



# The Chimes

August 1, 2017  
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## Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Ministers: Every one in the Congregation

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

## Reflections

### A Thought about Prayer

A very busy man decided to take some time to reflect at a monastery. A monk showed him to his quarters and said, "Let us know if you need anything, and we'll teach you how to live without it."

We live in a very consumerist society. Every day we are bombarded with hundreds of advertisements telling us that we are or at least we should be unsatisfied with the way our lives are, but not to worry, satisfaction is just one purchase away. It's been my conviction that one of the great problems with our culture is that the gap between our wants and our needs is ever narrowing, making it easier to justify our purchases. (Maybe the reason I feel this way is that I'm often guilty of this offense.)

It occurs to me that all this makes our prayer life very difficult. We're taught to take all our concerns to God in prayer, so we ask God to supply us with all our needs. I can't help but think the words Janis Joplin sang: "Oh Lord, won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz, my friends all drive Porsches and I must make amends." But when God doesn't grant our requests, doesn't buy us that Mercedes Benz, what does that mean? Maybe it means that God is going to teach us how to live without all the things that we "need". — Michael Fletcher

## Invitations to Worship

### August 6—"Dancing with the Divine" 1 John 4:7-21

The standard image of God is that of a human, most often a father. But there are others, we'll consider at least one other way of seeing God, that as a creative force that flows through the universe and invites us to join in.

### August 13—"Who is this Man?" Philippians 2:1-11

Orthodox doctrine tells us that Jesus was fully human and fully divine, but that concept is difficult to fathom. Usually the humanity of Jesus gives way to his divinity. This Sunday we focus in on the humanity, considering that Jesus had a profound effect on this world even if he wasn't divine.

**Annual Conference Wrap-up report**  
**Sunday, August 6th at 9:30**, find out from those who attended Annual Conference what issues were discussed and their outcomes. Kim and Jim Boardman were our delegates and will be bringing us vital information of denominational importance. Look for the meeting venue on the whiteboard in the main entryway The adult Sunday School class which meets in the library with Jim Martinez will be canceled so all can attend the conference informational time.



## Hold in the Light



**Daisy Singh**

August 9, 2016

"Unable are the loved to die, for love is immortality"-Emily Dickinson

Let us remember to pray for comfort those who grieve the loss of loved ones and for a greater awareness of God's presence when we feel alone.

We give thanks for healing of bodies and spirits, for unexpected ways in which we are helped, for times of relaxation and wonder in the great outdoors.

We rejoice for new occupational opportunities and safe travel, for reaching milestones and being able to celebrate birthdays and accomplishments.

We pray for strength when facing seemingly unsurmountable difficulties and for faith in God to lead us through them difficult times.

We pray for our congregation that we may continually seek to be Christ's church. That we learn to challenge anything that takes life away from people and find ways to give life back to all people. May we learn to choose sacrifice over comfort and teach Christ's way by modeling it.

### Words of encouragement

from Romans 8:28 "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

## Deacon on Call for August:

**Gayle Hernandez**



## In the Days Ahead



### Potluck and Reception

Don't forget to join us on Wednesday, August 2nd for potluck and a movie (**Hidden Figures**). The food theme will be Comfort Foods. What would you prepare if the kids were coming home for dinner or what would you want Mom to prepare if you were going home for dinner. Have fun sharing memories of your comfort dish. And bring plenty to share!-Fellowship and Recreation

### Church friends,

The trip to Sonora to see the Sierra Repertory Theatre's "The Great American Trailer Park Musical" is coming up August 3. Chuck and Diana Messamer are not able to use their tickets (\$26 each). If you or a friend would like these tickets, please contact me.-Margaret Johnson-522-0746 or 404-4287.

### Marriage Celebration

You're invited to a reception for Kelly and Shaun Gepley as they begin their lives as a married couple. Rather than gifts they have asked to have a money tree with funds going toward a late honeymoon There will also be a box for cards. So come join us for lunch and the reception following morning worship on Sunday, August 6th.-Fellowship and Recreation



### "Grill the Pastor"-his words

Come to the Gathering Place on Saturday, August 12th for a time of coffee and conversation with Pastor Micheal Fletcher. Find out about his journey; hear his story; ask questions. Here's a great chance to get to know him.





Our next hosting week is August 20-26. Be looking for the NEW sign-up board and choose your hosting opportunity! Especially consider being an overnight host. This seems to be the area of greatest need when it comes to hosting chores.

### August 16th Movie Night Synopsis



**Moonlight:** This Academy award-winning drama depicts the life of a Chiron, a young gay African-American, from his childhood years through adulthood. It chronicles the challenges he faces in the struggle to find his place in the world while growing up in a rough neighborhood in Miami. (R rating - 1 hour 50 minutes) Join us in the sanctuary on Wednesday, August 16th at 6:50pm after potluck supper and clean up. There will be a chance for discussion following the movie.



### August 20th Youth Pool Party

Come join us for an end-of-summer youth pool party. We'll be welcoming any new 7th graders and any returning youth members at the get together plus celebrate the start of school! Directly after Family Promise set up we'll head out for Megan's house. Times? 12:30-2:30pm. Bring your towels, swimsuits and of course be ready for a good time!

### FUN-Family Unity Night

Join us one Friday evening each month from 6-8pm for cooking, arts, games music, family discussion and prayer all to engage children and parents



playing, thinking and learning together. On August 25th the focus will be Self-Awareness: Who Am I (Love your neighbor as yourself.) Activities are geared for Kindergarten-5th graders though all aged siblings are welcomed along with at least one parent. For more information and to reserve your place at the dinner table contact us at (209) 523-1438 or [office@modcob.org](mailto:office@modcob.org)

### A message to those returning to school

"Every child you pass in the hall has a story that needs to be heard. Maybe you are the one to hear it"- Bethany Hill

As students and teachers return to school it is a great time to reflect on how Christ can live through us in our day to day life. School can be a very bitter sweet time for most, but it is never something that has to be done alone. We, the congregation, are here for returning students and teachers. Remember as you're in the hall, don't miss the stories which need to be heard!

-Tera Thayer for Christian Education

### Announcement Loop Slides

Please get the announcement information to NancyB, by the Wednesday before you want the slide shown. Include logo or photo, if you wish and tell who, what, when, where. Note SLIDE FOR LOOP in the subject line, then email to:

[chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org)

### *The Chimes*

Articles and photos for the next issue of Chimes are due by Thursday, August 10th. 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-**

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

### **Wednesday-**

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

6p Summer Supper Potluck & Movie Night –

### **Hidden Figures**

### **Thursday-**

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

10:15a Trip to Matinee at Sierra Rep and  
lunch at Standard Pour

### **Friday-**

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

### **Next Sunday – August 6<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**

August 12 9a Coffee & Conversation  
Grill the Pastor

August 16 Summer Supper Potluck and  
Movie Night – Moonlight  
(mature audiences)

August 20 12:30p-2:30p Youth Pool Party –  
Mizuno Home

August 20-26 Hosting Family Promise

August 26 Camp Closing

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

September 4 Office closed – Labor Day

September 10 All Church Picnic

September 28 12p Senior Ministries –  
Great Britain

October 7 8a All Church work day