



# THE NUGGET

United Church of Christ, Calaveras

# SIERRA HOPE

HEALTH OPPORTUNITIES, PROGRAMS & EDUCATION



The 27th annual Walk for Hope is coming up! Our church will be providing lunches to the walkers. We'll be looking for volunteers, especially those amazing sandwich makers from our Union family, to help. We'll have a sign up sheet for volunteers at the church soon. Contact Lynne Bird for more info.

*Pause,  
Pray,  
Play*

*Pastor Bonnie will be giving a sabbatical presentation on Sunday, October 1. There will be a lasagna and salad potluck following the presentation.*



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



# Pastor Article

Dear Beloved, what an incredible joy it is to be back with you full-time in ministry! I surely enjoyed and thrived in my sabbatical, and I am receiving your love as I return. I thank you so much for the lovely service, reception and gifts. We are blessed that Rev. Marty, Rev Penny and Rev Mickey served you all so beautifully, both pastorally and in sacred worship. Thank you very much!

The theme of my sabbatical was, Pause, Pray, and Play. The time I spent in Assisi Italy was a great place to start my contemplation and meditation practices. I am eager to share this journey and my learnings with you. I plan to meet with each small group in September to do a presentation and have a dialogue about the healing and growth I experienced.

For those of you who are not in a small group, I will be doing the presentation at a luncheon following worship on October 1. It is a great privilege to take a sabbatical as part of my covenant and contract with you, so I want you to know the incredible impact it had on me and pray you will reap the benefits as well.

Looking forward to the adventure together! Pastor Bonnie

Would you like a visit with Pastor Bonnie? If you want to schedule a visit with the pastor, please call the church office to set up a time. She will come to your home or you can come to the office. Pastor Bonnie is hoping to catch up with you all since her return from sabbatical.



There will be a  
Taizé  
worship service  
on Sept. 6 at  
7pm in the  
Sanctuary



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





# Treasurer's Article

Good news the Solar Project is complete and is paid for!!! The final payment was \$12, 300 and we had \$6000 in the Solar account. We only had to borrow an additional \$6300 from the Endowment funds. The final amount that we borrowed from the Endowment funds for this project is \$11,300, we had borrowed \$5000 last September. I will be working with Jenny on how much we are saving on our monthly electric bills and report on how the repayment is going.

Pledges continue to be paid and we are below expenses in most categories. The Finance and Facility Team just approved making a new Budget item for Angels Camp facilities for \$10,000. Thank you for all your support.



*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 Sept. 6.*

## Calling all Quilters!

**There is a special meeting with Pastor Bonnie on September 24 after worship. If you enjoy quilting, please plan on coming to see what projects we have coming up!**







# Vice-Moderator's Musings



Have you ever read the bylaws of our church? At this point in time we actually have two sets of bylaws, but we are currently following the ones previously prepared for the Murphys Church, last revised in 2020. Vicky Oneto and I have volunteered to lead a committee whose task will be to review the two sets of bylaws and our current practices to determine what revisions are appropriate and needed. The goal will be to present the proposed amendment to Council and then to conduct a vote of the Congregation at the December Budget Meeting. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact me.

So, why bother to have bylaws? Bylaws are the official legal document that defines an organization's purpose, governing structure, membership requirements, and types and frequency of meetings. To retain nonprofit status in California, bylaws are required to be filed with the Secretary of State. Since the year 2000, we have revised our bylaws nine times. Our bylaws include the following:

- the name, purpose, covenant, and government of our Church,
- a statement of our faith,
- qualifications for membership,
- worship services and meetings to be held,
- voting procedures,
- officers' and council members' election and duties,
- teams and committees and their functions,
- auxiliary organizations, and
- general policies.

As stated before, we will not change the legal name of our church at this time, but there are some provisions that need updating now. We will consider revisions to officers' and committees' duties. We may also consider other proposals to change By-law provisions and policies. I invite you to read our current bylaws and provide any comments or recommendations you have.

Yours in Christ,  
Barbara Olivier

## Small Group Meetings:

**Sept. 5 & 19: Family Program**  
5:30pm in Social Hall  
Contact Evelyn Betts

**Sept. 8: The Wanderers**  
10am in Murphys  
Contact Marilyn Baisel.

**Sept. 12: South Grove Bunch**  
5:30pm in Eastman Contact  
Faye Morrison

**Sept. 19: Cottage Circle**  
10 am in Murphys home  
Contact Meg Self.

**Sept. 26: Small Group #5**  
10am in Murphys home  
Contact Pam Kimes.

**Sept. 27: Angels Angels**  
11am at Union  
Contact Barb Olivier.





# Christian Education Recap

We just concluded a very busy and successful Vacation Bible School. We enjoyed music, dramas, Bible stories, activities and science experiments. We started the week with tie dying t-shirts. Thanks to Kelsey Sterrett for helping everyone make creative designs and for taking the shirts home and washing them. Our teachers, Carrie Billiet, Evelyn Betts, Joe Jackson, Janis Ossa, Carrie Shinn, and Mary Kelly did a wonderful job preparing lessons and keeping everyone involved and learning. Thanks to Dr. Daryl who led us in energetic songs, and Ben Billiet for being the fantastic scientist in our Changemakers lab. Thanks to Marilyn Baisel who made tasty snacks and thanks to Shay DuCharme for helping out with everything. We also made a lasagna for "Lasagna Love" thanks to Marcie and her husband. It was wonderful having Pastor Bonnie back so she could be a part of it also. Thanks to everyone for an energetic, creative and informative VBS. Be sure to take a look at the photos on the following pages and **mark your calendar, next year, it will be July 14-19th.**



## Book Study meetings:

Sept. 7, 2 - 4pm

Sept. 21, 2 - 4pm

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.



The Family Program is back! Our first gathering will be on September 5 at 5:30pm in the Social Hall. A BBQ dinner with all the fixins will be served. The Family Program meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm. Dinner is provided.



# Vacation Bible School



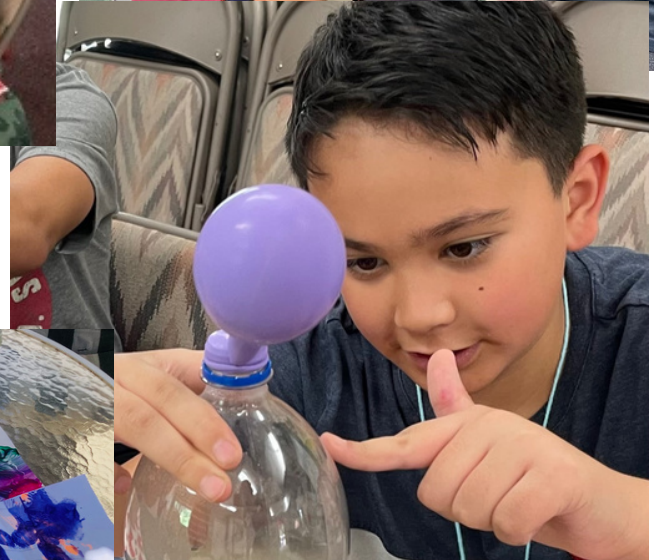
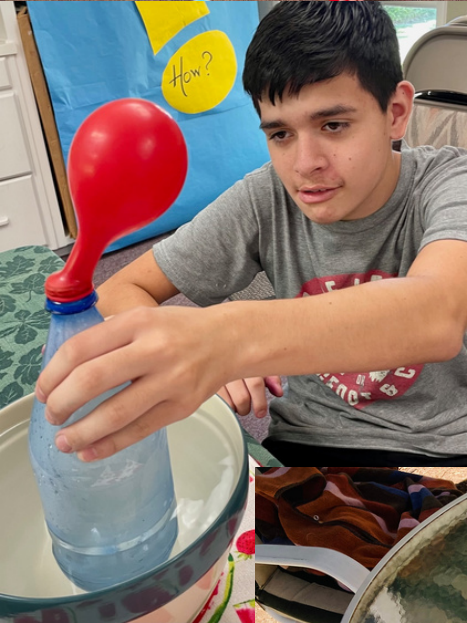


# Changemaker's Lab 2023!





# Science, Technology, Art, Engineering, Math





# Hands-on, creative and FUN!





and of course, play time in the creek!





# Upcoming Events



## JOIN OUR CHOIRS!

If you love to sing, the Adult Choir is for you. We will sing the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We practice at 9:00 on the Sundays we sing. The songs are fun and easy to learn. I send a pdf of the song ahead of time and a recording of the song if it is available. We will sing

September 10 and September 24. Please consider joining us.

The Adult Handbell Choir will begin rehearsing in October. To play handbells it is helpful if you know a little about reading music. Although it is a bit of a challenge to learn to play bells, it is so much fun. Our rehearsal times are Saturday mornings from 10:00-11:00am. Let me know if you are interested in playing handbells this season.

You will love it!

Dr. Daryl

[dhollingermusic@gmail.com](mailto:dhollingermusic@gmail.com)

209-265-6716



## Neighbors in Need Offering Sunday October 1st

A poster for the 7th Annual Pride in the Park event. The poster is white with a black border and colorful confetti. At the top, it says "Murphys park 7TH ANNUAL Murphys, Ca" with a rainbow hand logo. The event is on "SATURDAY SEPT 2ND" from "12 - 5PM" and is "FREE". The title "Pride in the Park" is in large, colorful letters. Below the title is a purple box listing activities: "COMMUNITY MUSIC", "FOOD VENDORS", "ART", and "BEER &amp; WINE". It also features "CLAN DYKEN, DJ HUNTER &amp; ACOUSTICS W/ MICHELLE C.". At the bottom, there is a QR code, a Venmo logo, and contact information for "THE TRICOUNTY LGBT ALLIANCE" (CALAVERAS + AMADOR + TUOLUMNE) including an email and social media handles. A small circular logo with hands is in the bottom right corner.

# Health and

## The Resource Connection

Engaging Families  
Empowering Communities  
Enriching Lives

Resource Connection Food bags can now be brought to the Social Hall at any time. We'll have a designated spot to place them and Peggy Sparrow or one of her helpers will collect the bags on a regular basis and take them to the Resource Connection. We ask our church family to continue to help their neighbors in need.



### SERVICES OFFERED

#### FREE DENTAL CARE

Cleanings  
Fillings  
Extractions

#### FREE MEDICAL SCREENING

Glucose Check  
Blood Pressure & Pulse  
Lifestyle Coaching

#### FREE ADULT EYE CARE

Refraction Eye Exams  
Fittings for Free Glasses

#### OTHER SERVICES

Free haircuts  
Massage Therapy  
Foot Care  
Chiropractic Care



No Insurance Required  
No ID Required  
All Welcome Ages 10+



A humanitarian service of the Seventh-day Adventist Church

Two day clinic

# FREE HEALTHCARE

1<sup>st</sup> Come - 1<sup>st</sup> Served

40 N Forest Rd, Sonora, CA 95370

September 16, 17, 2023

Registration hours: 7 a.m. - 2 p.m.

209.532.1991



**The Resource Connection will be distributing WIC resources in the Social Hall on the 2nd Thursday of every other month from 9am to 4pm. The next distribution date is October 12.**

### *A Message of Love and Thanks*

*I want to thank all of the church members for sending prayers, cards, food, phone calls, and kindness after I had surgery. Parish Care really stepped up to the plate via a delicious dinner and always checking up on me. You have always been a church of positive action and love. The surgery was more difficult than I thought it would be so I am so grateful for all the support. I finally feel like I am recovering. Thank you again for all your healing prayers and concerns. Soon I will be back playing my violin for the church. Fondly, Diane Tussey*



# Community

## ~ Did you know that Square Dancing is our official National Dance?

In 1986 Congress voted that Square Dance be designated the national dance of the United States. So it's actually patriotic to have fun!

## ~ Did you know that square dancing could improve your chances of avoiding dementia?

AARP concluded that, "If there is only one thing you choose to do, dance." [AARP Bulletin October 2019]. Square dancing is an especially good form of dancing for increasing brain activity because a dancer must hear the name of the movement ("call"), then execute that movement: ears to brain to hands and feet.



## ~ Did you know that one evening of square dancing will register all that day's required "steps" on your counter?

A typical square dancer can expect to clock at least 9,000 of those in an evening of dancing. And dancers don't contend with extremes of weather like hikers, bikers, golfers. We're indoors.

These are general aspects of square dancing that all square dancers appreciate. Norm and I have some personal reasons for loving this hobby, (not just the fact that, each of us, having lost a beloved spouse to death, found a new love and life partner on the dance floor).

**FRIENDSHIP** Honestly, there are as many hugs and welcoming smiles at a square dance workshop or dance as there are in church on any given Sunday.

**WHOLESOMENESS** Square dance clubs' bylaws forbid any drugs or alcohol, making square dancing a great family recreation. Dancers can range from 9 to 90. Homeschoolers can meet PE requirements. One of our club members is a 12-Stepper and he says square dancing does more for him than meetings do.

**TEAMWORK** Eight of you work together to successfully get through all the "calls" of a dance ~ that's the teamwork\* mentioned above. We help each other attain the level of complication that's comfortable for each person. State Square Dance has 50 calls, Mainstream level has 65, Plus level has 100. A few dancers go on to A-level and "Challenge."

**MUSIC** Callers, like the rest of us, like every music genre, so you might hear all sorts of music that the callers have composed dances to. It's really not "hillbilly" music only.

**PORTABILITY** Henry Ford financed standardization of the calls to be found all over the U.S. So when you are traveling (Attention, RV-ers!) you can find clubs in many towns, counties, states, and even foreign countries, dance comfortably with them and be warmly welcomed.

Because Norm and I love this hobby so much, we want to see it grow, spread in popularity. We have one club in our county: The Calaveras Twirlers. **So please come to our Open House at San Andreas Town Hall on Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30 to give us a try.** You'll be glad you did.

~from Janis Ossa (Vicky & Gail's older sister)







**Stella Sundberg 1**  
**Maxine Harper 5**  
**Meg Self 5**  
**Syl Walton 5**  
**Ian Olivas 8**  
**Alive Williams 11**  
**Diane Hosmer 11**  
**Lloyd Schneider 12**  
**Cathy Kuhn 14**  
**Carol Woods 24**  
**Jim Walton 25**  
**Rose Mulvaney 26**  
**Mickey Williamson 26**  
**Marci Duggan 26**  
**Tanya Sundberg 26**  
**Matt Graham 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:**

**Lynne Bird**  
**Diane Tussey**  
**Dodi Horvath**  
**Gail Williams**  
**Tommy Pratt**  
**Shirley Soderer**  
**Tabitha Kremesec**  
**Hilary Oldenkamp**  
**Angela Patterson**  
**Tracey Ellifritz**  
**Maggie Di Dio**



# September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 10am Worship	4  6:30pm Al-Anon	5 5:30pm Family Program Social Hall	6 9am Recycling Pick-up 12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon 7pm Taizé	7 1:00pm Exec. mtg. Fisk 2 - 4pm Book Club EEC	8 10am The Wanderers Sm. Grp. in Murphys 12pm Women's AA	9
10 Pastor 9am Adult Choir 10am Worship 11am OSJ mtg. EEC	11 Bonnie vacation 9/10 - 9/16 10:00am Parish Care mtg. in Murphys 6:30pm Al-Anon	12 5:30 - 7:30pm South Grove Bunch Sm. Grp. EEC	13 12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon	14	15 12pm Women's AA	16
17 10am Worship 11am Council mtg. EEC	18 6:30pm Al-Anon	19 5:30pm Family Program Social Hall 5:30pm Cottage Circle Sm. Grp.	20 11am Angels Angels Sm. Group 11am Knitters and Hookers 12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon	21 2 - 4pm Book Club EEC	22 12pm Women's AA	23
24 9am Adult Choir 10am Worship 11am Quilters mtg. EEC	25 6:30pm Al-Anon	26 10am Sm. Grp. in Murphys	27 12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon	28 4:00pm Worship mtg. ZOOM	29 12pm Women's AA	30



God's love echoes through us to all creation.

Webpage: [www.fcmmurph.org](http://www.fcmmurph.org)

Email: [nugget@fcmmurph.org](mailto:nugget@fcmmurph.org)

Phone: (209)728-3141

SEPTEMBER 2023

DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Murphys, CA 95247

509 N. Algiers Street

PO Box 48

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

First Congregational Church of Murphys

THE NUGGET



[www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

### 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

Treasurer Patty Hskell

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.