



The Chimes

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Modesto Church of the Brethren

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Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

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



I began 2021 reading the Modesto Bee while enjoying a cup of coffee. It seemed rather relevant today with front page news of when Casa de Modesto will be receiving their vaccines, the listing and picture of another person I'd worked with who'd passed and then I delved into the opinion article on resolutions.

The article basically was about trying to turn around how most folks set themselves up with their New Year's resolutions. Instead of trying to stop a bad habit, maybe look to doing something for others as your yearly focus. As interested as I am in that concept it was the final paragraph that put me into action.

The article ends with the author sharing that she has begun keeping a gratitude journal. Click! My 2020 attitude needs to be discarded for the most part so this can surely help me. I just received my free Hallmark calendar and I can use that to simply add a gratitude on each day. I'll put it on my night stand as my reminder.

I'm already looking forward instead of being stuck in the 2020's. Maybe you'd like to join me as I write in Modesto Church of the Brethren in the January 1, 2021 square. God's blessings, Marye Martinez Deacon Chair



Please join us for worship on the Modesto Church of the Brethren Facebook page at 11 AM each Sunday.



Joann E. is happy that COVID vaccine will be available at Casa de Modesto soon!

Allison asks for continued prayers for Candice and Brandy.

Evan C. asks for prayers for Jaimie and her dad, who both tested positive for COVID, are quarantining at her dad's place and are doing well.

Sheri S. asks for prayers for Bruce and family as they navigate hospice care.

(Continued on the next page)

Johnathan G. reported on Facebook that his mother had passed. He is grateful that the family was able to get together with her.

Terhesa G. asks for prayers for friends and neighbors who were in a car accident Sunday morning and were badly injured.

Terhesa also wishes to let the congregation know about what happened on our church property last week: "On the morning of December 29, 2020 an officer involved shooting occurred on our church property just as Jill was preparing to leave. She was escorted out to her car for safety. This is something that is very unfortunate and very sad to have happened, let alone at our church.

"The Modesto Police Department is a highly trained law enforcement agency. Only the best people are hired. They did everything they could to avoid shooting this man. He didn't give them any other choice. I saw video of the man walking on Woodland Avenue in the direction of the church. He was angry, despondent and not in a good place psychologically. He pulled the gun out of his pocket as he was walking.

"No new information has been released; we don't know why he did this. Let us continue to pray for this man, his family and the Modesto Police Department. These things have an impact on them. They carry it with them. Friends, this could have been much worse. Others could have been injured. God used our church as a shield that morning, protecting the neighborhood around us. Let us take some comfort in that and do what we as Brethren do going forward. Let us consider helping our community heal."



Hello to all of our Faith Friends, from Eddie and Gayle. Although this is kind of late, we would like to send you an update of our lives.

Our house did finally sell. We left Modesto on 12/18/2020 and now are presently in Idaho, staying in a 5th wheel at Carmen's (Gayle's daughter) home in Hayden ID.

The move (drive, pulling a small trailer) was quite easy and uneventful. We do already miss everyone, but it is much easier to be close to family.

Our Christmas was filled with joy, having children, grandchildren and great grandchildren present. We had our first snow on Christmas Eve.

When we find a house and have a permanent address we'll let you know. God's Blessings to All, Gayle and Eddie



Al & Elaine celebrate the joy of their granddaughter Maddy Beth's 18th birthday (Sunday, January 3)!



(More Birthdays on the next page!)



January Birthdays

Karen Cosner-1
 Luella Cole-10
 Diana Messamer-13
 Barbara Switzer-17
 Jeanine Ewert-19
 Nancy Deal-22
 Peggy Hoover?
 Linda Hunter-28

I know there are more January birthdays in the congregation! Please let me know whose birthdays I left out and I will put them in the next Chimes!



If you have been knitting rectangles for the PSWD afghan ministry, please bring them to the church. Russ Matteson will pick them up and take them to Pomona COB, where the rectangles will be sewn together into afghans.

2021 Social Distancing

As we happily leave 2020 behind we are reminded that we are not out of the woods yet but maybe some time in the near future. Below are some pictures of Jim Boardman, Tom Daniels and (not pictured) Bill Johnson social distancing on a sunny but cool Monday afternoon. Better days and spring are just around the corner.



It is time to start or renew your *MESSENGER* magazine subscription. This is our denominational magazine and resource for keeping us informed of happenings in the denomination.

Your subscription expiration date is on your mailing label just above your name. If it is 03 2021 you will need to renew, or you can phone Jill (in the church office 523-1438) or Romy (526-5999) to get that info.

Due to our current lock-down situation, you will need to **send your payment to the church office by FEBRUARY 7, 2021**. Jill will have a list of those needing to renew. Make your check out to Modesto Church of the Brethren and in the memo line write Messenger renewal.

Subscription rates are as follows:
 Church Club or gift: \$14.50 - 1 year (\$27. for two years)

First time subscriber - 50% discount for first year (\$7.25)

Student: \$10.50

Thank you for understanding and may we all stay well.

~Romy Mueller, MESSENGER Representative

Help!

Tommy, our grandson, is currently living with his Aunt Melanie in Oakland. He is working at Amazon in Patterson and is hoping that he will be there long term. Because of COVID he will not be moving in with us. We're happy he has a job; the down side is that the commute is about an hour one way. So he is looking for a place to rent. If you know of a place that he could check out, he would really appreciate it. Nancy Deal

John McCutcheon performs live-streaming concert January 9 to benefit Modesto Peace/Life Center



Six-time Grammy nominated folk musician John McCutcheon has been performing a yearly benefit concert for the Peace/Life Center for nearly 20 years. This year the concert will be streaming on Saturday, January 9 at 4PM Pacific Standard Time.

Johnny Cash called John McCutcheon "the most impressive instrumentalist I've ever heard." John is a master of the guitar, banjo, hammer dulcimer, piano, autoharp and fiddle.

John: "Every January for over thirty years I've been touring in California. It's a family reunion, a gathering of the tribe, a post-holiday celebration, an annual check-in...and a restorative joy for me. I couldn't imagine missing this year. Especially this year. I've been writing up a storm, so there'll be loads of new songs and stories, plus plenty of old favorites. We're gathering the presenting partners who've sponsored me all these years so that they could benefit from these live-streaming concerts, as well.

So please, buy your ticket(s) here since a portion of every ticket sold will help to support the Modesto Peace/Life Center.

<https://boxoffice.mandolin.com/collections/john-mccutcheon/products/john-mccutcheons-virtual-left-coast-tour-part-1-19?rfsn=4834484.4f8af3>

That way some of the bounty will remain in your community. It's some of the best kind of recycling. Thanks for adapting to this New Abnormal. See you soon...and see you, in person in 2022!"

Tickets available at three price points to include all guests! Pay what you can.

General Admission: \$20

Family/Household: \$30

Student Pricing: \$10

Unemployed/Laid Off Pricing: \$5

Once you buy a ticket, you will need to set up your own account with Mandolin (the live-stream platform that is hosting the concert). You are encouraged to set up that account as soon as you receive your electronic ticket. That will make it easy to log into the concert on the day of the show.

More Info:

Ken Schroeder 209-480-4576

kschroeder70@yahoo.com



Annual Conference Moderator's Q&A is scheduled for PSWD

Annual Conference Moderator Paul Munday is hosting a ZOOM session focusing on the "state of the church." Both laity and clergy are urged to participate. The ZOOM session will use a Q&A format; any and all questions are invited. Joining Moderator Paul will be the other Annual Conference Officers: Dave Sollenberger, Moderator Elect, and Jim Beckwith, Annual Conference Secretary.

The Moderator's two District Q&A sessions for the Pacific Southwest district will be Wednesday, January 6, at 10 AM PST, and Saturday, January 16, at 10 AM PST. Please share with your congregation. All are encouraged and welcome to participate! *Russ Matteson*



Paul Munday

Wednesday, January 6, 2021 Session

- **10 a.m. Pacific Standard Time ZOOM link for this session:**
- Join from a computer, tablet or smart-phone
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87434084368?pwd=WHU1VFhEWc9GcjN5WW9lbkxJc1ZwZz09>
- Join from a voice only phone by dialing
- +1 669 900 6833
- Meeting ID: 874 3408 4368#
- Passcode: 091220

Saturday, January 16, 2021 Session

- **10 a.m. Pacific Standard Time ZOOM link for this session:**
- Join from a computer, tablet or smart-phone
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83288019105?pwd=V1J0ejgyMjhGUWE2V2c4bnNpeUlzZz09>
- Join from a voice only phone by dialing
- +1 669 900 6833
- Meeting ID: 832 8801 9105#
- Passcode: 091233