



# 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.*



## This Sunday!!

### Important Church Council Meeting!!

On Sunday, October 18 there will be a short council meeting at 11:45 (right after church) via Zoom. The meeting log-ins will be sent out Saturday evening. If you are unfamiliar with using Zoom, there will be two practice sessions Saturday (11/17) from 1:00 to 2: and from 3:00 to 5:00. Pastor Andrew sent out instructions Tuesday by email, if you need further help, call him during the practice session. (909-525-7550)

**Please attend this meeting.** It is being held with the current requirement of **50** for the quorum, which means that we will not be able to do the business of the church unless we get 50.

#### The action item for October 18:

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.

Linda Hunter  
Church Moderator



October 18 -Luke 1:46-55  
Council Meeting Following  
October 25 -Revelation 7:9  
November 1 -1 Timothy 4:12  
November 8 -Amos 5:18-24  
November 15 -Matthew 25:14-30  
November 22 -Ezekiel 34:10-16,  
20-24



Recently I was reading Pope Francis' encyclical letter, *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship*, which I would recommend to anyone Catholic, Brethren, or



otherwise. There was a phrase that the Holy Father used near the beginning that caught my attention with regards to how St. Francis encouraged people to live a, "life marked by the flavour of the Gospel." As one who enjoys cooking, I

find this figure of speech intriguing. What does it mean to have the flavour of something? Why did he not choose a metaphor such as "recipe" from which it would be easier to deduce that we should use the precepts found in the Gospels as a guide of what to do or not to do. No, he chose, "flavour."

The picture next to this text represents, "flavour," to me; that is, the steam that is rising from the lemon juice being squeezed onto the planks above the fire. That steam being the essence of the recipe as it brings sounds, smells, tastes, and prepares the taste buds for what is to come. That simple action is one of the highlights to the meal preparation, in my opinion.

It serves as a sign to those who have gathered that the meal is about to begin, and that the cook has left no detail to chance.

How, then, does one live, "a life marked by the flavour of the Gospel?" I believe that St. Francis is saying that the flavour of the Gospel should have permeated our lives to such a degree that our thoughts, words, and actions show its presence without the need to live by a rigid and restrictive set of rules. That is, we should live the intent of Jesus' words and life. What about for you? How do you live, "a life marked by the flavour of the Gospel?"



Keep in your prayers Merritt Hulst, Trish Galt's brother, who is now in Hospice care.

Rejoice that Phil F. has come home from a day in the hospital. Pam says he is feeling well.

Mary P. gives prayers of thanksgiving as Cal has arrived safely in Milford PA to visit his son Jesse's family.

Sheri S. Says "The earth is bursting with color as the leaves are beautiful here and the harvest has started."

Remember Maryco and her family as she is in Hospice care.

Larry C. spent a day in the hospital, but is home Thursday evening.

Shaun G. says that Ezra enjoys the harmonica ditties that he plays. They miss Gene, but are thankful to have known his love.

Keep in your prayers all those whose concerns are too deep for words.



"Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, crushed down, full and running over, they will give to you. For in the same measure as you give, it will be given to you again". Luke 6:38 (Bible in Basic English)

The Stewardship Commission wants to thank the congregation for their participation in this year's Stewardship pledge drive. The estimate of giving for 2021 by you, our church family, is \$269,578.75. This amount, along with the church's other income will be used to determine our proposed budget for 2021.

It has been a challenge this year with so much of our communication being virtual and not in person. However, your statement of what each of you plan to contribute to next year's budget is a reason to give thanks! May you feel God's love in your participation in this year's Stewardship Drive.

Blessings!

The Stewardship Commission



### October Birthdays

- 10 Jim Feeney (So sorry! This one is late!)
- 22 Jacob Johnson
- 24 Jim Boardman
- 25 Bonnie Munson
- 27 Eddie Hernandez
- 28 Taj Wolfe
- 29 Romy Mueller

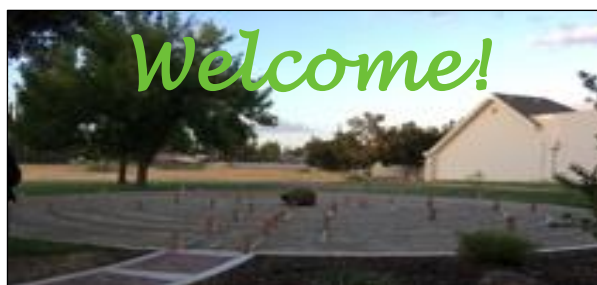


### WIDENING OUR WELCOME

Have you ever wondered if anyone beyond our church doors ever visits the labyrinth? And how would we know if they did? Well, this week I had 'proof positive' that the answer is "Yes".

When I visited the labyrinth last Saturday, I noticed 3 unfamiliar persons walking the prayer path. After engaging the ladies in conversation, I discovered that they have been coming weekly this year...FROM ALL THE WAY ACROSS TOWN to use our labyrinth. How cool!

Evidently, they heard about it from a friend at the Turlock Light of Christ Lutheran Church, where our Labyrinth Committee had visited while researching possible designs. It's encouraging to know that our labyrinth provides opportunities for quiet reflection in this beautiful outdoor setting, not only for our church family but also provides a welcome to the larger community beyond.





2020 District Conference  
– November 9-15, 2020

## Register for District Conference Now!!!

It is hoped that everyone will take the time and opportunity to register for a never-before-tried approach to our Pacific Southwest District Conference this year. It is a conference full of wonderfully enlightening and educational insight sessions, music, worship services and even a children's time by our very own Kim Boardman. You won't have to wear a mask, social distance, or even pay anything! Just turn on your computer, phones, or tablets and meet at the site given to you after you register.

The key is to register **right now** because registration ends **OCTOBER 23!**

**Just go to**

<https://www.pswdcob.org/distconf/>

On this page, scroll down to **Register Before October 23** and click on the "English" line below. Complete the registration process and you are all ready to go for an enriching time beginning with the 18 insight sessions to choose from, on November 9-11, Monday -Wednesday 5:30 and 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 8:00 am. On Friday, November 13 at 6:00 p.m. is time with the children as well as adults (Kim Boardman) with worship at 6:30 p.m.

On Saturday, November 14 the business of the Pacific Southwest district takes place at 9:30-11:15 and 12:00-1:45. If you are newer to the Church of the Brethren, attending the business meeting is an excellent opportunity to get a feel for what the wider Church of the Brethren does. All are welcome to attend the business meeting.

On Saturday evening, Nov. 14 there will be a wonderful concert featuring musicians and testimonies from around the Pacific Southwest District. You won't want to miss this!

Please join this larger Church of the Brethren district meeting for enlightenment, education, and inspiration. Register now!!!  
~Karleen Daniels, member of the program committee for the Pacific Southwest District Conference

### Modesto Church of the Brethren



#### 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**  
**October 12, 2020**

**MINUTES**

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

- I. Opening Devotion: Kim Boardman  
"Making a Difference" by LaDonna Nkosi, **Messenger** July/August 2020
  
- II. Approval of Agenda: approved after changes
- III. Approval of September 14, 2020 Minutes  
-M/S/P: Karleen Daniels, Elaine Forcier
- IV. Treasurer's Report for September Edie Ransom  
-brief clarifications  
-approved M/S/P: Linda Hunter, Karleen Daniels
- V. Suggestion of names for Study Group for Back Property Use along with Anna, Marilyn and Felton  
-Tamara Losinski, Mark Wolf, Linda Williams, Tim Smart  
-concerns/questions raised about whether to have multiple options for the property use to propose to the congregation
- VI. Proposed Budget Karen Cosner  
-information not yet available; commission line items need to be compiled with information from the treasurer and admin assistant  
-Jim Martinez and Linda will work with Jill to compile the proposed budget  
-proposal will be emailed to board for input and approval
- VII. Constitutional Changes and Presentation Felton, Linda, Karen, Andrew  
-discussion, questions, clarifications  
-major conversations concerning the removal of the Personnel Committee  
-Zoom discussion sessions will be held for the congregation in advance of the council meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 3 pm and Saturday, Nov. 14 at 3 pm  
-Proposed constitution approved by majority
- VIII. Proposed Agenda for Council Meeting: Linda Hunter  
-Devotion  
-Minutes  
-Constitution discussion and vote  
  
-Budget discussion and vote  
-Elections  
-Other

-Adjourn

Reports

-Building/Grounds: no report

-Member at Large: no report

-Witness Commission: changes to witness budget; serving to resume at shelter, commission will discuss

-Pastor: new worship coordinators have begun, appreciation; continue to look outward to others; thank you to Karen for service as board chair

-Ministry commission: Felton Daniels will fill the vacant position left by Eddie Hernandez

-Christian Education: FUN night coming

-Stewards: estimates based on pledge cards received

-Deacons: no report

-Fellowship/Rec: no report

IX. Other

-PSWD Delegates: Maren McCourt, Rachel Katen, Peggy Hoover, Andrew Sampson, alternates: Elaine Forcier, Terhesa Gamboa

-Member concern from Pat Royer that there are members who are not aware of upcoming council meetings; Marye volunteered the deacons to call their assigned members

X. Adjourn: 8:12pm

- Next meeting **Wednesday**, Nov. 4th at 6:30pm (date change to avoid conflict with PSWD conference)

-Council meetings, re: Constitution (quorum), Oct 18<sup>th</sup>; Council Meeting Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> (note change of date)

Respectfully submitted by Kim Boardman, church clerk