



The Chimes

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Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Pastor: Andrew Sampson Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

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



Lent Is Not Giving Up Stuff

by Jarrold McKenna, from Sojourners Magazine, 02-18-2015

Rowan Williams reminds us:

"The word 'Lent' itself comes from the old English word for Spring. It's not about feeling gloomy for forty days. It's not about making yourself miserable for forty days. It's not even about giving things up for forty days. Lent is spring time. It's about preparing for that great climax of Spring time, Easter: new life bursting through death... self-denial isn't an end in itself but to sweep and clean the room of our own minds and hearts so that the New Life might really have room to come in and take over and transform us at Easter."

As many start Lent with ashes as the reminder of our mortality, let us ask ourselves, "what will we do with the gift of life we have been given?"

The Brethren Global Women's Project has an answer for this question: "The Lenten season begins on Wednesday, February 26th, and GWP invites you to participate with us in this inward and outward reflective journey.

If you already have one of our printed Lenten Calendars, pull it out! If not, let us know, and we'll send you one - or we can email you one page of the calendar per day throughout Lent (note: this saves trees and postage). GWP Lenten Calendars include scriptural references for your reflection, facts about poverty, information about women and girls around the world, and highlights from some of our Partner Projects.

To join our Lenten journey with a paper Lenten Calendar or daily email, contact GWP at cobgwp@gmail.com."

(Personal note: I have been using my GWP Lenten Calendar for several years. The information and suggestions on each page enrich my observation of Lent as well as suggesting ways to help others. ~Luella)



March 1 - First Last and Last First
Mark 10:17-31

March 8 - Bartimaeus Healed
Mark 10:32-52



Greeters for March

March 1st - Bert Maldonado & Lisa Roberts
 March 8th - Eldon & Linda Williams
 March 15th - Russ Davis & Raeann
 March 22nd - Gary & Sandy Lawrence
 March 29th - Eddie & Gayle Hernandez



Pat Wiley passed away on February 12.
 Services will be on February 29 at 1 PM. Keep her family in your prayers



February 16:

Ginny Hollis was in Doctor's Hospital possibly with pneumonia.

Chuck and Diana are traveling to Australia for 3+ weeks

February 23:

Larry Cole came home from Garden City Skilled Nursing on Sunday, February 16. He is doing well at home with physical therapy twice a week.

Maryco Graff is very happy to be able to be at worship after having to be bed-bound for awhile.

Pastor Andrew announced the releasing of the Compelling Vision statement on the Brethren.org website.

Pastor Andrew also reported the Boko Haram's destruction of EYN churches in Garkida, where the Church of the Brethren first established churches in Nigeria.

New Address:

Carole Greathouse moved to a new apartment. Her new address is:
 1436 Kruger Drive
 Modesto, CA 95355
 Her phone numbers and e-mail address remain the same.



Phil Reffle
 February 21, 1919

"When someone you love becomes a memory,
 the memory becomes a treasure.
 Author Unknown



Gloria Hyatt
 February 23, 2019

"They say love beyond the world cannot be
 separated by it.
 Death cannot kill what never dies.
 William Penn

Items of Note

Folks, some are not being very careful when exiting the church through the kitchen. The exit door needs to be locked from the outside, with a key. I have found it unlocked a few times in the past few months.

Karleen came in last Thursday afternoon and found the walk-in refrigerator open. We don't know how long it stood open but what a waste of energy!

Several months ago I prepared and posted a list of things you need to check when leaving the kitchen. It is right there for you to take a quick check as you exit. Please take a moment to check the list when leaving the kitchen. This is very important!

If you don't have a key to lock the kitchen door, please exit somewhere else. You can exit through the double glass doors in the back hallway; those doors are always locked. You can also go out the front doors. Just be sure the doors are locked and securely shut. We need your help to make sure the church is secure.

Thanks in advance for your help.
Sue Messamer
Kitchen Manager

Editor's note: I have also discovered the kitchen door unlocked several times. Be sure you have a key if you go out that door, and lock the door behind you!

**FAITH BITES THIS WEDNESDAY
IS A POTLUCK!**



LENTEN SERVICES & ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, February. 26 Ash Wednesday
in Narthex 9am - 7pm 5 Self-guided
stations

Sunday March. 1 Open House in the
Quiet Place 9:30am-12:30 Check out the
Lenten Theme

Sunday April 5 Palm Sunday Worship
Service 11am-noon Children's Processional
w/ palms

Thursday. April 9 Maundy Thursday
6:30pm Love Feast & Communion

Friday Apr. 10 Good Friday Tenebrae
Service at College Ave. UCC Church

Sunday Apr. 12 Easter Celebration
9:15am - 10:15 Breakfast
10:15am-10:45 Egg Hunt
11:00am-noon Easter Worship Service
Children's Processional w/ flowers





On Sunday March 1st
following morning worship we
invite you to our
MEATBALL ROLL

We need competitors, how about you? Contact the committee if you are willing to prepare your favorite meatballs. Look for the sign-up sheet in the narthex, and sign up to let us know you'll be there. This helps us to be sure we have enough food for all. We will provide other food to go with the meatballs. Oh, and there will be fabulous prizes for the winners! Sue Messamer, Chair Fellowship & Recreation

PICTURE DAYS For New 2020 Directory



March 1st - following Worship

March 4th - Faith Bites

Everyone needs to take a new picture for the 2020 Directory as we are changing the format and you will be able to view the directory on your computer, phone or tablet as well as a printed copy!

Please look at the 2019 Directory on the table to correct any address, phone number or e-mail changes. Please mark if there is no change.

Thank you!



MARCH 18 A Special Lecture: "Divine Violence in the Christian Bible" with John Dominic Crossan

By Pacific School of Religion

This lecture is the opening session for the 35th anniversary of the Jesus Seminar, whose inaugural meeting was held at the Pacific School of Religion in 1985.

John D. Crossan is the premier historical Jesus scholar in the world. He is Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies, DePaul University, Chicago. He has written twenty books on the historical Jesus in the last thirty years, four of which have become national religious bestsellers: *The Historical Jesus* (1991), *Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography* (1994), *Who Killed Jesus?* (1995), and *The Birth of Christianity* (1998). He is a former co-chair of the Jesus Seminar, and a former chair of the Historical Jesus Section of the Society of Biblical Literature, an international scholarly association for biblical study based in the United States. Zaytuna College is located directly across from the PSR Campus at 2401 Le Conte Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709. A reception will follow in PSR's Badè Museum at 1798 Scenic Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709.

QUORUM COUNCIL MEETING

The Moderator and the Board have called a special Council meeting for Sunday, March 15th immediately following worship. The meeting will consider one item of business: Changing the requirement for a quorum at our Council meetings from fifty to thirty-five. We were not able to vote at the last Council meeting because we did not have a constitutionally valid quorum and there have been other times when we could not hold the meeting because not enough members were present for a quorum. We would like to lower the number to more closely represent the members that are attending.

AMENDMENT TO: ARTICLE V. CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS MEETING (COUNCIL)

From the current article:

E. Quorum: Although it is desirable to have as many persons present as possible for the Council, a minimum of fifty, or ten percent of the membership, whichever is higher, shall be required in order to conduct business.

To the following:

E. Quorum: Although it is desirable to have as many persons present as possible for the Council, a minimum of **thirty-five**, or **twenty percent** of the membership, whichever is **lower**, shall be required in order to conduct business.

The wording and numbers that we used in the Amendment were on the advice of the legal counsel for the Pacific Southwest District. In order for this Amendment to pass we will have to have at least 50 members present to vote. So please put the date on your calendar and come to church on Sunday, March 15th.
Karen Cosner, Board Chair, Linda Hunter, Moderator



Hey Prospectors! Please put this on your calendar.

After-Church Potluck

Sunday, March 22

At the home of Bill and Margaret Johnson,
3504 Sagewood Ct. Modesto

Bring a dish to share.

Join us for some great food and conversation.

Let's Go Camping!

Camp Peaceful Pines has provided outdoor, intentional, temporary Christian Communities for over 50 years. Its rustic but comfortable style of camping has allowed campers of all ages to experience God's beautiful creation in the rugged Sierra Nevada Mountains. More information is provided in brochures on the table as you enter the Narthex.

A VARIETY OF CAMPS ARE AVAILABLE:

Opening Camp May 23-25

Women's Retreat June 19-21

Discovery Camp July 7-12

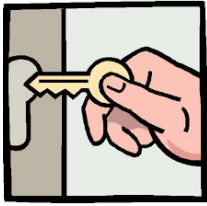
Jr/Jr High/Youth Camp July 19-24

Family Camp July 24-29

Closing Camp Sept. 4-7

Talk with Camp representatives Peggy Hoover, Lynda Sesser or Elaine Forcier for feedback re: any questions or concerns that you may have.

Register by May 15 for a Super Saver Discount!



We have had a set of folks who regularly close up the church on Sundays. Chuck Messamer normally closes on the first Sunday, Bill

Johnson closes on the second Sunday and Jim Boardman closes on the third Sunday. We have 2 openings for closers on the 4th and 5th Sundays of the month. If you are willing to take on the responsibility, please give Bill Johnson a call at home 209 522-0746 or cell 209 985-0908.



Our Spring All Church Work Day is just around the corner, Saturday March 28th from 9am til noon. The sign up board is in the narthex. Any questions please call Bill Johnson home 209 522-0746, cell 209 985-0908.



For the fifth consecutive year, Bethany Theological Seminary has been recognized among [Seminaries That Change the World](#) by The Center for Faith and Service. Each year the Center identifies a select group of seminaries and divinity schools that demonstrate a commitment to service and justice through their curriculum, scholarships, internships, and student-life experiences. In addition, qualities considered for inclusion in the list are collaboration, affordability, and innovation.

"The selection of Bethany reflects our commitment to the values of service and justice exemplified in our curricula and in the opportunities that students have to make a difference in the world and embody the gospel," said Steve Schweitzer, academic dean. "The connections we have made within the Richmond, Indiana, community, the scholarships available for all students, and especially our debt-free education option exemplify innovative approaches to theological education that are vital for our schools, our denomination, our churches, and our students. Bethany is honored to again be named to Seminaries That Change the World in recognition of the creative and faithful work being done here that is truly changing our community as well as our faculty, staff, and students."



HOBBIES, COLLECTIONS AND TALENT SENIORS WERE IMPRESSED

Forty-nine people enjoyed lunch and 20 displays at The Senior Ministry HOBBIES, COLLECTIONS AND TALENTS show.

The variety of the displays and talents made for a very entertaining and informative time.

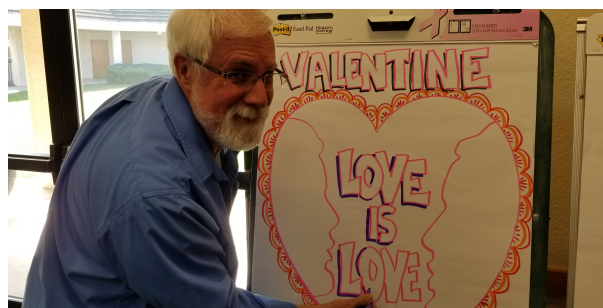
Participants were shown how to fly cast, watch a drone land on the exact spot it took off from totally on its own, see art created right in front of them and observe a weaving demonstration.

Creative work displayed included beautiful stone and silver jewelry, professional looking water colors as well as handmade quilts and knitting.

There was a wide range of very interesting collections including the following and more: baseball memorabilia, political buttons, egg cups, lighthouses, angels, wooden birds, trivia, pitchers, teacups and saucers, a motorcycle, and a very unique display about the Choctaw American Indian nation.

The Senior Ministry Committee is very pleased with the large turnout of interested participants and for the creative work and effort of all the presenters who made the day possible. We give you presenters a great big THANK YOU. We truly were impressed!

~Felton Daniels



*Articles and photos for
the next issue of Chimes
are due by Saturday,
March 7.*

Email to:

chimes@modcob.org

The Editor thanks you.

The Condensed Calendar



Monday, February 24

Tuesday, February 25

11am Young at Heart exercise group

Wednesday, February 26

9am-7pm Ash Wednesday
experience in the narthex

1pm Caffeinated Church-Grill Mi,
3848 McHenry #310

6pm Faith Bites **POTLUCK!**

7pm Choir



Thursday, February 27

11am Young at Heart exercise group

Friday, February 28

Saturday, February 29

1pm Memorial Service for Pat Wiley

Next Sunday, March 1

9:30am Sunday School

11am Worship

12:15pm Meatball Roll

4pm Habitat Concert

March 7 9am Men's Group

March 8 Daylight Savings Time Begins-

Turn Clocks Ahead 1 Hour the night before!

March 9 6:30pm Board meeting

March 10 7am Men's Group - Perkoss

March 12 11:30am Sr. Ministries "Camelot"

**March 15 Council meeting after worship-
Constitution Change for Quorum**

March 17 St. Patrick's Day

March 19 First Day of Spring

March 20 6pm F.U.N. night

March 21 9am Men's Group

March 22 Prospector Potluck-Johnson's

March 24 7am Men's Group-Perkoss

March 28 9am All Church Work Day



April 7 7am Men's Group-Perkoss

April 12 **Easter**-Breakfast, Egg Hunt and
Worship

April 13 6:30pm Board Meeting

April 16 12 pm Sr. Ministries-Mediterranean
Odyssey

April 17 6pm F.U.N. Night

Welcome Statement

Believing that God's unbounded love and grace, as



taught by Jesus, are offered to all and
meant to be shared and celebrated by all,
we embrace persons of every age, race,

sexual orientation, ethnic and religious background,
physical and mental ability, and economic means as
vital and integral members of God's family. As an
Open and Affirming congregation we welcome
everyone to participate in the life and worship of
our church.