

The Chimes

Date: September 25, 2020 Volume 20 Number 28

Modesto Church of the Brethren

fax: 209-523-1469 **•**

Pastor: Andrew Sampson

2301 Woodland Avenue, Modesto, CA 95358-9501 (209)523-1438 e-mail: office@modcob.org • web site: www.modcob.org

Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

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



Important Church Council Meetings

On Sunday October 18 at 11:45 AM there will be a short council meeting via Zoom right after the Worship Service. 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 and secondly to have the experience of a large Zoom meeting before the most important yearly November council on **November 1** where we 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.

Quorum Changes

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.

Be aware! In order to amend the requirements for a quorum, there must be a quorum at the October 18 virtual council meeting according to the current constitution. That means that at least 50 persons or 10% of the membership must log into Zoom and be present to vote on the Quorum changes.

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.

If you have any questions, call one of the committee members: Karen Cosner, Felton Daniels, Johnathan Goodrich, Andrew Sampson, or the church office.

Linda Hunter Church Moderator





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



Kim B. and many others grieve the passing of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Dave and Linda O. give thanks to Luella and Jim C. for making it possible to be part of the celebration of Michael Fletcher's life.

Mary B. asks for prayers for neighbor Fran A. on the death of her husband Scott.

Continue to keep in your prayers all those who have lost family members, homes, and possessions to the wildfires throughout the West.

In these difficult days of political strife and coronavirus virus cases rising in our community, please consider limiting your daily news consumption and increasing your physical and spiritual self-care. Also protect yourself and others by wearing masks and social distancing. In other words, love your neighbors as yourself. ~Bonnie Kline Smeltzer



On October 4th Anna Hazen will be bringing the message to the 11 am service of the Modesto Church of the Brethren. The focus will be communion and during our gathering the rite of communion will take place.

You have a choice in how you want to participate. The deacons have purchased prepared packets containing the elements. You may want to utilize something already at your house (bite size pieces of bread and juice) or you may not want to go through the physical actions but remain as a part of the gathering.

If you are going to use the packets and can pick them up they will be available Monday through Thursday from 10-11 at the church-September 14th through October 1st. We can deliver if you would let us know by September 28th. Call the church 523-1438 or Marye Martinez 523-0449 with the number you need. Please feel free to invite anyone who might appreciate joining into this service.



October Birthdays

4 Taj Wolfe
22 Jacob Johnson
24 Jim Boardman
25 Bonnie Munson
27 Eddie Hernandez
29 Romy Mueller



From Moderator Mary
Kay Ogden: Welcome to
our 2020 District
Conference. As we are
planning for a virtual
conference this year, we

are hopeful you will take the time and opportunity to join us. While we will certainly miss the hugs, handshakes, and in person table conversations, there are some advantages to this never-before-tried approach to our PSWD District Conference.

We are planning multiple insight sessions (and if you have a hard time selecting from multiple choices, you may be able to watch later), business sessions, music, a children's time, worship, and even an ice cream social (provide your own ice cream and toppings). Worship, business sessions, and the concert will all be broadcast on PSWD's youtube.com channel: search for PSWDCoB.

By asking you to use personal computers / smart phones / tablets, and stay at home, you won't need to wear a mask, or social distance, and we may even have more participants than we do when we meet at a site. There will be opportunities to speak, and ask questions in the insight sessions and business sessions. Please plan to join us for this adventure. Registration is happening now! Registration for sessions now live until October 23. Link at the New Life PDF version, link below!

• click here to open the PDF version

P.S. If you have been knitting rectangles for the service project afghans, you may send them to Mary Kay at 2705 Mountain View Drive, unit 224, La Verne, CA 91750

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

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!



In the September 11 Chimes, Pastor Andrew announced the formation of a new Worship Committee and asked the members of the congregation to give input:

- 1) What do you love about our virtual worship?
- 2) What would you **throw away** about our virtual worship?
- 3) What do you think needs to be fixed about our virtual worship?
- 4) What would you like to see/have happen (suggestions) during virtual worship?

Contact any of these members with your input: Kim Boardman, Kelly Gepley, Shaun Gepley, Mary Pieczarka, Stephen Reddy, Ann Marie Washington and/or Pastor Andrew

From the Congregation

From the Castles:

Jenni and Derek are quite busy these days. Not as they planned: to be doing long trips to England, Australia and Mexico. But looking after their granddaughters.

They look after their youngest, (18 month old Ripley) from 7.30am so their daughter-in-law Samantha can help their other granddaughter (9 year old Marley) with online schooling in the morning. Marley then spends the afternoon at their house and Derek is the afternoon teacher, doing touch typing, Spanish, running, art and music lessons with her (with the help of YouTube!!). Classes are going fairly well. Marley has mastered the home row in typing, is doing OK with basic conversing in Spanish (with a 250 word vocabulary), has learned 6 songs on the keyboard and is running 1 mile daily in the mid afternoon heat.

Having the grandkids around all day is pretty tiring, but mostly fun.

Their community vegetable garden has gone fairly well and they have been able to share lots of cucumbers with the neighbors, as well as doing some canning.



From the Duenas:

Rachel says, "I wanted to share that this past Friday my daughter Laroli wanted to volunteer to help make COVID packets and her besties Amelie & Ellie joined in. I'm grateful for her kind heart and helpful hands."





Due to the coronavirus outbreak we are still scheduling a work day for Saturday October 3rd but in a scaled down manner. We will not have food for lunch or even donuts for coffee.

We will be putting together teams of folks to come and complete a project and when they are done they would just go home. Masks and social distancing of those working would be required. Hand sanitizer will be provided.

Bill asks that those wanting to work on a project to give him a call or an email in that we will not have a signup poster at the church.

Work stations will be decided between Bill and workers.