our Christ's birth and we'll have a wonderful evening of fellowship.



*And...please bring your favorite Christmas side dish - that would add even more joy to the table!*

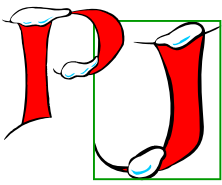
**There is no cost, but reservations are a must.**  
**Please RSVP by Sunday, December 19.**

Contact the church office and make your reservation today.  
When you make your reservation, let the office know if you will need a ride!  
- Karen Metcalf and your Deacons -



## Men's Supper Club Christmas Dinner!!!

The men of the church will be hosting a night of Christmas cheer, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at 4:30 pm. Come enjoy a freshly prepared meal, eggnog and peppermint ice cream *and* we'll sing some beloved Christmas carols. All men are invited to attend. Please sign up on the clipboard in the snack room so Robb will know how much food to prepare, and also indicate any special dietary needs. As an entry fee, we're asking that you either to bring an unwrapped toy, canned food, or a check for Heifer to contribute to our Christmas Ministries.



# It's that time of year again

## Trinity's 3<sup>rd</sup> annual pajama party!!

Join us for some Christmas stories, hot cocoa, Christmas carols and cookies. Grown-ups don't HAVE to wear pajamas, but it might be fun!

When? Right after the Last Call Worship Service

6:00 – 7:15 p.m. on **December 19th**

Where? The Trinity Cafe

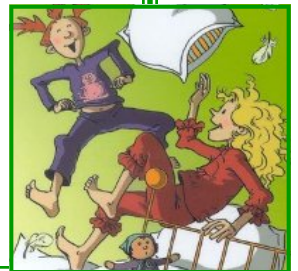
Who? Anybody who loves Christmas!! Families, children & grown-ups:  
Everyone is welcome!

What do we need?

Story readers (You can pick a favorite or we'll supply one)

Cookie bakers—Hot cocoa makers

Call Melinda Quick (372-7483) if you'd like to help out!



## M&M'S FELLOWSHIP

On Saturday, December 18 at 6:30 pm, M&M's Fellowship will be having a Christmas "Get Together." All attendees are asked to bring a dessert as well as an unwrapped gift of \$5 to \$10 (for a child, 7 to 10 years of age). Call Clara Evans, 371-7648, for more information.



## Kwik Kwiltz for Kidz, Quilts for Valued Veterans, and Nifty Knitted Hats...



Dedication for all these handmade items is Sunday, Dec 12 at both 9 am and 11 am services. If you made quilts or hats, please label them before bringing them to the church by 8 am on dedication day. There is still time to make a quilt! I have sets of fabric and binding ready to sew. If you have questions or need your quilt picked up, call Glenda @ 372-2132.

# Small Groups Meeting at Trinity

Small groups are on the rise! Why? We are finding that meeting together in smaller numbers on a regular basis strengthens our commitment to God, our church and to each other. This enables us to build strong connections to each other as we together strengthen our spiritual connections. The following small groups meet for reasons of spiritual growth and friendship:

## SMALL GROUPS CONTACT

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP- Monday - 7:00 PM	Dan and Paige Meyerpeter
MOMMIES GROUP-Tuesday-9:30 AM	Shannon Kelley
WOMENS GROUP-Wednesday-2:99 PM	Vi Taylor
FIRE BIBLE STUDY-WED- 6:30 PM	Kathy Sowers
LATINO BIBLE STUDY-WED- 6:30 PM	Tina Torres
BIBLE STUDY- Thursday- 12:00 PM	Church Office
GIRLS AND GOD-Friday-8:30 PM	Megan Faiello
SEREDIPITY BIBLE STUDY-Sunday-10:15AM	Pat Terry
BETH MOORE BIBLE STUDY-	
Every other Sunday at 11:30 AM	Jill Whitney

Please contact the group you are interested in knowing more about or joining for information where they are meeting. While most are meeting at the church, a few are meeting in homes.

[AFFINITY GROUPS](#) - Other groups are meeting to share a common interest, fellowship and/or a specific service role. These affinity groups also meet weekly or monthly.

[M & M's FELLOWSHIP](#) -This group started in the 1960s and is meeting now on the third Saturday of each month. The evening includes a potluck dinner and a short program. Everyone is invited, single or married. Please contact Barbara Leach at 371-8973 or Clara Evans at 371-7648.

[TRINITY QUILTERS](#) - Meets each Thursday morning at 9:00 AM at the church. Anyone interested in quilting is welcome. This group has served the church and its mission for over 20 years by holding a raffle for one of their prized quilts and then donated the money to the church. In addition, they make and donate lap quilts and bed quilts for disabled veterans. Contact Ethel Hayes at 371-4822, Barbara Leach at 371-8973 or Evelyn Rose at 371-8506

[LADIES LUNCHEON](#) - Includes all interested ladies of Trinity who meet for lunch on the third Friday of each month at noon. Each is asked to bring either soup, salad or a dessert to share plus a roll of paper towels for the kitchen. A program is included. Child care is not available.

continue next page.....

Small Groups continued from previous page:

**MEN'S SUPPER CLUB** – A new group for the men of Trinity. This group meets once a month for a wonderful dinner and fellowship. Each is asked to donate \$5.00 to pay for the food and to start a budget fund to bring in future speakers and programs. All men are invited to join this new group. Contact Robb Perrine at 455-3474 or Steve David at 712-2615

Many of you may have interests that you would like to share with other Trinity folk. For instance maybe an interest in computers, photography, gardening or some specific craft. If so, let's explore and see who would like to join you. Please contact Linda Brooks at 371-7629 to start another small group.

## The Kids are on FIRE for God at Trinity!

Join us Wednesday evenings to "fan the flame of your faith".



The Sparks (formerly Cherubs, ages 4-1<sup>st</sup> grade) meet in room 4 at 6:30 for a half hour of singing and stories. Then, they move to the nursery for a project or play time. Contact Melinda Quick (372-7483 or [melindaquick@yahoo.com](mailto:melindaquick@yahoo.com)) for information.



The Flames (formerly Kids' Club, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> graders) meet at 6:30 in room 12. We sing with The Sparks for part of the time, and then we break off to practice for Christmas Eve, do crafts, play games and other fun things. Contact Sue Goodwin (717-5299 or [slgoodwin@yahoo.com](mailto:slgoodwin@yahoo.com)) for information.

*Both groups finish at 7:30, when the adult program ends, so there is something for everyone in the family on Wednesdays!* During the month of December, we'll be working on our Christmas Eve performance. (We are leading the 5:00p.m. family worship time!) But even if you won't be around on Christmas Eve, we still want YOU to join us! We'll be doing crafts, singing songs of the season and looking ahead to plan 2011! We'll rehearse the first three Wednesday evenings in December and one morning the week before Christmas Eve. Watch for announcements or check with Miss Sue or Miss Melinda to find out more!



## Family Inspire Refuel (eat good food) Energize

Energize on mid-week Wednesday with FIRE! Meet and eat healthy with your church family at 6 p.m. From 6:30 to 7:30 choose from a variety of options for all ages:

- [Nursery Care](#) for infants to 4 years old
- [The Sparks](#) for 4 years to 1<sup>st</sup> grade
- [The Flames](#) for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- [Midpoint](#) middle school group for 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade
- [High School Youth](#) group for 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

Adults: Embers small group Bible Study or Keeping Christ in Christmas

There will be two Adult Study options on December 1, 8, and 15th:

### #1 Embers" Small Group Bible Study (Lobby Room)

If the sermon sparked you to want more, come relight the fire and share your insights at this small group Bible Study as we dig into the scriptures introduced on Sunday. Led by Kathy Sowers in the Lobby room each Wednesday night of **FIRE**.

### #2 Keeping Christ in Christmas (Café)

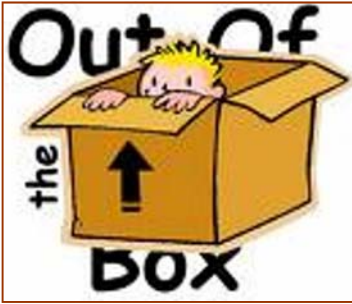
**December 1-** Panel Discussion of traditions that keep Christ in Christmas with Linda Whitney, Melinda Quick, Karen Metcalf, and Kevin Hansen. This is a great time to learn how to focus on Christ in your home, your community, and be a blessing in the world.

**December 8** – Keeping the season Holy! Would you like to know more about the origins of our favorite Christmas traditions? You can celebrate your most meaning-filled Christmas ever by understanding why you're doing what you choose to do this year. We'll also talk about how to drain some of the stress from the season by consciously keeping the season holy. Led by Debra Johnston.

**December 15** – Caroling Event! Come carol with your kids for the first half hour with then when the kids leave to practice for the Christmas musical stay and enjoy your favorite Christmas Carols.

We hope these events will fill your heart with the Joy of Jesus! Mark your calendar for the return of FIRE on January 12<sup>th</sup>! We will have more Nicky Gumbel videos to share and Embers small group Bible Study will return to relight your **FIRE**.





## Giving of yourself

A couple of thousand years ago, humanity received the great gift that is Jesus Christ. He came and said [and I paraphrase poorly] “love me, love each other, feed each other and when you screw up...don’t worry. That is covered too. Keep on loving, keep on feeding, guilt can only get in the way of these important instructions.” He said some other things too, but I do not want to spoil the ending... The point is that this gift, and the associated news is VERY valuable to humanity, all we need to do is unwrap and stay out of the return line. This gift makes us so happy that we devote an entire month to house decoration and gift giving ourselves. And herein lays the modern Christian dilemma. “I want to be excited and celebratory but I don’t want to go overboard with crass commercialization.” The Out of the Box solution? Be excited, be celebratory. Give like crazy, and ignore the commercialism. Go over the top, give until your giving muscles hurt. You have someone you love and you want to give them a gift? Great! If you have the money, go buy them a gift and tell them you love them. If you don’t, be honest with them and give them something anyway, a phone call, a cookie, a hug – all good. Then move on to people you don’t even know, love them too! Give some time, money, encouragement, creativity to Out of the Box. You will not get the Holiday Blues from these acts, I can assure you. What could possibly be wrong with any of this giving? Nothing at all. Please note that this is not an endorsement for irresponsible spending, for stress and depression, awful and unnecessary to-do lists. This is a loud endorsement to enjoy and savor the act of giving. Giving to others is one of the most human acts there is, and there is nothing wrong with putting the people you love on the list of prospective recipients. So give, and be happy, and remember the reason we give gifts in the first place. We have a lot to be happy about, and a lot to be thankful for. Merry Christmas, one and all.

In line with Flu vaccinations, Trinity will be offering “Crass Commercialization overload vaccinations” We call this clinic “Out of the Box” Ministries – and we give bags of food to people, free of charge no strings attached.

### **Here are December’s dates:**

December 1 – 3 – First Shopping trip, Food Bank of Yolo County [volunteer picks the day]

December 7-10 – Second Shopping trip to the Food Bank of Yolo County [volunteer picks the day]

Sunday, December 12,2010 – Food Packing, after the 11:00 Service in the Café. 12:30 PM-2:30 PM

Thursday, December 16, 2010, Distribution Night, 5:30pm—8pm

Please contact Kevin Hansen 916-371-7679 [catchthehansens@gmail.com](mailto:catchthehansens@gmail.com)

# Youth Group Memories



I have so many memories of this youth group from sleepless nights at youth lock-ins to making hundreds of PB and J sandwiches for our homeless ministry. Or - the youth baptism in the pouring rain, dressing up with Dan like Bible woman and Bible man, praising God with the youth band, performing the Raisin skit at the retreat talent show, or waking the teens up at 3:00 a.m. to TP Pastor Steve's house. I love these teens and the two years I have spent with them. In fact, I think the time with them has ministered more to me than anything. Since I cannot pinpoint a favorite memory, I decided to ask the youth what one of their favorite memories was.

This is what they said:

"When we went to feed the homeless with all those other churches or the time when Austin was running and tripped over a bunch of cords from the TV." - Zach Ruiz

"Thirty-hour famine - being on an empty stomach with tons of friends around." – Austin E.

"During the Rock Band tournament, Dan put Kit Cat for my name and everyone started calling me that." – Katie McNeilly

"It was totally funny when Austin jumped off the pier and did a belly flop on the retreat."

Michael Painter

"Andrew smashing cake in my face." – Brianna McNeilly

"My baptism." – Andrew McBride

"I'd have to say the youth baptism was pretty cool." – Rick Hawkins

"SSP (the mission trip) was the best probably." – Julian Hernandez

"SSP or the time we did the slip and slide." - Isacc Hunter

"Sunsplash because I got to be with all my friends." – Nikki Custodio



"My confirmation because it meant a lot to me." – Kelly Custodio

"SSP because we got to help people in need." – Ben Bachelder

"Either the time Debbie came and talked, the time you did the sin chair skit, or the Thirty-Hour famine." – Alicia Whitmore

I noticed a few trends in their responses. Many of the teens mentioned service, especially the mission trip. Most of them answered that a fun moment or event was their favorite memory. Also, a few teens said the moment when they publicly proclaimed their faith either through baptism or confirmation. Like Dan and I, several students said it was too hard to decide on just one. We will continue to offer service opportunities, fun events, and give students the chance to publicly proclaim their faith. In the next few months, we have planned a Christmas party, a bowling outing, a thirty-hour Famine, and will be feeding the homeless monthly. With God's help, we hope to continue to be a place where youth can make incredible memories and grow in their relationship with God.

**December, 2010**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>28 ADVENT BEGINS!</b>                      9:00am Worship                      10:15am Adult Bible Study                      11:00am Worship                      3:00pm Riverbend                      5:00pm Last Call                      6:15pm <b>Advent Festival</b>                      6:15pm Teens class</p>	<p><b>29</b>                      6:00pm Bethel Bible Study                      7:00pm Young Adults Bible Study-@ Dan &amp; Paige Meyerpeter's home</p>	<p><b>30</b>                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      5:00pm Worship Comm. Mtg                      6:00pm Joint Leaders Mtg.                      6:30 pm Mission &amp; Outreach Mtg.                      6:30pm Discipleship Mtg.                      7:00pm Destiny AA Rm. 4</p>	<p><b>Dec 1</b>                      2:00 Women's Bible Study                      5:00pm Church Ministry Prayer                      6:00pm FIRE Dinner                      6:30pm Adult Small Group                      6:30pm Latino Ministry                      6:30pm Midpoint Middle School                      6:30pm High School Youth                      6:30pm Kids' Club/Choir</p>	<p><b>2</b>                      9:00am Quilters                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      12:00pm Bible Study                      6:30pm Praise Team                      7:30-8pm Christmas Choir                      8-9pm Trinity Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p>
<p><b>5</b>                      9:00am Worship                      10:15am Adult Bible Study                      11:00am Worship                      12:30pm Latino Min. Mtg.                      3:00pm Good Grief &amp; Divorce Support                      5:00pm Last Call                      6:15pm Teens Class</p>	<p><b>6</b>                      6:00pm Bethel Bible Study                      7:00pm Young Adults Bible Study-@ Dan &amp; Paige Meyerpeter's home</p>	<p><b>7</b>                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      6:30pm Session Mtg.                      7:00pm Destiny AA Rm. 4</p>	<p><b>8</b>                      9:30am Finance Mtg.                      2:00pm Women's Bible Study                      5:00pm Church Ministry Prayer                      6:00pm FIRE Dinner                      6:30pm Adult Small Group                      6:30pm Latino Ministry                      6:30pm Midpoint Middle School                      6:30pm High School Youth                      6:30pm Kids' Club/Choir</p>	<p><b>9</b>                      9:00am Quilters                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      12:00pm Bible Study                      4:00 pm Staff Meeting                      6:00pm Men's Supper Club                      6:30pm Praise Team                      7:30-8pm Christmas Choir                      8-9pm Trinity Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>10</b>                      6:00pm West Sac Tree Lighting—Kids' Choir                      7:00pm Scrapbooking</p>	<p><b>11</b></p>
<p><b>12</b>                      9:00am Worship                      10:15 am Adult Bible Study                      11:00 am Worship                      12:30 pm Out of the Box— Food Packing                      5:00pm "Prayer in Practice"                      — Last Call                      6:15 pm Teens Class</p>	<p><b>13</b>                      6:00pm Bethel Bible Study                      7:00pm Young Adults Bible Study-@ Dan &amp; Paige Meyerpeter's home</p>	<p><b>14</b>                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      5:15 pm Deacons' Mtg.                      7:00pm Destiny AA Rm. 4</p>	<p><b>15</b>                      2:00pm Women's Bible Study                      5:00pm Church Ministry Prayer                      5:30pm Personnel Mtg.                      6:00pm FIRE - Dinner                      6:30pm Adult Small Group                      6:30pm Latino Ministry                      6:30pm Midpoint Middle School                      6:30pm Sr. Hi Groups                      6:30pm Kids' Club/Choir</p>	<p><b>16</b>                      9:00am Quilters                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      12:00pm Bible Study                      6:30pm Out of the Box - Food Distribution                      6:30pm Praise Team                      7:30-8pm Christmas Choir                      8-9pm Trinity Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b>                      5:30pm - M&amp;Ms Fellowship</p>
<p><b>19</b>                      9:00 am Worship                      10:15 am Adult Bible Study                      11:00am Worship                      3:00pm Good Grief &amp; Divorce Support                      5:00pm Last Call                      6:00pm Annual Pajama &amp; Story Party                      6:15 pm Teens Class</p>	<p><b>20</b>                      6:00pm Bethel Bible Study                      7:00pm Young Adults Bible Study-@ Dan &amp; Paige Meyerpeter's home</p>	<p><b>21</b>                      10:00am Kids' Pageant Rehearsal                      10:30am Commodity (Food) Distribution                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      6:30pm Session Mtg.                      7:00pm Destiny AA</p>	<p><b>22</b>                      5:00pm Church Ministry Prayer                      6:00pm NO FIRE DINNER                      6:30pm Latino Ministry                      6:30pm Youth Christmas Party                      6:30pm Kids' Club/Choir</p>	<p><b>23</b>                      9:00am Quilters                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      12:00pm Bible Study                      6:30pm Praise Team                      7:30-8pm Christmas Choir                      8-9pm Trinity Choir Practice</p>	<p><b>24</b>                      5:00pm Family-Friendly Christmas Eve Service                      7:00pm Christmas Eve Service                      11:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</p>	<p><b>25</b>                        4:30 pm Christmas Dinner at Trinity</p>
<p><b>26</b>                      9:00am Worship                      10:15am Adult Bible Study                      11:00am Worship                      3:00pm Riverbend                      5:00pm Last Call                      6:15 pm Teens Class</p>	<p><b>27</b>                      6:00pm Bethel Bible Study                      7:00pm Young Adults Bible Study-@ Dan &amp; Paige Meyerpeter's home</p>	<p><b>28</b>                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      7:00pm Destiny AA Rm. 4</p>	<p><b>29</b>                      2:00pm Women's Bible Study                      5:00pm Church Ministry Prayer                      6:00pm NO FIRE DINNER                      6:30pm Latino Ministry                      6:30pm High School Youth</p>	<p><b>30</b>                      9:00am Quilters                      11:00am Senior Exercise                      12:00pm Bible Study                      6:30pm Praise Team</p>	<p><b>31</b></p>	<p><b>Jan 1</b>                        HAPPY NEW</p>



Emma Morrow	December 4	*
Kim Sharon	December 5	
Steve Watson	December 6	
Pamela Avery	December 7	
Eric O'Connor	December 7	
Adam Stewart	December 7	*
Carla Harris	December 8	
Jennie Massello	December 9	
Carrie Surawski	December 9	*
Madeleine Burgess	December 11	*
Steven Faiello	December 12	*
Nathan Rodman	December 12	*
Lydia Whitney	December 13	*
Darian Caldeira	December 15	*
Wilbur Curtis	December 17	
Pam Disney	December 17	
Kevin Ericson	December 17	
Gloria Curtis	December 19	
Margaret Clark	December 20	
Max Harrison	December 21	*
Vicki Johnson	December 21	
Amelia Blunk	December 22	*
Luba Karnaukh	December 23	
Nancy Kester	December 24	
Melinda Quick	December 24	
Lakeisha Allen	December 26	*
Julia Hines	December 26	*
Grace Hines	December 26	*
Molly Robinson	December 26	*
Linda Whitney	December 27	
Karen Smith	December 28	

# December Birthdays



Cristian Valdez	December 28	*
Breanna Maslianka	December 29	*
Kenzie Pitts	December 29	*
Michael Russel	December 29	*

Are you on our Birthday List?  
Call the Church Office and add the one you love!





December 2010  
River Baptisms,  
Out of the Box,  
Corn Maze,  
Trunk-or-Treat



## TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1500 Park Blvd

West Sacramento CA 95691

Office Hours: Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 916.371.5875

WWW.TRINITYWESTSAC.ORG OR

EMAIL: INFO@TRINITYWESTSAC.ORG

NONPROFIT ORG

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

SACRAMENTO CA 95813

PERMIT NO. 526

**CHANGE SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

### Church Staff

Rev. Steve Whitney, Pastor

Rev. Tina Torres, Pastor of  
Latino Ministries

Debra Johnston, Pastoral Care/  
& Prayer Coordinator

Boris Karpuk, Interim Praise Team  
Leader

Eleanor Whitney, Interim Choir  
Director

Karen Metcalf and Carol Onalfo  
Office Assistants

Dan & Paige Meyerpeter,  
Youth Leaders

Karla Rasmussen, Nancy Del Mugnaio  
Trinity Press Co-Editors

And Many, Many Volunteers

### TRINITY'S VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Church is a Spirit-filled, loving, and life-transforming community of believers, who experience Jesus Christ and grow in faith together, challenging each other to serve with compassion and creativity. In response to God's grace, we bring the hope of life in Jesus Christ to the community and the world, inviting them to join us on this journey of discipleship.

