



# 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.*

## Reflection: Opportunities for Outreach

### Outreach Opportunities

Please donate and help us to support these organizations in our community and around the world which work to meet direct human need, locally and globally, and challenge injustice that works against the reign of God.

**Inter-Faith Ministries** began over 40 years ago when a group of people from diverse backgrounds and faiths came together to serve the needy out of two small houses in downtown Modesto. Motivated by love and united by faith, they set out to meet the most basic human needs by feeding and clothing the poor. Our location has changed. Those little houses are gone. The population and need have grown—even our mission has evolved—but our hearts' cries for goodness, justice, and provision have remained the same.

The people we serve experience an atmosphere where they are respected and are empowered by the choices and respect they are given. We consider the physical AND emotional health of every life we touch and do our best to direct our energy into their most foundational needs. As we learn more about those needs, we adapt.

We give healthy food through our Feed Modesto programs, we give clothing and address other emotional and physical needs through our Humanitarian Services, and we provide countless ways to get involved on the front lines of social good through our Volunteer Opportunities.



We serve the equivalent of over 3 million meals a year to our most vulnerable neighbors, where over 20% of our population lives below the poverty line. This includes more than 36 THOUSAND children. Thanks to programs like Gleaning & Gathering, and the Free Mobile Farmers Market we are able to distribute over 40 tons of fresh produce each year.

Hunger isn't an abstract idea here. Poverty isn't just something we see on the news. They are quiet and pervasive afflictions that almost certainly affect someone you know. At IFM, we are standing shoulder-to-shoulder with this community to fight for health in a tangible way.

Health is hope. Hope changes lives in more ways than we can count, but without you we are just a building, some lofty ideas, and some furniture. We can't do this without you.

**Borrowed from their website,**  
<https://interfaithmodesto.org/>  
(More on the next page!)



**On Earth Peace** is an agency of The Church of the Brethren, a "Historic Peace Church." While **our inspiration** is rooted in our faith, our programs can help any church, school, community, group, or individual grow in this work without regard to any religious affiliation, or none

We help individuals, churches, and community groups who are ready to learn and use active nonviolence to respond to conflict, injustice, and violence.

The OEP community is committed to full inclusion of people of all identities, and to the work of racial justice and anti-racism transformation. This open welcome is core to the values, vision, and mission that guide all our work. Everyone from "radical disciples," to "spiritual but not religious," to "nones and dones" find a warm home at OEP to do your work for justice and peace.

OEP is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization committed to financial transparency, and to good stewardship of the time and money provided by our practitioners and supporters.

**Borrowed from their website,**  
<https://www.onearthpeace.org/>



July 19 – The Church Starts to Grow  
Acts 16:9-21

July 26 – The Church Starts to Grow  
Acts 16: 18-40



Memorial for David Garrison: There will be a viewing at Salas Brothers at 10am - 12pm this Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup>. They will then drive by David's neighborhood releasing balloons and then on to a graveside service starting at 1:30p at Ceres Memorial Park. (1801 E. Whitmore Ave., Ceres.) There will be social distancing and masks are required.

Michael Fletcher is in the hospital being treated for new tumors. Please keep Michael and family in your thoughts and prayers.

**Joys and Concerns from Sunday, July 12:**  
Monique Sanders asks for prayers for the Sholer family who lost their poppa Elvis. Also keep in your prayers those who have tested positive for COVID but have no major symptoms. Monique has a joy-She has been permanently hired at Sunflower!

Sandy and Linda ask prayers for those who are missing seeing the church family.

Elaine asks for prayers for healthcare workers as COVID cases are surging, and also asks prayers for those who are struggling to recover from this illness, and their families.

## Joys and Concerns, continued:

Evan asks for prayers for school districts as they make decisions about school in the fall.

Bonnie asks prayers for her friend Lindsay, who is an only child, and who is struggling to help her aging parents with health concerns and emotional issues. She is also thankful for this church community has so much love to go around!

Larry Cole is going through some procedures on his right leg, trying to keep it healthy.

Allison is thankful for Peace Week and all those who are planning it.

Keep all those in your prayers who have concerns too deep for words.

Thanks to Allison for recording the Joys and Concerns during the worship service and sending them along to the Chimes!

Linda Owen wants us to know that Larry & Michelle Owen (Dave's brother and sister-in-law) have moved from their home in Gilroy to Healdsburg, near their daughter Kelly. They have settled in at 737 Prince Ave., Healdsburg, CA. 95448. Their home phone is 707-395-0847.

Please send any Joys and Concerns that haven't been shared at worship to [chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org).



## CORONAVIRUS GIFTS



by Felton Daniels

The doorbell rang. A pretty young girl, about 12, was holding a big bag. She was our next door neighbor's daughter. The bag had home grown peaches and plums in it. I thanked her and she left.

I seldom think to write an article like this. But, this thoughtful gesture by our neighbors got me to thinking about all the gifts Karleen and I have received in the last 4 months during the pandemic. Although we have missed out on many cancelled get-togethers, including church services, senior ministry events, as well as a trip to country inns and a birthday celebration we have received many gifts from many people.

Some were planned like the bag of fruit. Others were spontaneous. Some may have happened because of the quarantine. Others may have happened anyway. But all of them happened in the 4-month time. Combined, they have been a rich blessing of fun, caring, thoughtfulness, sharing and a meaningful statement about what a wonderful group of people we have as friends, neighbors, family and even total strangers. To me this says a lot about what I, we, can be thankful for.

Hopefully you have a list of your own special gift moments. You may find it boring to read my list. If you do, I understand. Enjoy your own. Here are as many of the gifts I can remember as I write this. There may be others I have temporarily forgotten.

I will start off with the many birthday and anniversary cards that you and others have sent.  
(Continued on the next page)





Then there is food. We have received cinnamon rolls at least twice. A neighbor gave us half a pie. You know about the bag of fruit. A church member brought home-raised chicken eggs. We were walking the wooden sidewalks of Sutter Creek on a Sunday afternoon and we walked by a couple eating pizza. I made some comment to them about their pizza. They immediately said, "Do you want a piece; we cannot eat it all." We declined and said we already had lunch. They insisted and we had one of the best tasting pieces of pizza we have ever had. It was from a local pizza parlor in Sutter Creek. If you get up there try their pizza. What a gift! And from total strangers.



Just this week we were in Ace Hardware on Oakdale Rd. looking at a small freezer that had frozen pies in it. Karleen struck up a conversation with a customer who was also looking at the pies. The customer turned out to be Terry Sparks. (O.K., you don't know who Terry Sparks is. He owned Cinnamon Café in McHenry Village a bunch of years ago.)

Cinnamon Café was one of our favorite haunts ever. We took a lot of people there. We have pictures of taking our Northern Irish friends there. We almost cried when it closed. We did not recognize Terry. He said he recognized us by my walk! That is the first time anyone has told me they recognized me by my walk! Anyway, after a fun conversation about the past, he recommended the pies. We bought one and it was indeed very good.



And then there is the puzzle swap. We have exchanged jigsaw puzzles with friends and relatives and have stayed up half of the night putting many of them together.



In addition to food gifts and puzzle swapping we have been richly blessed by a lot of friendly conversations. Karleen gets many texts, e-mails and phone calls daily from friends, etc. We have many "Hello, how are you?" conversations with many neighbors and people as we take walks down the street with Tucker (our dog).



We have met Jim, a neighbor, who really knows how to care for a lawn and gave us some tips on doing the same with ours; a neighbor we joke with; many others we talk to; and our next door neighbor who moved from an apartment to his house. Felton has become his teacher about all things related to yard care that he never gave a thought to before. His initial shock at such tasks was most obvious. He has been a lot of fun to get to know.

All told, we have been richly blessed by many people and their gifts since the isolation. We often hear the words "count your blessings." I don't always do it. Thank you for letting me count my blessings with you. We hope you have had a lot to be thankful for as well during this trying time.





For several months, those of us who used to meet together twice a month to knit (and chat) have been knitting 9 inch by 7 inch rectangles that will be sent to a group at Pomona Church of the Brethren, where each thirty rectangles will be sewn together into afghans. The afghans are then donated to those who need them.

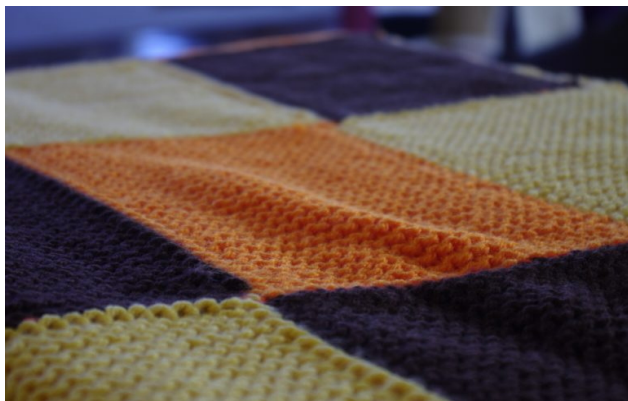
Originally, the rectangles would have been taken to Pacific Southwest District Conference, but since that conference will be online this year, Mary Baucher has organized a way to get them to Pomona.

District Executive Russ Matteson travels to the District office periodically and will be able to take the knitted rectangles with him. Since the District office is in Pomona, it will be easy for Linda Hart, the organizer, to get them to those who sew the rectangles together.

If you are still knitting rectangles, please continue! Mary has put a large white plastic bag in the church office where finished rectangles may be deposited for Russ to pick up. The church office is normally open from 8 to noon, Monday through Thursday. Jill can direct you to the bag for the knitted rectangles.

If you haven't been knitting rectangles and would like to, the pattern is printed on the next page. Be sure to make your rectangles 7 inches wide and 9 inches long.

Here are pictures of finished afghans, and one picture of the ladies who sew the rectangles together:





# **Afghan Ministry**

## **Knitting Instructions for Afghan Blocks**

**Each afghan takes 30 blocks to measure 35" across by 54" long - 5 blocks (7" side) by 6 blocks (9" side ).**

**Use #8 knitting needles**

**Use 100% acrylic, 4-ply worsted weight yarn**

**Cast on number of stitches to measure 7" when knitted, the width of this graphic (for different knitters, it varies from 25-30 stitches)**

**As you begin to cast on, leave a "tail" of about 6 inches.**

**Row 1 - knit the row following cast on**

**Row 2 - slip the first stitch off onto your needle, as if to purl, Then knit to the end of the row**

**Row 3 - repeat row 2 until block of knitting measures 9 inches, The length of this graphic.**

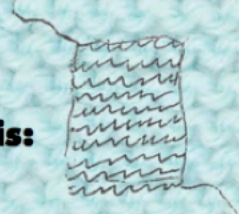
**Bind off, and leave a 6 inch "tail" at this end also.**

**Great! You just finished part of an afghan!**

**Start another!**

**Questions? Comments? Call Linda Hart 909-593-7322**

**Your block should look something like this:**





## 2020 PEACE WEEK

E is for Equity:  
Let's Talk about Racial Justice

Monday - Friday

July 20-24

10:15-11:30 AM

\$15 per family

on ZOOM, organized by

Modesto Church of the Brethren  
Christian Education Commission

Peace Week has emerged in a new form! We didn't want to miss our annual summer chance to focus on peace for a week with some of our favorite children and more of their friends. We can't do a big group meeting this year, due to the pandemic, but we can connect and play and pray together.

It seems especially important this year, as Black people in our country have once again had to face terrible prejudice and violence and many people are protesting and speaking out. What questions do our children have, and what tools can we give them to respond with love and understanding and courage? We have an hour of activities planned each day to learn and work together toward peace:

Monday - Loving Ourselves and Our Differences  
Tuesday - Prejudice gets Personal  
Wednesday - Segregation: History hits Home  
Thursday - Solidarity: Black Lives Matter Friday -  
Activism: Changing our Community

We have found some great books we will be sharing, along with Bible verses, songs, poetry, prayers, coloring, original art, and a little dancing! Please seriously (and quickly; time is flying by!) consider joining us. The first 20 families to register before July 10 will receive their own copy of two of the books in our series.



To register and pay on-line, go to EventBrite.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/o/modesto-church-of-the-brethren-30605136730>

You can also pay by mail to MCOB, 2301 Woodland Ave., 95358 and complete this Google Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScxs9uk-orA4BGirgXWmieJn2naJuW3kSoXLcrGNmhJrAXMyg/viewform>

Questions: contact Karleen at 209 484-3163 or the MCOB office at (209) 523-1438.

Your kids will receive a packet of materials that we will be using during the week. Once your family's registration is received, you will receive an email/phone call about when you can pick up the packets, or how to arrange a delivery, if necessary.

