

# THE NUGGET

United Church of Christ



## SEEKERS *in* SNEAKERS Discover Jesus!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE HELD THE WEEK OF JULY 15 - JULY 19 FROM 9AM TO 12PM. WE WILL HAVE OUR ANNUAL PICNIC IN THE PARK THAT FRIDAY. THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM FOR YOUTH AGES 4 AND UP. YOU CAN SIGN UP BY EMAILING [NUGGET@FCCMURPH.ORG](mailto:NUGGET@FCCMURPH.ORG) OR BY CALLING (209)728-3141



The All Church Camping Trip at Big Trees State Park will be from July 12 - 14, 2024 with Worship being held at Big Trees at 10am on Sunday June 14. Please see the sign up sheets in the Social Hall.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NEVADA CONFERENCE



## CAMP TAMARACK 2024 SEASON

July 14 - 20:  
Camp Tam Senior

July 21 - 27:  
Camp Tam Junior  
High

July 28 - Aug. 3:  
Camp Tam Junior



**Our next New Member class is Sunday July 7 following worship. We will have a pot luck luncheon.**

***Meditation Service in the Tradition of Taizé. Our next service will be on Sunday, June 30 at 10 a.m.***



## ***Pastor's Article***

*My beloved, every week you are asked to do many things. Your families rely on you to keep things afloat; your community needs volunteers, and your church is always asking for something! It can be tiring, right? So, what is one to do when asked to serve?*



*Jesus gives some clear direction. Love God with all your heart and love your neighbor as yourself. This is an excellent guide to how we make our choices about where to expend our energy and spend our money.*

*I invite you to pray and consider what God might be calling you to do. In doing so, remember that it is just as okay to say "No" as "yes." Sometimes we need a break from doing and concentrate on being. We are so often identified by what we do rather than who we are. We are beloved children of God. Yes, we might be a teacher, a carpenter, a nurse, an editor, a barista or farmer but we are much more than what we do.*

*It is my dream that this summer you can take time to reflect on God's love for you. Maybe a new idea will pop into your head as to how to share this great love with others, but also you might learn to love yourself more deeply. Look in the mirror and repeat these words, I am God's beloved child. Allow the breath of God to break in and lift your spirits! You will be amazed at the love you will experience!*

***Joy in the journey my loved ones, Pastor Bonnie***



# *Vice-Moderator's Musings* *by Barbara Olivier*

Well, here we are. The year 2024 is already half over, and what a year it has been! As a community, we have witnessed and experienced quite a bit of loss and pain in the last six months, and yet it all seems to bring us closer together. I am so grateful to be a part of

this amazing community! There is a real awareness of supporting each other as we face life's challenges, and reaching out in big ways and small. It might be a quick email or text, a card, or a phone call. Or it might be a home-cooked meal, a ride to an appointment, or a visit. Whatever the action, members of our church send messages of caring and support to each other.

When we come to church for worship services, we are welcomed. The words "Whoever you are and wherever you are in life's journey, you are welcome here" are not empty words! There is an openness and a friendliness that is immediately recognized and felt. No fire and brimstone in our worship, but acknowledgment that we are each on a unique path, following Jesus Christ, and sometimes losing our way. We are blessed with wonderful music and prayer that lifts up our spirits and inspires us to live out our Christian ideals.

We have less than 100 active members, and yet we are a recognized source of support in our community to those in need. The need may be physical need for food, a place to sleep, or money to cover an emergency. It may be a spiritual need for prayer, healing, connection or forgiveness. People turn to our church seeking help in so many ways! And we try to hear the call and meet the needs. We also recognize that our call to serve is not limited to the local area, but expands to the whole world.

Ours is a church that tries to live out our Christian beliefs. How lucky I am to have found you!!



## ***Small Group Meetings:***

***There will be no small group meetings for the summer. All groups will resume in September 2024.***



**We need some people to weed our gardens. If you can help with this please call Pastor Bonnie. Even if you can only offer a few hours we greatly appreciate it.**

Thank you for your support of the Haskell family. We continue to pray that George recovers and he can return home healthy. They are very appreciative of your kind contributions. If you want to make a donation to help offset the costs for this medical crisis, you can write a check to FCCM and put George in the memo. You can also donate by going to our website,

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



### *A message from the Abando Family:*

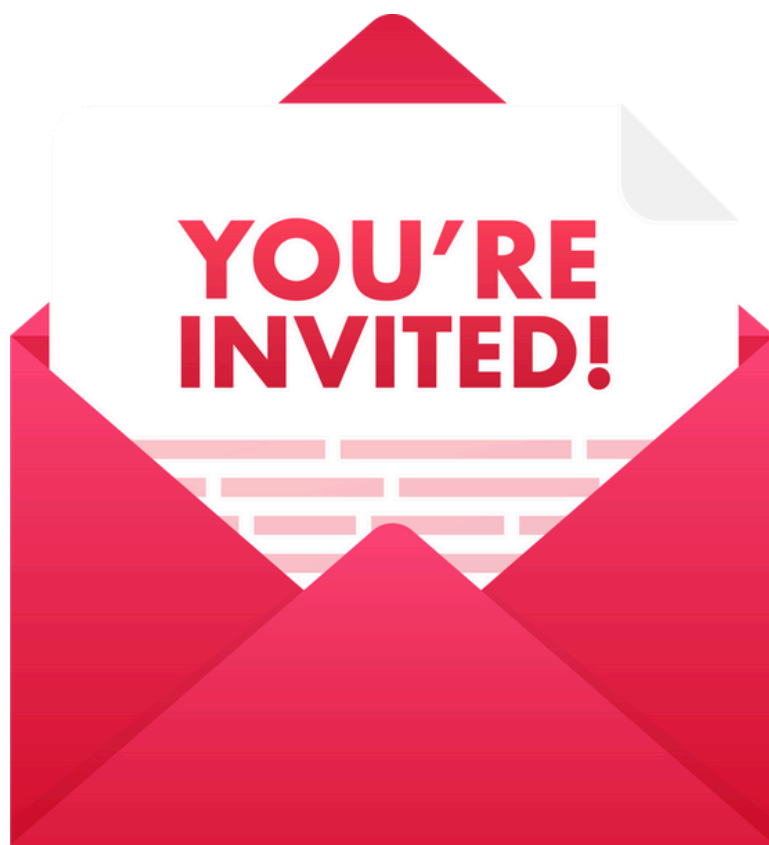
*We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for the timely and unexpected financial assistance you have provided. As a single income earner for two wonderful minor kids, this is truly a blessing. Your generosity and support have made a significant difference in my life during my unorthodox journey from the beginning and in a challenging time.*

*Your kindness is a true testament to the spirit of our community, and we are deeply touched. Please know that your help has not only eased my financial burden, but has also uplifted my spirits even more.*

*Thank you once again for your compassion and generosity. May God bless each of you abundantly.*

*Michael, Nicolas, and Lucy*





*On July 28 you are invited to attend a Health Event with our Parish Nurse, Diane Hosmer. Diane will be teaching us the benefits of taking your blood pressure regularly, how to do it properly and what to look for to ensure good health. This is a brown bag lunch event following worship so we ask you to bring your own sandwich and we will provide drinks and cookies. This is one in a new series of seminars entitled Keeping an Eye on Our Health! The next seminar will be on end of life planning.*

**THANK  
YOU!**

**Many thanks to our dear Connie Cook who so lovingly restored the two sitting benches in front of the Social Hall. They look fantastic!**





**Jeff Chadwick 2**  
**Faye Morrison 2**  
**Elaine Lewis 5**  
**Wendy Glessman 8**  
**Teglene Ryan 12**  
**Lynne Klein 15**  
**Noel Helmbrecht 22**  
**Valerie Shinn 24**  
**Anthony Armstrong 25**  
**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.



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:

## **Prayer List:**

**The Haskell Family**

**John & Marilyn Amormino (Barb Olivier)**

**Thomas Bouton (Emily Lawrence)**

**Marci Duggan**

**Theresa Fowler (June Perry)**

**Caity Johnson**

**Dodi Horvath**

**Tabitha Kremesec**

**Laura Miller (Noel Helmbrecht)**

**Teri Olivas**




**Daniel Smolich (Liz Tussey)**

**Shirley Soderer**

**Gail Williams**

**Rev. Marty Williams**

# JULY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
						
<b>10am</b> Worship Holy Communion New Member Class & Luncheon	8	9	10	11	12	13
	6:30pm Al-Anon	5pm Worship mtg. ZOOM	12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon			
 Worship at Big Trees SP 10am July 14 - 20: Camp Tam Senior	15	16	17	18	19	20
	6:30pm Al-Anon		1pm F&F mtg. ZOOM 12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon		<b>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JULY 15 - 19 9AM - 12PM</b> 12pm Women's AA	
10am worship 11am Council EEC July 21 - 27: Camp Tam Jr. High	22	23	24	25	26	27
	6:30pm Al-Anon		12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon		12pm Women's AA	
10am worship July 28 - Aug. 3: Camp Tam Junior	29	30	31			
	6:30pm Al-Anon		12:30pm AA & Al-Anon 6:30pm Al-Anon		12pm Women's AA	

God's love echoes through us to all creation.

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JULY 2024

DATED MATERIAL - DO NOT DELAY

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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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 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

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.