



Since 1973 Vol. 48 No. 01

January 2020

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

## SUNDAY MORNINGS

8:30 AM Formation Education  
9:30 AM WORSHIP Service



**JAN. 5** *Wallcrusher*  
Joshua 6:1-20

**JAN. 12** *Jawbone*  
Judges 13-17  
**Communion**

**JAN. 19** *Ruth*  
Ruth 1-4

**JAN. 26** *The Answer*  
I Samuel 3:1-20



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**Tres'**  
**Take**

## A 2020 Prayer

As I write this article, it's six days before Christmas. I'm nine days beyond the Trumpet deadline, and I still have no idea what to write for the front cover article of the new year issue! Should I write about hopes and dreams for the New Year? Should I write encouraging words for those who are going to try to keep a New Year's resolution? Should I make the already over-played pun about having a clearer vision in 2020? Should I write about new starts in the new year? I just don't know.

If I'm totally honest, I'm struggling to write something because I have no idea what 2020 holds. I don't have a crystal ball or the gift of prophecy. I'm sure there will be some great highs as well as our fair share of lows. The truth is no one knows what 2020 holds for us. None of us knows what joys and challenges we will face this year. Indeed the only certainty we have in life is that we are loved by God in Jesus Christ, and that through Him, we have been given eternal life with God. And frankly, that's enough.

My prayer for this New Year, this year of our Lord 2020, is that you live into the hope and joy that comes in being loved unconditionally by God. I pray that others

*Tres' Take continued on page 2*

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### Ministerial Staff

**Rev. Dr. Tres Adams** Senior Pastor  
**Rev. Les Malakian** Parish Pastor  
**Richard Colla** Minister of Music  
**Cindy Zellman** Administrator  
**Becky Pombo** Minister to Children  
**Wade Patton** Director of Young Adult Ministry  
**Destiny Robles** Director of Youth Ministry

### Trinity Preschool

**Eva Mery** Co-Director  
**Cassi Torrez** Co-Director  
**Cindy Zellman** Administrator

7 days without God  
makes one weak.

**Lisa Traugher** Managing Editor  
**Char Wickman** Circulation Manager  
Thanks to many Volunteers!

**DEADLINE**  
FOR PUBLICATION  
**10TH**  
OF EACH MONTH

Materials are collated  
on the fourth Tuesday  
of each month.

*Tres' Take continued from page 1*

in your circle of friends and loved ones find your hope and joy infectious and are led by the Holy Spirit to realize the grace in Jesus. I pray that our collective response to God's grace makes the world a little better this year. And finally, I pray that no matter what life throws our way—the good and even the bad—that we are overwhelmed with love, peace, and joy found in claiming Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Happy New Year Family!

## Heroes Sermon Series

*Submitted by Rev. Tres Adams*

Beginning the last Sunday of December and running up to the Lenten Season, we will be working through a new sermon series entitled Heroes. The Heroes sermon series will take us through some of the stories of the great heroes and heroines of the Old Testament. A while ago, a couple of parents and grandparents revealed that they wanted to be able to talk with their children and grandchildren about the Bible stories that they were learning in their preschool classes. So to help our parents and grandparents, we are all going to explore and remember how God worked through people to do amazing things to His glory. For fun, I have given each sermon a comic book title like "Seasplitter" for Moses and "Jawbone" for Samson. The Bible is full of awesome stories and interesting characters. I look forward to recalling them with Heroes!



## Girlfriends, Its BUNCO Time Again!

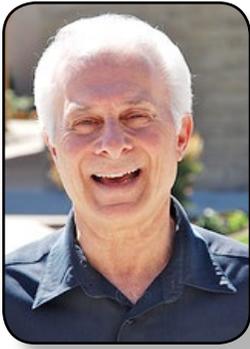
*Submitted by Diane Leicham*

Mark the date on your calendar, invite your girlfriends, co-workers, sisters, daughters, grandmothers (you get the idea!), and plan to come hungry. Friday, February 28, is our Women's Activity Team annual BUNCO Night, and it is FUN!

It will be an evening of fast-paced laughter, along with yummy appetizers and desserts. BUNCO is a no-skill game that gives you an opportunity to play with every person in the room. Tickets are only \$5 and will go on sale starting Sunday, February 9.

Don't miss out on the Fun!

For information, call Mary Couchman at 605-3753 or Diane Leicham at 604-8379.



## More from Les

### Security

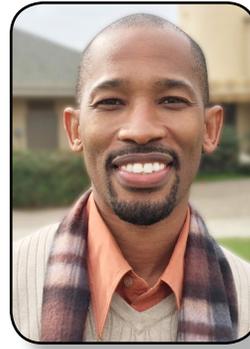
*Submitted by Parish Pastor Rev. Les Malakian*

How do you measure security? How do you define security? How much do you spend in money and time trying to make sure you are secure? Like many of you, Leslie and I have a security system in our home. We pay a monthly fee plus the cost of installation, etc. The other evening the phone rang and woke us up. It was the security company telling us our alarm was going off and asking if we were safe. Much to our dismay, we didn't even hear the alarm. Thank God, all was well and we were safe. It made us wonder how safe we really were. While thinking about this, I came across this quote and it reminded me of something I already knew, but had failed to remember: "Security is our nearness to God, not our distance from danger." There are no guarantees in this life, however God guarantees us that He loves us and cares for us, and went to the Cross to prove it. Security in Jesus; you can't do better!

God bless you,  
Pastor Les  
Isaiah 9:6; John 3:16

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*When you harbor  
bitterness, happiness  
will dock elsewhere.*



## Words from Wade

*Submitted by Wade Patton,  
Director of Young Adult Ministry*

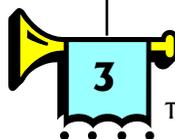
### From the Young Adult Ministry My Hospitality Origin

*By Kate Redner Anderson*

Hello Trinity Family, my name is Kate Redner Anderson and hospitality has been a passion of mine for years. I worked in the customer service industry for over 10 years and I love it so much that I obtained a degree in Hospitality Management at CSU East Bay. I love learning about hospitality and how it impacts my life on a daily basis. This leads me to a question, what does hospitality mean and how does one acquire it?

This is a question I've always pondered. I'm constantly looking for ways to improve the spirit of hospitality within me. Professionally, I am a Sales Coordinator for the hotel industry. I essentially try and get big groups to the hotel to win some business. It's great to be able to build relationships with clients. When I did job interviews, I asked the above question to my interviewees. I wanted to get their perspective of hospitality while hoping to catch a glimpse into their character. The answers given were very broad. I wish I could remember all of their stories.

Since I got my education in hospitality, I have both read and heard a lot of perspectives on the subject, like, the standard dictionary definition for hospitality. It is defined as: "the friendly reception and treatment of guests or strangers. The quality or disposition of receiving and treating guests and strangers in a warm, friendly, generous way." This definition is true, however for me, hospitality goes beyond just a physical act. I believe hospitality is spiritual. The big question is, how



is this connected to God? The answer is found in my relationship with the Holy Spirit. You see the Holy Spirit shows me through various trials and tasks what it means to be hospitable. It changes every day, and I'm changing every day. When I interact with others, I want them to be able to feel the Spirit of God.

God not only teaches me about hospitality thru His Spirit but also thru my parents.. My parents gave me one of the greatest gifts of hospitality. They adopted me and brought me into a loving Christ-centered home. They showed me how to love others, how to serve, how to listen, and how to respect others. Sure, my dad showed me some of his crazy New York driving, but I turned out okay!

My parents displayed and helped to shape my foundational core beliefs for hospitality. My mom has a welcoming heart and my dad has a comedic spirit. Together they welcome all. I never imagined how much it would impact my future. It reminds me of what J.R.R. Tolkien wrote from Lord of the Rings. "Frodo was now safe in the Last Homely House east of the Sea. That house was, as Bilbo had long ago reported, 'a perfect house, whether you like food or sleep, or story-telling or singing, or just sitting and thinking best, or a pleasant mixture of them all.' Merely to be there was a cure for weariness, fear and sadness." I love this quote because it felt like my parents' house. It's a place where people came and it was a "pleasant mixture of them all." My parents counseled, listened, and even prayed with those who entered. I admire them and I admire the Spirit's influence on their hospitality. I continue to learn from them. My parents gave me life and taught me what they'd learned about hospitality. I will be forever grateful for them.

I hope to share more insight about hospitality with all of you. Let me ask you this: what does hospitality mean to you? Come tell me!

"Do not neglect to extend hospitality to strangers [especially among the family of believers- being friendly, cordial, and gracious, sharing the comforts of your home and doing your part generously], for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it." - Hebrews 13:2 AMP

## Reflections

### from a Distant Trumpet

Reprinted from July 1990  
Pastor Emeritus, George Telle

### George's Jottings

#### A Musical Magnet

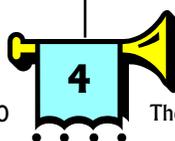
My first Vacation Bible School was when I was six and at a Methodist church which had a pipe organ. Once, as I was leaving the church, I heard the organ, and it took all the courage I had to enter the heretofore "strange" sanctuary. That organ was a magnet that pulled me all the way to the console, where I stood transfixed until the Court House clock tolled 12. I backed down the aisle, not turning and running until the organ stopped. As an adult I chose my church for worship on the basis of a good pipe organ and choir.

On the third Sunday of October 1962, we attended First Church at 14th and "I" Streets for worship. Chris Boss at the organ was terrific! His postlude riveted us to our seats. Commenting to friends about Chris Boss, we were informed, "He plays too loudly." Honesty compelled us to say, "Not for us." When time came for First church and Trinity to merge, the organ was auctioned off. As the delegates from First Baptist, Stockton, exulted, I wept.

Always I had dreamed of being the minister of a church with a great organ. I am not the minister now, but I'll be very present when our new pipe organ is installed and dedicated.

When our new organist plays Bach's Toccata in D Minor or Widor's Toccata in F Major, they will be loud, but please remember I'm being propelled into the Holy Presence. When Jahan Alain composed his Litanies, he wrote on the score, When the Christian soul in its distress cannot find words to implore God's mercy, it repeats ceaselessly and with vehement faith the same invocation. Reason has reached its limit, faith alone can go further.

Many times that number has left me in tears. And when our organist plays soft, meditative music, I will like that, too. I'll know others are being pleased and satisfied.





## Dates with Destiny

Director of Youth Ministry

### What we have done:

#### Advent by Candlelight—December 3rd

The women of this church showed up and showed out! All the ladies who hosted tables and led the service did an absolutely tremendous job. A few youth were in attendance for the night, including Kalea Jackson who sang an acapella version of O Holy Night. Plenty of laughter and connections across generations was beautiful to see as we read Scriptures and sang Christmas carols as one strong unified voice. To see the



women of this church shine their lights, quite literally in the sanctuary, but throughout the whole night was absolutely tremendous to be a part of. It was a great night for all the women!

#### Youth Leading Peers—December 4th

On one of our youth nights we went over to Telle and enjoyed fellowship and worship together. Kadya led the youth in a short devotional on 2 Corinthians 5:17; she referred to the worship song Who You Say I Am from Hillsong. She did an incredible job in preparing and delivering: one thing that we all walked

away with is, “We are children of God and He sees us as we are and are made new!” This is an incredible start to empowering other youth students to share their hearts and what God is speaking to them.



#### Christmas Party—December 11th

We had an eventful night with pizza, White Elephant gift exchange, Christmas carol charades, and a twist on “Rock, Paper, Scissors”. We began the night with a great circle of prayer from some of the Children’s ministry volunteers who were having their party next to us. Thank you for those who held hands and prayed with us- we enjoyed our night!! Each of the students received a stocking full of little gifts and these 3 personalized TSM gifts: a rock (inscribed with “You Rock”), a glass iridescent ornament, and a handmade wood-burned token on a necklace; each with TSM on it.

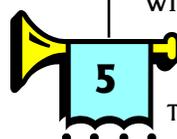


### Where we are going:

#### Seeing in 20-20

There is a passion that has been stirring in my heart the past couple months about dreaming bigger. I do not know about you, but sometimes I am guilty of limiting God and what He can do through me and others. Part of ‘Seeing in 20-20’, is beginning to receive clarity. Do you need clarity in a situation(s) you are facing? My heart is to see the root of some things and calling them for what they are: fear is not welcome in the youth group nor in our lives. Your words have power and I am going to pray that God helps me in the words I speak over my own life and the people I have the honor of ministering to. The other part of this clarity is getting better at communication, in all ways: with one another, with God, and with sharing our hearts. If you could partner with me in prayer for this next season in the

Trinity Student Ministries, I would appreciate it!



# Fayetteville Mission Trip

June 7—June 13, 2020

PDA Fayetteville, North Carolina

Submitted by Ted Benson

## INFORMATIONAL MEETING

7:00 PM Tuesday, January 14, Telle Center Room 503

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” (Matthew 25:40)

The good news is Fayetteville, North Carolina made it through 2019 without major storm damage. After enduring two “500 year storms” in a three-year period between 2016 and 2018, Mother Nature gave the Carolinas a break last year. While Hurricane Dorian soaked the Outer Banks along the Atlantic Coast, the storm stayed primarily out to sea, providing a much-needed break for people living farther inland.

The not-so-good news is the fact that extensive damage remains following hurricanes Matthew and Florence. Over 1,200 homes in the Fayetteville area still need repair. This is where Trinity’s Presbyterian Disaster Assistance team enters the picture.

June 2019 marked our second trip to Fayetteville. As has been the case on twelve previous PDA mission trips, the good reputation of Trinity’s crew preceded our arrival. Our 13th year on the mission field was no different. Job site coordinators in North Carolina were soliciting a return engagement by Trinity before the end of our first workday. By the end of the week, the team consensus was pretty much confirmed:

*We’re going back to Fayetteville.*

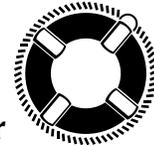
2020 marks the 14th year of partnership between Trinity and PDA. From the Gulf Coast of Mississippi and Louisiana to Tennessee, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and North Carolina, our crew has answered the call, bringing hope out of chaos for people whose lives have been disrupted by nature’s wrath.

This year’s mission trip is set for the week of June 7-13. Once again, Highland Presbyterian Church will become our home away from home for seven days, continuing a relationship that began in 2018, as we serve residents in the immediate area. While our work assignments are yet to be determined, we anticipate anything from “mucking out” to basic construction, hanging and “mudding” sheet rock, painting, plumbing, and any other number of tasks. The work won’t be easy—it never is. We’ll face a number of physical challenges, starting with warm, humid weather. Team members can expect to get dirty and sweat a lot. But along with the perspiration comes inspiration and memories that last a lifetime.

To find out more about the PDA mission and how you may fit in, plan to attend our first organizational meeting at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, January 14. We will be meeting in Room 503 at the Telle Center. See you then.

## Mariners

Saturday, January 4  
6:00 PM in Telle Center



Welcome the New Year with the Mariners on Saturday, January 4 at 6:00 PM in Telle Center. We are “sounding the trumpet” with guest musician, trumpeter, Robert Stone, accompanied by Grace Brummel. We begin with dinner and devotions and the cost to help with food provisions is \$6.00 each.

For more information, please contact Jeanne Nelson at 523-5733. **NEXT MONTH COMES FAST; MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW: FEBRUARY 1ST.**

## Travel/Trips

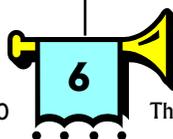
Submitted by Eugene Mould, Trip Committee



To sign up for any trip, please contact Jeanne Nelson at 523-5733

*All ages welcome. take a trip with us soon and expect a blessing!*

Check out our 2020 Trip Highlights and calendar your destinations soon! First get-away is to Roger Rocka Dinner Theater on March 20, 2020.



# Trinity United Family Prayer Calendar

JANUARY 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Bill Koning  Dyann LaMantia	<b>2</b> John and Diane Leicham  Merylyn Lewis	<b>3</b> Charles and Sally Lindberg  Bert Lippert	<b>4</b> Robb Loeser  Willie and Bob Loeser
<b>5</b> Sue Lorenz  Eunice Lovi	<b>6</b> Wendy Lucas  Luther and Vicky Lundeby	<b>7</b> Monica Maddock  Leslie and Les Malakian	<b>8</b> John and Julia Mancini  Duane and Ellen Martin	<b>9</b> Joanne Martin  Catherine and Alex Martinez	<b>10</b> Charles and Myrna McDaniel  Bob and Katie McGrew	<b>11</b> Ross and Lee McKenzie  Ross and Kellie McKenzie
<b>12</b> Rebecca McNabb  Terri McNabb	<b>13</b> Dick and Jeanine Monteith  Eugene and Anita Mould	<b>14</b> Jeanne Nelson  Kathy Nelson	<b>15</b> Louise Nelson  Roberta Ohland	<b>16</b> Tony and Chris Ott  Brad Payne	<b>17</b> Debbie and Clark Pearson  Donna Pedersen	<b>18</b> Sue Pehl  Jim and Patricia Phillips
<b>19</b> Dave Pollard  Becky Pombo	<b>20</b> Fern Pope  Dave and Peggy Prevette	<b>21</b> Gisele Pritchard  Mark Purdom	<b>22</b> Silvana Purdom  Diane and Frank Quaresma	<b>23</b> John Quaresma  Rick and Brenda Redner	<b>24</b> Diane and Mervin Reed  Tom and Patti Reed	<b>25</b> Pearlene Reese  Jean Reeves
<b>26</b> Charlotte Reid  Amy and Jonathan Roberts	<b>27</b> Dolores Roberts  Janet Roberts	<b>28</b> Mildred Robinson  Nyla Rossiter	<b>29</b> James Rubino  June Sargis	<b>30</b> John and Tawn Schaffran  Peggy Shaffran	<b>31</b> Andy and Marilyn Schindler  Tom and Liz Seaver	

- |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Youth for Christ<br>Ken Sylvia               | 8. Witnessing Ministries of Christ,<br>India—Elizabeth Prasad | 14. Child Evangelism Fellowship<br>Sandy Jostad             | 20. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance<br>Liz Benson                  |
| 2. Modesto Gospel Mission<br>Jason Conway       | 9. Servant Partners<br>Liz Heim                               | 15. Shalem School<br>Pastor Helcias Reyes                   | 21. Guatemala Trinity United Team<br>Mary Couchman/Michelle Siemens |
| 3. Modesto Pregnancy Center<br>Erin Koolhaas    | 10. Advancing Vibrant Communities<br>Michael Douglass         | 16. LOVE Modesto<br>Jeff Pishney                            | 22. Intersarsity Christian Fellowship<br>Lauren McDermott           |
| 4. Valley Recovery Resources<br>Steve Berkowitz | 11. MOPS and MOMSnext<br>Jenny Currie                         | 17. CRU Zimbabwe<br>Kelly and Vicki Londoni                 | 23. Teen Missions<br>Bob and Paula Yost                             |
| 5. Bethany Christian Services<br>Sandra Hiatt   | 12. City Ministry Network<br>Marvin Jacobo                    | 18. Bethel Ministries International<br>Ben and Emily Mooney | 24. Samaritan's Purse<br>Operation Christmas Child                  |
| 6. Vine House<br>Cheryl Van Horn                | 13. United World Missions<br>Todd and Sarah Hunnicut          | 19. Rock of Ages<br>Sidney Stone                            | 25. Trinity Preschool   |
| 7. IDEAS, Bangladesh                            |   |   |   |

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

**MARINERS DINNER**  
January 4, 6:00 PM  
**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## **LEADERSHIP**

**COMMISSIONS: ALL Meet on the 3rd Tuesday each month, 6:30-8:00 PM**

### FORMATION/EDUCATION:

- Adult Education
- Children's Ministries
- Preschool
- Student Ministries
- Worship

### MISSION:

- Assimilation/Evangelism
- Fellowship
- Missions
- Prayer
- Senior Ministries

### WORSHIP

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

*See on-line "Calendar" for changes, or check with Commission*

*Elders or Committee Leaders: "Leadership Footprint."*

*Worship Services are LIVE Streamed through*

*Sunday Streams Mobile App ID = tupc*

## **LEADERSHIP**

CHURCH TRIP COMMITTEE: January 6, 10:00 AM

DEACONS: January 7, 6:00 PM

PERSONNEL: January 7, 5:30 PM

SESSION Retreat: January 4, 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

SESSION Meeting: January 7, 7:00 PM

STAFF/PROGRAM: Tuesdays, 1:30 PM/3:00 PM

## **STUDY**

FORMATION/EDUCATION: Sunday Classes at 8:30 AM

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY: Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 with Dinner

7TH-12TH GRADE BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUPS: Wed. 6:00 PM

STEPHEN MINISTRY: Monday, January 13 and 27, 7:00 PM

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY: Sundays, 5:00-8:00 PM

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP: Wednesdays, 9:00 AM

## **PRAISE**

ECHOES OF JOY HANDBELLS: Mondays, 5:30 PM

KOINONIA CHOIR: Thursdays, 7:00 PM

MESSENGERS MEN'S ENSEMBLE: Thursdays, 6:15 PM

ONE VOICE WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE: Thursdays, 6:15 PM

WORSHIP BAND: Fridays, 7:00 PM

WORSHIP: Sundays, 9:30 AM/COMMUNION: January 12

## **FELLOWSHIP**

FELLOWSHIP: Sundays following Classic Worship and Formation/Education

DAD'S TAILGATE: 1/3 Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 PM, North Parking Lot

DINGHY MARINERS: January 4, 6:00 PM

MOPS and MOMSnext: 1/3 Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 PM, Telle Center