

# THE NUGGET

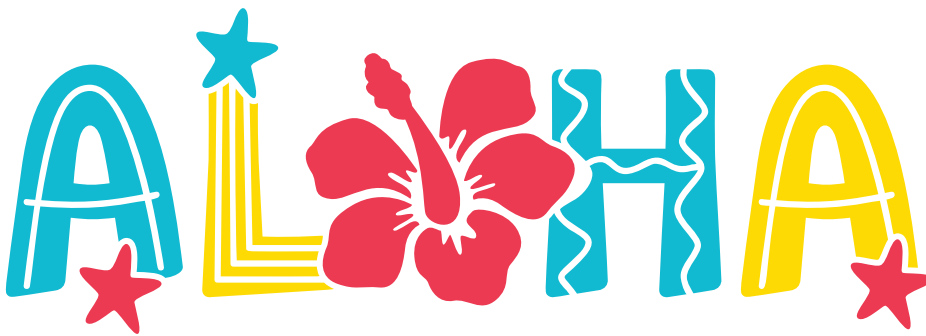
Open Door United Church of Christ



*Let us extend our warmest welcome to Reverend Dr. Gary Percesepe. Gary comes to us from Hawaii. We are thrilled to have him join us and we hope he quickly feels at home here. His first sermon will be on Sunday, July 6 at 10am. We are grateful for his guidance as our church continues to navigate this time of transition.*



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



Do you have questions or feedback for our Pastoral Search Committee? Here are the folks who can help! Feel free to reach out to any one of them for anything related to our Pastor Search.

**Tami Chesnut**

**Noel Helmbrecht**

**Mark McCormick**

**Barbara Olivier**

**Judy Regalia**

**Penny Sarvis**

**Carrie Shinn**

### ***Vice-Moderator's Musings***

Well, we have taken an important step in our transition. Our interim pastor, Reverend Gary Percesepe, will be joining us this month. In addition to providing the usual pastoral duties, an interim pastor also has the task of guiding and challenging us to examine who we are, and who God is calling us to become. As a part of this process, Gary will be assisting us in completing our parish profile. Actually, each one of us has this as an important task for the next few months.

At least half of us have not gone through the UCC process of selecting a new pastor previously, so I'd like to explain the purpose of the parish profile in this process. This document should be used for our church to discover and tell its story to ministers who are searching for a new pastorate. It is valuable in exploring our future direction by answering three questions: Who are we now? Who is our neighbor? Who is God calling us to become? UCC provides us with a discovery document that provides prompts to stimulate our discussion, exploration and storytelling. So our first step is to decide how to involve the congregation and our supporting community to obtain this information from all of you. We can use our existing small groups, or we can call special meetings for this specific purpose, use surveys, or select other methods to gather this data. Let us hear from you. What methods do you think will be most effective in defining and redefining our congregation?

Submitted by Barbara Olivier







## *A Note From Mickey and Penny*

As the end of May arrived and Pastor Bonnie and Doctor Daryl went off into retirement, there was a feeling of something ended. The two of us are among the large number in our congregation who have only known our church with the two of them leading us. What would it be like without them?

But Open Door United Church of Christ is a stable and together congregation! We know how to be a church, a church that cares and attends to its members and its business. Life goes on and we two have been happy to have been able to step into worship leadership for most of the month of June. We actually love the discipline of taking on the lectionary scriptures and discerning the direction of a sermon, of choosing hymns and preparing the worship bulletin for Sunday. We are grateful that our interim is here to lead us through the search for our next settled minister, but we confess we will miss that weekly worship routine!

We love this church and all of you. So we know we will find ourselves active in the midst of the congregation. Penny will be busy on the Search Committee, and we have both agreed to serve on the Worship Team...maybe helping our new leadership take us into new places with worship. Mickey would like to lead us to be a Creation Justice congregation and to see what next steps we might take in living out our Open and Affirming commitment.

We have been amazed by the generous outpouring of care and assistance to us after our recent auto accident. From cards and flowers to meals and rides near and far, we have been...and continue to be....well taken care of. This truly is a congregation full of unsung heroes! Onward to new adventures!



### **Small Groups Schedule:**

#### **First Fridays**

Friday, July 4

2pm

Alan Horvath

#### **South Grove Bunch**

Monday, July 14

5:30pm

Faye Morrison

#### **The Seekers**

Tuesday, July 15

5pm

Faye Morrison

#### **Faith & Friends**

Thursday, July 17

10am

Pam Kimes

#### **The Wanderers**

Friday, July 18

10:30am

Marilyn Baisel

#### **Angels Angels**

Weds., July 23

11am

Barb Olivier

# Coming up next month...



**We will be having our Annual Outdoor Worship at White Pines Park on Sunday, August 24. Please stay tuned for more details.**

*The Worship Team is in search of musicians and spiritual poetry writers for our Worship Services over the summer! If you can help, please send an email to Liz Graham at: [lgraham4429@gmail.com](mailto:lgraham4429@gmail.com)*



Registration is now open for Camp Tamarack! The camp dates are listed below. Scholarships are available, so please talk to Patty for more info!

**Camp Tam. Jr.**

Grades 4 - 6  
July 13 - 19

**Camp Tam Jr. High**

Grades 7 - 9  
July 20 - 26

**Camp Tam Senior**

Grades 10 - 12  
July 27 - Aug. 2







**SEEKERS in  
SNEAKERS**  
Discover Jesus!

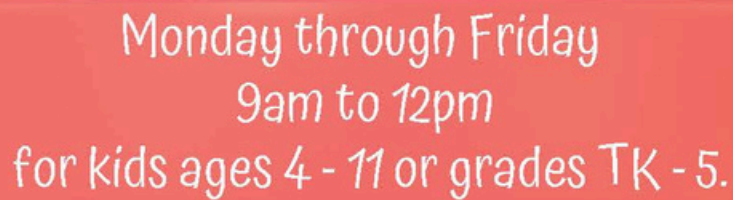


OPEN DOOR UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL'25



**JULY 28  
- AUG 1**



Monday through Friday  
9am to 12pm  
for kids ages 4 - 11 or grades TK - 5.

509 N. Algiers St.  
on the corner of Church and Algiers St. in Murphys  
"The Little White Church"

For more information, visit or call

**WWW.FCCMURPH.ORG**  
**(209)728-3141**



## July Birthdays



**Jeff Chadwick 2**

**Faye Morrison 2**

**Elaine Lewis 5**

**Wendy Glessman 8**

**Teglene Ryan 12**

**Lynne Klein 15**

**Noel Helmbrecht 22**

**Valerie Shinn 24**

**Mandy DeSmidt 26**

**Karl Graves 31**

**Don't see your birthday listed? We promise it isn't on purpose. Please contact the church office to have your special day added to our list.**

## Prayers answered



**The scriptures tell us:**

***“And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Jesus Christ.”***

**Philippians 4:19**

**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:**

## Prayer List

**The family of Bob and**

**Connie Bowser**

**Pat Keene**

**Betty Vallergera**

**Jodie and Dianne Gibson**

**Terry Dowell**

**Chino Henderson**

**Lauren Clark Tusa**

**Tracey Ellifritz**

**Carl Smith**

**Rev. Mickey Williamson**

**Baby Rowan**

**Lynne Klein**

**Clint Graves**

**Matt Olivier**

**Robin Chesnut**

**Angela Patterson**

**Dan Kuhn**

**Sandy Fox-Hill**

**Laura Miller**

**Adrienne Zimmerman**

**Sandra Sather**

**Tari Takara**

**Ben Richardson**

**Liz Tussey**

**Bruce (Miriam Thorsen)**

**Dodi Horvath**

**Brian Whitehead**

**Rev. John Randlett**

**Rev. Marty Williams**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA		 Office Closed for holiday 12pm Women's AA 2pm First Fridays	
10am worship Holy Communion Welcome Rev. Gary!	6 1pm F&F mtg. ZOOM 6:30pm Al-Anon	8 10:30am Past. Search mtg., EEC 1pm CE mtg. ZOOM	9 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	10	11 12pm Women's AA	12
13 Camp Tam Jr. 7/13 - 7/19 10am Worship 11am OSJ mtg., EEC	14 5:30pm South Grove Bunch 6:30pm Al-Anon	15 5:30pm The Seekers	16 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	17 10am Faith & Friends	18 10am The Wanderers 12pm Women's AA	19
20 Camp Tam Jr. High 7/20 - 7/26 10am Worship 11am Council mtg., EEC	21 6:30pm Al-Anon	22 10:30am Past. Search mtg., EEC	23 11am Angels Angels 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	24	25 12pm Women's AA	26
27 Camp Tam Sr. 7/27 - 8/2 10am Worship	28 6:30pm Al-Anon	29	30 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	31	Vacation Bible School 7/28 - 8/1 9am - 12pm	



God's love echoes through us to all creation.  
Webpage: [www.fccmurph.org](http://www.fccmurph.org)  
Email: [nugget@fccmurph.org](mailto:nugget@fccmurph.org)  
Phone: (209)728-3141

JULY 2025  
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

Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Gary Percesepe  
Pastor Emeritus Rev. Dr. John Randlett  
Accompanist David Kelly  
Secretary Jenny Fuqua  
Custodian Lucie Tardif  
Christian Ed Director Patty Haskell  
Childcare Shayanna DuCharme

#### Officers

Moderator Carrie Shinn  
Vice Moderator Barbara Olivier  
Treasurer Patty Haskell  
Assistant Treasurer Shad Sundberg

#### 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 25th of each month.

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