

March 2016

Trinity Press



Sunday Worship Services

10:00 am English

12:00 pm Spanish

Child care at all Worship Services

Nursery & Preschool

Room 7

Sunday School Classes

Grades K—6 Room 3

Communion Sunday

Sunday, March 6

Out-of-the-Box Food Packing

Sunday, March 13, begins at 11:45 am

Out-of-the-Box Food Distribution

Thursday, March 17, begins at 6:30 pm

Holy Week Activities

March 20 – Palm Sunday

Worship at 10:00 & 12:00 pm

Children's Parade with Palms

(Children need to arrive 10 minutes early)

March 24 – Maundy Thursday

Worship 7:00 pm

March 25 – Good Friday

Worship 7:00 pm (Bilingual)

March 27 – Easter "He is Risen"

Sunrise Worship 7:00 am

Pancake Breakfast 8-10:30 am

Bilingual Worship 10:30 am

Easter Egg Hunt 11:45 am



TRINITY'S VISION

Our Session has been working on a vision statement for Trinity and recently we've been asking for your feedback. Many of you have presented ideas and given us your thoughts on what we've come up with so far... thank you! We really appreciate your input. It means a lot and it's very helpful.

A vision statement takes time. More than anything, it takes prayer. It's not just what we want to do, it is what we believe God is calling us to do. In other words, our vision statement is God's vision for Trinity. The Session has been working on it and discussing it for about a year. We've made several changes, and we've prayed. We do want your input. The vision doesn't just belong to the Session: it belongs to all of us.

I wanted to share some of the parameters we're using to develop our vision. First, I want to clarify what I mean by a vision statement.

Our vision is not our mission. According to Barna, a popular author on church growth, "A mission statement is a general statement about whom you wish to reach and what your church hopes to accomplish." Mission is philosophic. He also says, "A vision statement indicates what the ministry hopes to accomplish in a specific period of time. A Vision is strategic." What do we as a church hope to accomplish in a specific period of time?

Our vision statement should meet the following criteria:

God Ordained: Vision for our ministry is a reflection of what God wants to accomplish through us

A Clear Mental Image of the Future: Envision a church that can exist but does not currently exist

A Preferable Future: It is about bringing about a future we believe God wants

Attainable: A vision should be something that is attainable, not impossible. The Church universal is called to change the world. What is Trinity called to change? In other words, we want to change the world... one person at a time. Where do we start?

Measurable: A vision can be reviewed and analyzed. For example: If the vision includes equipping people to serve Christ, how have they been equipped? Do they know their spiritual gifts, and how is that being recorded?

Specific: What exactly does the church hope to accomplish in a specific period of time?

Memorable: A vision statement should be a few sentences at the most so it can be easily memorized and communicated.

Rick Warren, pastor of Saddleback Church and author of the Purpose Driven Life and the Purpose Driven Church says, "Nothing precedes purpose." In other words, we cannot accomplish something unless we know specifically what we want to accomplish. What is God calling Trinity to accomplish?

This we do know. God has a vision for Trinity. He is calling us to it. We are in this together. Please continue to leave your feedback and pray as we seek God's vision for Trinity.

Blessings,

Pastor Eric

The Great Vigil of Easter



14th century fresco of the Resurrection from Chora Church, Istanbul.

The Easter Vigil is officially the first service of Easter. In fact, Christian feast days generally begin at sunset on the previous day (best known in the example of Christmas Eve). For this reason, the duration of the Easter Triduum (“three days”) is from the evening of Maundy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. The same principle applies to the Jewish reckoning of liturgical time, in which the sabbath begins at dusk and continues to nightfall of the following day. This is reflected in the priestly “refrain” of the Genesis 1 creation story: “and there was evening, and there was morning, the nth day.”

The Easter Vigil has four movements: (1) the Service of Light, a celebration of the light of Christ at which a new fire is kindled from which the Paschal Candle

is lit, (2) the Service of Readings, which includes as many as nine readings from the grand story of salvation of the Old and New Testaments interspersed with psalms and canticles, silence and prayers, (3) the Service of Baptism, the primary annual occasion for baptisms (particularly in the early church) and a time for the reaffirmation of the baptismal covenant and (4) the Service of the Eucharist, a joyous feast in the presence of the risen Christ and an anticipation of the eschatological banquet of the realm of God.

The brightest jewel of Christian liturgy

An excerpt from the [*Companion to the Book of Common Worship*](#) (Geneva Press, 2003, 135-136)

The Great Vigil of Easter is the brightest jewel of Christian liturgy traced to early Christian times. It proclaims the universal significance of God’s saving acts in history through four related services held on the same occasion.

1. *Service of Light*. The service begins in the darkness of night. In kindling new fire and lighting the paschal candle, we are reminded that Christ came as a light shining in darkness (John 1:5). Through the use of fire, candles, words, movement, and music, the worshipping community becomes the pilgrim people

of God following the “pillar of fire” given to us in Jesus Christ, the Light of the World. The paschal candle is used throughout the service as a symbol for Jesus Christ. This candle is carried, leading every procession during the vigil. Christ, the Light of the World, thus provides the unifying thread to the service.

2. *Service of Readings*. The second part of the vigil consists of a series of readings from the Old and New Testaments. These readings provide a panoramic view of what God has done for humanity. Beginning with creation, we are reminded of our delivery from bondage in the exodus, of God’s calling us to faithfulness through the cry of the prophets, of God dwelling among us in Jesus Christ, and of Christ’s rising in victory from the tomb. The readings thus retell our “holy history” as God’s children, summarizing the faith into which we are baptized.

3. *Service of Baptism*. In the earliest years of the Christian church, baptisms commonly took place at the vigil. So this vigil includes baptism and/or the reaffirmation of baptismal vows. As with the natural symbol of light, water plays a critical role in the vigil. The image of water giving life — nurturing crops, sustaining life, and cleansing our bodies — cannot be missed in this part of the vigil. Nor is the ability of water to inflict death in drowning overlooked. Water brings both life and death. So also there

is death and life in baptism, for in baptism we die to sin and are raised to life. Baptism unites believers to Christ’s death and resurrection.

4. *Service of the Eucharist*. The vigil climaxes in a joyous celebration of the feast of the people of God. The risen Lord invites all to participate in the new life he brings by sharing the feast that he has prepared. We thus look forward to the great messianic feast of the kingdom of God when the redeemed from every time and place “will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God” (Luke 13:29). The vigil thus celebrates what God has done, is doing, and will do.

<http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/worship/easter-vigil/>

March Birthdays



Ken Trott	11
Terri Young	12
John Chandley	14
Colin Schlunegger	16
Sophia Blunk	18
Will Sjurson	18
Jesse Schlunegger	26
Linda Brooks	27
Michele Richardson-Phipps	27

Washing Food: Does it Promote Food Safety?

Washing Produce

Before eating or preparing fresh fruits and vegetables, wash the produce under cold running tap water to remove any lingering dirt. This reduces bacteria that may be present. If there is a firm surface, such as on apples or potatoes, the surface can be scrubbed with a brush. Consumers should not wash fruits and vegetables with detergent or soap. These products are not approved or labeled by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use on foods. You could ingest residues from soap or detergent absorbed on the produce.

When preparing fruits and vegetables, cut away any damaged or bruised areas because bacteria that cause illness can thrive in those places. Immediately refrigerate any fresh-cut items such as salad or fruit for best quality and food safety.

Last Modified Jul 01, 2013

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/food-safety-education/get-answers/food-safety-fact-sheets/safe-food-handling/washing-food-does-it-promote-food-safety/washing-food>

Minute for Mission: Rebuilding Lives from the Ground Up

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Tricia Wainscott

“This is so much fun! I could swing here for the rest of my life,” screams six-year-old Roshan Karki, who can now use a swing for the first time in his life, thanks to his temporary new home in emergency housing—supported by Finn Church Aid, ACT Alliance, and PDA.

In early 2015, in a span of just two short weeks, Nepal was rocked by two massive earthquakes that devastated the tiny country. More than 500,000 homes were destroyed, 280,000 more were damaged, and nearly 9,000 people died.



Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) was on the ground almost immediately. Today, many months after the second quake, PDA continues its response with disaster assistance through its partnership with ACT Alliance and their local Nepali partner

organizations. Their response capitalizes on ACT’s substantial experience in developing humanitarian programs to distribute aid to more than 200,000 earthquake-affected individuals, including:

- Ready-to-eat food and food rations
- Family water treatment and personal hygiene kits
- Tarps for emergency shelter
- Basic survival items like kitchen utensils, baby kits, and quilts

But there is unique concern for hundreds of thousands of children who have been distressed, displaced, and traumatized by the horrific devastation that surrounds them. Numerous aftershocks contribute to the fear of entering buildings, for parents and children alike. PDA has worked as a member of ACT Alliance to support Finn Church Aid, an organization that specializes in arranging education in catastrophes, by building 300 temporary schools and child-friendly spaces that enable children to return to school and to a sense of normalcy.

Students prefer studying in the temporary buildings, as their construction from bamboo, canvas, and corrugated iron makes them lighter than permanent structures. Finn Church Aid offers much more than just structural support; it also

provides emotional support to Nepalese children. Special education teacher Johanna Kurki organizes teacher training and psychosocial support in disaster areas.

“My work focuses on training the teachers. We give them a box of tools—practical instructions on how, as teachers, they can support children after a catastrophe,” she says. The most important thing is to meet and listen to the children openly. Games, visual arts, and drama are good tools to help children recover from trauma, according to Kurki.

This is just one example of how PDA partners with groups on the ground in disaster-affected areas. Your gifts to One Great Hour of Sharing are having a huge impact on the lives of nearly 900,000 Nepalese children who need your support to overcome the trauma of earthquake devastation and, ultimately, to continue their education.

Please, [give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing](#) to help the children of Nepal.

http://www.pcusa.org/blogs/Daily_Offerings/2016/2/18/minute-mission-rebuilding-lives-ground/

Invitation -- Come Worship with Us!

Trinity Presbyterian Church invites you to worship with us. Please join us Sundays at 10:00 am for our English Worship Service or at 12:00 pm for our Spanish Worship Service. Our English Worship Service is followed by a Lenten Bible Study for the next 4 weeks. Holy Week begins Sunday, March 20th with Palm Sunday and ends Easter Sunday, March 27th. Our Holy Week activities are as follows: March 20th Palm Sunday Services with a Children's Palm Parade; March 24th Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm; March 25th Good Friday Service at 7:00 pm; March 27th Easter Sunrise Service at 7:00 am, Pancake Breakfast from 8:00 am to 10:30 am, Bilingual (English and Spanish) Easter Service at 10:30 am; and Easter Egg Hunt at 11:45 am. The Pancake Breakfast is a fundraiser for our youth, but the Easter Egg Hunt and all worship services are free.



We are centrally located at 1500 Park Boulevard, at the corner of Park and Westacre, in West Sacramento. For additional information please call us between the hours of 9:00 am and 3:00 pm, Tuesday through Friday, at (916) 371-5875. You may also visit our website at www.trinitywestsac.org.

Small Groups Update

Our small group ministry is off to a great start this year. So far, we've done two new ministries. We started off with Financial Peace University on Wednesday nights. This is a 9 week small group on developing relationships, communication and growing closer together through financial faithfulness. Did you know that when Jesus taught he included the topic of money more often than any other topic besides the Kingdom of God? That means he talked about money more than love or forgiveness! Eleven of the 29 parables Jesus gave included money! Why is Financial Peace Important? It is important to Jesus.

We also started a new Sunday morning Lenten small group. In this group we are discussing that morning's message on a deeper level. It's amazing how much can be learned just by discussing that day's topic together. There is still time to join us in Room 3 each Sunday after the 10am service.

If you are interested in facilitating a small group we will have another small group orientation on Wednesday night, March 30 at 7pm. This is a quick hour where we talk about the qualities of a small group facilitator, share ideas for small groups and provide resources.

Blessings,

Pastor Eric

Jesus was in a small group.

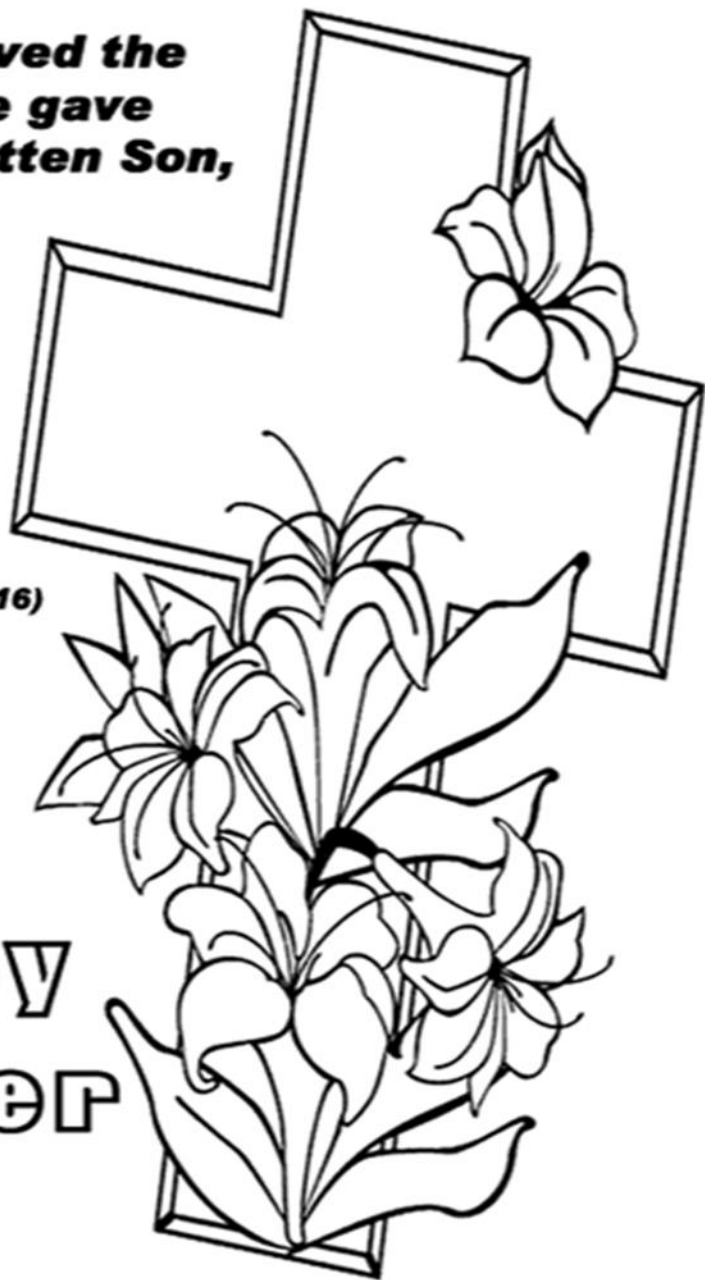


life change happens in small groups

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

(John 3:16)

**HAPPY
EASTER**





HE IS
RISEN

CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR

EASTER

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Pianist: Andre Andrievskiy

Jane Gentry, Office Admin
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Trinity Press Co-Editors:
Kathy Trott & Jane Gentry

Copy Editor: Debra Johnston

And Many, Many Volunteers

Trinity's Mission Statement:

The mission of Trinity Presbyterian Church is to invite people into the family of God to share the transforming love of Jesus Christ.

