



# The Chimes

May 23, 2017  
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## Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Ministers: Everyone in the congregation

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

### Reflections on why we do what we do. Part Two: The Order of Worship

Recently someone commented that we have been following the same worship service order as long as that person could remember. If you attend a service in another Brethren church you will probably see the same elements in about the same sequence. Let me offer an explanation by telling what I think the various parts of the service provide.

Here at the Modesto CoB we choose to include **announcements** as part of our worship service because they furnish further opportunities for folks to be aware of activities providing fellowship, spiritual growth, and service projects, all of which support the mission of this church. During the **prelude**, which comes next, we can quiet ourselves and center our thoughts on the reason we have gathered, that is, to worship God. This is when the acolytes bring in the lit tapers to symbolize the presence of the Light of the World with us.

The **Call to Worship**, is just that; a call for us to be ready to worship God. Sometimes the Call is a piece of music or a leader speaking and the congregation responding. Or it might just be the leader seeking our attention.

A **hymn or song of praise** usually follows the Call just before the **Invocation** which summons, invites or invokes the presence of God.

(See how this is all flowing along? It builds from within one's self reaching outward to God.)

Our church has chosen to have a **time with children**, partly because Jesus told us to bring the little ones to him and not ignore them, and partly because we realize how important children

are to our church family. An age appropriate challenge, thought or story is presented to help developing minds and hearts make connections with daily experiences and the teachings of Jesus. The children are encouraged to respond, often with understanding that might be surprising to adults. We all learn something.

An important part of our relationship with each other in this church family comes next during the **Sharing of Joys and Concerns and Morning Prayer**. Individuals are invited to express thanksgivings and joys for such things as a new life, an answer to prayer or to request prayers for healing, making decisions and the like. As each person shares, a candle is lighted symbolizing our prayerful support of that person. We also light a candle recognizing the longings, joys and supplications that are in our hearts and not orally shared. The Pastor or worship leader offers a spoken prayer on behalf of all gathered. We pray for each other as a community locally and globally as well as individually. The candles remain lit for the remainder of the service reminding us of what has been shared.

Often there is a **special musical number**. We recognize that the Spirit of God speaks to us in many ways and through the harmony of music is one of them. Because the music is being presented as an act of worship, we usually do not applaud the musicians, but receive the message in a prayerful manner.

While hearing **scriptures** read, we trust the Spirit to open our minds and hearts to what the Bible is teaching us. The pastor then helps us make connections between these teachings and our situations in modern times in the **sermon or homily**. The speaker urges us to reflect on our own journeys of understanding and practicing

these lessons while challenging us to actions following the way of Jesus.

The **offering** not only helps support the various activities of our local congregation, but reach out through our denomination to the global community. It is a mark of our willingness to follow Jesus' teachings of serving others, bringing about justice and mercy, acknowledging the importance of all God's creation.

The **closing hymn** is often tied directly to the lesson of the day or is an assurance of God's presence with us as we leave the gathered community. It is during this time the acolytes carry the Light of Christ back through the congregation, reminding us of our responsibility to be light in the world.

The pastor or speaker then pronounces a **benediction**, a prayer of blessing, as we leave the presence of each other.

We use this sequence for many of our services to keep a logical, harmonious flow to the worship time in the awareness that, by doing so, we more easily provide open, calm minds with which to hear the Spirit speaking to us.

Nancy Bupp-Worship Committee

## Invitations to Worship



### May 28 - Because God Cares for You 1 Peter 5:6-11

We will have a guest speaker this Sunday. Reverend David Williams has been a pastor for 20 years and is currently Chaplain and Work/Life Coach for the Turlock Police Department.

### June 4 - I will pour out my Spirit Acts 2:14-17

The Women's Book Group is planning and leading worship on a Pentecost theme. Amid division in relationships, churches or society, may we remember that the gift of Pentecost brings us together. You are encouraged to wear flame colors—red, orange or yellow, to church on June 4. Graduate recognition and a reception, too!



## Hold in the Light

### Words of hope from 1 Peter:5

"God cares for you so turn your worries over to him."

**Phyllis Harvey** peacefully passed away May 19, 2017 in the presence of her family. Our congregation has indeed been blessed by Phyllis' long life of calm, dedicated love and committed service to others. There will be a memorial service celebrating Phyllis on June 8th at 12:00. The family invites attendees to stay and visit during a lunch following the service.

We are thankful for the 90 year milestone birthday **Fran Adkins** observed recently. Her presence in our congregation is a blessing.

Congratulations to **Maddy Beth Hardy** for her excellent achievements that led to her becoming Valedictorian of her class at Hart Ransom School! We celebrate goals met for **all graduating students**.

**Sara Miller** shared the joy of her great grandniece gaining enough weight to be able to come home on Mother's Day.

**Luella Cole's** grandson, 12 year old **Will Johnson** was diagnosed with Crohn's disease. We remember him in prayer as he and his family make changes in diet to ease his symptoms

**Terhesa Gamboa** reminded us to pray for first responders of our community, especially when there is a sudden death within the departments of police, sheriff or firefighters.

**Rita Matthew** thanks us for our prayers for her youngest granddaughter, **Kristi**. Her tests came back negative for cancer!

**Tammy Firch** shared her joy of being able to complete a walk for mental health in Sacramento. She has participated for several years and is thankful to be able to help bring about changes through awareness to communities in the area.

**Cal Aukeman** asks our prayers on behalf of his brother, **Mel**, who has declining mobility and physical abilities.

As the school year winds down, pray for **teachers and students**. It is a stressful time for many with difficult decisions to be made, much paperwork to be finished and many separations to be faced.

Let us remember **all those** around the world who are living in **exile** because of their faith.



**Deacon on Call for May:**  
**Dan Galt**

## In the Days Ahead



### Summer Potluck

Well, summer is soon arriving and that means the end of our prepared Faith Bites meals until fall. Wednesday, May 24th will be a potluck and our last Faith Bites before summer (no Faith Bites on May 31st).

Summer Potlucks will be the first and third Wednesdays of June, July and August.

Mexican Food is the theme picked for the first Summer Potluck, so get out the hot sauce and salsa and bring your favorite Mexican food!

Below us the schedule of Summer Potlucks:

June 7 Mexican Night

June 21

July 5

July 19

August 2

August 16

See you there!

-Sue Messamer for Fellowship and Recreation



### Pancake Breakfast

For one of the best pancake breakfasts put on by any organization, show up on Sunday morning, June 4th in the Gathering Place! The Modesto Peace/Life Center is putting on their annual fundraiser with an extensive menu of homemade breakfast favorites. Tickets can be purchased at the event: \$10 adults, \$5 children. Serving begins at 8am until noon. Please use the entrance on the North side near the parking lot.

### Ladies' Night Out

Friends - We've set out next LNO gathering for Thursday, June 8 at 5:00. Get your tastebuds ready for some Italian food at **Pastas Pronto**, located at 2509 Coffee Rd. Please let me know if I may count you in for some fine food and even finer fellowship.-Linda Owen

## Items to Note

### Thank You

To all of you who have been greeters on Sunday morning, I give you a blessed thank you. You make people feel so welcome. Your smile is the first image a visitor has of our congregation, and I can't express enough how very important you are. If you would like to be a greeter, and I have somehow overlooked you, give me a call or e-mail and I imagine I can find a slot for you on the schedule! Thanks again, Jolinda Reddy

### Annual Conference 2017

Grand Rapids, Michigan is the site for this year's annual denominational conference. The theme which Moderator Carol Scheppard has chosen is "Risk Hope". Her own hopes for conference, June 28-July 2, are, "that our business be conducted as worship." More info at: [www.brethren.org/ac](http://www.brethren.org/ac)

## Camp Peaceful Pines

As you plan your summer family vacation remember the great opportunities for making and renewing connections available through our church's camping programs.

June 9 - 11 Women's Retreat

June 16-18 Men's Retreat by popular demand

July 7-9 Couples' Camp back by popular program

June 27-July 2 Discovery Camp for newbies

July 16-21 Jr/Jr High/ Youth Camp

July 21-26 Family Camp

NEW July 28-30 Gourmet Cooking Camp

August 18-29 Closing Camp

More details and photos can be found at the camp website: [www.camppeacefulpines.org](http://www.camppeacefulpines.org).



### Loop Slides

Those wanting a slide made for the announcement loop: Information is due to NancyB, by the Wednesday before the you want the slide shown. Note SLIDE FOR LOOP in the subject line then email to: [chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org)

### Features for *The Chimes*

Articles and photos for the next issue of Chimes are due by Thursday, June 1, 2017

Use article name in the subject line and email to: [chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org)

The Editor thanks you.



## The Condensed Calendar

### Hosting Family Promise — May 21<sup>st</sup> – May 27<sup>th</sup>

9:30a Sunday School – Jr. High-adult

(5<sup>th</sup> grade and under welcome in the nursery with Shaun and Kelly!)

11a Worship

12:15p Youth set-up Family Promise & lunch – focus on service

12:15 Prospector Potluck – Forcier's

### Monday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5

### Tuesday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5

11a Sr. Fitness

### Wednesday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5

6p Faith Bites - Potluck

7:00p Choir

### Thursday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5

### Friday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5

### Saturday-

### Next Sunday – May 28<sup>th</sup>

9:30a Sunday School – Jr. High-adult

(5<sup>th</sup> grade and under welcome in the nursery with Shaun and Kelly!)

11a Worship

### IN THE NEAR FUTURE

May 29 Memorial Day – office closed

May 31 7:45a Sr. Ministries trip –

Dan Johnson's Soquel gardens

June 4 - Pentecost-Wear red, orange or yellow!

Graduate recognition and reception after worship

June 4 Modesto Peace Life Center – Pancake Breakfast

June 9-11 Camp Peaceful Pines-Women's Retreat

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 16-18 Men's Retreat

June 19-23 Peace Week

June 23 6p Family Enrichment Night

June 25 12:15p Prospector Potluck

June 28-July 2 Annual Conference

June 28-July 2 Discovery Camp

July 4 Office Closed

July 6 12p Sr. Ministries Event – Thailand

July 14 6p Family Enrichment

July 21-26 Family Camp

July 28-30 Gourmet Cooking Camp

