



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.



Good morning!

The social distancing and quarantine restrictions have created some new and interesting ways for us to be "together." Wednesday afternoon we had a Bible study using the Zoom app and I think that everyone appreciated seeing each other again. We will have another Bible study using Zoom on Wednesday, March 25 at 1:00 for all who are interested. Zoom is a free app that can be downloaded to most computers, tablets, and phones. Prior to the Bible study there will be an email sent that includes all of the necessary information to join, and you can call, text, or email me if you have any problems.

This Sunday, I will livestream the sermon with Facebook live at 11am and promise to be upright this week! During the sermon you are encouraged to post comments, questions, and greet others who may also be watching at the same time. If your question is for me; I will reply to you shortly after worship.

I also continue to work at a way to broadcast videos on YouTube for those who do not have Facebook, and will send out an email about this as soon as possible.

Another opportunity to worship is using the labyrinth. Please continue to observe safe practices - maintain a 6-foot distance from others, do not sneeze or cough on another, etc. as you walk. Aren't sure about how or what a labyrinth is? This article provides a good overview, <https://www.peacelabyrinth.org/how-to-walk-the-labyrinth>

Do you like cookies? Are you a cookie maker? What is your favorite recipe? We are asking for the cookie monsters among us to kindly share your favorite cookie recipe(s) with the community using whatever means is easiest. And if you're making cookies then please include a picture of the finished product or process or both, and share it to our social media accounts. (My personal favorite is chocolate chip and especially the uncooked dough. Yummy!)

Lastly, if it does not present a hardship to you and your household, please continue to send your offerings to the church either with electronic banking or mailing it in. While expenses have been reduced during this time we still have some - especially to our outreach and witness ministries. If you or your children want to continue to send in your money for the Lenten Heifer project, please designate on your check. We will update you on the total number next week.

As always, be safe and keep washing your hands!

Andrew

Hold in God's Light

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May we all hold everyone in God's Light as we shelter in place and pray for those who are ill. And may we be of help as much as we can for those who have needs that we can help to meet. And may we continue to stay in touch as much as we can.

In the Days Ahead



Church Cleaning



Our church janitors will continue to clean while the congregation is away but in a different way. We will continue to have our janitorial team of Nelly and Marco come twice a week to clean while the congregation is away. We have minimized vacuuming and focused on using disinfectant on all hard surfaces in the church, focusing on table tops, counter tops, doors, door plates. We have instructed the janitors to use special attention to surfaces in the bathrooms, nursery and rooms #6 and #10 and #11.

We are also arranging to have the kitchen stove and oven cleaned while we are in this "downtime". The front office is manned in the mornings Monday thru Thursday. When this crisis is over we hope to have a clean and disinfected facility to welcome the congregation back. If there are any questions or thoughts please give me a call. Bill Johnson, Building and Grounds home # 209 522-0746, cell # 209 985-0908.

Notes on Sheltering in Place

We're being urged to stay at home and refrain from meeting in large groups. In the effort to avoid COVID-19 all events at Modesto Church of the Brethren have been put on hold until further notice.

As of March 18, the office will be open from 8:00am to 12:00pm until further notice. You may contact Jill or Andrew by church e-mail or by cell phone after 12pm.

Jill's cell #209-652-0330

Andrew's cell #909-525-7550

Senior Ministries events previously described in the Chimes are on hold until further notice

The All Church Workday will be postponed until fall.

The usual Lenten and Holy Week events, Love Feast and Communion will not take place this year. Easter events as well will need to be observed via social media, as Pastor Andrew has observed worship since the request to shelter in our homes.

As we give moral support to our families and friends in this unprecedented experience, may we remember that our church needs our support also. Don't forget your pledge to support the church financially. We can use online banking or send checks through the mail to continue giving our customary offerings.



And...don't forget....
CHICKS!