

THE NUGGET

First Congregational Church of Murphys, United Church of Christ



New Council 2022



*Carolyn R. Shinn,
Moderator*

*Barbara Olivier,
Vice-Moderator*



*Patricia Haskell,
Treasurer*



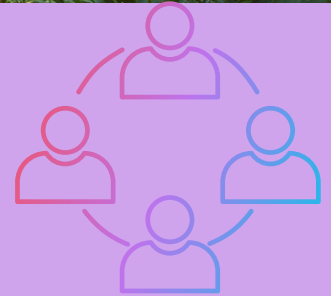
*Shad Sundberg,
Assistant Treasurer*



*Marie Studebaker,
Secretary*



*Matthew Graham,
Chair of
Finance and Facilities*



See all the news inside:

- Pastor's Article
- Moderator's Message
- Treasurer's Article
- LGBTQ+ Group Update
- Pride in the Park
- White Pines BBQ
- Family Program
- Peddlers' Fair
- Organ Concert Summary
- Scholarship for Caity
- First Day of VBS
- New Member Gathering
- Reducing Plastic Pollution

**Whoever you are,
Wherever you are on
life's journey
You are welcome
here.**

Pastor's Article

By the time you are reading this, we will be in the middle of our VBS. I am so excited that we are offering this educational and inspirational program to our church and community. We do not yet have a Christian Enrichment Director and so we are doing this on our own. My belief that our children need all the love and support they can get inspired me to step forward as the administrator this year.

However, with just one ask, eight people stepped forward and volunteered to be part of the VBS leadership team. Yahoo! I am dancing in my office! Joe Jackson, Mary Kelly, Helen Yost, Carrie Shinn, Judy Regalia, Peggy Sparrow, Matt Graham, and Barbara Olivier, all offered to be part of this incredible program where we are teaching about compassion. Dr. Daryl, our Director of Music, Jenny Fuqua, our secretary and Angelia Yu, our childcare worker will also be assisting us. Other church members offered to help with individual projects.

I am blown away by the enthusiasm and creativity of this team. Our church is thriving because of you answering the call to do God's good work! There are so many of you who are using your time and talents for Jesus! We received thirty-one time and talent sheets and we are blessed. You are surely living Jesus' teaching of Love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself!

Loving You, Pastor Bonnie



We are in need of someone to head up the meals for our Family Program. If you are an organizer and don't mind recruiting people to prepare a meal, then this is the job for you! Please contact the church office if you are able to help.



The Blessing Cupboard is always in need of food. We've done a really good job getting more ready to eat canned foods in there. Spaghetti, ravioli, hearty soups, tuna are all excellent options. Thank you in advance for being generous with our neighbors in need. Also, a big THANK YOU to all who have contributed in the last couple of weeks. You can bring items to the church office or contact Jeri Carson-Hull for specific items needed.



Moderator Message

Mid-summer has come and gone, and teams have moved into full swing with new leaders and members to plan activities for the upcoming months. We are so very fortunate to have many new and existing members who have stepped

up to join various committees and teams, bringing new energy and ideas. Thank you to all who recently filled out a Time and Talent form.

With a successful Vacation Bible School wrapped up (thank you to all THOSE adult helpers), we look forward to outdoor worship at White Pines Lake on August 28th, followed by a BBQ and potluck, resumption of the family program starting in September, and Stewardship season in October/November. I know that Pastor Bonnie is looking for help with the family program, particularly with meal preparation and kitchen assistance, so please let her know if you can help with this – even if only once in a while. Our programs for youth are so vitally important in growing the church, whether it be Sunday School, family night or Advent workshops. If you love working with children, we can find a place for you to help out!

Stay cool, and I'll see you in worship!

Blessings,

Carrie Shinn



Looking Ahead...



Family Program is back!

Join us for a pizza party at Murphys Park on Tuesday, Sept. 6. Going forward, Family Program will meet on the first and third Tuesday of every month from 5:30pm - 7:30pm in the Social Hall. There will be a meal served at 5:30 followed by a parent class with Pastor Bonnie while the children have playtime and activities with our teachers.



Sept. 9 & 10 from 9am - 4pm.
12'x18' booths available for \$40.
Contact Joe Jackson 753-7616 or the church office for more info and a vendor form.



Treasurer's Article

For my Treasurers report this month I thought I would do a recap of the 2022 fundraisers for the first 6 months of this year. In our budget we have projected a fundraiser income of \$5000.00 for the year. For the first 6 months of the year, we have raised \$2042.00.

These funds were raised from:

Recycling- \$271.00

Pancake Breakfast - \$1217.00

Parking - \$70.00

Turkey in the Barrel- \$435.00

Misc- \$50.00

According to our budget we need to raise another \$2958.00 for the remainder of the year. Some ideas that I have heard about are a possible Peddlers fair, Dinner in the Park or a Church dinner. We should start discussing possible fundraisers for this fall, since summer will be over soon! If you are interested in a possible fundraiser, please contact Matt Graham, head of Finance and Facilities, for discussion and approval. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks, Patty



Taizé



We are pleased to announce the return of Taizé services on the first Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the Sanctuary.

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.



Our LGBTQ+ Group has been discontinued. The youth who have been involved in the last six years have grown up and moved onto college and jobs. The last

few meetings we did not have anyone in attendance. We will be looking at other ways to serve the LGBTQ+ folk in our community. Please contact Pastor Bonnie if you have ideas.

The TriCounty LGBT Alliance will be hosting their annual Pride in the Park at Murphys Park on Saturday, September 3, 2022 from 10am - 5pm. FCCM will have a booth at this event. If you would like to volunteer to work a couple hours at the booth, please contact the church office.

Taking Care of Our Earth

The Nature Conservancy estimates that there is currently 11 MILLION TONS of plastic in our oceans. That number is expected to triple by 2040. Microplastics are present in our blood for the first time in human history! We can lessen this impact if we are creative and work together. God's Paradise is in our stewardship. Thank you to **Pam Kimes** for sending these stats!



RECYCLING

First Wednesday of every OTHER month. Next one is September 6.

Please have all your items sorted and masks are required when dropping off your recycling.



First Congregational United Church of Christ Celebrates Gift of Organ

On Sunday, July 10, a dedicatory organ concert was held at First Congregational United Church of Christ in Murphys CA to a packed crowd. The church recently received the organ as a gift from the Don and Mary Jean Bissell family.

In 2000, Donald and Mary Jean Bissell set up a trust for the sole purpose of donating to organizations they supported and loved. They were excellent role models of participation and held many officer positions in our congregation. First Congregational UCC is one of the happy recipients of their generous gift. The children and grandchildren continued this legacy of generous giving as they passed the trust proceeds to our church. Don and Mary Jean's love for music and the church was evidenced by the loyal service in the ministry and music of the church and community. They were avid supporters of the Bear Valley Music Festival as well.

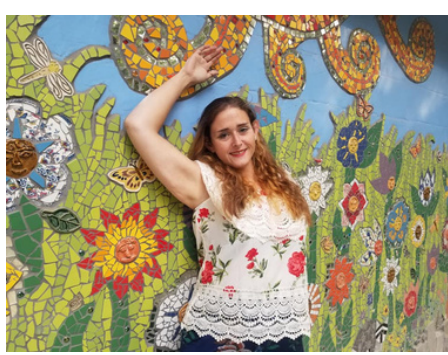
Dr. Daryl Hollinger, the Director of Music at First Congregational United Church of Christ and the Director of the Columbia College Community Chorus presented delightful and varied repertoire which charmed the audience of all ages. A 28 voice Celebration Choir performed Dr. Hollinger's composition, Sing to the Lord, which showcased the diverse tonal palette of the new organ. He is a world-renowned organist and gives private vocal, piano and organ lessons. He has set up a scholarship fund for students wishing to learn how to play the organ.

The Rodgers Imagine Series 235 delivers the most stunning sounds available in digital organs in a beautiful 2-manual instrument. The organ has a total of 217 voices spread across 4 unique organ styles: American Eclectic, English Cathedral, French Romantic and German Baroque. On top of that, the organ features 28 premium orchestral voices. With 35 main stops, and the additional 99 Voice Palette stops, the Imagine 235 allows the organist to discover new possibilities.

A highly experienced and diverse group of organ specialists, audio professionals, and engineers, developed the Imagine Series with only one goal in mind: to create an unparalleled experience, both for the organist and the audience. The Imagine Series is perfect for leading congregational singing, while also shining as a solo instrument for churches, institutions, and symphony orchestras. The Imagine Series pushes musical creativity to new horizons.

The church plans to hold an annual organ concert open to the community.





Hello everyone, the Parish Care Team for our church would like to invite you to consider volunteering to be an occasional driver for individuals in our church who need to get to or return from an appointment, or to pick up and deliver a prescription from one of the local pharmacies. The Parish Care Team will make the arrangements and call you when you are needed. If you have questions, you may call me. My number is in the church directory.

The Parish Care Team has 5 members, Carol Dougherty, Marilyn Baisel, Miriam Thorsen, Judy Regalia and Pat LaMont. Thank you so much!! Pat LaMont



My name is Caity Johnson. I have lived in Murphys, CA my entire life. I have attended First Congregational Church in Murphys since I was a young child and I am a 6th generation Murphys resident. I have had a dream of working as a baker/chef/pastry chef for as long as I can remember. I have been baking most of my life. I remember sitting on the counter helping my mother bake cookies at 3 years old. I would help my grandmother make cookies, and my mom showed me how to make bread. I went through a phase of making French bread on the weekends for quite a few months.

In order to realize my dream of becoming a Pastry Chef, I enrolled in an on-line training program in August of 2021. The name of the school is Augusta Escoffier School of Culinary Arts. I have completed 10 courses, both in pastry arts and in business. I have a GPA of 3.75 and am proud to say I have made the Honor Roll and the Presidents list every semester. I have 3 more classes to complete prior to graduating.

In addition to the coursework, I am required to do a 6-week internship to qualify for graduation. The internship must be done at a French bakery. There are no qualifying bakeries nearby, or in any of the foothill counties. I have been very fortunate and am proud to announce that I was able to find a position at the Dessert European Bakery in Modesto. The internship is scheduled to begin in late September; the work will be 6 days per week, approximately 5 hours per day. When I complete the internship, I will qualify to graduate from the program on November 8, 2022.

The internship is completely unpaid. I am seeking a scholarship of \$2,000 to enable me to live in Modesto for 6 weeks to do my internship. Because of my recent back surgery and another unrelated hospitalization, I was out of work for 4 months and have depleted my savings. I've been fortunate to find a reasonably priced living situation in Modesto, but I will need help with the rent. My family and I feel we can cover all other expenses of my stay. I have checked with several local Murphys organizations, and none have scholarship funds available at this time. With the skills that I will have attained upon graduation, I hope to open my own bakery at some point. I love doing pastries and complicated desserts.

I am grateful to have you consider me for a scholarship. This would be so very meaningful for my future.

With sincere gratitude,
Caity Johnson

If you would like to contribute to a scholarship fund for Caity, you may write a check to FCCM with "scholarship" in the memo. Or you may go to our website and click on "Engage" Choose the pastor's discretionary scholarship fund.



VBS KICKOFF!

The first day of VBS Compassion Camp was a blast! The children are so sweet and full of energy. It was a joyful morning of play, song, yoga, and art. We are looking forward to a whole week of fun!



New Member Gathering July 31

On Sunday July 31, our new members will be spending time with the council at a potluck luncheon at The Diggins following worship. This is a joyful time of getting to know one another and for the new members to learn more about the vision and mission of our church.



LOVINGKINDNESS

gather together



**OUTDOOR WORSHIP at WHITE PINES
AUGUST 28TH**

**POTLUCK and Delicious Chicken BBQ
following worship**

**Beverages & Chicken provided (must RSVP)
Bring chair, dish to share & own eating utensils**

**Come worship God in the woods as we
celebrate God's love for us in song and story.**

Need to RSVP by August 21st



Gary Carson-Hull 2

Tami Chesnut 2

Patti Hennessee 7

Teddie Jackson 7

Liz Graham 7

Diane Hosmer 13

Teri Olivas 13

Maria Restivo 14

Bob Henning 19

David Kelly 28

Barbara Peterson 31



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

Sharon Grassmyer & Family

Shirley Soderer & Family

Joanie Singleton

Tabitha Kremesec

Mary Dahl

Hilary Oldenkamp

Angela Patterson

Monika Riedel

Tracy Ellifritz

Kelly Ellifritz

Alan & Dodi Horvath

Elsbeth Mann

Don Aencil

Caity Johnson

August 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon <i>12pm: Ring the Bell for Peace</i> <i>7pm: Taizé</i>	4	5	6
	1	2	3	WIC 8am - 3pm	12PM Women's AA	
WORSHIP 10AM	9:30am: Executive Mtg. 11am: Stewardship Meeting		12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon	11	12PM Women's AA	13
7	8	9	10	12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon		
WORSHIP 10AM	6:45pm Family AI Anon		12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon	18	12PM Women's AA	20
14	15	16	17	25	12PM Women's AA	27
WORSHIP 10AM	6:45pm Family AI Anon		12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon			
deadline to RSVP to White Pines BBQ	22	23	24	31		
WORSHIP AND BBQ AT WHITE PINES 10AM	6:45pm Family AI Anon		12:30pm: AA & AI Anon 6:30pm: Parents' AI Anon			
28	29	30				
	6:45pm Family AI Anon					



God's love echoes through us to all creation.

Webpage: www.fccmurph.org

Email: nugget@fccmurph.org

Phone: 209.728.3141

AUGUST 2022

DATED MATERIAL— DO NOT DELAY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Murphys, CA 95247

509 N. Algiers Street

PO Box 48

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF CHRIST
of Murphys**

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

Childcare Worker Angelia Yu

Officers

Moderator Carrie Shinn

Vice Moderator Barbara Olivier

Clerk Marie Studebaker

Treasurer Patty Haskell

Assistant Treasurer Shad Sundberg

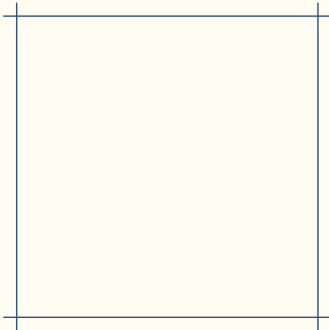
Financial Secretary Gary Carson-Hull

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.



www.ucc.org