



JUNE 2023 VOLUME 21 ISSUE 6

THE NUGGET

United Church of Christ, Calaveras

Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday, June 11 immediately after worship.



**Family Camp at Big Trees
State Park June 2 - 4.
Worship service at Big
Trees at 10am on Sunday
June 4.**



****Please note that the campsite will not be at the usual spot, rather up and across the highway a bit. Please read the instructions below and contact Joe Jackson if you have any questions.****

IF YOU ARE CAMPING:

Go to the main entrance to register your vehicle. After registration, you will make a U-Turn to go back to the highway. Turn **RIGHT** on Highway 4 Eastbound and turn **LEFT** when you see signs for our camp. Follow the directions on the signs.

IF YOU ARE COMING FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAY:

Go to the main entrance to register your vehicle. Continue past the main entrance for about 200 feet and turn **LEFT** to go to the group camp for worship.

A Word from Rev. Marty



Dear Ones,

Doesn't it seem like there are periods of time that move more quickly than others? It seems like just a few days ago that Pastor Bonnie, Barb Olivier, Rev. Penny and I were meeting via Zoom, sending emails back and forth, and meeting at the church to prepare for Pastor Bonnie's sabbatical time away. And here we are, with the first month of sabbatical nearly complete. Time is moving so quickly in some ways.

I also feel a sense of the strong flow of time that feels steady, that is unfolding in a peaceful way within this community. The work and witness of the church continues. People continue to gather on Sunday for worship. The lights are on, the church is set up, the day-old bread and goodies from Aria are laid out on the table. The décor changes with the church season. The bell rings on Sunday morning and people are welcomed into worship and fellowship. Council meets and committees are doing their work. The All-Church Camp Out is just ahead. People step up and continue to do their jobs, share their gifts, and take care of each another. There is a comfort and a kind of certainty that speaks of confidence in God, trust in one another, and a joyful sense of caring for this community and the world. What a fellowship! What a joy divine! We are leaning on God's everlasting arms and on one another.

These are gifts that make for a steady and strong church that can navigate changes and work together to create a new ministry that will grow out of the two congregations coming together. I love the celebration of the church and the Spirit at Pentecost. I feel the Spirit moving in each member, friend, newcomer and long timer. I feel the Spirit moving gently and creatively through the churches weaving together the beautiful and multi-colored threads of life, ministry, and experiences. This is God's work in progress – not yet done – more threads to weave until there is a new and beautiful work of art that will continue to have more threads woven in with time.

In these days of sabbatical while Pastor Bonnie is resting and renewing, I pray that each of you and the emerging congregation will also find time to rest and renew as well. Take some moments to sit quietly in the beauty of the springtime and give thanks to God for the abundant blessings of this church family. Open your hearts and minds and Spirits to listen ever more deeply to God's Spirit and God's call. And know this – the work, witness, and ministry of this body of people in Calaveras County is important beyond all you can imagine. It is such a joy and privilege to be serving with and among you in this sabbatical time. Thanks be to God!

Blessings and Peace,
Rev. Marty Williams
Co-Sabbatical Pastor



Treasurer's Article

I am excited that we have now merged the books of the 2 churches. I am still trying to figure out how everything is going to work with the Budget. The Merge committee is working on these fine details. The Congregational meeting is June 11th

and we will be discussing the possibility of a Budget adjustment as we review the mid year income and expenses. I will also be presenting information on the Endowment Funds which have been researched by the United Church Funds. It is wonderful to finally see the Solar Project completed. Please continue your monetary support for this project. If you recall the Congregation voted to borrow the money from the Endowment Funds to pay for this Solar project. Your support will decrease how much we need to borrow. Have a safe and fun summer!!

--Patty



Small Group Meetings This Month:

June 9:

The Wanderers
10 am in Murphys home
Contact Marilyn Baisel.

June 13:

South Grove Bunch
5:30pm at UCC Murphys
Contact Faye Morrison.

June 14:

Small Group #7
11am at Union UCC in
Angels Camp
Contact Barbara Olivier

June 20:

Cottage Circle
5:30pm in Murphys home
Contact Meg Self.

June 27:

Small Group #5
10am in Murphys home
Contact Pam Kimes.

*note that our Family Program Small Group will not be meeting during the summer. They will be back in September.

Vice-Moderator's Musings

I don't know what it's been like for you, but May was an unusual month for me at church. There were times I had to stop myself as I was about to share something with Pastor Bonnie or ask her about something. Having her gone for this extended time makes me more aware of how much we depend on her for everyday matters both personally and for our church. At the same time, it has made me aware - and appreciative - of the many ways that we, as members of this church, work together and individually to keep our services, our programs, and our facilities operating. I think that is one of the positive things to come from this sabbatical for all of us.



There will be a
Taizé worship
service on June 7
at 7pm in the
Sanctuary.



The Knitters and Hookers will have their next gathering on June 20. They meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 11am - 2pm at Liz Tussey's house.

As for me, I have committed to finding ways in which we can all walk some part of this journey with Pastor Bonnie. As an example, during the month of May, the small groups all spent some time discussing just what a sabbatical is, and what the sabbath is, its purpose, and its place in our lives. Pastor Bonnie is taking this time to step away from her usual activities to refresh her spirit, renew her mind, and reenergize. It's good to take time to think about what activities refresh and renew each one of us. We all certainly have ways that we have used to reenergize. Perhaps you have tried a time of silence or taking a walk to quiet your mind and appreciate the beauty of our land. Celebrating a shared meal with your family or friends, or sharing a discussion about a good book, may give you a sense of renewal. Taking time to pray, individually or with others, refreshes our spirits. There are so many possibilities!

Please join me: Take some time this month to identify and then to do one new or long unused way to refresh and renew your spirit. Think of it as your own mini-sabbatical. May God bless us all and bring us new joy in our journeys.

-Barbara Olivier



Christian Education Recap

The Sunday School classes have been busy. We are continuing to fill the Blessing Box every Sunday and everyone participated in the Earth Day Poster contest. The Disc golfing was a fun time at Feeney Park with Ben, JT, Justin, Joe, Tara, and Patty. We enjoyed serving everyone their root beer and orange floats on May 7th and showing off our Sunday School room and curriculum. We are excited about the upcoming camping trip to Big Trees. Our July trip will be after church on the 9th and we will be hiking to Cougar Rock, on the Arnold Rim Trail. Don't forget to mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School on August 7-11th. Pastor Bonnie will be just coming back from her Sabbatical, and she is excited about joining us. Hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. Patty



Book Study meetings have been postponed to June 15 as we wait for all copies of the book to arrive. This is thoughtfully put together by our Christian Enrichment team. Please see the schedule below and contact Liz Tussey or Patty Haskell for more info.

Book Study meetings:

June 15, 2 - 5pm

June 29, 2 - 5

The Book Club is part of our Christian Education program and meets every other Thursday in the Eastman Education Center. Contact Patty Haskell or Liz Tussey for more details.





Recycling is picked up at the church on the first Wednesday of every other month at 9am sharp. The next recycling pick up will be on July 5.

RING THE BELL FOR PEACE



PLEASE JOIN US AS WE GATHER ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AT NOON IN PRAYERS FOR PEACE AND THE RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELL.



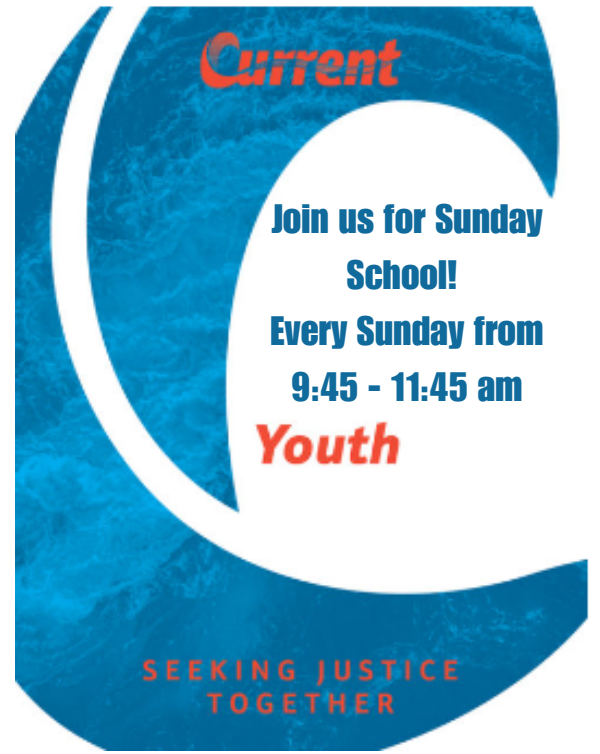
Have a Cookie!

The fortune cookie insert read “You think you don’t have much time or energy to give. WISDOM says your LITTLE can mean a LOT.”

The Hospitality Team believes the fortune cookie is right. A few thoughtful people often sign up for and bring cookies, cheese and crackers, fruit, or good breads for after worship enjoyment. Those people and their goodies are greatly appreciated. After worshippers have absorbed a good sermon and fine hymns, their bodies anticipate a little sweet nutrition. Please think about joining the small cadre of “after worship goodies” providers by signing up on the hospitality sheet located right next to where you pick up coffee or on the refreshment table itself. You can even volunteer to join the team for a day in serving and cleaning up if the Spirit moves you to do so!

Submitted by: Faye Morrison - Hospitality Team

United Church of Christ, Calaveras is proud to have a variety of programs for children over the summer. In addition to our family camping trip and monthly community events, we also offer more structured Christ-based education.



Camp Tamarack registration is open!

Junior Camp (grades 4 - 6): July 16 - 22

Junior High Camp (grades 7 - 9): July 23 - 29

Senior High Camp (grades 9 - 12): July 30 - August 5

Email christianed@fccmurph.org for more details.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

AUGUST 7- 11, 2023

9AM - 12PM

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST,

CALAVERAS

CALL CHURCH OFFICE TO REGISTER

(209)728-3141

VBS IS PROVIDED AT NO COST



Upcoming Events:



**ARNOLD RIM TRAIL GROUP
HIKE SUNDAY JULY 9 AFTER
CHURCH. CONTACT THE
CHRISTIAN ENRICHMENT
TEAM FOR MORE DETAILS.**



BREWS AND BRATS



**SEPTEMBER 23 AT UNION UCC IN
ANGELS CAMP. STAY TUNED FOR
MORE DETAILS!**



HEALTH OPPORTUNITIES, PROGRAMS & EDUCATION

SAVE THE DATE!

Our (27th Annual) 2023 Walk for Hope will be held on first day of fall!

Start thinking about forming your teams now!

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Calaveras Big Trees State Park



Liz Armstrong 2
Jim Reynolds 4
Martha See 8
Rich Gutierrez 9
Cynthia Restivio 10
Fred Bender 11
Vee Domazlicky 12
April Friend 13
Melissa Horcasitas 14
Jamie Leigh 15
Cindy (Nugent) Secada 16
J.T. Glessman 19
Liz Tussey 19
Jenny Fuqua 19
Susan (Gianini) Chadwick 20
Faye Messer 20
Ainsley Ryan 20
Aidan Inks 21
Cassie Ryan 21
Sharon Greed 25
Doris Williams 26
Gail Withuhn 30
Anna Wright 30



The scriptures tell us: “Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6

We continue to witness the stories of how God answers our prayers!
God hears our cries and answers them.
Let us pray daily for the following members and friends of our community:

All those who are ill:

Gail Withuhn
Shirley Soderer
Tom Olivier
Tom Black
Tabitha Kremesec
Hilary Oldenkamp
Angela Patterson
Tracey Ellifritz
Maggie Di Dio
John G.
Neil P.

Comfort for the family of Gracie Baker, who passed away early in May.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>11am OSJ meetig</p>		<p>1pm F&F mtg. ZOOM</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>4</p> <p> Worship at Big Trees SP 10am</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1pm M&C mtg. EEC</p> <p>6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12pm Ring the Bell for Peace</p> <p>12:30pm AA & Al-Anon</p> <p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p> <p>Taizé 7pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9am - 4pm WIC</p> <p>Social hall</p> <p>4pm CE mtg. via Zoom</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10am The Wanderers</p> <p>Sm. Grp. in Murphys</p> <p>12pm Women's AA</p>	<p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <p>10am Worship Penny</p> <p>Annual Congregational Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>13</p> <p>10am Family Connections EEC</p> <p>5:30 - 7:30pm South Grove Bunch Sm. Grp. EEC</p>	<p>14</p> <p>11am Sm. Grp. in Angels Camp</p> <p>11am Knitters and Hookers</p> <p>12:30pm AA & Al-Anon</p> <p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>15</p> <p>2 - 5pm Book Club EEC</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>10am Worship Penny</p> <p>11am Council Mtg.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30pm Cottage Circle Sm. Grp.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>12:30pm AA & Al-Anon</p> <p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p> <p>10am Worship Marty</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:45pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10am Sm. Grp. in Murphys</p>	<p>28</p> <p>12:30pm AA & Al-Anon</p> <p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>29</p> <p>2 - 5pm Book Club EEC</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>12pm Women's AA</p>

God's love echoes through us to all creation.

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JUNE 2023

DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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*First Congregational Church of Murphys
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST*

THE NUGGET

Staff

Pastor Rev. Dr. Bonnie Hollinger

Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. John Randlett

Music Director Dr. Daryl Hollinger

Secretary Jenny Fuqua

Custodian Peter Marai-Muro

Christian Ed. Director Patty Haskell

Childcare Shayanna DuCharme

Officers

Moderator Carrie Shinn

Vice Moderator Barbara Olivier

Clerk Marie Studebaker

Treasurer Patty Haskell

Assistant Treasurer Shad Sundberg

Financial Secretary Gary Carson-Hull



www.ucc.org

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, MURPHYS MISSION STATEMENT

We believe that all people are beloved by God and we strive to serve as a welcoming and nurturing church community to discern the Bible with insight for today and to live out Christ's teachings.

The Nugget Committee invites you to submit articles of interest and wishes to stress that the deadline is always the 15th of each month.

The Committee reserves the right to edit submissions for length and content.