



The Chimes

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Modesto Church of the Brethren

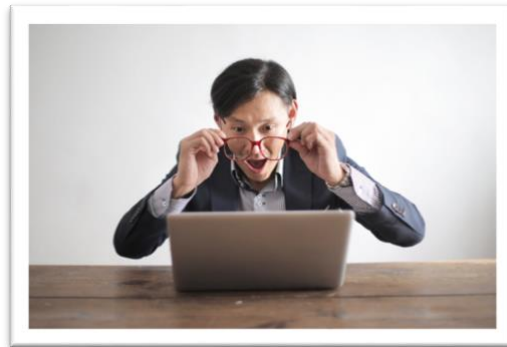
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Pastor: Andrew Sampson Ministers: Every Member of the Congregation

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

Stories you didn't learn in Sunday School



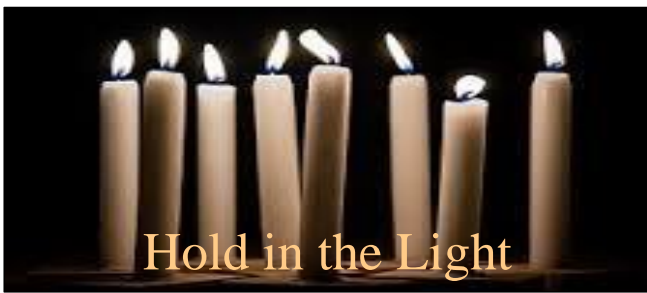
There are some interesting stories in the Bible that we do not hear very often in church. For the Sundays of June 13 and 27 we will be looking at a few of these stories. But Pastor Andrew needs your help in deciding which ones to try and preach on. On a table in the narthex is a Bible with the date, the two choices listed on a bright pink paper, and a pen. Please add your tally mark below your choice and the one with the most marks win.

You may also vote by email (andrew@modcob.org), by calling the church, 209-523-1438, or DM the Facebook page (www.facebook.com/modcob). And if you need a Bible, you can get one at the church or a free, online option is: www.biblegateway.com.

1 Kings 18:20-39	June 13 <u>or</u>	Judges 7:1-8, 19-20
Matthew 21:18-22	June 27 <u>or</u>	Acts 5:1-11



Sunday in-person worship continues weekly at Modesto Church of the Brethren. If you prefer, you may continue following the worship service online at the address below.



Allison asks for continued prayers for the Gepley family.

Sheri Sampson asks for prayers for an old friend who is moving to Colorado to live

Keep in your prayers the family of Cal Aukeman as his nephew is in his final days from cancer.

The Boardman family is celebrating with son Kyle who both cleared his teaching credential and completed his master's degree this week.

Rejoice that the new labyrinth sign is installed.

We admired the worship table done by Linda Hunter (including her grandfather's fly fishing rod) which was very appropriate for today's worship theme.



June Birthdays

- Cica Akpovi -1
- Jeanine Ewert - 9
- Emily Matteson -12
- Monique Sanders - 12
- Kelsey Boardman - 17
- Jolie Lapora - 17
- Felton Daniels - 17
- Lyla French - 17
- Kelly Gephart - 17
- Emily Gilstrap - 17
- Tony Bates - 22
- Margaret Johnson - 23
- Mary Pieczarka - 23
- Bill Johnson - 24
- Terhesa Gamboa - 25
- Josh Roy - 27

MORE



If you know someone else who has a June birthday, please let us know!

Also, please let us know about other milestones, too: Anniversaries, graduations, new jobs, any other milestone in your life!

Felton Daniels' following letter to the editor was published in the May issue of *Messenger*, the Church of the Brethren's monthly magazine:

Jesus taught inclusion

I appreciated letters by Ron Lutz and Ruth Lininger in the October 2020 issue, questioning our denomination's positions related to the LGBTQ community.

Annual Conference and our denomination as a whole have spent several years promoting unity. The word "unity" is found in the Bible in one place, Ephesians 4:3-13. While unity is certainly an important goal for our church, I suggest the word "inclusion" should be an even more important goal--even though it is not found in the Bible at all. It is, however one of the key ministries of Jesus.

In the Gospel of Luke, chapters 4 through 10, there are over a dozen stories of Jesus including people suffering from medical and social issues in his ministry. He does so in word and deed. He meets with the down and out. He eats with a tax collector in the tax collector's home. He includes all of God's people in his ministry. He also suggests we should not judge others, in Luke 6:37. Religious leaders were angry with him because of his mission of inclusiveness.

In 1983, our denomination approved a document titled "Human Sexuality from a Christian Perspective." This document excludes LGBTQ persons from full involvement in our church. Brethren have always tried to follow Jesus' teachings and actions. To follow his mission of inclusion without judgment, we need to either completely do away with the human sexuality paper (I ask, do we really need it?)

or eliminate all words of exclusion in the paper's section on homosexuality. This action would allow for all LGBTQ persons to be full members of the denomination, include marriages of LGBTQ persons, and make LGBTQ persons eligible to be pastors and denominational leaders.

Making those changes would bring our church into the inclusive ministry Jesus taught so many years ago.

Felton Daniels



Good News for Knitters

We've waited a long time through this pandemic to get together to knit and visit. So come on Monday, June 14, at 2:00 to Pat Royer's apartment in Casa de Modesto. We will continue to meet on second and fourth Mondays of the month. Of course, bring your current project to knit while chatting, and bring a completed item or two to share new projects and ideas.

I (Mary) have been given much yarn recently, more than I can use, so I will have lots of yarn for you to take if you're interested. There are various kinds and colors. I will have some straight needles of various lengths and sizes for you to take if you like. I'm going to bring some of my completed items to share ideas. I look forward to seeing you all and renewing our friendships and keeping our fingers busy with our enjoyable knitting. ~Mary Baucher



NEW ARRIVAL!!

Hooray! The labyrinth sign arrived Friday and was installed the same day. It was actually delivered ahead of schedule! The next time you're at the church, take a few moments to come by and check it out. The accompanying photo does not do the sign justice. While there, you may want to relax on a bench in the shade of the labyrinth garden or even try walking the labyrinth.

- Elaine Forcier, WSL Chair



Cash Receipts/Expenses 2021

January	\$15,322.00
February	\$14,191.00
March	\$12,699.68
April	\$25,724.00
<u>May</u>	<u>\$27,475.63</u>
Total	\$95,394.31*

*This giving reflects 32.3% of our 2021 budget with 42% of the year elapsed. Our disbursements to date have been \$95,649.75, for a deficit of \$255.44. (Editor's note: The good news is that giving has increased over the past two months. Let's keep it up!)