



# The Chimes

Date: August 28, 2020  
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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.*

## From the Pastor

On Wednesday, August 26, I met over Zoom with Karen Cosner, Bill Johnson, Linda Hunter, Jim Costello, Marye Martinez, and Allison Sampson to discuss the pandemic and resuming in-person worship. We did this as agreed upon after taking the months of July and August off. We agreed that the county is nowhere close to allowing large, in-person gatherings such as church. Local hospitals are near capacity, the infection rate remains high, and the county is still on the state's watch list.

However, we did develop a metric to evaluate when we might resume in-person worship. That metric is: we will reconsider worshipping together once the public schools have been in classroom session full-time for 30 days without an increase in COVID cases or having to return to a part-time or distance-learning model. When we have agreed to resume, the information will be shared with the congregation through email, a *Chimes* article, social media, and letters mailed to those who do not have electronic access.

Please feel free to contact me or members of this group with any comments or questions that you might have. Be safe, wash your hands frequently, and wear a mask!

## From the Board Chair

Dear Church Family,

It is with much sadness, a lot of thought and prayers and encouragement from my family and friends that I am moving from Modesto to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. I will be living with my oldest son and his wife and my only grandchild, her husband and their 3 adorable children all under the age of 3 years. Needless to say there will be much going on and many ways for me to keep active, engaged and involved.

It will be very hard to leave my church family, my friends and family here, but my family and I think that it is the best decision for me at this time.

I am resigning my position as Board Chair and from any of the committees that I have been a part of as of December 31, 2020. I will be moving in mid-October but will stay connected by phone and zoom to continue through the end of the year.

I wish nothing but the best for the Modesto Church of the Brethren and you will always be close to my heart and in my prayers.

Sincerely with love,  
Karen L. Cosner

## Scriptures for Worship

August 30 - Acts 16:1-10

September 6 - Matthew 22:36-40

September 13 - Micah 6:8

September 20 - Luke 18:15-17

September 27 - Acts 2:42-47

October 4 - Genesis 1:26-28

October 11 - Galatians 3:26-28

October 18 - Luke 1:46-55

October 25 - Revelation 7:9



**HOLD IN THE LIGHT**

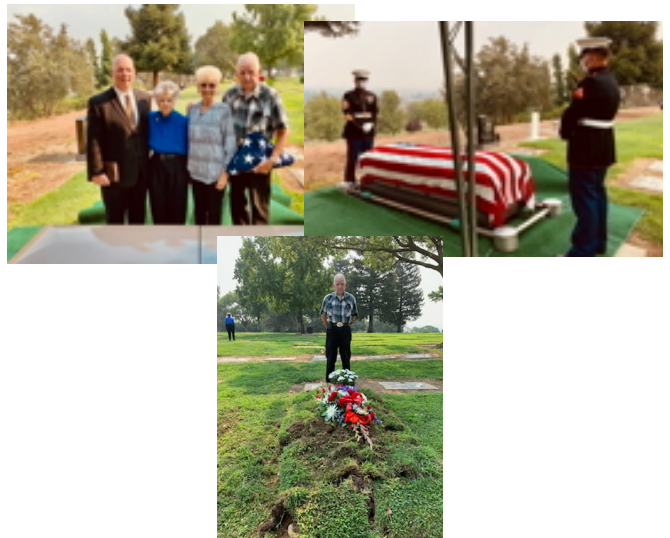
Continue to keep the Fletcher family in your prayers. Becky went back to work this week.

Rita Matthews' 97 year old brother had emergency surgery and is doing well.

Richard and Habibah Harvey had to evacuate their house in the Santa Cruz mountains last week, due to the CZU wildfire. Habibah had good news yesterday, "Official notified us this morning that our house is safe, no damage...Tired but very HAPPY!!!" They don't know yet when they will be able to go back home, but they are grateful for all our prayers.



Harold Dean Canter's brother William H. Canter was found to have fallen and suffered a fatal injury. The funeral was held in Oroville with military honors. Jeannie and Harold stayed in Oroville 11 days to help Harold's sister Avis in packing Williams belongings.



It's been more than 5 months since the coronavirus caused us to practice social distancing, wearing masks if we leave the house, and washing our hands constantly.

For our congregation, the coronavirus ended all group events including worship. Although Pastor Andrew and others have created ways of getting together online, only a few members of the congregation seem to join in.

Every week, I send the Chimes to 118 households. Wouldn't it be wonderful to hear from all those households weekly? If you have any news about how you are managing in this time of isolation, please share! Share joys also! Help keep us together!

~Luella Cole



From Chuck Messamer: "Diana and I had our 56th anniversary on August 15th. Due to the Coronavirus it was a very quiet event."

## *August Birthdays*

**9 Tom Deal**

**13 Syl Bupp**

**13 Dave Hunter**

**16 Steve Miller**

**23 Jamie Campbell**

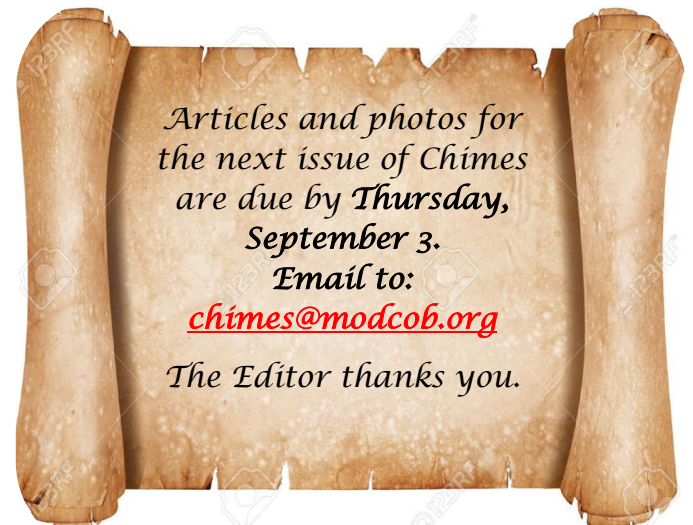
**23 Sara Miller**

**27 Carole Greathouse**

**30 Al Forcier**

**31 Marye Martinez**

Don't forget about sending your Milestones to the Chimes! If any birthdays, anniversaries, or other milestones have been omitted, please let me know, and I will get them in!



*Articles and photos for  
the next issue of Chimes  
are due by **Thursday,**  
**September 3.***

*Email to:*

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

*The Editor thanks you.*

## 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.

