



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

THE NUGGET

Open Door United Church of Christ

Pastor Bonnie and Dr. Daryl Are Retiring and Headed to the Beach!



We all knew this day was coming and, as bittersweet as it is, Pastor Bonnie and Dr. Daryl will be leading a final worship service will be on Sunday, May 25.

We will have a chicken BBQ potluck lunch right after at the church. You can sign up to bring food in the Social Hall. This will be a special time to say goodbye to a couple who is so loved by so many.

Please join us!





From Our Pastor

Wow! That time is almost here! Retirement and the day when I must say goodbye to you all and our ministry together is fast upon us! This is the last pastoral article I will write for the Nugget, and it is indeed bittersweet.

Being in ministry with you has been one of the greatest joys of my life. These last twelve years have been more precious than I ever could have imagined possible. Serving alongside each of you has been a great honor and a joy. Together we have celebrated milestones, navigated many challenges and grown in our discipleship. I am so grateful for the love and support you gave Daryl and me during our struggles with cancer. You healed me abundantly. Together we have weathered a lot, and I for one am a better person because you are in it. Each of you has touched me in infinite ways and I cherish you. As we part, there are guides to follow. I must refrain from interaction with you for one year so that your work will go on beautifully with the upcoming leadership. While this will be hard to be apart, God will continue to bless us and do great work in both our lives. It will probably be hard for me to stop my morning habit of praying through the directory!

So, what is next for us? You will find blessings in the changes of leadership and perhaps you will discover untapped possibilities. Unearthing new territory is good fodder for the soul! As for me, I am looking forward to playing! My hope is to write, read, work in the garden, revel at the beach, rest and spend exciting and refreshing times with Daryl.

Even though I love to write and talk, at this moment I cannot find appropriate words to convey the emotions that are hovering near tears. It has been a remarkable season, and I have truly had Joy in the Journey with you! My love is with you and I'm dancing toward retirement, holding you close in my heart! Pastor Bonnie



A Meditation in the Tradition of Taizé

Gather in the candlelit sanctuary for the simplicity of music and meditation, prayer and silence. Our next Taizé service will be on Wednesday, May 7 at 7pm.



Director of Christian Education

It has been a busy Spring for the youth of the Church. We have 3 young men that have finished their Confirmation class, with the help of their mentors, and joined the Church. They attended an Islamic Temple in Manteca and also a Hindu service and the Land of Medicine Buddhist Retreat center. We participated in the Community Clean up event at Murphys cemetery, and are planning a fun activity for later in May.



With summer coming up we will have youth attending camp. Camp Tamarack will be July 13-19 Junior camp, July 20-26 Junior High camp and July 27-August 2 Senior High Camp. This is a wonderful spiritual experience for the youth. Please let me know if you want more information. We have also started planning Vacation Bible School which will be July 28-31st for students from kindergarten- 5th grades. Please let me know if you would like to help with VBS. More information will be coming soon.

Unfortunately, we will not have a Family Camp this summer. Big Trees doesn't have a group campsite open this summer, and we couldn't find any other sites close by. We will plan on next year for this fun family event.

Thanks for all your support for the youth. Patty



SAVE THE DATE!

Vacation Bible School will be held from
Monday, July 28 - Friday, August 1 from 9am to 12pm.
Stay tuned for registration details.

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





Vice-Moderator's Musings

My time for the last couple of months has been very much involved with our Pastoral Search Committee. It is a huge responsibility for each of us who are on this committee, as we prayerfully discern the way to move forward on behalf of the congregation. Because the Nugget reaches out to many of our friends and supporters

who are not able to attend weekly services, I will use this space to keep you updated on our status. The national UCC leadership strongly recommends that a congregation seek an interim pastor who will assist them through the transition to a new pastor. In addition to providing the usual pastoral duties of preaching, leading the worship services, supporting the lay leadership, and providing pastoral care, an interim pastor also guides and challenges the church members to examine who we are, and who God is calling us to become. This process helps us to discover what attributes are needed and desired in our next pastor.

I am pleased to inform you that our committee has received information regarding one candidate for the interim pastor, and we understand that there is one additional candidate who is preparing paperwork for us. Unfortunately, there is a significant lack of qualified ministers seeking a new position. Fortunately, we only need to find one that is fitting for our congregation. It is our goal to bring an interim pastor to our church as soon as possible. In the meantime, we have made arrangements with our members who are retired pastors to assist with both worship services and pastoral care for the short term. We do ask that you keep our work in your prayers. Thank you!

Barbara Olivier



We will have our
Annual
Congregational
Meeting on Sunday,
June 22
immediately after
worship. This is an
important meeting,
with decisions
made that affect all
of our members, so
please do plan on
attending!



We are still busily
working on the
updated 2025
Directory. It will be
ready after the
meeting on June 22
to reflect the updated
committee rosters.
Please continue to
send photos to the
church secretary if
you've not already
done so!

Treasurer Report

Happy Spring!!! I hope everyone is enjoying the wonderful weather. I have been busy revising the Endowment Policy with Barbara's help. This policy will be presented to you at our June Congregational Meeting. It will be sent out to you before the meeting, so watch for it. I finally got the final numbers for the Pancake Breakfast. This tasty community event raised \$850.00 for the Church. Thanks to everyone that helped. Thank you for all your continued financial support of the Church. Patty



The Resource Connection
Engaging Families
Empowering Communities
Enriching Lives

The Resource Connection, in partnership with WIC and the California Department of Public Health, will be distributing resources in the Social Hall on Thursday, June 12 from 9am - 4pm. They are here on the 2nd Thursday of every OTHER month.



GREAT and WIDE



Strengthen the Church Offering June 8

The Strengthen the Church Offering furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. The offering is divided with 50% staying regionally within your conference and 50% supporting the National Ministries.



O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
Here is the sea, great and wide,
which teems with creatures innumerable,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships,
and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.

Save the Union UCC Stained Glass!



The church has inherited three stained glass windows from the Angels Camp sanctuary, and we want as many members as possible to help decide the highest and best use for them. So, in June we will have them available for viewing and then solicit ideas for their use/display and make recommendations.

Nothing has been decided at this point. If you want to be involved after the viewing/assessment send an email to sanders.lamont@gmail.com or contact one of the ad hoc committee members: Vicki Oneto, Carl Smith or Mark McCormick. Or just let us know during social hour. Thanks for your help.



Small Groups Schedule:

First Fridays

Friday, May 2

2pm

Alan Horvath

South Grove Bunch

Monday, May 12

5:30pm

Faye Morrison

Faith & Friends

Thursday, May 15

10am

Pam Kimes

The Wanderers

Friday, May 16

10am

Marilyn Baisel

The Seekers

Tuesday, May 20

5pm

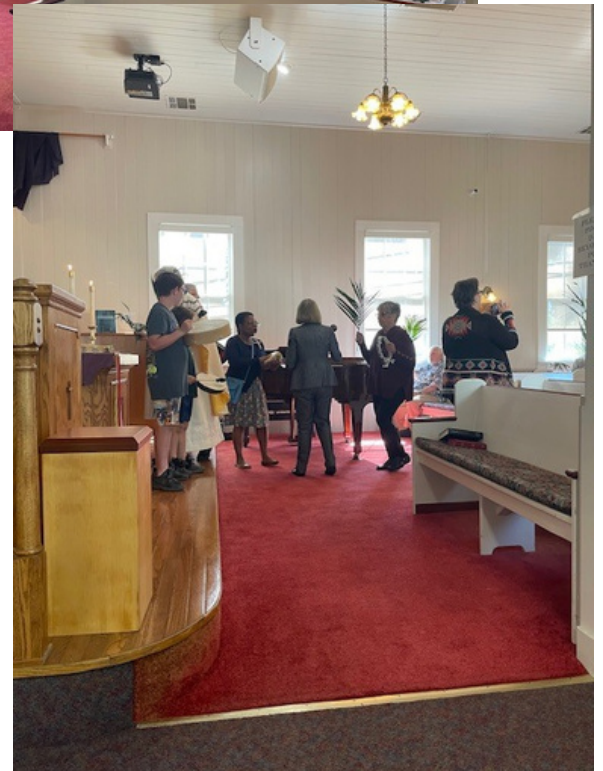
Faye Morrison

Angels Angels

Weds., May 28 11am

Barb Olivier

Palm Sunday Celebration!

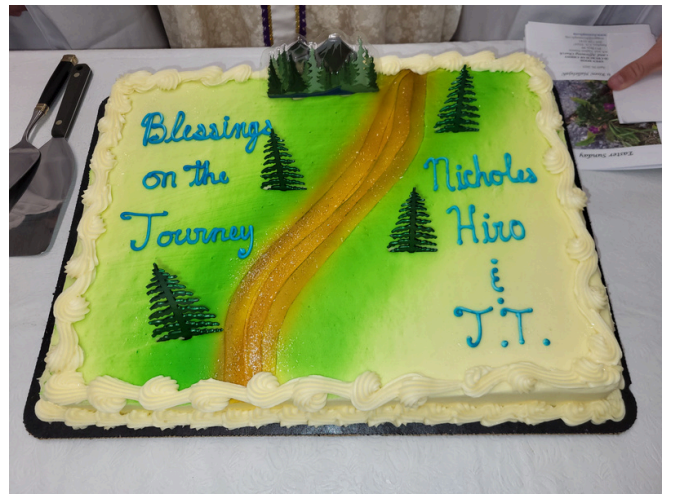


A Very Special Easter Sunday

On Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025, our congregation gathered in celebration as three young men—Nicholas Abando, J.T. Glessman, and Hiro Olivas—were confirmed into the Christian faith by Pastor Bonnie. With the faithful guidance of their mentors, Matt Graham, Alan Horvath, and Sanders LaMont, these confirmands concluded a meaningful season of prayer, study, and spiritual preparation. Through the rite of confirmation, they entered into a deeper covenantal relationship with Jesus Christ and were warmly received as full members of our church community.

Adding to the celebration, members Sandra Sather and E Dawson received the sacrament of Baptism, publicly declaring their new life in Christ. It was a day filled with hope, joy, and the power of resurrection—a truly blessed Easter we will long remember!







Susan Medeiros 1

Alma Oneto 1

Susanna Crow 1

Brenda Whaley 2

Emma Olivas 6

Barbara Matthews 7

Marilyn Baisel 8

Rev. Dr. Bonnie Hollinger 11

Alan Horvath 14

Rev. Dr. John Randlett 16

Justin Glessman 20

Sean Markus 20

Miriam Thorsen 21

Robin Chesnut 22

Norma Fritsche 22

Michael Abanso 23

Caity Johnson 24

Carolyn Ancil 26

Gretchen Thompson 27

Jeff Sather 29

Phil Hosmer 31

Tommy Pratt 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:

***"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:

Clint Graves

Matt Olivier

Robin Chesnut

Angels Patterson

Sandy Fox-Hill

Laura Miller

Dan Kuhn

Don Walton

Adrienne Zimmerman

Mike (Mark McCormick)

Tari Takara

Sophie (Angela Patterson)

Jonelle Lewis (Jenny Fuqua)

Ben Richardson (LaMonts)

Grace Smith and Family (Sadie Oneto)

Liz Tussey

Bruce (Miriam Thorsen)

Dodi Horvath

Brian (Nancy Burton)

Rev. John Randlett

Rev. Marti Williams

May 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9am Adult Choir 10am worship <i>Holy Communion</i> NEW MEMBER CLASS & LUNCH	6:30pm Al-Anon	10:30am Past. Search mtg., EEC 1pm VBS mtg., EEC	12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	12pm Women's AA	2pm First Fridays 12pm Women's AA	11am Bell Choir
9am Adult Choir 10am worship	5:30pm South Grove Bunch sm. grp. 6:30pm Al-Anon	10:30am Past. Search mtg., EEC 1pm F&F mtg. ZOOM	5pm Worship mtg., ZOOM 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	10am Faith & Friends 12:30pm Women's AA	10am The Wanderers 12pm Women's AA	11am Bell Choir
9am Adult Choir 10am Worship Rev. Davena Jones 11am Council EEC	6:30pm Al-Anon	10am Fam. Con. EEC 12:30pm sm. grp. leader mtg., EEC 1:30pm M&C mtg., EEC 5:30pm The Seekers	12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	12pm Women's AA	12pm Women's AA	11am Bell Choir
9am Adult Choir 10am Pastor Bonnie & Dr. Daryl's FINAL Worship 12pm BBQ lunch	6:30pm Al-Anon	10:30am Past. Search mtg., EEC	11am Angels Angels 12:30pm AA 6:30pm AA	12pm Women's AA	12pm Women's AA	11am Bell Choir

God's love echoes through us to all creation.
Webpage: www.fccmwrph.org
Email: nugget@fccmwrph.org
Phone: (209)728-3141

MAY 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

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

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.