



The Chimes

Date: September 18, 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.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi: In Honor of International Day of Peace Monday, September 21

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace

Where there is hatred-

let me sow love:

Where there is injury-

Pardon:

where there is doubt-

Faith

Where there is despair-

Hope:

Where there is darkness-

Light:

Where there is sadness-

Joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to

Console:

to be understood as to

Understand:

to be loved as to

Love:

for it is in giving that we

Receive:

It is in pardoning that we

Pardon:

It is in dying that we are

Born to Eternal Life.

Amen

Offered to the Chimes by AnnMarie
Washington



September 13 - Micah 6:8

September 20 - Luke 18:15-17

September 27 - Acts 2:42-47

October 4 - John 6:22-35

Anna Hazen speaking: "Bread of Life"

October 11 - Galatians 3:26-28

October 18 - Luke 1:46-55

October 25 - Revelation 7:9





John Cosner

September 27, 2019

"Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts".

Anonymous



Cal and Mary are asking for prayers for Cal's nephew Graham who is undergoing a difficult surgery this week. Graham has been experiencing a very aggressive lung cancer that has not responded well to treatment so he is looking to this surgery to extend his life, hopefully by 3 to 5 years. He is in his fifties with 3 college-age children.

Jenni and Derek Castle are relieved that although their son John, who lives in Cairn, Australia, had a 30 foot fall, he did not suffer brain damage. He has a back fracture, but has been released from the hospital to recuperate at a friend's house.

Carole G. asks for prayers as she has had a relapse of her COVID symptoms.

Rita asks that we all pray for the firefighters fighting the wildfires.

Barbara S. is happy to be alive and healthy, but she wishes the smoke would blow away so she could be outside.

Elaine asks us all to pray for those who are evacuated from their homes due to fires

Allison asks for prayers for a buddy who is seeking answers; for teachers and learners, and for everyone finding their way now.

Sheri S. is thankful for technology so she can worship with us from Ohio.

Mary and Cal ask for prayers for their friend Mark in Ashland, Oregon where there are wildfires.

PLEASE NOTE: Jim and Kim Boardman have discontinued their landline phone service. Feel free to contact them by call or text on their cell phones: **Jim-985-0010; Kim-985-0011** Or email: jimbokimbo@sbcglobal.net

Reminder: The Celebration of Life for Michael Fletcher will be tomorrow, Saturday, September 19 at 10 AM at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvcqyPyMmxWaVW9FFow-HHQ/videos>



Our Stewardship theme this year has been, "Glad and Generous Hearts". We want to thank and bless you for your giving of your time, talents and monetary contributions this year. To date we have met our church budget and actually have given more to our budget to date than we had given last year at this time. That is due to your generous giving. Thank you so much.

It is said that it is better to give than to receive. The Stewardship Commission asks that you keep this in mind as you complete your Giving Statement Cards that will be mailed to you this coming week. Your generosity will be reflected in our decisions about the 2021 church budget



Coming up.....

Important Church Council Meetings

On Sunday, October 18 there will be a short council meeting right after church via Zoom. We have consulted with the district lawyer who informs us that we are legally able to hold this "virtual" meeting under our current constitution.

The purpose of this meeting is two-fold: First, to amend the current constitution with regards to the quorum number required to hold a meeting; Secondly, to have the experience of a large Zoom meeting before the most important November Council. At that Council meeting we will pass a budget, elect officers, and, this year, consider the rewrite of the church constitution to reflect changes we have made since the last version was adopted in 2011.

The current constitution, Article V section E, reads:

"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."

The proposed change: Article V section E reads:

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

Information will be sent out via e-mail for how to connect by computer or by phone. If you know somebody in the church family who does not have email, please contact the church office. This will be a new experience for us as we learn how to work this way. I am sure there will be glitches, so bring your patience as we are all learning.

Linda Hunter
Church Moderator

From Pastor Andrew: Merry Christmas!

Okay, this may seem a little early as it's only September but...

We're looking for family favorite recipes, traditions, memories, and a picture (or two) that you would like to share with us. We are looking to create an Advent devotional and would like to add these items.

Please email them to Pastor Andrew (andrew@modcob.org) by October 15 to be included!





**Your Voice. Your Vote.
Election 2020**

ELECTION YEAR POINTERS

If you are registered to vote, you will receive a postage-paid mail-in-ballot **after** October 5th.

If you need to register to vote you can go to <https://registertovote.ca.gov/> The signature on your driver's license or CA ID card will be the signature used for your registration.

You can register online until October 19th. Make sure your name and address are current on your voter registration. You can make changes at the Stanislaus County Clerk website by clicking on the Stanislaus elections button, stanvote.com

Voting polls will be open in Stanislaus County from October 31st to November 3rd. You can vote in person, drop off your mail-in ballot, or mail in your ballot as soon as you complete it and seal and sign it.

After you mail in your ballot you may track it online with this link: <https://california.ballottrax.net/voter/faq>

Drop boxes for ballots will be available From October 5th-November 3rd throughout the county. Among the drop off sites will be the County Clerk's office downtown on I Street, the Gallo Center for the Arts and other locations to be determined.

If you or a family member needs help with anything like unemployment benefits, social security, Medicare or veterans benefits you can get help at U.S. Representative Josh Harder's local office by calling 209-579-5458.

HISTORY OF MODESTO PEACE/LIFE CENTER IS ON THE RADIO

"Where We Were" a series of histories about our area on KCBP FM 95.5 is playing a new episode entitled "THE MODESTO PEACE/LIFE CENTER - 50 YEARS OF SEEKING PEACE AND JUSTICE". If you are interested in the Center or want to learn more about it, tune into KCBP FM 95.5 at one of the schedule times listed below to hear what the Center has been busy doing in the last 50 years.

Mondays and Thursdays 9 AM, Fridays 8:30 PM, and Sundays 11:00 AM.

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.



Modesto Church of the Brethren
Board of Administration Minutes
September 14, 2020

Present: Karen Cosner, Linda Hunter, Bill Johnson, Marye Martinez, Jim Martinez, Elaine Forcier, Jim Costello, Felton Daniels, Karleen Daniels, Edie Ransom, Andrew Sampson

Guests: Anna Hazen, Tamara Lozinski, Marilyn Brookins

Absent: Sue Messamer, Kim Boardman

- I. Opening Devotion: Karen Cosner
Prayer "May We Choose Love"
- II. Approval of Agenda approved by consensus
- III. Approval of August 10, 2020 Minutes as sent and printed
-Thanks for printed copy of minutes in The CHIMES
- IV. Treasurer's Report for August Edie Ransom
-see attached, reimbursements for Annual conference registrations have been received
-approved as presented
- V. Presentation of Possibilities of Uses for Back Property: Tamara Lozinski, Marilyn Brookins and Anna Hazen, Andrew Sampson
-Andrew: Introduction to process started by inquiries by and conversation with Anna Hazen; Andrew, Anna, Tamara and Marilyn gathered for discussion and to look at sketches drawn by Marilyn
-Anna: Simply has hopes for how our property can be an extension of our message of the love of Jesus.
-Marilyn: Many conversations with Anna around this topic; Family Promise is familiar through own church; works for TBH Architects where they are service oriented especially for non-profits in our community. Offering services to dream/brain storm ideas and concepts for a project on our land
-Tamara: Thanks to MCOB for being the Family Promise home for 15 years! Community conversations concerning Family Promise and how it continues with Covid-19 and beyond have been ongoing. Member congregations had been dropping already. The day center is not suitable for social distancing. Community need for housing has definitely continued throughout the pandemic.
- VI. Discussion of Possibilities and Question: Suggestion for a congregational study group to research this concept, then report to the board; possible funding from PSWD?; concerns about management of property. Possible committee members: Felton Daniels, Anna Hazen, contact Pastor Andrew with name suggestions

- VII. Proposed Budget Karen Cosner
-Bill Johnson: proposal based on estimates from 2020 including Covid-19 changes; see attached
-Proposal will be sent to congregation before council meeting
-Concerns about how budget proposal is put together in the future
- VIII. Constitutional Changes and Presentation Felton, Linda, Karen, Andrew
-discussion postponed due to confusion about which copy of the constitution was distributed ahead of board meeting; board members to come prepared with questions and comments for October meeting based on color coded copy of constitution showing changes
- IX. Reports: Only report if you have something that the Board needs to approve or have questions about something you are working on. Please keep it short.
-Witness: \$12,500 to spend on outreach; upcoming meeting to decide; no direct serving at shelter due to Covid-19 (same as last year)
-Deacons: Worldwide Communion Sunday, October 4; materials can be picked up at church, if needed; memorial gift was sent to Becky Fletcher from MCOB
-Stewardship: working with Andrew for September 20 and 27 for pledge drive
-Worship/Spiritual life: Anna Hazen to preach for Worldwide Communion; new worship committee has been formed
-Ch. Ed.: still struggling with the concept of zoom children's church, monthly FUN events instead; Family Manifesto for September, Pumpkin carving for October; maintaining same budget
-Pastor: COB News Line-Annual conference leadership team has sent a formal letter to the group that has splintered off from denomination to chastise their actions.
- X. Other
October 18 council meeting to change quorum requirements before larger year-end council meeting and test Zoom technology with the congregation
- XI. Adjourn: next meeting Oct. 12th at 6:30, Council meeting re: Constitution, Oct 18th.
- XII. Adjourn

Respectfully submitted by Kim Boardman, church clerk