



JUNE 2022 VOLUME 20 ISSUE 5

# THE NUGGET

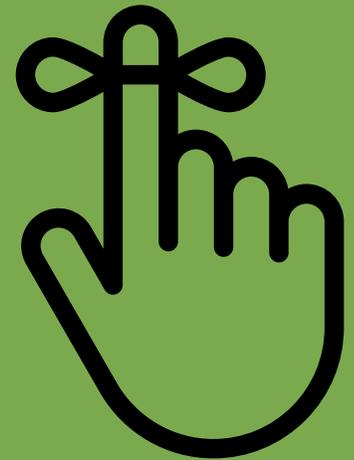
First Congregational Church of Murphys, United Church of Christ

## Annual Congregational Meeting

Mark your calendars  
for our annual  
meeting taking place  
on Sunday June 26th  
following worship.



June is Pride  
Month and we are  
so proud to be an  
open and  
affirming church!



See all the news inside:  
Pastor's Article  
Moderator's Message  
Sunday School Art  
Project  
Camping Trip  
Turkey in a Barrel  
New Members

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



## Pastor Bonnie's Article

Together We Will Mend our Broken World!  
As the horrific events in our world continue, we are faced with many challenges. Homelessness, poverty, violence, depression, and illnesses are on the rise. Several of you have spoken with me about the helplessness you feel in attempting to either respond or react to all of this.

I too feel frustrated and overwhelmed at times and weep at the tragedies we see. Jesus has a way through it. He said, "Love one another, for love is of God." He exemplified to us that prayer, community, and union with God are the ways to live amid sorrow and trials. As we begin to celebrate Pentecost, I am reminded that the Holy Spirit lives in each of us and we can bring love and forgiveness to our daily lives.

One way for us to face these challenges is to get to know our neighbors and communicate with them. Let us look for the people who need our help. Be attentive on social media who seems angry, lonely, or threatening. Reach out or call the police or a helper hotline to see if danger is there. Call your elected officials or write to them about the laws that affect these issues.

For ourselves, we will worship and pray together. We will cry and hold one another as best we can when sorrow diminishes our joy. God loves each of us and we believe that we are all God's children. I am here for you if you need to process all that has happened or just need a prayer or a loving guide. Just call Jenny at the office and set up a time. Together, we will mend our broken world!

*Walking with you,  
Pastor Bonnie*



## *Hospitality Time Reopens at FCCM*

Beginning Sunday June 5, we will once again be sharing refreshments and loving conversations following our worship service. This is the first time we will be doing this inside since COVID. It is a great joy to be able to have this important companionship each week. We do know that this is a time when masks will come off. Please be cognizant of those who are not able to participate in taking off their masks and allow plenty of room at the exits for those of us who need to steer clear of a "maskless" gathering.

Connie Cook, the Chair of Hospitality will have a sign up sheet for you to offer your time and talents to contribute to future hospitality hours. This is a gift and a way in which we bless one another! See you on Sunday!





# Moderator Message



## BLESSING CUPBOARD



SPECIAL REQUEST! The Blessings Box is looking a little sad. Because folks don't always have access to a kitchen or meal prep space, we really need to get more ready to eat canned foods in there. Spaghetti, ravioli, hearty soups, tuna are all excellent options. Cans with a flip lid are preferable to the ones that require a can opener. 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.

Spring has finally arrived, Yay! The true sign of spring in my family is taking the granddaughters to Frog Jump. This year did not disappoint – the looks on Dylan and Hazel's faces as they rode the "big kid" rides for the first time were just priceless!

There are some exciting events coming up in the next few months. There will be details provided in other places in the Nugget, but be sure to get these dates on your calendars:

-All-Church Camp is set for June 17-19 at the Big Trees State Park Group site. Sign up with Jenny in the office. PLEASE NOTE: there will be no worship in Murphys on 6/19. Worship will be at 10:00 AM at the group site in Big Trees State Park.

-Vacation Bible School will make a comeback July 25-29. Plan on sending your kids and grandkids to this great event. I'm sure adult volunteers will be needed; please contact Tanya Sundberg if you can help out.

-Camperships are available for Camp Tamarack. Two of our members will be attending as Counselors this year: Tami Chesnut and Tanya Sundberg. Jenny has information about the various ages and dates for Camp Tam in the office. Camp is just a wonderful and memorable experience for our children.

-Don't forget the annual Congregational meeting on June 26th immediately following worship. We will be voting on our slate of officers and committee members for the coming year. Matt and Liz Graham will also be presenting the Unsung Hero award, so you won't want to miss that!

Let's take these opportunities to worship, learn, volunteer, and just fellowship together! It seems we've been stuck inside our homes for so long, now's the time to get together again with joy and love.

Carrie Shinn



# New Members

**Marian Picher & Erika Ayres.** Marian, Erika, and their 7 year old son, Henry come to us from Valley Springs. Marian is the Operations Project Manager at Stanislaus River Parks for the US Army Corp of Engineers. Erika is a stay at home mom who is taking a break from EMT school and will soon be working towards a career in civil duty. They love fishing, gardening, camping and hiking. They also have a tremendous love for animals, sharing their home also with 3 dogs, 2 cats, parakeets, a gecko, and chickens.



**Peggy Sparrow.** Peggy is retired from ARC of Amador and Calaveras living here in Murphys. She has two children, Robyn and Chino, and one grandson, Mark. She has attended a wide range of churches including Unity Spiritual Center in Walnut Creek and Sonora, Disciples of Christ, and UCC in Angels Camp. Peggy enjoys crafts, sewing, and gardening.



**Jodie Gibson** comes to us from Douglas Flat. Jodie holds a Master's Degree in Social Work and is the retired director of FGP/SCP/RSVP. She was also a caseworker serving developmentally and psychologically disabled adults. She was also the California Department of Aging State Monitor for FGP/SCP programs. She has two sons and three granddaughters. Jodie was blessed with a second chance at life after surviving a deadly car accident, which, tragically, took the life of her best friend and beloved sister, Cath. Her hobbies include gardening, advocating for the Tri-County LGBTQ+ community, and random acts of kindness. Jodie celebrates the positives, joys, lessons, and blessings in her life and she strives to express and offer this to others.



**Marian and Peter Egbert** live in Arnold part time and in Menlo Park the rest of the time. Marian was a Purser for Pan American Airlines and Peter is a retired ophthalmologist from Stanford University. They have four children and six grandchildren, all beautiful. Their hobbies include playing the harmonica and woodworking. They attend Stanford Memorial Church when they are not able to be in Murphys.





## Sunday School Art Project

The students were assembling the pieces of an Egyptian ceramic toy. Pastor John gave this ancient pottery kit to the Sunday school to help students experience the mystery of archaeology and learn about biblical times. Ben and Stella enjoyed this project, and are looking forward to completing it. There are 2 more kits that we will be completing later this summer.



## SOLAR PROJECT UPDATE



The Calaveras Planning Commission held a hearing for our conditional use permit for our solar panels. There are still a few hiccups with permitting, which we anticipate being resolved. Stay tuned for more updates in the coming months.

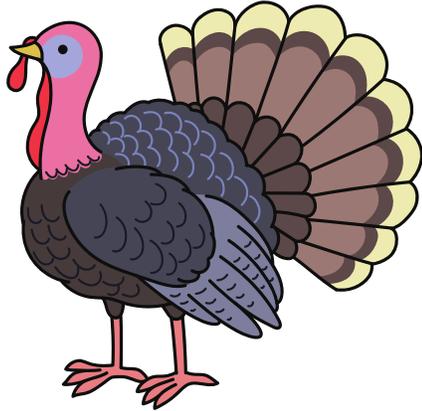
## Recycling

First Wednesday of every OTHER month. Next one is July 6. Please have all your items sorted and masks are required when dropping off your recycling.



Thank you!

# Turkey in a Barrell Fundraiser



THE TURKEY IN A BARRELL FUNDRAISER TOOK PLACE ON SATURDAY MAY 28. IT WAS A HUGE SUCCESS. JOE DID NOT DISAPPOINT WITH THE DELICIOUS MEAL. MEMBERS ENJOYED SHARING GOOD CONVERSATION AND A DELICIOUS MEAL. ENJOY THESE PHOTOS OF SOME OF THE ATTENDEES.



# Taizé

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



*New Spring Directory is coming*

We want to publish a new church directory very soon. If we do not have your photo and correct info, please email the church office with your birthday, picture, address, phone number and email address. The email is [nugget@fccmurph.org](mailto:nugget@fccmurph.org) This is a wonderful way for us to stay connected!



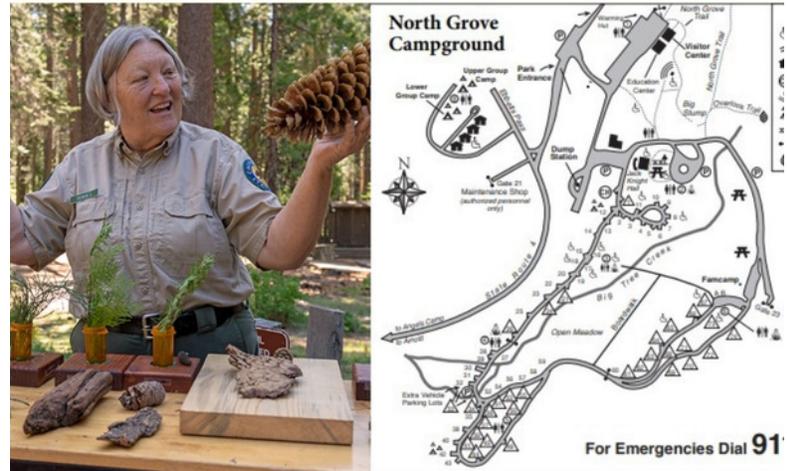
**RELAX. CONNECT. PLAY.**

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED  
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

# ALL CHURCH CAMP

**JUNE 17 - 19 2022  
BIG TREES STATE PARK  
GROUP CAMPING**

Check in is 2pm Friday.  
Check out is noon  
Sunday. To register,  
please call (209)728-3141  
or email  
[nugget@fccmurph.org](mailto:nugget@fccmurph.org)



### IMPORTANT INFO:

Sunday Worship 10am at campsite.  
Breakfast and lunch are on your own. Suppers are provided by the church.

Sunday lunch is a potluck.  
Tents and RVs welcome.  
Bring your own towels, soap, firewood, eating utensils, bug spray, sunscreen, musical instruments. No pets allowed.





## UCC Camping Changes Lives!

Did you know that our UCC Conference has camping opportunities for our children and volunteer positions for adults? In the past we have had children and youth attend who shared that this experience geared them toward careers and life choices of service to others and impacted their faith journey in a powerful and positive way.

We have scholarships for our children. If you would like your child to attend, there is a Junior camp July 17-23 for children entering 3 to 6th grades in the fall of 2022. The cost is \$270 but we have camperships if needed. You can also volunteer while your child participates in the marvelous programs. There is also a camp for Youth in grades 7 to 12 on July 24-30. Call the church office to register your child and call Jennie Hobson at (559-893-3430) to volunteer. You may also call our own Tami Chestnut for more information. She is going to be the Camp Nurse July 17-23. Her phone number is: 209-728-7259.



**We are continuing with the schedule for youth on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7pm to 8:30pm via Zoom.**

**Thank you for your support and for sharing this information with those who can benefit from the support of this group!**

**Thank you,**

**Matthew Johnson  
(209) 352-1828**



**"Love Never Fails..."**

# Our New Organ has Arrived

OUR NEW ORGAN ARRIVED AT THE END OF MAY AND BOY WHAT A BEAUTY! WE HAD THE BISSEL FAMILY AT WORSHIP ON MAY 29TH. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A SPECIAL DEDICATION CEREMONY PROBABLY IN JULY. WE HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US FOR A BEAUTIFUL AND MOVING TIME OF CONNECTION THROUGH MUSIC.





*June*

**BIRTHDAY'S**

Liz Armstrong 2

Kim Plowman 3

Jim Reynolds 4

Cynthia Restivo 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

Fay Messer 20

Ainsley Ryan 20

Cassie Ryan 21

Doris Williams 26

Gail Withun 30

Wright, Anna 30



*Prayers answered*

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

Connie Cook & Family

Mary Dahl

Hilary Oldenkamp

Angela Patterson

Diane Brown & Jesse Hampton & Family

Patti & Steve Pollock

Laura Argento & Sally Elliott

The Bissell Family

Monika Riedel

Tracy Ellifritz

Kelly Ellifritz

Alan & Dodi Horvath

Jody Quick

Elsbeth Mann

Vee Domazlicky & Family

Don Anctil

The Pratt Family

Caity Johnson

Geroge Glessman

# June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5 10am Worship	6	7 Buy Cat Food	8 Taize 7pm	9	10	11
12 10am Worship	13	14	15 F&F Meeting Via Zoom 11am	16	17 Camping Trip at Big Trees	18 Camping Trip at Big Trees
19 Worship at Big Trees State Park Group Camp	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 10am Worship Annual Congregational Meeting	27	28 Executive Committee Meeting 11am	29	30	1	2

*God's love echoes through us to all creation.*

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

*Email: [nugget@fccmurph.org](mailto:nugget@fccmurph.org)*

*Phone: 209.728.3141*

*JUNE 2022*

*DATED MATERIAL—DO NOT DELAY*

*RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED*

*Murphys, CA 95247*

*509 N. Algiers Street*

*PO Box 48*

*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*

*Childcare Worker Angelia Yu*

*Officers*

*Moderator Carrie Shinn*

*Vice Moderator Barbara Olivier*

*Treasurer Patty Haskell*

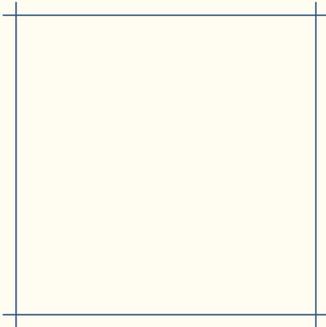
*Financial Secretary Shad Sundberg*

*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 15th of each month.*

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



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