

TRINITY TALK

February 2026

2400 N. Canal Street, Orange, California 714-637-1390

TrinityOrange.org

email: parish_admin@trinityorange.org

website: www.trinityorange.org

A Message from Fr. Steve:

How do we talk about what is happening in our nation? It's a big question, especially in a time when conversations quickly turn tense and divided. We watch the news, scroll through social media, and hear people shouting over each other, all claiming to be right. Too often, these talks get stuck in political arguments instead of pointing to something deeper.



As followers of Jesus, our way forward is not shaped by political sides—it's shaped by the Gospel. That doesn't mean politics don't matter, but it does mean they are not our ultimate truth or our source of hope. Our true identity is not as Republicans or Democrats, progressives or conservatives. We are Christ's people, baptized into a new way of seeing, living, and loving. Instead of asking, 'What side should I choose?', the better question is, 'What does love ask of me?'

We are invited to put aside red and blue lenses and see the world through the lens of Christ's love. And when we do, what we see is a world in pain. We see families struggling, people hurting, communities divided, and hearts filled with fear. But instead of picking sides, the Gospel invites us to step into the pain with kindness, courage, and truth.

This way of living is rooted in the promises we made at our baptism. These promises guide how we speak, act, and respond. One powerful question from the baptismal covenant is this:

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

This question doesn't ask if our neighbor agrees with us, looks like us, or votes like us. It simply asks: Will you love them? Will you look past the surface and see Christ in them? This kind of love takes humility, patience, and a willing heart to listen. It means dropping labels and lifting people up as beloved children of God. is not just the end of conflict—it's the beginning of restored relationships.

(Continue to Page 2)

Another question from our baptism:

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

Justice and peace are not just slogans—they are central to the Gospel. Jesus didn't avoid hard truths. He stepped into injustice and pain to bring healing and forgiveness. Justice in God's eyes means setting things right, caring for those who are suffering, and lifting up those who are pushed down. Peace is not just the end of conflict—it's the beginning of restored relationships.

Respecting the dignity of every person means we can't ignore suffering or brush people off just because we disagree with them. It means not dehumanizing others. Instead, we speak truth in love, admit when things are broken, and work for healing.

So, how do we talk about what's going on in our nation?

We remember who we are: baptized and beloved followers of Christ. We put down the tools of argument and defensiveness. We pick up the towel and basin and we serve, like Jesus did. We pray before we post, listen before we speak, and seek to understand before we judge. We look for Christ in everyone we meet—in the protester and the ICE agent, the immigrant and the policymaker, the neighbor with the signs we don't agree with.

And most of all, we live out our baptism. We love without conditions. We work for justice with grace and courage. We respect the dignity of every person.

This is how we talk: with hearts centered on Christ, committed to truth, and full of love for our neighbor.

Rev. Steve Swartzell

SAS Encore Presents :

Stevie Ray Christian: Making Music, Not Magic!

Steve joins us for a day of music. From bossa nova and the blues to Johnny Mercer and Ernest Tubb, Steve aims to please, with something for everyone. He will be also previewing a handful of his country originals... including country western music for people who don't like country western music!



**Thursday, February 26; Doors open at 11am
Please sign up in the back of the church!**

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY TAMALE BENEFIT

A BENEFIT FOR WESTERN SERVICE WORKERS ASSOCIATION'S
WINTER SURVIVAL CAMPAIGN

SUGGESTED
DONATION:
\$20 / DOZEN
\$10 / HALF-DOZEN



Your choice of
chicken, cheese
& jalapeño or bean &
jalapeño (vegan)
tamales!

JOIN WESTERN SERVICE WORKERS
ASSOCIATION TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER
AND SPONSOR WSWA'S
SUPER BOWL TAMALE BENEFIT
TO HELP STOP THE
WINTER DEATH TOLL!

Orders are available for pickup on
Sunday, February 8, 2026
10am - 2pm at 
Church of the Foothills
19211 Dodge Ave, Santa Ana, CA 92705
Or call to arrange delivery!

**BECOME
PART OF THE SOLUTION**

WESTERN SERVICE WORKERS ASSOCIATION
1717 N. Bush Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706 (714) 835-9961

Outreach Dine Out!

Tutto Fresco

1333 N Glassell Street
Orange CA, 92867
Thursday, February 19, 2026
Lunch and Dinner
Flyers can be found in the back
of the church.



Pre-Lenten Retreat Facilitated by Laura Boysen- Aragon

Take time for prayer and
contemplation in preparation
for Lent. All are invited for a
quiet morning of prayer,
community, and spiritual
conversations.

Saturday, February 7, 2026
9am - 12pm in the Parish Hall
Please bring a journal or notebook.

Please RSVP on the sign up sheet in the back of
church.
Contact Laura Boysen-Aragon, lboysen@gmail.com
or 510-502-4492 with questions.



F
E
B
R
U
A
R
Y

El Modena Family Resource Center

Now that Christmas is Past-

The New Year is here. The tree is down; the string lights and decorations are boxed up and so for many the "Giving Season" is done and dusted. Back to the usual activities of living a life. Understandable yes. But are we called to a different understanding of activities of daily living?

The Gospel Message, at its essence, is that our whole lives are expressions of love as manifest in caring and concern for our neighbors and the stranger. There's no season for giving. Why? Is it because the need is year-round? That seems logical. Trinity congregants embrace this reality and hear Christ's words. We recognize that life has become even more difficult for many people.

Our neighbors in El Modena continue to be the most impacted by current changes in federal programs and policies, as well as the changes in our economy. Families suffering insecurity in El Modena find support at the El Modena Resource Center (EMFRC), an affiliate of Community Action Partnership Orange County (CAPOC) a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and supported by OC Social Services. But budgets are being slashed and our neighbors have basic needs we can address.

When we send mutual aid to EMFRC we are expressing our care and concern for our neighbor. Please consider continuing to bring pantry, household and personal hygiene products with you on Sunday for delivery to the Center. We'll post notices of immediate need as we receive them in the bulletin. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out. Kathy Racine or Vangee Oberschlake are points of contact, in addition to Father Steve.



Save the Date

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

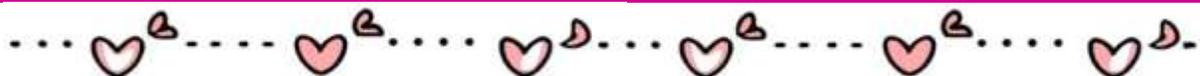
Serving Pancakes between

5:00 and 7:00 p.m.

In Armstrong Hall

\$5.00 for Adults - Children under 10 free

Shrove Tuesday



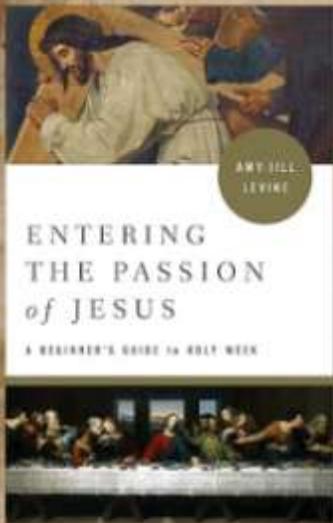
APPRECIATION



Have you ever wondered what takes place in the sacristy — that quiet, reverent place where the work of preparing for worship begins? Or considered the faithful hands behind the scenes who make it all possible — the members of our Altar Guild?

We give heartfelt thanks for the dedicated individuals who serve on the Altar Guild, led faithfully by Chris Laub with the support of Ann Walker. Their devoted team includes Gail Metzger, Priscilla Selman, Doug Knarr, Laurie McKinnell, Elizabeth Blush, Susie Blush, Kathy Racine, Yvonne Omer, Joyce Wills, Dreena-Lee Stephens, Frances Ross, Cheryl Sosa, and Karoline Johns.

Thanks to their tireless service, the worship at Trinity is offered with beauty, reverence, and care. The next time you see one of these faithful members, we encourage you to express your gratitude for their quiet, invaluable ministry.



LENTEN BOOK STUDY

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT
FEBRUARY 25 - APRIL 1, 2026

6:00 PM ARMSTRONG HALL

SOUP & SALAD



SIGN-UP SHEET
AT THE BACK OF
THE CHURCH



Trinity Junction...Take Two!

Friday, February 13th and Saturday, February 14th

Friday: Show starts at 7:30pm

Saturday: Dinner and Show option available with dinner starting at 6pm. Show will start at 7:30pm

Tickets can be purchased after Sunday service or online.

Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets online!



The Book Club

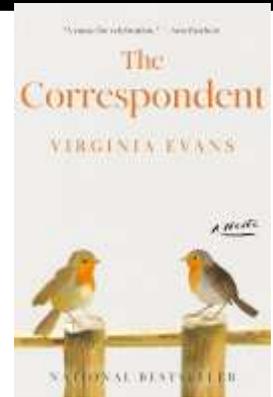
January 10, 2026 at 9:30am

The book club meets in the Library from 9:30-11:00am the 2nd Saturday of each month. Come join everyone for a truly enjoyable morning and some lively literary discussions. Interested? Please contact Laurie McKinnell at mckinnell4@aol.com.

February

The Correspondent by Virginia Evans

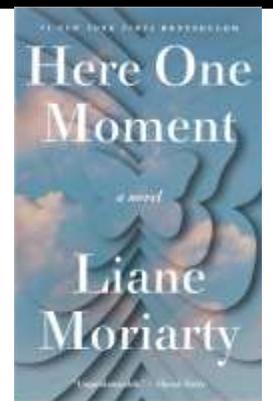
Filled with knowledge that only comes from a life fully lived, *The Correspondent* is a gem of a novel about the power of finding solace in literature and connection with people we might never meet in person. It is about the hubris of youth and the wisdom of old age, and the mistakes and acts of kindness that occur during a lifetime.



March

Here One Moment by Lianne Moriarty

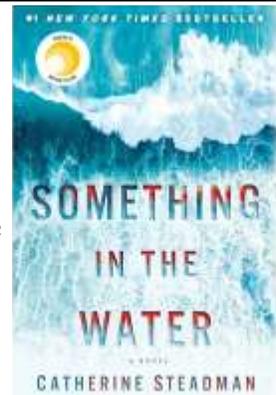
Aside from a delay, there will be no problems. The flight will be smooth, it will land safely. Everyone who gets on the plane will get off. But almost all of them will be forever changed.



April

Something in the Water by Catherine Steadman

Erin is a documentary filmmaker on the brink of a professional breakthrough, Mark a handsome investment banker with big plans. Madly in love, they embark on a dream honeymoon to the tropical island of Bora Bora. While scuba diving in the crystal blue sea, they find something in the water. . . .



SUNDAY SUPPER IS COMING!

Trinity will be hosting Sunday Supper on March 1. Sign up sheets are available at the back of the church. We hope you can join us! Questions? Contact co-managers Elizabeth Blush (714.319.1452 - buzzy-blush@gmail.com) or Donna Watson (714.745.1015 - dwatson@designer-mouse.com).

Sunday Supper



Communities Coming Together

Get to know a Parishioner!

Gayle Kenan

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A PART OF THE TRINITY FAMILY?

I was baptized Catholic as both of my parents came from large Catholic families but we began attending the Episcopal Church when I was seven. We lived in Cleveland, Ohio at the time. My dad got a job transfer to Southern California when I was a sophomore in high school. We joined St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Fullerton at that time and remained there until we came to Trinity in 2019. During my time at St. Andrew's I was very active in the church serving on vestry both as Senior and Junior Warden, I was team leader in the Soup Kitchen, and I was in charge of our annual retreat to Camp Stevens for five years which was a year round job. When Jeff and I felt that St. Andrew's was no longer a fit for us we went "church shopping" and were drawn to the kindness and love that we experienced every time we came to Trinity. I am currently in my third year on the vestry serving as Senior Warden and we participate in Sunday Supper.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HOBBY? I am a cancer survivor and when I retired in 2013 I took up Zumba. Not sure if you can call that a hobby but I can be found Monday through Friday at the community center in our town dancing my heart away. It is so much fun and fabulous exercise! My doctors tell me that level of involvement has contributed greatly to my being cancer free for 17 years. In addition I have made many friends by participating regularly for so many years. It's like a little family. We enjoy our camaraderie so much that we even play

Bunco once a month. So not only does Zumba provide physical benefits it is good for social/mental health.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO TRAVEL TO?

Maui No Ka Oi! Maui is the Best. Our family has been going to Maui for close to thirty years. If one has never been there it is hard to imagine what is so special about it. Once I get off the plane and feel the soft breeze on my face I am transformed into one relaxed person.....and I only get more relaxed from there! We have our favorite places where we stay, eat, play, and attend church. My son got married there three years ago which was the icing on the cake. The officiant was Hawaiian and he blew through a conch shell to begin the ceremony. The devastating fire in Lahaina brought me to tears and have caused me to want to keep my distance. But we traveled there for the first time since the fire last summer and I realized then that the island needs us and we need the island.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE FOOD?

Mexican, Italian, and all the comfort food that I grew up with

DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS? My best friend and companion is a 9 1/2 year old Boxer dog named Jake. I have had Boxers all my life. They are loving, funny, loyal and have the most soulful eyes. He loves his walks and twice a week he goes to play day at PetSmart.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SEASON? The Christmas holiday season. I love the music, the energy, and special events of that time of year. Jeff and I have been doing an annual holiday open house for the past twenty plus years at our house. He decorates the house to look like Chevy Chase's Christmas Vacation. We bake lots of cookies and kuchen, make cabbage rolls, ham, and turkey every year. Grandma's recipes along with all the love she shared. We in turn share with our family and friends. And...on New Year's Day we have a tradition of attending the Rose Parade. Our son Randy lives in Pasadena at the end of the parade route. He holds the spot on Sierra Madre Blvd. and puts the chairs out on New Year's Eve. We are so close we could pull flowers off the floats. It is a wonderful way to start the new year.



AED Location Reminder!!! **(Automatic External Defibrillator)**

As many of you know Trinity has a third AED due to the bountiful generosity of Hoag and their Faith Community Nurse Program. Our newest AED is located in the Little's Room (formerly named Brides's Room) in the sanctuary on the left wall as you immediately enter the room. Its location is marked with a three-dimensional AED sign just outside the Little's Room door. The new AED is encased in an alarmed cabinet that will sound like a siren when opened but will turn off once the cabinet door is closed. This alarm will help to deter theft as well as alert everyone of an emergency if the door is opened. Please familiarize yourself with this new defibrillator as well as our two other AEDs located in the church office and the large kitchen in the parish hall. The use of these devices is critical to saving lives in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest. Everyone at Trinity needs to know of their location. Any of your nurses will gladly show you where the devices are located and answer any questions you may have. In our certification class we are instructed to use three commands if we encounter an apparent cardiac emergency, "You call 911, you get the AED, and come right back." We all can be members of a life-saving team. Let's all do our part to be prepared.

Ann, Yvonne, Chioma & Dennis

We are in need of Acolytes, Ushers, LEMs, and Altar Guild Members

Trinity is hoping we could have some new members of each!



Please contact the parish administrator and she can help you with next steps!

Altar Flower Donations

Flowers for the Altar provide a lovely way to offer a thanksgiving or remembrance of a loved one or a special event. More than one acknowledgement may be given on a Sunday. You may offer flowers as often as you wish. Each Sunday's Altar flowers cost \$160. Any amount towards the expense is very much appreciated! Please make the donation by whichever means you choose, just make sure you indicate that it is for the Altar Flowers.

Will you support the Chapel Votive Candles?

The Altar Guild kindly invites you to support the Chapel Candle Stand each time you light a candle in remembrance — whether it's in honor of a loved one, a birthday, a special moment of joy, or during a time of sadness.

We encourage you to place a donation in the box located on the wall above the matches. Your contribution helps cover the ongoing costs of candles, holders, and matches. Thank you for your generosity and support.



-Altar Guild



Thomas Hughes—February 1
Jeff Kenan—February 1
Trent Kibby—February 3
Angelo Samperisi—February 4
Gail Metzger—February 5
Christine Laub—February 6
Cindy Kimura—February 7
Judy Lehman—February 7
Cheryl Sosa—February 12

Tyler Green—February 13
John Luce—February 13
Mary Robinson—February 14
Jim Brink—February 16
Marilyn Calvin—February 19
Luis Knight—February 20
Pat Walker—February 24
Dreena-Lee Stephens—February 25
Bob Superneau—February 27



Bob Superneau & Fr. Steve—February 28



SUNDAY SUPPER



SAS Encore BINGO!



Annual Meeting



February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Trinity Players Storage 7:00am Altar Guild Team 1 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 9:05am Spiritual Classes 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	2 Trinity Players Storage 6:00pm Trinity Players 2026 Show 7:00pm Railroad Society	3 Trinity Players Storage 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous Outreach Meeting 6:30pm	4 Trinity Players Storage 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	5 Wood Funeral & Reception 1 PM	6 Trinity Players Storage 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	7 Retreat on Meditation 9:00am
8 Trinity Players Storage 7:00am Altar Guild Team 2 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	9 Trinity Players Storage 5:30pm Trinity Players 2026 Show	10 Trinity Players Storage 5:30pm Trinity Players 2026 Show 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	11 Trinity Players Storage 5:30pm Trinity Players 2026 Show 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class	12 Trinity Players Storage 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service 5:30pm Trinity Players 2026 Show 6:30pm Orange Historical Society 7:00pm AA Meeting	13 14 Trinity Players Show Friday: 7:30pm Saturday: Dinner (Dinner and a show option: 6pm Show: 7:30pm	
15 Trinity Players Storage 7:00am Altar Guild Team 3 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous 6:30pm Vestry Meeting SHROVE TUESDAY 5pm-7pm	18 ASH WEDNESDAY 12pm and 7pm service	19 No Healing Service Outreach Dine Out Tutto Fresco	20 9:00am Property Commission 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting No Bible Study	21 Outreach Progressive Dinner 8:30am Debtors Anonymous
22 7:00am Altar Guild Team 4 8:00am Holy Eucharist- Rite I 10:00am Holy Eucharist - Rite II	23	24 6:30pm Narcotics Anonymous	25 7:00pm Shirts & Skirts - Advanced Class Lenten Book Study 6 pm	26 10:00am Eucharist Healing Service SAS Encore 11am	27 9:00am Property Commission 10:00am Bible Study 12:00pm AI Anon Meeting	28 8:30am Debtors Anonymous

Book Club
9:30am