



Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Pastors: Russ & Erin Matteson

Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.

Moving toward the night...

I have been doing some spiritual writing often in the form of writing prayers to open the *Creative Prayer group* or *The Quiet Place* times I facilitate. These times begin as we are approaching evening, so the prayers are often connected to that. Evenings are a special time. They invite us to pause at the end of another day of living to reflect on that day of life. What we have put into it or not put into it. What we long for or give thanks for. Sometimes the answers to these things are simple, and sometimes complex. Either way, there is value in pausing with God daring to look backward and forward, remembering whose we are and what matters most. Below are a couple prayers you can use for your own *evening pause* tonight.

--With you on the journey, Pastor Erin

* * *

As the sun begins to set, O God,
help us to *set down* the busyness of the day...

I wonder, what might be hardest to set down, and why?

Help us to remember things worth noting from today, and to hold them gently, preciousy...
As so much is blossoming, invite us to wonder, what might be blossoming in us?

May this be a night, when we feel
enfolded by love,
caressed by mercy and grace,
kept in the arms of peace,
invited to go back out to live from there... Amen

* * *

O God,
As we silently sit with you,
breathing into this dark night,
sighs of relief and gratitude,
sighs of sorrow and celebration,
sighs, too deep for words,
and breathing breaths full of vigorous life and love -

Bring us to mindfulness of where and how we are greeting
you...
mindfulness of where and how, *we long* to greet you...
Slow all our sighing.
Slow and deepen each breath.
Till we just *be*,
fully, and completely, in You... Amen

God continues to speak

Read Psalm 8 and John 16:12-15 in preparation for worship on May 30. Jesus tells us in this gospel that he still has a lot to say to us and the Spirit will bring it. Pastor Erin asks, "Are we listening?" "What is God saying to you lately?"

Lives unfolding

Jeremiah 29:11-14 the prophet brings the message from God that God's plans are "for the welfare of the people, not harm, to give a future filled with hope." As we celebrate our graduates on June 6, we sent them forward into the next chapters of their lives with this promise. Pastors Erin and Russ will bring the sermon together.

Worship moves to 9:30 a.m.

It's summer and on June 6 our schedule shifts to an earlier start with worship at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School classes are off until after Labor Day. We made this move several years ago for a variety of reasons. We save on our energy costs worshipping before the day gets hot. We encourage folks to still come and worship before heading out to enjoy the beauty of God's creation in this part of California. And we encourage you to find ways to connect with one another and picnic, hike, swim, whatever your interest is – connect with others. Start your summer Sundays with God and the community of faith!

Thank you for support

The Baughman and Garcia families thank the congregation for your love and support during the short illness and death of our daughter, wife, and mother, Gail Garcia. We know she is at peace with her Lord and also with her dad, but we miss her. Thank you for your prayers as we continue on without her earthly presence.

--Barbara Baughman

Bless the birthday children

Ashley Cearley	6-08-93
Emily Matteson	6-12-92
Haleigh Daniels	6-13-94
Kelsey Boardman	6-17-92
Peter Jacobs	6-21-94
Drew Monson	6-26-95



Please notify the church office if we have missed the June birthday of a child or youth. Thank you.

Add these events to your calendar

Good to the last Faith Bites

The last Faith Bites dinner is upon us this Wednesday, May 26. Don't miss this final gathering until the first of September. You are invited to host dinners in your home these summer month of June – August. Invite old friends, or even better, a mixture that includes persons you don't know so well! Come Wednesday, and continue the fellowship beyond! And as we go, let's give many, many thanks to Carla as our main cook and kitchen manager, and to all those who have cooked and served this past season. We appreciate you!

Plan to be at Council Meeting

Join your sisters and brothers after worship on June 13 as we discuss and vote on the recommendation from the Community Ministry Center Building Committee to terminate the project. There will be a lite lunch served before we begin the meeting. The next Chimes will have some additional sharing from the Building Committee to further explain the recommendation they have brought to Council.

Peace Between Us

Registration forms are now available for Peace Camp 2010 at our church. The program is for kids age 3 through having finished grade 8. Invite friends to join us for a great week learning more about living in peace with those who are

nearest to us. If you are an adult and want to help out, contact Mary Pieczarka to volunteer. Peace Camp starts Sunday, June 13, and goes through Thursday, June 17.

Stay for a BBQ in honor of the Dads

Reserve June 20 to stay after worship for a BBQ for Father's Day! *Wings* will be provided by the Fellowship and Recreation Commission and those coming are invited to bring any salad of your choice to share. This will be a great time to enjoy some fellowship and give thanks for all men who serve as good role models as they father or mentor others.

Opportunities in the Quiet Place continue

This summer you are invited to a monthly opportunity to make special time for your relationship with God and to connect with others. June 28, July 26 and August 16 will be the three dates when persons can come to The Quiet Place at 7:00 p.m. for reflection, prayer, and sharing on a particular theme that invites us to explore and deepen our spiritual life. A sign-up will continue to be in the narthex to help me get an idea of how many are coming for planning. In June we will be doing *Lectio Divina*, the practice of reading a scripture three times and sitting with it in silence to listen for what is tugging at our heart strings. All Are welcome

--Pastor Erin

We now have great tasting water

Recently the Building and Grounds Commission had water filters installed on several water lines at the church. You should be noticing an improvement in everything from the ice, to coffee, water, and lemonade. Use the goosenecks for water in the Gathering Place to take advantage of the filtered water.

Update on COB work in Haiti

The Church of the Brethren disaster relief work in Haiti has received another grant of \$150,000 from the church's Emergency Disaster Fund. The work in Haiti responds to the earthquake that hit Port-au-Prince in January, and is a cooperative effort of Brethren Disaster Ministries and Eglise des Freres Haitiens (the Haitian Church of the Brethren). Brethren Disaster Ministries staff requested the additional allocation to continue feeding and shelter programs that currently are underway, and to fund the expansion of response into a number of new intermediate and long-term efforts.

The new work will include home construction, providing potable water and sanitation facilities, agricultural projects, training for pastors in trauma recovery and resilience, medical programing in partnership with IMA World Health, purchase of a four-door truck for use in home construction, and construction of a warehouse and a guest house. The warehouse and guest house facility initially will be for use by American volunteers and staff, but in time is expected to become the headquarters of the Haitian church.

Major accomplishments of the Brethren response as of April 30:

- ✦ 21,000 hot meals provided to schoolchildren in Port-au-Prince;
- ✦ monthly dry food distribution to 165 families or approximately 825 people--equivalent to 49,500 meals a month--with most food purchased in Haiti and some locally grown;
- ✦ 21 leaders and teachers in Eglise des Freres Haitiens employed to support the response, 20 Haitian construction workers employed to build temporary housing, 4 Haitians employed to monitor and evaluate the response;
- ✦ temporary wood and tin shelters built in the three Brethren communities of Marin, Delmas, and Tonm Gato, housing 120 people;
- ✦ 6,225 pounds of seed distributed to 250 farmers for spring planting;

For more about the work in Haiti visit www.brethren.org/HaitiEarthquake .

Community Outreach expands

Community Outreach Fundraisers

To help fund our Community Outreach efforts, we will host two fundraisers this year. One will be *An Outreach Affaire* on September 18 and will feature the chocolate fountain, silent auction and more. Mark your calendars for this event and stay tuned for more information including ticket costs and how you may be able to help. The other fundraiser will be a Church Family Garage Sale occurring on July 31. The garage sale a few years back was such a hit, we have decided to do it again! However, due to the enormous volume of donations, we will be asking that each person donate only *20 items or less* and that all be in workable and/or wearable condition. Donations will only be accepted at the church from *Sunday, July 25, to Saturday, July 30*. If you have large items, they will be brought or picked up on July 30 ONLY. We also will be forming a Pick-Up Crew to assist those who cannot bring things and need us to pick them up. If you require a pick up, please get the measurements of the item(s) as best you can and either call the office to sign up, or look for the sign up sheet in July in the Narthex. Want to help with the garage sale? Call Leah @ 523-1438

Skate Nite Equipment

Our Skate Nite program has had 12 participants attend in only three weeks! This is surely going to be a great way to reach out to our youth. To keep this program going we will need donations of 2x4's, 1/4 inch plywood, 3/4 inch plywood and angel iron or "coping." If you have any of these items, please bring them to the church and place items between the two C-Van storage units. If you would like to help us build or supervise, please feel free to call Leah or come build on Wednesday, June 2, from 3:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m. and/or Saturday June 12 from 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Agape Satyagraha

As we move into summer, we will be expanding the program! The Maddux Youth Center will now be a sister site and host Agape Satyagraha classes at their location on Wednesdays from 5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. beginning June 9. To sign up there or begin attending the site at our church, see Leah or drop off the registration form located online under Activities @ www.modcob.org. Students in grades 5th to 12th can join anytime at the church site which is held Thursdays from 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

--Leah Knipe, Community Outreach Coordinator

If you have unwanted ties and scarves to donate to a woman doing a children's story time, please contact Reneé Gokey

JOIN IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES!

CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE FOR INFORMATION

Coffee makers: Volunteers June through August

Deacon on call for June: Mary Baucher

EACH SUNDAY

No Classes during the summer starting Jun 6

9:30a Worship 9:30a starting Jun 6

7p Worship at Casa de Modesto

WEEKLY

Office hours - Mon thru Fri 8:30-11:30a & 12:30-4p

Quiet Place open: Mon-Wed: 7a-4p; Fri 8:30a-4p; Sat 9-12

Sun 7a-12:30p

Yoga class: Mon 7-8p

Pastors' usual Sabbath Day out of office: Tuesday

Senior Fitness: Tue & Thu 11-12a

SERRV shop open: 10a-noon Sat & Sun after worship

IN THE DAYS AHEAD

Articles for next *Chimes* due Fri, Jun 4

Next *Chimes* mailed Jun 8 & 22

Thu Jun 27 Men's Group at Denny's 6a

Thu Jun 27 & Jul 3 Knitting Ministry at Baucher home 2p

May 28-31 Opening Camp at Peaceful Pines

Thu May 31 Office closed for Memorial Day

Sun Jun 6 Graduate recognition Sunday

Hoover family reunion, Eldon's 95th birthday

Thu Jun 10 Senior Ministry noon BBQ at Johnson home

Sat Jun 12 Graffiti clean-up 9a

Sun Jun 13 Lite lunch and council meeting after worship

Jun 13-17 Kids Peace Camp/VBS

Sun Jun 20 Father's Day BBQ following worship

Jun 27-Jul 3 Youth Camp

Sun Aug 15 All-church picnic at Martinez home