



# TRINITY UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

Trinity United Presbyterian Church is a fellowship of Christ followers who aspire to seek the person God has called to be our next Senior Pastor. S/he and our retiring Senior Pastor will serve as Co-Pastors during a transitional period.

## **Who We Are**

Trinity Presbyterian Church, a new church development of the Stockton Presbytery (PCUSA) in 1962, was organized by a small group of individuals who had been members of the downtown Modesto First Presbyterian Church. In January 1973, the 94-year old downtown First Presbyterian Church merged with Trinity, which then was located on a 4½ acre site in a growing neighborhood, to become Trinity United. The two separate and distinct congregations were melded into one, the two co-pastors retired and a new pastoral staff was hired, and the campus facilities expanded with the addition of Covell Hall and the office building (1973), a larger Sanctuary (1988), and Telle Center and the Youth Center (2009). Trinity United believes that God calls our church, a body of believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ, to demonstrate God's love in the world. We believe the Bible. We teach the Bible. We celebrate the fact that we retain our Presbyterian roots within the Reformed tradition. In 2013 Trinity United was graciously dismissed from the PCUSA and became a member congregation of ECO. We belong to the Presbytery of Northern California and Nevada, whose moderator is one of our covenant partners.

## **We Believe**

At Trinity United Presbyterian Church we believe in Jesus Christ alone, the One and only Son of the living God, as Lord of all and the sole way to salvation. We believe the Bible is the triune God's divinely inspired and revealed Word, and the church's only infallible rule of faith and life. We believe that we all are sinners, saved only by God's Grace. We believe God's people are called to holiness in all aspects of life. We strive to love people where they are. We believe in honoring God in all we do, and spreading the story of His gift and salvation provided through Christ's life, death and resurrection.

## **Our Purpose • Our Mission • Our Core Values**

Our purpose is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

The mission of TUPC is to love God, love others, and make disciples.

Our core values are:

- Worship: Lifting high the name of Jesus.
- Scripture: Enjoying God's Word as our central authority.
- Prayer: Releasing the power of God to accomplish the purposes of God.
- Fellowship: Living in community, loving and supporting one another.
- Transformation: Changing lives and communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ.
- Growth: Equipping believers to live in obedience to the Word.
- Service: Helping people use their God-given gifts and talents.

## **How We Carry Out Our Mission**

### **Through Worshipping**

Trinity United offers two Sunday morning services. The 9:30 service is a traditional service in the Sanctuary with full choir, traditional hymns and organ music. The 11:00 service is a contemporary service held in Telle Center and led by a worship team of vocalists and a praise band. Both services include hymns/praise songs, scripture readings, prayer, creeds, Bible-based sermons with life applications, and communion. We are blessed with abundantly talented people who lead us in worship

through music (choir, Hallelujah Brass, handbells, pipe organ, piano, instrumentalists, praise team) in both services, and also welcome on occasion special musical guests and guest ministers. We celebrate children's worship at 9:30, and also offer childcare for preschool ages. Once a quarter we hold a quarterly unified service that combines elements of both traditional and contemporary worship.

### **Through Teaching**

Trinity United offers a selection of Biblical education classes for all ages at 8:30 and 9:30 Sunday mornings, as well as many ongoing Bible Studies and Small Groups for couples, men and women throughout the week. A Wednesday evening program is available to children and to junior high and senior high youth, and a college group meets on Thursday evenings. This summer we were blessed to hold Vacation Bible School at a nearby public elementary school with which we maintain a year-round relationship. Stephen's Ministry training is ongoing, as are Bethel Bible classes. Presbyterian Women meet monthly to study God's Word, serve and encourage each other. MOPS and MOPS NEXT, which minister to mothers with school-age children, meet twice a month during the school year, with childcare provided. Trinity Preschool is located on our church campus, and an after-school program for school age children also is available. Annual retreats for women, men and youth and a summer camp program for children provide opportunities for deeper spiritual growth.

### **Through Caring**

TUPC is a caring family surrounding our covenant partners with love, care and support through our deacons, small groups and Bible study classes. The Cruisers (multi-generational) and Dinghy Mariners (senior) groups and the Senior Trip Ministry provide opportunities for meaningful fellowship. In addition, the Women's Activity Team plans activities throughout the year that draw in people from throughout our greater community. Our trained Stephen Ministers are well-equipped to come alongside those hurting, discouraged, stressed, broken, struggling, grieving from the crises of life. Prayer partners are available between Sunday worship services, and a prayer support team prays each week over concerns and requests shared with the church office. Our small groups readily reach out to one another through joys and sorrows, and also adopt families at Christmas time as well as mid-year when a need arises. Our Helping Hands program assists covenant partners with various needs. A group of retirees, the Tuesday Morning Crew, helps to maintain our church grounds. Covenant partners and constituents receive *The Trinity Trumpet* newsletter each month and a weekly electronic information update is sent to our church family.

### **Through Serving**

Annually Trinity United serves local, national and international communities. We have partnered with the local citadel of The Salvation Army for decades; many of our covenant partners serve on the advisory board, man red kettles as bell-ringers at local stores during the Christmas season, provide a monthly breakfast to the homeless, and coordinate the annual coat give-away for children. Covenant partners are involved in Focus on Prevention, a Stanislaus County-sponsored coalition of over 500 multi-sector leaders and stakeholders focusing on improving the quality of life for our communities and all of our residents, including those who are currently or potentially homeless. Trinity United has actively supported Interfaith Ministries for many years both financially and by providing volunteers to pick up and sort food donations. We maintain an ongoing relationship with a nearby public elementary school, supplying backpacks and school supplies to all students at the beginning of each new school year, beautifying the campus via service projects, providing tutors and creating opportunities to support and encourage the teachers and staff. In addition, we offer The Good News Club after-school program weekly at two other local public schools. For the past ten years, TUPC mission teams have worked with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance across the nation to help people rebuild their homes after natural disasters. TUPC also sends mission teams to a Christian orphanage in Oradea, Romania, to work on building projects; and to Guatemala to build homes and distribute wheelchairs, food and clothing through our mission partner, Bethel Ministries International. In addition, our annual budget supports missionaries in different regions of the world, including one of our covenant partners whose assignment with Servant Partners is in Bangkok, Thailand. Finally, neighborhood and community-wide organizations use Telle Center throughout the year for a wide variety of events.

## **Our Challenges**

Our congregation is experiencing declining membership. Some of our current areas for improvement include

- Increasing membership
- Growing our children's ministry
- Growing our youth ministry
- Involving our college students
- Encouraging membership involvement, including volunteering
- Maximizing opportunities to reach unchurched families within all age groups

## **Purpose of Senior Pastor Position**

The Senior Pastor will serve as leader of our congregation by encouraging us to grow closer to Jesus Christ in our daily lives and to bear witness to the Good News of the Bible. The Senior Pastor will be head of staff, and will be responsible for the spiritual life of the congregation, including worship, teaching, administration and pastoral care.

## **Qualities of Senior Pastor**

The Senior Pastor will have a joyful heart and conservative theological beliefs. S/he will profess faith in Jesus alone as Lord and Savior as well as in the Bible as the infallible inspired Word of God. The Senior Pastor will honor our past but also be excited about TUPC's transformational future. S/he will be warm, gracious and approachable, possess humble and compassionate listening skills, and provide wise and spirit-filled counsel.

## **Responsibilities of Senior Pastor**

The Senior Pastor will encourage, guide and direct the individual and corporate spiritual development of the congregation. S/he will preach sermons that are grounded in Scripture and applicable to the everyday lives of our covenant partners. S/he will develop, encourage and lead staff, elected officers, leaders and covenant partners in working in the ministries to which God calls us. The Senior Pastor will be able to establish clear priorities and delegate when necessary. S/he will encourage and support fellowship within the church family. The Senior Pastor will be able to communicate, both verbally and non-verbally, in an ongoing manner with staff, elected officers and leaders of the congregation in both matters of spirit and the logistics of working together.

## **Portrait of Our Local Community**

Founded in 1870, Modesto is the 16th largest city in California, with a population exceeding 210,000, and also the seat of Stanislaus County, population 525,500. It offers the diversity and facilities of a metropolitan city while still maintaining an atmosphere of old-fashioned hospitality. Modesto is the birthplace of Jeremy Renner and George Lucas, the inspiration for Lucas's popular film, *American Graffiti*, and home to the famous Graffiti Cruise Route. Centrally situated on Highway 99 in inland California within a two hours' drive of San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose and Sacramento (our state capital), and an additional hour from Carmel/Monterey, Modesto also is three hours northwest of Yosemite National Park and less than an hour from California's Gold Rush country. Amtrak's San Joaquin and several commercial bus companies provide service to Sacramento, the Bay Area and Southern California, and five international airports are within two hours' drive. Modesto is located in the heart of one of the greatest agricultural regions of the United States--the San Joaquin Valley--famous for dairy products, nuts, fruits, wine grapes and poultry products. Major corporations including Frito-Lay, Del Monte, Seneca Foods, Blue Diamond, Pacific Southwest Container, Hilmar Cheese and three major wine producers are based in the immediate area. Located in Modesto are three major hospitals, two of which have air ambulance service and one of which is a level 2 Verified Trauma Center. Educationally, Modesto serves over 33,000 students (K-12, public and private), and four major collegiate institutions--Modesto Junior College, California State University Stanislaus (Turlock), University of the Pacific (Stockton) and the University of California at Merced--are located within an hour's drive.

Modesto offers an assortment of arts, entertainment, and outdoor activities, including:

- Gallo Center for Arts
- Central West Ballet
- Modesto Symphony Orchestra, MSO Chorus and Modesto Symphony Youth Orchestras
- Townsend Opera Players
- Community Concerts Association
- Great Valley Museum of Natural History
- McHenry Mansion
- Stanislaus County Free Library
- Prospect Theatre Company
- Stanislaus County Library (13 branches)
- The State Theater
- Modesto Band of Stanislaus County (MoBand)
- YES Company (youth entertainment stage company)
- Senior Center
- Summer Concerts
- Four Farmers' Markets
- Modesto Nuts (California League baseball affiliate of the Seattle Mariners)
- Boating, fishing, camping, golfing, river rafting, water sports, winter sports

Modesto provides a range of affordable houses and rentals.

#### **Compensation**

A compensation package will include salary/housing, pension, and health insurance. Professional expenses (reimbursable) are negotiable. Further details can be found in the Church Information Form at the following link: [www.tupc.org/cif](http://www.tupc.org/cif)

#### **Information Links**

Trinity United Presbyterian Church: [www.tupc.org](http://www.tupc.org)

City of Modesto: [www.modestogov.com](http://www.modestogov.com)

County of Stanislaus: [www.stancounty.com](http://www.stancounty.com)

Modesto Convention & Visitors Bureau: [visitmodesto.com](http://visitmodesto.com)

#### **How to Apply**

Contact the PNC at [PNC.TUPC@gmail.com](mailto:PNC.TUPC@gmail.com)

Please provide a cover letter, résumé and statement of faith.

#### **Contact Information**

David Zellman

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