



The Chimes

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Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

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

Good News From the Search Committee!

By now you have heard the good news that the Search Committee has agreed that they have an excellent candidate for our full-time Pastor position. Because the Chimes is posted on our website, which is open to the public, we can't name the candidate here, but it is all right to share some of the qualities that drew the committee to this candidate.

One very important factor in selecting this person to interview is the expressed desire to be part of an open and affirming congregation. The prospective pastoral candidate is interested in reaching out to the neighborhood and considers hospitality to be a spiritual gift.

Other qualities that drew the committee to this candidate include a good sense of humor, the ability to deal with conflict constructively, and relating with people of different age groups.

We will meet the prospective pastor candidate and family the weekend of March 29-31. Please save these dates! There will be opportunities to visit and get acquainted before the Sunday worship service, at which the prospective pastor will give the sermon and the children's story. Following the worship service, the congregation will vote whether or not to accept this candidate as our pastor. **Until the vote makes it official, please keep the identity of this pastor candidate confidential.**

Coming Soon: Candidate & Family Visit

We are pleased to announce a weekend visit on March 29 - 31 by our Pastoral Candidate and family! We want everyone to have a chance to get acquainted, so we've provided several options to 'chew and chat' with the whole family. Please choose a time to come and connect informally before it's time to vote. Stay tuned for further updates!

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE for Meet & Greet Weekend

Friday, 3/29 6:30 - 8:00 Drop in for Dessert & Dialogue (Special invitation to youth & families)
Saturday, 3/30 10:00 -12:00 Finger Food & Fellowship
1:30 - 3:00 Board and Commissions confer with candidate
Sun, 3/31 9:30 - 10:30 Informal conversation (no Sunday School)
10:30 - 10:50 Coffee time together
11:00 - 12:00 Worship (Sermon & Children's story by candidate)
12:05 - Brief Council Meeting for vote followed by light lunch

Invitations to Worship

Sunday, March 17: "Preparing a Table."

Read Psalms 23.

Imagine green pastures and still waters. Our unhurried God is present with us in the good times and the scary times. How's that been working for you?

Sunday, March 24, we're "Tuning In" to the story of Mary and Martha, from Luke 10:38-42. Martha was busy...Mary chose to be still, to tune in to Jesus. The point? Work is not bad, but we need times to connect with God.
~Stephen Reddy



Greeters for March:

March 17th--Bill Johnson & Caleb Katen

March 24th--Ed & Ann Marie Washington

March 31st--Eddie & Gayle Hernandez

Deacon on Call for March:

Marye Martinez

Hold in God's Light

Fran Atkins, in remembering Gloria Hiatt, appreciated Gloria's welcoming her to church and valued her friendship. Marye Martinez asks us to remember Gloria's daughters as they grieve the loss of their mother.

Rejoice that Terhesa Gamboa was able to attend church this week, after an illness. She has also been caring for her sister and her dog.

Mimsie Farrar asks that we keep Ken Schroder in our prayers as he has had stents placed in his heart and is recovering from the procedure. He would appreciate cards. Also, she asks that we remember her father as he has completed chemo.

Sara Miller thanks the congregation for the cards received after her mother's death. She, Steve, TJ, John, and Romy are all traveling to Pennsylvania for the memorial. Afterward, Steve and the boys will be driving back to California in a moving truck, helping Sara's brother Kevin to move. Keep the whole Miller/Mueller family in your prayers.

Marye Martinez reminds us to pray for Maryco Groff after the loss of her husband Phil Reffle and her move to a care home at 2800 Catala Way, Modesto, CA 95356. She would appreciate cards and visits.

Marye also reminds us that Norman Johnson is no longer able to attend church and would appreciate cards and visits, but only if you are well! Norman's son Norval is caring for him and wants to keep him healthy.



Keep Michael Fletcher in your prayers as he faces treatment for cancer. You may send cards to him at:

43100 Palm Royale Drive
Apt. 1024 La Quinta, CA 92253

Keep Dan Galt and his family in your prayers as he is receiving treatment for cancer. Cards may be sent to:

2550 Sycamore Lane Unit 1D
Davis, CA. 95616

Joann Ewert rejoices that the Habitat Concert was a success; Stephen Reddy reported that the offering for the work of Habitat for Humanity was \$6600.

From Karen Cosner: "On behalf of John and myself I want to thank our church family for the kind words, cards and prayers that you have shared with us during this difficult time of John's journey into Parkinson's dementia. I am no longer able to care for him at home and he now resides in the memory care section of Hospitality House in Salida. I cannot express to you how much your support has meant during this difficult time."

With Love, Karen Cosner



OUR LENTEN SOJOURN A SHORT LIST OF EVENTS

- ❖ Prayer Time Together, every Tuesday of Lent, 10 AM-10:30 AM in the Sanctuary, Bring your church directory to pray for others.
- ❖ Lenten Book Study, March 21, 28, April 4, 11, 6 PM-7:30 PM. Read and discuss "The Last Week" by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.
- ❖ Labyrinth Walk, Sun., April 14th 10 AM
- ❖ Love Feast, 6 PM Maundy Thursday, April 18
- ❖ Palm Sunday, April 14
- ❖ Easter Sunday, April 21: Breakfast, Egg Hunt, Worship
- ❖

Lenten Theme:

"Connecting to Our Unhurried God"

Individual Activities

You are invited to designate a chair that will be your Prayer Chair for Lent.

Find a time when you can go to the chair for about 10 minutes, perhaps light a candle, and spend time in prayer and meditation.

Have your God Box near your Prayer Chair. Write your worries on small strips of paper and insert them into the God Box, giving up control/letting go of what you cannot control into the care of God.





Calling all Prospectors and Friends!
 March 17, St. Patrick's Day, after church.
 We'll gather at the home of Bill and Margaret Johnson, 3504 Sagewood Ct. Modesto, 522-0746 Bring a dish to share.
 Come for some great food and friendly conversation!



Don't forget to use the special One Great Hour of Sharing envelope to bring your special offering next Sunday, March 17!

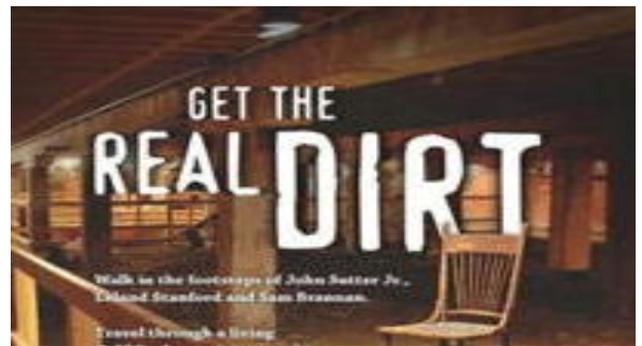


~From the Witness Commission

The first Sock Box is almost full to overflowing! Keep those socks coming! The Sock Boxes will be in the narthex until Good Friday. If all the boxes are full before then, we will deliver the socks to the Shower Shuttle, and put the boxes back to be filled with socks again! Remember, homeless people need new socks!



F.U.N. night for families with children from K to 6th grade will be Friday, March 15 at 6 PM. Come for food, fellowship and FUN!



Senior Ministries Old Sacramento
 Underground Tour

By now, you have signed up and paid for the Underground Tour--or you haven't! If you are paid up, don't forget that we meet at the church at 8:00 AM on Thursday, March 21 and leave promptly at 8:15. Be sure to wear walking shoes and bring a jacket! After the tour we will have lunch at a restaurant to be determined, in Sacramento. Questions? Call Felton Daniels @ 614-6825.





From Fellowship and Recreation:

Thank you to all who attended our Wing Ding Sunday. Thanks to your generosity, we covered our expenses and there will be some left to go toward replacing the metal carts in the kitchen. These carts are 31 years old and are showing their age, but they have served us well.

We really have some great Chicken Dancers in our congregation! It looked like you had some fun teaching some of the younger children.

Fellowship & Recreation is hard at work planning our next event, Easter Brunch and Egg Hunt. It's only 5 weeks away. There will be a sign up for this event so we can have enough eggs filled for the children at the egg hunt.

We need you to sign up for brunch as well, so we have brunch ready for all. Be thinking now about extended family members and neighborhood children who might like to come and join us both for brunch and egg hunt. Watch for the signup in the narthex that will go up a few weeks prior to Easter.~Sue



From Building and Grounds:

We are getting close to spring, so it is time for the semi-annual All Church Clean Up (1/2 day) Saturday April 13th. The sign-up poster is in the narthex. The good jobs go quickly! We will have the usual enticements, donuts, maple bars and coffee at 8am. Group picture at 8:45. Work from 9 to noon. At noon we will have a nice lunch. We had a great turnout last year and we look for the same this year.

More news: On Friday, March 8th, the church WiFi routers were upgraded and a new system put into the Gathering Place for better signal reception on all devices. This will be especially important for Family Promise guests, some of whom have been trying to complete homework while sitting on the floor in the hallway, because that was the only place they could get a WiFi signal. New passwords are available for the new system.

~Bill Johnson Building and Grounds 985-0908





The Stanislaus County Interfaith Council
invites you
to join us at a lunch-time discussion to help
plan our 3rd Annual Prayer
Supper, which will feature a Security Forum
for Houses of Worship

Wednesday April 3
12 - 1pm
Cafè Esperanza at

College Avenue United Church of Christ
1341 College Ave, Modesto, CA 95350

Bring a brown bag lunch. The cafe will be open
and serving

coffee and other hot beverages

Agenda: Brainstorming issues of security
and how to help houses of worship feel safer

Interfaith Dialogue and Fellowship

3rd Annual Prayer Supper

www.stanislausinterfaith.org

For more information, contact Luella Cole,
representative from MCoB to SCIC.

**COMING
SOON**

TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE

Play at Gallo Center for the Arts

Sunday, April 28th, 2019-2 pm

Lunch at church-noon

\$20 includes play ticket--plus a potato bar
lunch, chili, and salad.

Sign up with Gayle Howell Hernandez

By Sunday, March 24th, 2019

Make checks payable to "Modesto Church of
the Brethren"

(with Senior Ministries in the memo line)

**Do you have an
announcement you would
like the congregation to
see on the big screen,
before Sunday worship
begins? Please send any
announcements to the
church office at
office@modcob.org by
Wednesday evenings.**

Thank you!

**Thanks to Anita for doing
the slides!**



*Articles and photos for the
next issue of Chimes are
due by Saturday, March 23.*

Email to:

chimes@modcob.org

The Editor thanks you.

The Condensed Calendar

Monday, March 11
6 pm Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 12
10 am Prayer Time Together—Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 13
6 pm Faith Bites
7 pm Choir

Thursday, March 14

Friday, March 15
6 pm F.U.N. Night

Saturday, March 16

Next Sunday, March 17
St. Patrick's Day
9:30 am Sunday Morning Study
11 am Worship
12:30 Prospector Potluck—Johnsons



March 20 First Day of Spring
March 21 8 am Sr. Ministries Trip--
Underground tour of Old Sacramento



April 2 1:30 pm Knitting Group—Pat Royer's
April 3 12 Noon SCIC Lunch Planning Meeting
Café Esperanza, College Ave. UCC
April 13 8 am All Church Work Day
April 14 Palm Sunday
April 16 1:30 pm Knitting Group—Pat Royer's
April 18 6 pm Maundy Thursday/Love Feast
April 19 6 pm F.U.N. Event
April 21 Easter Sunday
April 22 Earth Day
April 28-May 4 Hosting Family Promise
April 28 12 Noon Sr Ministries Event: Lunch
at Church, 2 pm—"Tuesdays With Morrie"
at the Gallo Center



May 5 12:30 Prospector's Potluck—Forcier's
May 7 1:30 pm Knitting Group—Pat Royer's
May 11 2 pm Mothers' and Friends' Tea
May 12 Mothers' Day
May 12 12:15 Witness Commission meeting
May 17 6 pm F.U.N. Event
May 21 1:30 pm Knitting Group—Pat Royer's
May 27 Memorial Day—Office Closed

