

December 2013

# Trinity Press



Isaiah 9:6 . . . A child is born to us, a son is given to us, and authority will be on his shoulders. He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. (CEB)

## Sunday Worship Services

9:00 am Family-Friendly  
Contemporary

10:30 am Spanish Language

11:00 am Blended/Traditional

Child care at all Worship Services

Nursery (0—2.5) — Room 11

Preschool (2.5 to K) — Room 10

Sunday School Classes

Grades K-5 — Rooms 4, 5, and 6

## Advent Festival

December 1, at 5:00 pm

## Goody Bags Project

December 4, at 6:30 pm

## Out of the Box Food Packing

Sunday, December 15, at 12:30 pm

## Kids Pajama Party

Sunday, December 15, at 5:30 pm

## Book Wrapping Project

Wednesday, December 18, at 6:30 pm

## Out of the Box

## Food Distribution

Thursday, December 19, at 6:30 pm

## Christmas Eve Services

### Tuesday, December 24

5:00 pm Children's Program

7:00 pm. Traditional Service

11:00 pm Candlelight Service



**E-Mail\***

## **ADD SOMETHING**

Now that the Christmas season is upon us, we tend to look ahead to those great American traditions, like... eating, shopping, going into debt, stressing out about time and family and all those other things that raise our blood pressure. When did Christmas start to add so many things to our life?

I want to add something else. As we begin advent on the first Sunday of December, we are going to call it ADDvent. This year we're going to add something other than debt and stress. We're going to add Hope, Peace, Love and Joy. Imagine a season in your life where you can receive hope. What if the days before Christmas were actually peaceful? How about some love around the dinner table? What would it be like to end the year, not in fear of the future, but with joy in the life God brings? Hope. Peace. Love. Joy. Something to ADD to your life.

I encourage you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings at 9:00 (contemporary), 10:30 (Spanish) or 11:00 a.m. (blended) this advent season starting on the first Sunday of December. You don't have to worry about parking. No coupons are needed. There's a place for your kids. And there are no annoying sales people.

Blessings,

Pastor Eric

\*Eric's Mail

## ESQUINA LATINA - LATINO CORNER

### ***Gracias a Dios!***

We are excited about:

- Our continuing services on Sunday mornings in Café.
- Participating in Advent and Christmas events!

Please pray for our leaders, children and youth.

**In the love of Christ - *en el amor de Cristo***

***Pastora Tina 916-995-5105***

***and the Latino Steering Team - Arturo and Lina Jimenez, Claudia Rolon-Garcia and Diego and Angeles Camarotta, David and Carmen Contto, Kathy and Ken Trott.***



## Session Highlights

Session Highlights will return next year!  
Happy Holidays!

# Winter Break



## ***Turn Our Dollars into New Quarters***

Our plans to remodel, renovate, and rejuvenate our church are finally going to begin. In fact the first phase, relocating the office, will have started on Nov. 21. This plan was put into action for three reasons: 1) space was not being used well, and many rooms were becoming storage areas; 2) the current office was poorly located, and visibility to the outside unmanageable; and 3) the building is in need of new flooring, painting and windows. With this in mind, Pastor Eric called a longtime friend, Stacy McCarthy, a designer by profession, to take a look at the church. She developed a plan for us that makes smarter use of our church. This plan was presented to the congregation on Nov.10. Session has approved the plans, and now the fun begins.

Funding, always an issue, is now well on its way. The first phase will cost roughly \$17,000. This bid by contractor John Nelson of JNT, Building and Remodeling, was accepted by the Session in October. Buildings and Grounds met with five contractors in all and chose Mr. Nelson after checking his references. The good news is that we have the money to complete phase I! The next phase will involve the offices for both Pastor Eric and Pastora Tina, as well as the new youth room. This phase will cost approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000, depending on the materials chosen. Our plan continues with the preschool room makeover and then the grand finale of a new kitchen (now called a serving area) in room 11. The current kitchen is to be made into a storage area for music and worship as well as storage for the Out-of-the-Box mission program.

Our hope is that many will give their financial support for this plan. Fundraising projects are brewing as I write this to you. Our slogan will be "Turn Our Dollars into New Quarters." As we turn the corner into 2014, it is worth noting that our church will begin its 70th year. It is our hope that this project will enable us to continue on our way for another 70 years.

This is a very short version of all that has gone into the preparation of this plan. Please feel free to address your comments and questions to our Building and Grounds committee.

Sincerely, Linda Brooks, Chair

## Out of the Box

Cookie-palooza returns this December. Here's how it works: You and 20 of your friends bake as many cookies as you can stand baking. Bring them to our December packing: December 15, 2013, 12:30 p.m.

We will take the various cookies and re-pack them, and hand out a mixed assortment of cookies to our clients. We expect to see the Girl Scouts again this month; you know how they are about cookies, so we had better be on top of our game!

On December 19th we will give the cookies and the groceries away at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas is a special time to work in a Food Pantry - every year we come across acts of beauty and kindness - and we are lucky to be a part of the whole thing.

This past November, I experienced three serendipitous events, all in one week.

1. The 800 Students at Southport Elementary conducted a Canned Food Drive.
2. Forty students from the River City High School Leadership Council helped us sort canned foods and place them into bags destined for families, most of whom have children in the household.
3. And finally, a new Southport student, a kindergartner named Lydia, has resolved to do some of her own shopping for her canned food drive. In her father's words, she "wants to go to the store to use some of her savings to buy more food to donate to her school's food drive for [Out-of-the-Box Ministries!](#)" She had first mentioned the pizza party the class with the biggest collection will get, but when I warned her that they may not win, she said what she really wanted was to help feed "little kids who don't have enough to eat."

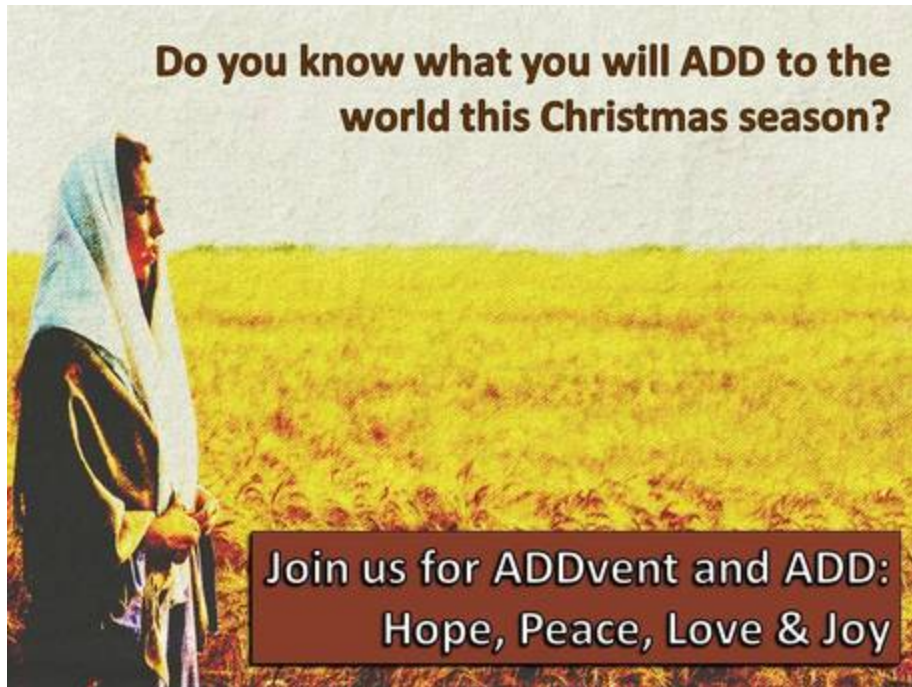
I am extremely thankful to participate in a Ministry that puts tons of food into the mouths of children in our community. We see so many kids come through our lines, Riverbank Elementary tells us just how important our bags are to the families with children, and if you were to deliver groceries to our chosen mobile home park, you would need to drive very slowly to avoid scooters, bikes, and games of hide-and-seek. We are lucky to have a Ministry that provides food to children. I am thankful for this.

But what about the thousands of children who provide food for kids in their own city? We send out empty paper bags to schools and they come back overfilled with groceries. We have relied on young people to deliver groceries, pack groceries, stomp cardboard in the recycle bin and man stations in our packing lines. They have performed magnificently; they have multiplied our efforts. I am humbled to think that we have created a framework for kids to express their love, and their own Thanksgivings.

So this Thanksgiving, I would like to give special thanks to the kids in our community who feed one another with excellence. If you see one of them, thank and encourage them.

Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas to each of you! Thank you for telling a forgotten community month after month: "You matter."

Kevin Hansen



## **2014 ADDvent Calendar**

### **ADDvent Sermon Series at 9 & 11 am Services**

**December 1: ADD Hope**

**December 8: ADD Faith**

**December 15: ADD Love**

**December 22: ADD Joy**

### **Christmas Eve Schedule**

**5 pm Family ~ 7 pm Traditional ~ 11 pm Candlelight**



## **SERVICE PROJECT**

### **OPERATION GOODY BAGS**

Are you concerned about the homeless population in West Sacramento? Would you like to make a difference? If you answered "Yes," we have a service project for you. Each year we fill 100 goody bags for the homeless and distribute them. If you have a heart to serve, we are asking you to join us at

this service project. If you are a student and would like to earn 1.5 hours of community service, please let us know in advance.

**Date: Wednesday, December 4th**

**Time: 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.**

**Place: Trinity Presbyterian Church Cafe**

**Phone: (916) 371-5875**

**[www.TrinityWestSac.org](http://www.TrinityWestSac.org)**

**[administrator@trinitywestsac.org](mailto:administrator@trinitywestsac.org)**

**Snacks will be served**

## **Volunteers needed at New Discovery Church**

Volunteers needed to serve a meal

The deacons of Trinity would like to invite volunteers to join us in preparing and serving a mid-day meal once-a-month at New Discovery Church. The Broderick Christian Center is no longer able to produce the mid-day meal that they had been serving to the homeless and needy population for so long. In response, several churches in West Sacramento, including Trinity, have teamed up to form the Mercy Coalition, and the goal is to serve a mid-day meal every Wednesday. Trinity Deacons are putting together a team of people who will go once each month on a Wednesday to serve lunch at New Discovery Church. We would love to have volunteers who can join us periodically (or regularly). If you are interested, please contact Rick Hawkins at 916-806-1234, or email him at [sbrdude887@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbrdude887@sbcglobal.net).



## SERVICE PROJECT

### OPERATION LITERACY

Are you concerned about the homeless population in West Sacramento? Would you like to make a difference? If you answered “Yes,” join us as we collect new books for homeless children. We will gift wrap them and give them to our Homeless Liaison, who will distribute them before Christmas. If you have a heart to serve, we are asking you to join us at this service project. If you are a student and would like to earn 1.5 hours of community service, please let us know in advance. Information regarding this event is provided below. New books may be donated at the church office, Tuesday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., November 1st through December 6th.

***Date: Wednesday, December 18th***

***Time: 6:30 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.***

***Place: Trinity Presbyterian Church Cafe***

***Phone: (916) 371-5875***

***www.TrinityWestSac.org***

***[administrator@trinitywestsac.org](mailto:administrator@trinitywestsac.org)***

***Snacks will be served***



## **Church Improvements – Brick Planter Completed!**

Have you noticed how nice things look around our church? Thanks to the efforts of many people, along with money from Trinity's Memorial Fund and some personal donations, MANY improvements have been made inside & outside of Trinity.

The beautiful, new brick planter along the side of the church (Westacre Road), along with the soil & plants, was paid for with memorial funds. Carol Davis donated the money to have the bricks extended around the back of the church to the parking lot, then Don & Linda Brooks donated the money to have our sprinkler system extended to the new flowerbeds (previously the flowerbeds next to the parking lot were watered by hand!). Rick Smith, a former Trinity member, did a great job on the brickwork – he also suggested some good ideas for improvements and was most gracious about sharing his time & talents with us. Don Brooks, Carol Davis, Nola Goeden, and Cliff Hayes have all been involved with preparation and/or planting.

We are grateful to those who have donated to Trinity's Memorial Fund and for the efforts of so many people who help to keep our church looking good.

Thanks to ALL of you!

## **A Mountain of Winter Clothes**

It is almost winter now, with cold temperatures, frosty nights, and chilly winds... Over the summer months Toni collected a literal "mountain" of sweaters, jackets, coats, sweatpants, jeans, socks, mittens: clothes to survive the cold. She gave it all away November 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

Toni extends many, many thanks and best wishes to everyone whose generous donations made this possible.

You can bring your used clothing and "stuff" with you to church and put it in the plastic tubs under the table in the Narthex; or if you live in West Sac, you can leave Toni a message at (916) 617-2915 and she will come pick it up.

## PJ Party 2013

Please join us for our Annual Pajama Party! We'll be sipping hot cocoa and munching on sweet treats while listening to Christmas stories & enjoying the magic of the season: from 5:30pm -7:00pm on Sunday, December 15th. Don't forget to wear your favorite PJs! You can bring a stuffed friend to enjoy the stories & your favorite blanket, too! This is one of those special Trinity traditions which bring the church family together to make sweet memories for our littlest friends. Won't you be part of making the magic happen this year? If you'd like to bake cookies or read a short story, please contact me at 422-2864 or [whitneydds@gmail.com](mailto:whitneydds@gmail.com)



## TRINITY CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

In recent years, Trinity members have made Christmas brighter for MANY families. Once again, you will have a chance to be a Christmas “angel” for someone connected with Trinity. Names of those needing assistance to provide Christmas gifts for their children are collected by Pastor Tina, Glen (our Youth Group Leader), and other Trinity leaders who have knowledge of those needing some extra help during the Christmas season.

On **December 8<sup>th</sup>**, our “Trinity Tree” will be covered with ornaments. Each ornament will contain very specific information regarding wonderful gift idea(s) for someone who needs our help. Trinity members look at all the ornaments and select one (or more) that they want to buy gifts for. Then, on **December 15<sup>th</sup>**, they bring their gifts (unwrapped). Gift bags are always welcome. We have some other Trinity “angels” who do a great job of wrapping and putting together all the gifts for a particular family so that Trinity leaders can make timely deliveries.

Please watch for our “Charlie Brown”-type paper Christmas tree on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, so that you can help a friend of Trinity experience the joy of receiving something special this Christmas. Of course, we all know the joy that comes from giving a special gift to a child or youth member of our church.



## **Eightieth Birthday Party Thank-Yous from John and Shirley Robinson**

We wish to express our appreciation for all who came to share our birthday celebration with us. The thoughtfulness expressed in words, cards, and messages from all who were there, and those not able to be there, are a treasure to us. You have enriched our lives more than you could ever know.

### **Trunk or Treat**

The following folks helped make Trunk or Treat a success by helping with planning, participating in the event, donations for the event, or praying for the success of the event.

Jill Thom, Karen Metcalf, Ed Metcalf, Lori Custodio, Judi Chiboucas, Metha McDavid, Gloria and Will Curtis, Pastora Tina Torres, Cora Hocker, Ethel and Cliff Hayes, Gayle Andrade, Jane Gentry, Don and Linda Brooks, Nola Goeden, Terri Davis, Terri Young, Karla Rasmussen, The Whitney Reynen family, Ken and Kathy Trott, Carol Onalfo, Barbara Amick, Pastor Eric and Jen Keller, The Phipps family, The Jimenez family, The Camarotta family, The Moss family, Kaleena Perez, Andreyra Mercado, Kelly Custodio, Nikki Custodio, Cathy and Dale Davis, The Schlunegger family, Carl and Nancy Metcalf, Lew and Linda Whitney, Steve and Emily Oren, Student helper Hunter Williams and a whole host of others who contributed anonymously.

### **“Behind-the-Scenes” Workers**

God continues to bless us with individuals who are behind-the-scenes-warriors who faithfully perform many tasks to ensure our church and ministries remain viable. The names of the individuals and some of the tasks they perform are listed below.

Bev Meier – flowers; Rhonda Hensley – garden produce donated to church families; Vi Taylor donated food to the Out-of-the-Box food closet, and Toni Sullivan – sorting and distributing donated clothing.

### **Operation Kids’ Christmas Crafts**

A huge thank-you to those who helped make our first Operation Kids’ Christmas Crafts a success. Their names are listed below.

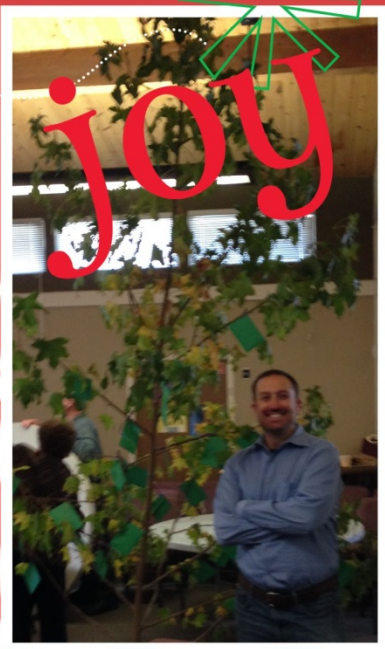
Toni Sullivan; Angela Lew, Scott Thompson; Lori Schlunegger, Jane Gentry, Karla Rasmussen, Myrna Summy, Glenda Dahms, The Whitney Reynen family, The Custudios, Hunter Williams, Katie Magana, Hope Morrish, Terri Young, Jen Keller, Vi Taylor, Laura Singh, The Perrines, Ester Barnes, and many others who donated items anonymously and prayed for this event.

## December Birthdays



Emma Morrow	4	Kevin Ericson	17
Kim Sharon	5	Nicholas Long	18
Steve Watson	6	Gloria Curtis	19
Eric O'Connor	7	Max Harrison	21
Carla Harris	8	Amelia Blunk	22
Jennie Massello	9	Luba Karnaukh	23
Madeleine Burgess	11	Pete Martinez	23
Steven Faiello	12	Grace Hines	26
Corrine Hamby	12	Julia Hines	26
Lydia Whitney	13	Molly Robinson	26
Darian Caldeira	15	Linda Whitney	27
Brandon Roberts	16	Karen Smith	28
Wilbur Curtis	17	Breanna Maslianka	29
Pam Disney	17	Kenzie Pitts	29

JOY TO THE WORLD



**Trinity Presbyterian Church**  
1500 Park Blvd  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Office Hours: Tuesday—Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Phone: 916.371.5875

[www.TrinityWestSac.ORG](http://www.TrinityWestSac.ORG)  
Email :  
[Administrator@TrinityWestSac.ORG](mailto:Administrator@TrinityWestSac.ORG)

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Eric Keller  
Asso. Pastor, Latino Outreach: Rev. Tina Torres  
Choir Director: Gayle Andrade  
Pianist: Andre Andrievskiy

Jane Gentry , Office Admin  
Karen Metcalf & Carol Onalfo  
Office Volunteers

Trinity Press Co-Editors  
Kathy Trott & Jane Gentry

Copy Editor: Debra Johnston

And Many , Many Volunteers

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**CHANGE SERVICE  
REQUESTED**

**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.*

