

APRIL 2026 VOLUME 24 ISSUE 4

# THE NUGGET

Open Door United Church of Christ

## ***Holy Week Worship Opportunities***

***Maundy Thursday***, April 2, 5:30pm - Agape meal followed by communion and a Service of Tenebrae at 6:30pm - Open Door UCC

***Good Friday***, April 3, 12 – 3pm Stations of the Cross – Open Door UCC

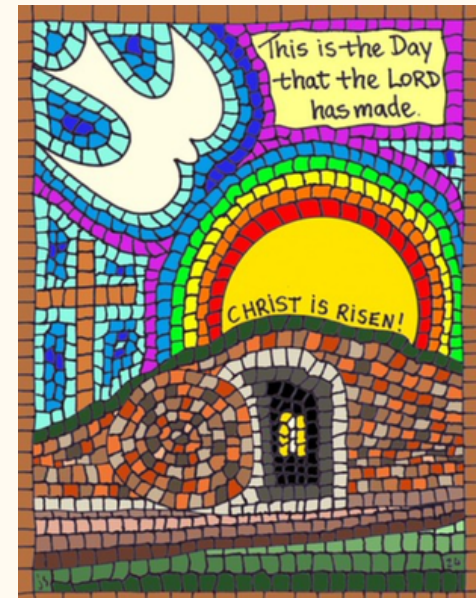
***Good Friday***, April 3, 7pm - Good Friday Worship - Faith Lutheran in Murphys

***Easter***, April 5, 7am - Easter Sunrise Service at Buena Vista Cemetery, off Jones Street next to Murphys Historic School - Open Door UCC

***Easter***, April 5, 10am - Easter worship featuring Bell and Vocal Choir, Trumpet - Open Door UCC

***Easter***, April 5, 11:30am - Children's Easter Egg Hunt - Open Door UCC

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



*We are in the  
season of Easter  
and the color is  
white.*

# Interim Thoughts



Beloved,

Shortly after my grandmother died, years ago, I walked into her room. I found her Italian Bible on her nightstand, opened to the book of Psalms.

Like so many pilgrims and immigrants, the Psalms were her comfort and her safe place.

Many years later, when my life took a downward turn, and I was perplexed as to what direction God had for my life, I returned to those same psalms for solace and help. In those years I can remember telling friends who asked after my well-being, “This is my new address. This is where I live now, in the book of Psalms.

Recently, Richard Rohr featured commentary on the Psalms from noted UCC Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann, who described how praying with the psalms can be an act of solidarity with our universal humanity. Brueggemann, affectionately called “Uncle Walt” by his former students, had this to say about the Psalms:

*The Psalms, with few exceptions, are not the voice of God addressing us. They are rather the voice of our own common humanity—gathered over a long period of time, but a voice that continues to have amazing authenticity and contemporaneity. It speaks about life the way it really is, for in those deeply human dimensions the same issues and possibilities persist. And so when we turn to the Psalms it means we enter into the midst of that voice of humanity and decide to take our stand with that voice. We are prepared to speak among them and with them and for them, to express our solidarity with this anguished, joyous human pilgrimage. We add a voice to the common elation, shared grief, and communal rage that besets us all... When we do, we shall find that the words of Scripture bring power, shape, and authority to what we know about ourselves.*

Rohr, in his daily meditation column, describes how Cuban exile Ada María Isasi-Díaz (1943–2012) found solace in Psalm 137:

*When I first read Psalm 137, I remember resonating with most of what the psalm says; I remember feeling it could appropriately voice the pain I was experiencing being away from my country against my will. After the Cuban missile crisis in 1962 I realized that my absence from Cuba was to be a long one. Shortly after there came a day when my visa status changed from “tourist”: I became a refugee. Psalm 137 became my refuge: “By the rivers of Babylon we sat and we wept when we remembered Jerusalem” (137:1).*

*I recall vividly the day I dared to mention to a friend how much I identified with Psalm 137. Jokingly she answered me, “Are you going to hang your guitar from a tree?” ... They were incapable of understanding the sorrow of being away from *la tierra que mi vió nacer* (the land that witnessed my birth). At times, my friends would ask me to talk about Cuba. Those around me could not figure out why I, who love to sing, always seemed reticent about singing “Guantamanera,” the song that uses for its verses poems from the father of my country, José Martí. One of them says,*

*Yo quiero cuando me muera*

*Sin patria pero sin amo*

*Tener en mi tumba*

*Un ramo de flores*

*Y una bandera.*

*I want when I die*

*without country but without master,*

*to have on my tomb*

*a bouquet of flowers*

*and a flag.*

So I kept saying to myself, "How can we sing Yahweh's song in a foreign land?"

Here is Uncle Walt again:

*The psalms are not used in a vacuum, but in a history where we are dying and rising, and in a history where God is at work, ending our lives and making gracious new beginnings for us. The Psalms move with our experience. They may also take us beyond our own guarded experience into the more poignant pilgrimages of our sisters and brothers.*

We continue with Morning Prayer each Wednesday morning on Zoom, starting promptly at 8:15.

We would love to have you join us in solidarity and prayer.

Blessed Easter to you all!

Gary



**Earth Day**  
Celebration  
Our planet Our power  
**Sunday, April 26**  
**From 11-6 pm**

At Feeney Park in Murphys

**Music By:**  
**Clan Dyken**  
And local bands

**Booths, Free Stuff,  
Food & Fun**

Food By:  
Taco Estilo Marcos

For more information  
209-293-4379/fringe54@volcano.net or  
orlygirl65@gmail.com

## *Tuning in With Our Music Director*



April is full of music - birds singing, the breeze in the pines, and the Open Door choirs!

I am happy to announce that new Open Door member Chris Marques will serve as cantor at the Tenebrae service on April 2. He will sing the verses of the stirring Taizé chant, "Stay With Me."

We are pleased to welcome back Nancy Burton on trumpet to greet Easter Day. She will also be playing bells with the Handbell Choir! Handbells will accompany the congregation on "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee," and offer a bell arrangement of "I Know That My Redeemer Lives" for the Musical Meditation. The vocal choir will sing "Come, Christians, Join to Sing." The hymn was first published in 1843 in "Sacred Melodies for Children" by Christian H Bateman, an English hymn writer and minister. It is his most well-known work.

After Easter the Handbell Choir is going to take a little break, but will reconvene on Saturday, April 25 to begin preparing music for Pentecost (May 24). If you are interested in ringing and can fulfill the following schedule, please let me know right away so I can add you to the roster of notes:

April 25 Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m.

May 9 Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m.

May 23 Rehearsal, 10:00 a.m.

May 24 Pentecost Service.

On April 26 the choir will lead the congregation in Tom Chapin's "This Pretty Planet." We'll sing it as a round. Here's a recording of Tom and friends singing it that you can practice with (I always enjoy music more when I am familiar with it!): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6G1qPuAGoJ0&list=OLAK5uy\\_kSGhFaLWPI4wwyi-SFmSijWinN6OJFWJw&index=16](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6G1qPuAGoJ0&list=OLAK5uy_kSGhFaLWPI4wwyi-SFmSijWinN6OJFWJw&index=16). Tom Chapin, "Hudson Valley Troubadour," is the son of jazz drummer and teacher Jim Chapin, and the grandson of author/critic Kenneth Burke and portrait painter James Chapin - Tom grew up in a family that encouraged artistic pursuits. He began performing professionally as a teenager in the early 1960s, playing in Greenwich Village folk clubs alongside his siblings Harry and Steve as The Chapin Brothers. In addition to his musical endeavors, Tom Chapin has long been an advocate for environmental causes, issues of hunger and social justice, and a supporter of music and the arts in public schools.

**MUSICAL SANCTUARY** The topic of the April 22 Musical Sanctuary is "All Earth," which is a bit of a play on the February Musical Sanctuary topic, "All Heart." "All Heart" was all about heart energy. "All Earth" will be all about connecting with the earth, with all of our being.

There is a correlation between nature and music. Overtones, or harmonics, are the tones that are produced by a single musical pitch. The sound wave of the original pitch (or "fundamental") immediately splits in two, creating a tone an octave higher. Those two waves split in two, and so on. The result is a series of higher pitches - overtones - that the average listener isn't aware of hearing, but that most listeners experience in richness of sound. The Fibonacci Sequence is an equation that predicts the harmonic series of sounds (overtones) - and the spiral of a conch shell, the leaves of a succulent plant, branching in trees, the arrangement of leaves on a stem, the fruit sprouts of a pineapple, the flowering of an artichoke, the arrangement of a pine cone's bracts, and so on. According to Wikipedia, the Fibonacci Sequence "is a sequence in which each term is the sum of the two terms that precede it. Starting from 0 and 1, the sequence begins 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, 89, 144," (and so on)." I took a music theory class at the New England Conservatory taught by Pozzi Escot, co-author with Robert Cogan of

Sonic Design: The Nature of Sound and Music (Prentice-Hall, Inc, May 1976). The class made a significant contribution to my understanding of energy and flow. Pozzi Escot loved the Golden Section, another ratio formula (1:1.618) related to the Fibonacci Sequence, also found throughout nature. For example, the Golden Ratio defines the curve of a Nautilus shell, the spiral of a sunflower. The ratio of the distance from the human mouth and nose are each positioned at golden sections of the distance between the eyes and the bottom of the chin, and if you multiply the length of your body by .618 you will locate your belly button (although there are easier ways to find your belly button!). Dr. Escot took famous musical masterpieces, multiplied their length by .618, and showed how the climax of these great pieces often came at the Golden Section. She also showed thought-provoking examples of the Golden Section from architecture, painting, and photography.

When my time at the New England Conservatory ended, I loaded my belongings in my car and headed west. As I drove, I enjoyed the passing scenery, concluding that Nature is truly the greatest artist. Nowhere did I see a vista of rolling hills or a tree silhouetted in moonlight that didn't strike me with the beauty and uplifting quality of its form. I realized that what sets master artists (of the human variety) apart is their natural sense for pleasing and stimulating balance and proportion. I doubt that any of the great creators pull out a yardstick or count the beats and measures to determine where the cornice, Grand Pause, or dab of blue should go. They simply have a gift for sensing the flow and movement of life energy. We love to be in nature and we love great art. Nature and art help us understand that all of life fluctuates in a tidal flow of divine balance; all beings exist in shifting relationship to one another. We are reminded that we are participants in the dance of life, and that it is possible to take our steps gracefully, taking time to listen to the pulse of the tune. I love finding out that physicists and mathematicians can discover and explain vibration and resonance and frequencies, and the feelings that we get in nature and from music. The Fibonacci Sequence and Golden Section are only a couple of many factors, known and unknown, that are endlessly interacting in the magnificent symphony of life, shaping the beauty and flow of this universe, showing how all of life is interrelated. This is the natural tendency of life: to organize in a proportionally pleasing manner. Life wants to be beautiful! So, come and deepen your appreciation for the beauty of the earth on Wednesday, April 22, at 5:30 pm. And, as always, many thanks to Open Door for supporting Musical Sanctuary!

All Blessings,  
Kate

*HANDBELL REHEARSALS*

**Saturday, April 4**

Rehearsal 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, April 5**

8:45 a.m.

**Saturday, April 25**

10:00 a.m.

*VOCAL CHOIR REHEARSALS*

**Saturday, April 4**

10:45 a.m.

**Sunday, April 5**

9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, April 12**

9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, April 26**

9:00 a.m.

**MUSICAL**  
*Sanctuary*  
**All Earth**  
*Music and Guided Meditation*  
*with Kate Moody*  
**Wednesday, April 22, 5:30 pm**  
**Open Door UCC**  
**509 Algiers St.**  
**Murphys** *by donation*



## *Christian Education Recap*



I'm delighted to introduce myself as the new Christian Education director for Open Door UCC. I'm looking forward to working with Pastor Gary to continue the excellent program we have in place and to see how we can grow together as a congregation in Christ's love.

Just a little background on me: retired elementary school teacher with primary and middle school experiences, former owner and director of a preschool/daycare for 10 years, and most recently worked at Hazel Fischer and Michelson schools as a visiting art teacher. I've been CE team leader and a Sunday school teacher for three years. Also, I'm mom to four amazing sons who all attended Sunday school here. In addition, they attended and were counselors at Camp Tam.

Patty has left some pretty big shoes to fill. We thank her for her dedication to this job and our families here at Open Door UCC.

I would like to remind families and youth about the camping trips coming up this summer. Camp Tamarack (Tam) is located east of Fresno in the Sierras at 7000'. There are tent cabins, a lodge, fire pit, grassy meadow for worship, and lakes nearby. It is a rustic experience! Adult volunteers are always appreciated as counselors and support staff. Medical personnel are most welcome! CE provides camperships to help offset the cost. I highly encourage you to take this opportunity for your child!!

### DATES

July 12-18. Junior High. Grades 7,8,9

July 19-25. Senior High grades 9-12

July 26-Aug 1. Junior Camp. Games 4,5,6

July 26-Aug 1 Counselor-in training. 16-18 years

Please let me know if there are any opportunities or activities that would be engaging for our children. We see if we can make it happen! You can always reach me by text 209-402-7447

Submitted By: Evelyn Betts

## *Treasurer's Report*

I hope everyone has been enjoying the Spring weather. I have been busy contacting the bank and investment companies about our name change. Please pay up on your pledge if you are behind. I will be looking to see if we need a budget adjustment at our June congregational meeting. Thanks for all your support. -Patty.



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

It's official! We are the Open Door United Church of Christ. It has been a long road, and some of you may not have been present when we began the process of changing our name, so I would like to give you just a little bit of our recent history.

It was early in 2023 that Union Congregational Church in Angels Camp made its decision that it could no longer continue as a separate church. After much discussion and prayer, it was decided that they would pursue a merger with First Congregational United Church of Christ in Murphys. The two churches had had a long history of sharing ministers and joint ministries. After a vote by both congregations, it was agreed that the two churches would merge to become a new entity. As one important way to represent the true merger, it was determined that the joint church should have a new name.

Suggestions for the name were gathered in multiple ways, and the merged congregation voted to become the Open Door United Church of Christ. There was some delay as we learned of the legal requirements to make the name official, but we have received verification from the State of California that our name is now recognized. There are a few more steps to take, such as new stationary and new signage. Our website and Facebook need to be updated. All of that will be addressed in the next few months.

Meantime, let's take a minute to celebrate our name, and pray for God's guidance in making that name truly represent our church.

## ***Pastor Search Team Update***

It has been a while since the pastoral search team has given a formal update of its work. We completed the analysis of the survey regarding the characteristics our members most desire in a new pastor. We thank all of you who completed that survey, and hope that you've had a chance to look at the results, which have been posted in the Social Hall. Our next task is to gather more data for the church profile, which is required before posting an ad for a settled pastor on the conference website. Specifically, we need to develop a statement about who we are as a church now, and who God is calling us to become in these challenging times. We see this as a crucial step, involving as many people as possible, and multiple conversations. We decided that a first step might be bringing this issue to the annual Church Council retreat.

The Council retreat had been planned for February 21, but it was cancelled due to the snow storm and the challenges many people were facing because of that storm. As the retreat planning team thought about when it could be rescheduled, an idea emerged to have shorter conversations over a series of Sundays after church. This will provide opportunities for more people to participate in the discussion.

These conversations will be hosted by the group of us now designated as the ACT: the Adaptive Change Team! Its members are a combination of the retreat planning team and the Pastor Search Committee. So look forward to after-church conversations beginning April 19 as an opportunity to look at who our church has been, who we are now, and who we feel called to become in these challenging times.

### **The Adaptive Change Team**

**Tami Chesnut**

**Noel Helmbrecht**

**Barbara Olivier**

**Judy Regalia**

**Carrie Shinn**

**Darlene Davis**

**Mark McCormick**

**Gary Percesepe**

**Penny Sarvis**

**Mickey Williamson**



# *What's happening on campus?*

Welcome new members!

On February 22, Open Door UCC proudly accepted two new members, Patty Smalling and Chris Marques. It is a joy to have them be a part of our congregation!



## **CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY**

**Saturday, April 11 9am - 1pm**

We will be weeding, painting, and anything else that needs to be done, so be sure to bring your work gloves, a hat, and sunscreen!

## **Snake & Reptile Education Day** **Sunday, April 12, 11am**

The Outreach & Social Justice team invites you to come learn about the various snakes and lizards who help keep our delicate California ecosystem in balance.



# Poet's Corner

This month's poem is "Instrument of Choice," by Robert Phillips, from his collection, *Spinach Days*, published by John Hopkins University Press, 2000.

Did you play a musical instrument in school as a child, or teen?

If so, this poem is for you.

I played the trumpet (badly), but with a certain kind of joy.

What did you play?

Maybe we should gather everyone in our community who ever played a musical instrument as a child, give them the instrument of their choice, and make a joyful noise for Murphys?

## Instrument of Choice

*by Robert Phillips*

She was a girl  
no one ever chose  
for teams or clubs,  
dances or dates,

so she chose the instrument  
no one else wanted:  
the tuba. Big as herself,  
heavy as her heart,

its golden tubes  
and coils encircled her  
like a lover's embrace.

Its body pressed on hers.

Into its mouthpiece she blew  
life, its deep-throated  
oompahs, oompahs sounding,  
almost, like mating cries.



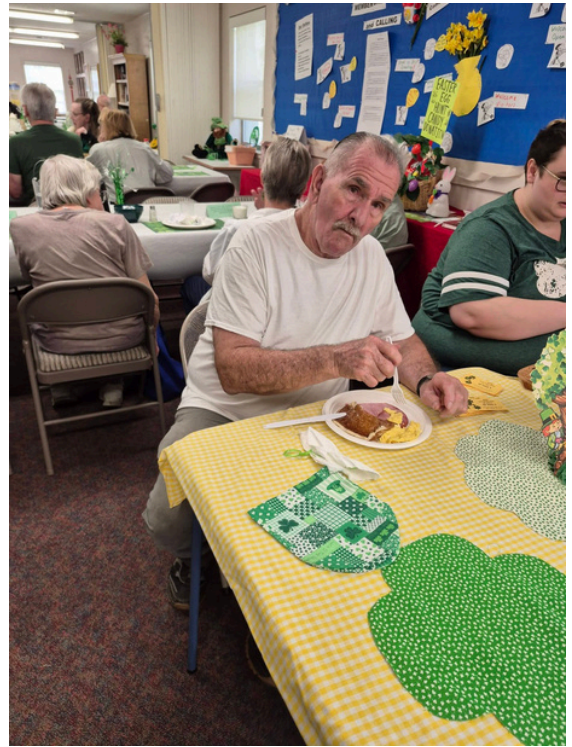
*Robert Schaeffer Phillips (1938 – January 21, 2022) was an American poet and professor of English at the University of Houston. He was the author or editor of more than 30 volumes of poetry, fiction, poetry criticism and other works.*

# 2026 Pancake Breakfast

On Saturday, March 21, as the town of Murphys was busy preparing for the influx of folks for our World Famous Irish Day Parade and Street Fair, Wendy Glessman and her crew of dedicated volunteers showed up bright and early and began setting up for our beloved annual Irish Day Pancake Breakfast. The team worked so hard to make sure the event went off without a hitch. The service was seamless, the food was delicious, and we even made a little bit of money for our church! It was another fun family event.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED!!!!**





# The Costco rotisserie chicken is eucharistic reading of grace

By David Drury, *National Catholic Reporter*, February 28, 2026



*A Costco employee cooks chicken at Costco in Mountain View, Calif., March 3, 2010. The company has sold its rotisserie chicken for \$4.99 since 2009. (AP/Paul Sakuma, file)*

I was navigating my way through the megagrocery labyrinth Costco recently when I was struck by the visual of how different we shoppers were from one another, indicated by age, dress, hairstyle, even T-shirt messaging. And we clearly were shopping from different lists; no two carts resembled the other.

There was a traffic jam at the long display counter at the back of the store, where a crowd had gathered, waiting. In spite of our dissimilarities, we shared a common anticipation. Sure enough, the bell rang and here they came: fire-roasted rotisserie

chickens passing from the hands of Costco staff through the warming tray and into our own. Enough for everyone and plenty more.

Costco's \$4.99 chickens have become a cultural icon, not because they are extraordinary but because they are so ordinary: cooked on site, bagged and delivered to the multitudes. The price has remained the same since 2009, in spite of inflation that should have doubled it. In online discourse, Costco chickens are treated with humor and affection, described by some as an "act of love" in an era of rising food insecurity. The company built their own massive chicken processing plant in Nebraska, which saves them tens of millions in costs, but it's not nearly enough: The chickens cost the retailer tens of millions of dollars every year. Still, they keep the chickens coming. They don't give a cluck.

There is a business strategy here, which is that the chickens are what's called a "loss-leader." Costco sells them at a loss for the trade-off they get: Cheap chicken draws people into the store, where they tend to shop for other things. No one leaves Costco with only a rotisserie chicken. Believe me, I've tried.

And yet, standing there with strangers, bonded in the waves of heat coming off the ovens, the smell of seasonings in the air, it was hard to shake the feeling that something else was happening. People seemed to feel cared for. In the coming together, the receiving, the going away changed, the appreciation of the sacrifices involved and the anticipation of shared tables, there was a sense that the chickens mattered because they were going to end up on real tables, in real kitchens. It says less about Costco's business strategy and more about our collective hunger for connection. Grace is communal. It happens where people eat together, depend on one another, and are fed.

Christian theology has a name for the way of seeing the world in which the sacred does not arrive dressed as spectacle: eucharistic imagination.

A table full of people, for example, are unlikely to applaud when bread is served, and yet it is the primary biblical metaphor for the way God shows up on behalf of humanity. Ordinary elements (bread, wine, rotisserie chickens) are the kinds of vehicles grace prefers, if we can choose to see it. When Jesus fed Gospel crowds, the miracle was never about a magic show or culinary flair. It was about sufficiency. The people were fed, not necessarily impressed.

Costco chickens are not optimized for prestige, but meant to end up on ordinary tables, pulled apart by hand, stretched across multiple meals. Shared. This does not make Costco a church, neither does it redeem capitalism. Costco is still a corporation, and the story of the chickens includes uncomfortable realities like industrial farming, labor concerns and animal welfare critiques. Eucharistic imagination does not deny these tensions; it holds them honestly.

Still, Costco's willingness to eat margin echoes a logic people recognize instinctively as care. That recognition matters, because we live in a time when economic life often feels isolating and adversarial. Politics has turned tables into battlefields. Institutions feel untrustworthy. Food insecurity spreads. Families and relationships are strained. At this moment, where can we turn?

Five-dollar chickens, for starters. Not because they are magical, but because they signal something increasingly rare: that someone, somewhere, chose giving over taking, sufficiency over maximizing. That someone decided not to charge what the market would bear.

Eucharistic imagination listens before it declares. It pays attention to where meaning is already emerging. It looks for God in the ordinary. Grace is not always abstract; it happens where people eat. The kingdom of heaven, Jesus said, arrives quietly, like yeast in dough, like bread passed from one hand to another. Where there is enough for all of us, grace has arrived. Likewise, this everyday food item has come to function symbolically as shared bread offered at a cost, meant to be eaten together, not optimized for profit or prestige.

Costco's \$4.99 rotisserie chickens have become a small but telling sign of what we long for: grace that shows up wherever our weary eyes can manage to look.

# *Cherishing our members, friends, and community...*

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Nancy Burton 5  
Amanda Armstrong 8  
Doug Shinn 9  
Darlene Davis 10

Bobby Breen 15  
Dodi Horvath 16  
Connie Cook 19  
Tara Glessman 19

*Don't see your birthday listed? We promise it isn't on purpose! If you would like to have your special day listed in the newsletter, please call or email the church office.*

## **Prayer 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:***

Carl Smith  
Lisa Shinn  
Gene Davis (Ron & Darlene Davis)  
Faye Morrison  
Miriam Thorsen)  
Shoshana (Laura Leonard)  
Jodie Gibson  
Lauren, Gordon, Emre, Willow (Jesse Hampton)  
Angela Patterson  
Tracey Ellifritz  
Tabitha Kremesec  
Shirley Soderer  
Terry Dowell  
Robin Chesnut  
Tari Takara  
Ben Richardson (LaMonts)  
Bruce (Miriam Thorsen)  
Dodi Horvath  
Brian Whitehead (Nancy Burton)  
Rev. John Randlett  
Rev. Marty Williams

# April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>7am Easter Sunrise service</p> <p>8:45am Bell Choir</p> <p>9am Vocal Choir</p> <p>Holy Communion &amp; Baptisms</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>7 12-2pm Adaptive Change Team meeting</p>	<p>1 8:15am Morning Prayer, Zoom</p> <p>12:30pm AA</p> <p>6:30pm AA</p>	<p>2 Maundy Thursday</p> <p>5:30pm potluck, communion, Tennebrae</p>	<p>3 2pm First Fridays Good Friday</p> <p>12pm Stations of the Cross, UCC</p> <p>7pm worship, Faith Lutheran</p> <p>12pm Women's AA</p>	<p>4 10am Bell Choir rehearsal</p> <p>10:45am Vocal Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>5 7am Easter Sunrise service</p> <p>8:45am Bell Choir</p> <p>9am Vocal Choir</p> <p>Holy Communion &amp; Baptisms</p> <p>Easter Egg Hunt</p>	<p>6 6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>7 12-2pm Adaptive Change Team meeting</p>	<p>8 8:15am Morning Prayer, Zoom</p> <p>12:30pm AA</p> <p>6:30pm AA</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 12pm Women's AA</p>	<p>11 9am - 1pm Church Clean-Up Day</p>
<p>12 9am Vocal Choir rehearsal</p> <p>11am Outreach &amp; Social Justice</p> <p>Reptile Presentation</p>	<p>13 5:30pm South Grove Bunch</p> <p>6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>14 10:30am Family Connections. EEC</p>	<p>15 8:15am Morning Prayer, Zoom</p> <p>5:30pm Musical Sanctuary</p> <p>12:30pm AA</p> <p>6:30pm AA</p>	<p>16 10am Faith &amp; Friends</p>	<p>17 10am The Wanderers</p> <p>12pm Women's AA</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 Voices &amp; Visions</p> <p>11am Council mtg., EEC</p>	<p>20 6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>21 12:30PM M&amp;C mtg., Social Hall</p> <p>5:30pm The Seekers</p>	<p>22 8:15am Morning Prayer, Zoom</p> <p>11am Angels Angels</p> <p>12:30pm AA</p> <p>6:30pm AA</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 12pm Women's AA</p>	<p>25 10am Bell Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>26 9am Vocal Choir rehearsal</p> <p>Voices &amp; Visions</p>	<p>27 6:30pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 8:15am Morning Prayer, Zoom</p> <p>12:30pm AA</p> <p>6:30pm AA</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>10am Worship committee mtg. Zoom</p> <p>1:30pm F&amp;F mtg.,</p>	

God's love echoes through us to all creation.

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

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

Phone: (209)728-3141

APRIL 2026

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

Music Director Kate Moody

Secretary Jenny Fuqua

Custodian Lucie Tardif

Christian Ed Director Evelyn Betts

Childcare Abby Fuqua

#### Officers

Moderator Carrie Shinn

Vice Moderator Barbara Olivier

Treasurer Patty Haskell

Assistant Treasurer Alan Horvath

#### 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 20th of each month.

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