



# The Chimes

June 20, 2017  
Volume 17 Number 13

## Modesto Church of the Brethren

2301 Woodland Avenue, Modesto, CA 95358-9501 (209)523-1438

fax: 209-523-1469 ♦ e-mail: [office@modcob.org](mailto:office@modcob.org) ♦ web site: [www.modcob.org](http://www.modcob.org)

Ministers: Everyone in the Congregation

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

## Reflections

### Greetings to all the sisters and brothers at the Modesto Church.

I am looking forward to serving as your interim pastor beginning July 26. In the meantime I'd like to share a little bit about myself and my hopes for my time at the Modesto Church of the Brethren. I was pleased to meet so many of you at the June 7 potluck dinner and hope you won't hold it against me if I don't remember all your names. For those who weren't able to be there, I am a second career minister, licensed in 1994 about two weeks before my fortieth birthday. I have served churches in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Michigan before moving to La Quinta, California two years ago with my wife Becky to be close to our daughters and granddaughters. When John Jackson tragically passed away, Russ Matteson asked me if I would serve as interim pastor at the Glendale Church of the Brethren. I will be concluding that service at the end of June and then traveling to Michigan and Pennsylvania to visit friends and family before beginning my service at Modesto.

I'm looking forward to getting to know both the people and the ministry of the church and want to get started as soon as I can. One way that I am hoping to do that is by starting a time of Coffee and Conversation on the second Saturday of each month. The concept is that we will have a topic of conversation and gather for coffee (and maybe a treat or two). I've done this at some of my previous stops and it's been extremely helpful to me in getting to know the congregation and also in developing meaningful ministries. The first two of

these gathers will be as follows:

Saturday, August 12 - 9:00a - Topic: Grill the Pastor. This is an opportunity to ask me anything you want. I won't promise to answer everything, but you can still ask.

Saturday, September 9 - 9:00a - Topic: Vital Ministry Journey. I hope to hear from everyone about their experiences in this process. Again, I look forward to joining with you in ministry around the end of July and, in the meantime, please feel free to contact me via email at [mfletch21625@aol.com](mailto:mfletch21625@aol.com).

Peace and blessings, Michael Fletcher

## Invitations to Worship



**June 25-Youth Sunday**

**Matthew 15: 25-34 NRSV**

**The Greatest Story Ever Told**

The youth will bring us a fresh perspective on the life and trials of Jesus through one of their favorite literary characters. Prepare to be spellbound.

**July 2 - Genesis 12:1-3**

**Blessed to be a Blessing**

We'll be worshiping with those attending Annual Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan via the CoB webcast. We'll sing, pray and be blessed as we listen to Matthew Fike's message along with sisters and brothers from across our denomination. Please join us.

## Prophet Amos and Social Justice

Two weeks left of the adult class study of Amos. Come to the library on June 26 and July 2 at 9:30am for stimulating discussions on Amos' issues of social justice.-Stephen Reddy

## Healing Prayer Circle

On the last Sunday of each month, from 10:30-11:00, folks can meet in Room 5 for a period of intentional prayer. This gathering offers a time and place to briefly express one's need for prayer, or simply attend and be prayerfully supportive of each other.. The Deacons and Witness and Spiritual Life Commission have organized this monthly function in response to the congregation's requests.

## Hold in the Light



Daily prayers of comfort and strength especially for those grieving the loss of a loved one.

**Alice Melton**

**June 22, 2016**

"What is lovely never dies, but passes into another loveliness, star-dust or sea-foam, flower or winged air". -Thomas Bailey Aldrich

**Francis Lee**

**June 29, 2016**

"There are no goodbyes for us. Wherever you are, you will always be in our hearts". -Mahatma Gandhi

Remember the **Garrison family** in prayer. Ruth is in English Oaks, Room 108A. Visits will help Ruth rebuild her stamina so she can get back on her feet and get strong enough to be at home again.

**Ivan Bowman**, Chuck Messamer's cousin in Wenatchee, WA. is recovering from cataract surgery, but is suffering from some complications

related to breathing. Please remember Ivan in prayers for his healing.

Another loved one needing healing prayer is Eddie Hernandez's brother **Rudy**. He is awaiting diagnosis from what might have been a stroke.

Joanne Ewert asks for prayers for son Steve's coworker, **Eric**, suffering from brain tumors.

Larry Cole shares great joy at the successful open heart surgery which his five year old granddaughter, **Neala**, came through recently. Our prayers are for her total recovery and rebound.

For all **caregivers** surrounding the ailing with support and love, we pray for strength as they comfort and uphold these folks.

Traveling mercies for **Tim Shaw** as he journeys to Nashville on business this next week. Also for **Laura Hay** on her way to Manassas, VA for nine weeks as a Brethren Service Worker.

**Bonnie Munson** reminded us of the joy which we as a congregation can feel for all the willing **workers** putting on **Children's Peace Week**; those helping instill in children the hope and ways they can help bring about peace in the world.

## Words of encouragement from Psalms 86:6-7

"Listen closely to my prayer, O God. Hear my urgent cry. I will call to you whenever trouble strikes, and you will help me."

**We rejoice in the love of Christ for each of us and answers to prayers made manifest in so many ways.**

**Deacon on call for June:  
Eddie Hernandez**



## In the Days Ahead

Save  
the  
Date

### Food, Fellowship and Feature Films

Come join us Wednesday, June 21 as we celebrate the first day of summer and according to the weather man it will be a hot first day of summer. Our food theme for this night will be Chinese dishes. Following potluck the Worship Committee will be presenting the movie **HIDDEN**

**FIGURES** at 6:50 in the sanctuary .

Then on July 5th we will celebrate Xmas in July so get out your recipe box and prepare your favorite holiday dishes. No movie this time.

July 19th will be Italian night. Come join us for Italian sodas and your favorite Italian dishes.

The movie for this date is **LION**.

Hoping to see you all there. -Sue Messamer,  
Fellowship and Recreation



### **HIDDEN FIGURES** synopsis

This movie tells the incredible previously untold story of three brilliant African-American women working at NASA who served as the brains behind the launch into orbit of astronaut John Glenn, a stunning achievement that turned around the Space Race. These visionary women overcame gender and racial discrimination, and are an inspiration for all time. The showing will be at **6:50 in the sanctuary on June 21**, with a discussion following. Rated PG.



### **FAMILY UNITY NIGHT**

Everyone is invited to join us for a celebration and recap of Peace Week on the 21st of June. Come see the banner the kids will make to be used for future events, and other things. Time is 6-8pm in

the Gathering Place. Lots of thought, energy and congregational involvement are going into the planning and manning of Peace Week making its lessons and fun a memory the kids will take with them for years to come. Your support is appreciated!

## Items to Note

### We need your help!

With the imminent arrival of Pastor Mike at the end of July we are in a quandary about housing for him. He will need an apartment, a house, or a mother-in-law-cottage for at least seven months. Most helpful would be a place that's furnished, has WiFi access and laundry.



If you own such a place or know of one, or have another idea for possible housing, please, please call the church office or speak with Karen Cosner. We are blessed to have Mike as our interim pastor and need to have a place for him to call home for his sojourn with us!

### **Men's groups joint barbecue**

On Saturday  
June 3rd the  
Tuesday and  
Saturday  
mornings men's  
groups met  
together for a



backyard barbecue with spouses in attendance . Each gathering normally takes a break for the summer and resume in September. Both groups are open and encourage new members. If interested in the Saturday morning group, please contact Steve Reddy for more information. These men meet at the church on 1st and 3rd Saturdays at 8:30am and have a potluck breakfast. If interested in the Thursday morning group you

are encouraged to contact either Bill Johnson or Dave Owens. This group meets at Perko's at 7am on 1st and 3rd Thursdays ( possibly changing to Wednesdays in the fall ) Both men's groups have been active and meeting for many years.

### Senior Ministries

For those of us who have retired fairly recently, Phyllis Harvey's name has been mentioned often with the topic of the early years of Senior Ministry. Some folks remembered her as being instrumental in starting Senior Ministry. Searching old records for our group, it was found that she was, indeed, the first Senior Ministry Coordinator, starting in 1994. There was a formal job description for this volunteer position. She was to work with the pastor, Bonnie Kline Smeltzer, and a senior ministry council (Lois Northup, Max Bashor, Thelma VanAntwerpen, Bob Baucher, Jo Heckman and Neva Forney) The new program was set up to reach out to seniors and meet a variety of needs. Records show that many interesting programs and trips were organized, some with large attendance. Twenty-three years later, this program has changed in structure, but we are still providing activities and programs every month for Modesto Church of the Brethren seniors and friends. What an honor it is to follow in Phyllis Harvey's footsteps.  
Current Senior Ministry Committee:  
Rita Matthews, Trish Galt, Karleen Daniels, Linda Owen, Co-chair, Margaret Johnson, Co-chair

### MCOB Going Green!

For several years, MCOB's scrap paper and yard waste has been put into two green toters, like the ones all Modesto citizens use for compostable waste. Soon a green trash can like this one will appear in the Gathering Place, along with a sign to remind us of what can be put in it. Anything the city allows to be put into the green toters can be discarded in this green can. It will have a bag in it, to keep the can

clean, but the bag will need to be emptied into the green toter.

As most Modesto citizens know, the contents of all the green toters go to a compost-making facility on Jennings Road. According to the City of Modesto website, "The compost facility receives approximately 200 tons of community yard waste (grass, leaves, brush and tree trimmings), food scraps, cardboard, and paper products each day. Yard waste is high in nitrogen and is mixed with chipped branches to add carbon content. After grinding, the chips are placed into rows (windrows) and further processed by watering and turning. The internal row temperatures range from 132 to 150 degrees, which kills weed seeds and bacteria. After about three to five months, the result is a humus-like product ready for use. The material is combined together to make Modesto's own Mo-Gro-Pro, a clean green compost. The compost is sold back to the community in 1 cubic foot bags or in bulk quantities."

Look for our new green compost can and help make MCOB green!  
-Luella Cole for the Witness Commission

### Camp Peaceful Pines Reminders

Check out the Camp Peaceful Pines website for upcoming camping opportunities:  
[camppeacefulpines.org](http://camppeacefulpines.org)

### Highlighting JUNIOR-YOUTH CAMP July 16-21

You won't want to miss this year's camp experience planned with you in mind! Ken and Bonnie Smeltzer and Kim and Jim Boardman are leaders with counselors from McPherson College. How can you go wrong? A week packed full of activities: hiking inventing and playing games, exploring, eating, being crafty, making friends, building community, singing, praying and loving



nature. Branch Out: Connecting Through Christ is the theme.

Early Bird Special by June 27th is \$189.

Remember, there are scholarships to help with costs because we believe this is an important life experience and we don't want anyone to miss out!

### Loop Slides

Those wanting a slide made for the announcement loop: information is due to NancyB, by the Wednesday before you want the slide shown. You may include a logo or photo along with the much needed who, what, when, where info. Note SLIDE FOR LOOP in the subject line then email to: [chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org)



### Chimes Reminder

Articles and photos for the next issue of Chimes are due by Thursday, June 29, 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

### Tuesday- June 20

#### 9-12 Kids Peace Week All Week

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 Summer Supper Potluck  
6:50p Movie night - HIDDEN FIGURES

### Thursday-

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

### Friday-

8:30a-4p The Quiet Place open in Rm. 5  
6p Family Enrichment night Peace Week recap  
All invited

### Saturday-

### Next Sunday – June 25<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 Prospector Potluck – Daniel's

### IN THE NEAR FUTURE

#### Scholarships available for Campers!

June 28-July 2 Annual Conference  
June 28-July 2 Discovery Camp  
July 4 Office Closed  
July 6 12p Sr. Ministries Event – Thailand - Pam Franklin  
July 14 6p Family Enrichment  
July 19 Summer Supper Potluck — Italian theme  
6:50 Movie Night -LION  
July 21-26 Family Camp  
July 28-30 Gourmet Cooking Camp

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

August 2 Summer Supper Potluck  
August 3 10:15am Matinee at Sierra Rep, lunch in Standard  
August 13 All Church Birthday Party  
August 16 Summer Supper Potluck  
August 20-26 Hosting Family Promise  
August 26 Camp Closing  
September 4 Office closed – Labor Day  
September 10 All Church Picnic