



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.

Compelling Vision Discussion

Join the Conversation on February 3

By Russ Matteson, District Executive Minister
Pacific Southwest District

The Church of the Brethren is engaged in a denomination-wide conversation this year called the "Compelling Vision". Conversations began at Annual Conference last summer, will continue in districts and with various constituency groups through the fall and winter, and culminate at Annual Conference in 2019. We are committed to engaging as many people as possible in the process, providing opportunities for individuals to give voice to their passions and concerns, listen to one another, and work together to identify common threads and themes that might point to a shared and compelling vision.

AC Moderator Donita Kiester will be leading us in the conversation process on **Sunday, February 3, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Modesto congregation.** Members from other Brethren congregations in Northern California are invited to join in the conversation at Modesto. Plan to arrive about 1:15 to get settled in so we are ready to begin at 1:30. Reservations are not required, but if you are planning to attend please let us know with an email to frontdesk@pswdcob.org so we are sure to have enough copies of materials.

As we embark on this journey together, it is our prayer that: our relationships with one another will be strengthened and deepened, transcending points of disagreement; we will be able to celebrate the ongoing presence and activity of God's Spirit at work among us; we will be open to what God is calling us to do together as Christ's disciples; the vision ultimately articulated will lay claim to our hearts and our minds, our imaginations and our spirits, shaping our identity and inspiring our ministry at the congregational level, the district level, and the denominational level; and we will wholeheartedly embrace the challenge set before us by that vision, affirming contextual creativity as we actively seek to embody that vision.

Invitations to Worship

January 20: "Why Does God Love Us?"

Please read Deuteronomy 6:1-9 and John 13:31-35. God's intent is for us to pass God's love on and not keep it for ourselves.

Who is Don Smith? you ask. Actually, it's Rev. Dr. Don Smith. He's a friend, whose wife and I rang handbells together with Opus Handbell Ensemble. Don is an ordained minister with the Presbyterian Church USA.
~Stephen Reddy

January 27: Will You Let Me Be Your Servant? Text: John 13:1-17

Kim Boardman will bring the message:
Following the example of Jesus as he washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to be both servants and the served.



Keep John and Karen Cosner in your prayers. John has been hospitalized for a month and is not able to be sent to skilled nursing yet.

John Heisel was in the hospital and is now at English Oaks awaiting further treatment.

David Strohm is no longer able to come to worship, and would appreciate cards.

From the PSWD Prayer Calendar:
Pray on the designated dates for:

January 20 - Casa de Modesto and Hillcrest

Homes, our two retirement communities

January 27 - For the Church of the Brethren
Compelling Vision conversation and the
gatherings in PSWD February 2, 3, and 9

Keep in your prayers all those who grieve,
all those who are lonely, those who are in pain,
and those whose troubles are too deep for
words.



Greeters for January

January 20th: Matt & Anna Hazen,
Emily & Sarah

January 27th: Terhesa Gamboa & Syl Bupp



The youth went ice skating on January 13! They will meet on January 27 to plan for further activities.



How about getting together on Friday,
February 1 at 6 pm for "comfort food" at
Mimi's Restaurant on Dale Road?

Contact Anna Hazen if you will need child
care at the church that night.
**RSVP to Kim Boardman, if you plan to join
us.**



Knitting Group

Knitters (or crocheters) meet on the first and third Tuesday at Pat Royer's apartment, Casa de Modesto Apartment 1004. Bring what you're working on!

Council Meeting/Luncheon January 27 By Sue Messamer

Wow, all you soup makers really came through! I have 9 crocks of soup coming for your dining pleasure at the luncheon before the Council meeting on January 27. If anyone still has a burning desire to make soup but haven't let me know yet, I think a split pea would be a great addition, so if that's your favorite soup to make give me a call: 505-0222.

We have 2 squash, lentil, minestrone with sausage, and for you vegetarians a vegetarian minestrone. We also have potato corn chowder, chili beans, bean soup and chicken tortilla.



We will provide baked ham and Swiss cheese sandwiches and a surprise dessert. To add to the fun there will be a fabulous prize for the person who can guess the original name of the dessert. What more could you want!

Great lunch, Fabulous Prize and most of all an opportunity to be part of discussions and decisions made at Council that will affect YOU.

See you on January 27th. Sue Messamer



Folks, how many of you realize that on March 6th it will be 31 years since we caravanned from Sierra Drive to our beautiful new church? It was quite a day! Many of us took things in our cars to bring to our present church home. After all these years our kitchen is still in remarkable condition thanks to much care by all of us. Thank you for that.

First, a special THANK YOU to the anonymous family who purchased that beautiful new microwave. I think they brought it in the middle of the night some time, because to our surprise we came to the kitchen one morning and there it was, all set-up and ready to go. Please help keep it in perfect condition.

A few things I'd like to point out:
When we were setting up for the holiday dinner we found that one of the white tablecloths is missing. If at some time you borrowed one, please look around your house for it and bring it home. There are no extras, so when we use all 13 large tables we don't have a tablecloth for one of them.
Thanks for checking that out.

That same day while setting up for the holiday dinner we had just enough spoons to set the tables. I know they sometimes accidentally get thrown away, so try to be careful when cleaning up. Since then, I found spoons on sale, so I purchased 36 more, so for now we are good. While we're talking about the silverware, I keep finding odds and ends of silverware in the drawers. I pull them out and donate them, so please don't bring odds and ends to the church. We have plenty of our matched set.

Ladies, we do not need any more tea towels. Sometimes after I or someone else takes them home to launder we can't even get them in the drawers. Plus, I have brand new ones to put out should we need them.

You may have noticed we have two new large carts in the kitchen. I purchased them in a light color so you can see if they need any cleaning after using them. Please help me keep them in good shape. We still have 3 metal ones, which we need for transporting hot food. They really don't look very nice any more and I'm going to try to replace them this year if funds become available.



I seem to be always cleaning out the refrigerator in the kitchen and the walk-in. If you have food left over after an event please take it home or give it away. That would be better than my having to throw it away when I don't know where it came from or how old it is. We don't want to waste food when so many people in our world go hungry. Thanks for your help with that.

Last but not least, it's very important to keep our kitchen clean. We are monitored regularly by the county Environmental Health Agency. They come twice a year for inspection, once by appointment and another surprise visit. They check the refrigerator and walk-in for content and mold. Mold is a constant battle to keep out of the refrigerators but it must be done.

Often I find crumbs on counters that should have been taken care of and so many times the butcher-block table hasn't been cleaned and often it's sticky. I need some help with that.

If you need to talk to me about any of this, feel free.

Again, thank you so much for helping keep our wonderful facility in the shape it's in after 31 years. Hopefully we will enjoy it for yet another 31 years.

See you in the kitchen. ~Sue





The first Family Promise hosting week of 2019 will begin on February 3. You may remember that we usually host in January. This year our January hosting week conflicted with the John McCutcheon concert, so we moved Family Promise to February.

The volunteer sign-up board is up in the narthex, and we already have all the dinners covered except for Sunday dinner. Since that is the first night of the hosting week, it is very important that someone is willing to cook dinner on Sunday, February 3. Many other volunteer tasks are available too. Here is what the sign-up board looked like as of Sunday, January 13:

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dinner (5:30-8:00pm)		Sharon But-E (UU)	Laurie Coleen (UU)	Faith Biles	Mary Ann Alice (UU)	Ted Shawn (UU)	Sara Michael (UU)
Overnight (8:00pm-12:00am)							Luella
Dinner (5:30-8:00pm)							
Overnight (8:00pm-12:00am)			Hugh & Linda		Bill & Margaret		Luella

Please consider signing up! You will meet interesting people and be of service to them. Overnight hosting is especially needed!

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!

Articles and photos for the next issue of Chimes are due by Saturday, January 26.

*Email to: chimes@modcob.org
The Editor thanks you.*

The Condensed Calendar



Monday, January 14, 2019

6:30 pm Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

7 pm John McCutcheon Concert

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

6 pm Faith Bites

7 pm Choir

Thursday, January 17, 2019

Friday, January 18, 2019

Saturday, January 19, 2019

11:30 am Sr. Ministries Event: Meet at Skewers, then on to Heart of the Valley Quilt show at Modesto Centre Plaza

Next Sunday, January 20, 2019

9:30 am Sunday Morning Study

11 am Worship



January 21 Martin Luther King Day
Office Closed

January 21 5:30 pm Ladies Night Out-
Bel Piatto, Emerald & Kansas

January 27 Annual Council Meeting following
Lunch and Worship



February 2 2 pm Sr. Ministries Event: *Steel Magnolias* at Gallo Center for the Arts

February 3 1:30 pm-3:30 Compelling Vision
Conversation

February 3-10 Family Promise Hosting Week

February 14 Valentine's Day

February 18 President's Day—Office Closed



March 6 Ash Wednesday-Beginning of Lent

March 10 Daylight Savings Time begins

