



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.



Upcoming Church Business Revision of Constitution

Last winter, we postponed taking a vote regarding a proposed revision of our constitution, until we could meet in person for the discussion. The time has come.

There will be two preliminary information/discussion meetings, followed by a council meeting. All three will be hybrid meetings with both in person and on line participation available. The two preliminary meetings will be this Wednesday (10/25) at 6:00 and next Sunday (10/29) after church (feel free to bring a sack lunch).

The council meeting will be Sunday, September 19 after church. Zoom links will be sent for the meetings to those on the church email lists. You should receive an email from the church office with a copy of the proposed constitution and an edited version of the prior constitution showing where changes have been made. If you would like hard copies printed, please call the church office.

~Linda Hunter, Moderator



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.



Please remember Mike Castaneda in your prayers. He is having health issues and was recently in Memorial Hospital for another procedure. His contact information is in the church directory, and cards of love and support would be greatly appreciated. ~Peggy

More joys and concerns on the next page.



Kelly, Shaun, Ezra and Reagan thank all for the amazing, warm welcome back.

The family of Stan Shook wants to thank you for your love and prayers. His surgery went well and he is home feeling good.

Al and Elaine Forcier are grateful for all your love and prayers during their health challenges recently

Johnathan Goodrich's joy is that his stepson Tristan moved into CSU Monterey's dorm yesterday for his sophomore year as a music major.

Jim Boardman requests prayers for his sister who is in the hospital with complications from a medical procedure.

Leanne Miller-Knippling has a joy that a 6-year-old girl in Indiana who had COVID has been released from the hospital and is home safe.

Allison raises prayers for teachers and students as they navigate COVID. She has a joy that her dad is feeling better. She also offers prayer for Sheri as she lost her very old companion dog Lyndi this morning.

Kim Boardman celebrates the joy of sharing 38 years of marriage to her best friend.

Margaret Johnson has a concern for her sister Lois and her husband who have been evacuated for almost a week due to fire in the Apple Hill area.

June Mills asks for prayers for Jim Beck's family in his passing.

Hi, this is Jim Beckwith, son of Carl Beckwith, who was a member of the Modesto congregation when he served as director of the Brethren Service Center in Modesto 1966-1970. That was a long time ago, but there are still a number of families in the congregation who know him. My sister Pam, brothers Kent and Dan, and I would like to invite Dad's friends to participate in a surprise card shower for Dad's 95th birthday. His birthday is Wednesday, August 25.

If there is a way to invite his friends in the Modesto congregation to take part in the card shower that would be great! Here's a possible message that you can revise as you think best: The children of Carl Beckwith, former director of the Brethren Service Center in Modesto, now in independent living at Hillcrest Retirement Community in La Verne, invite you to send a 95th Birthday card to:

Carl Beckwith
2718 Mountain View Dr., Apt. G
La Verne, CA 91750-4354

Let him know you are thinking of him on his special day -- Wednesday, August 25. Perhaps you will have a special memory to share or a photo. It might be helpful to include a comment to identify how you know him. We just want Dad to know that his friends and extended family are remembering him and wishing him a special 95th birthday. It is a surprise, but it's fine for cards to arrive whenever over the coming days!

If it will be better for you to send an email message, Dad's email address is c2b2.46@gmail.com -- It would help us surprise him if the message could be sent on August 25 -- his special day.

2020 Modesto Church of the Brethren Audit

The audit of the 2020 financial books, maintained by the treasurer of the Modesto Church of the Brethren, was completed August 17, 2021 by Linda Owen and Marye Martinez.

The books were well organized and easily reviewed. The varied items checked had all the required elements which included the vouchers and appropriate signatures.

Respectfully Submitted!

Linda Owen and Marye Martinez : Auditors



August Birthdays

- 9 Tom Deal
- 13 Syl Bupp
- 13 Dave Hunter
- 16 Steve Miller
- 23 Jamie Campbell
- 23 Sara Miller
- 27 Carole Greathouse
- 28 Lauren Andree
- 30 Al Forcier
- 31 Marye Martinez



A NEW ARRIVAL!!

Thursday, August 19 was an exciting day! The long-awaited addition to our labyrinth area finally arrived. Way back in April, the family of Trevor Seever was given the 'go ahead' to choose a memorial in his honor. In May they ordered a bench to add to the garden area in appreciation for the support and encouragement they received from our church family, following the tragic death of their son in this very place.

A small engraved plaque bearing his name is attached to the bench. Please come by sometime soon to relax, reflect and 'sit a spell'-or you may want to try walking the labyrinth.

~Elaine Forcier, for the Worship and Spiritual Life Commission



September Birthdays

7 Anna Hazen
7 Jeannie Canter
15 Tammy Firch
22 Dave Owen

MORE



Kim and Jim Boardman are celebrating their 38th wedding anniversary.

Please keep sending Milestones: birthdays, (are there more September birthdays?) anniversaries, graduations, new jobs, retirements, and other milestones in life.



Thanks to all who are bringing items for the Shower Shuttle! Keep those socks, undies, and grocery bags coming!



The knitting/crocheting group meets at 2 PM every second and fourth Monday at Pat Royer's apartment, Casa de Modesto, #1004, gate code 1234. Enjoy knitting and chatting!

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

August 9, 2021

Present: Andrew Sampson, Kim Boardman, Jim Boardman, Jim Martinez, Marye Martinez, Felton Daniels, Karleen Daniels, Luella Cole, Bill Johnson, Elaine Forcier, Peggy Hoover, Edie Ransom, Linda Hunter, and Leslie Wilkinson

Absent: None

Opening Devotions: Leslie Wilkinson – “Summer, a Season for Living,” from *The Circle of Life* by Joyce Rupp and Macrina Wiederkehr.

1. Approval of Agenda - M/S/P – Marye Martinez, Elaine Forcier
2. Approval of June 14, 2021, minutes – M/S/P - Bill Johnson, Linda Hunter
3. Confirm July, 2021, email vote on location of KCBP radio tower installation, Kim: 10 yes and 3 no response. Motion passed.
4. Treasurer’s report for June and July, Edie - Total cash receipts for June were: \$21,532. Cash disbursements were: \$23, 085.24. Total cash receipts for July were: \$18,658. Cash disbursements were: \$19,603.76 M/S/P – Jim Martinez, Luella Cole
5. Business: The Nominating Committee was in need of a chairperson. Mary Baucher was asked to be chair, leaving the committee one member short. Consequently, Leslie will serve on the committee.
6. Commission Reports:
 - A. Witness, Luella Cole: No meeting was held.
 - B. Deacons, Marye Martinez:
 - Fran will take care of the intro bag for new attendees; Linda Owen will be Vice-Chair; Jim is will be Secretary; Marye – Chair; Jolinda will be in charge of the greeters.
 - Main focus will be hospitality.
 - A communion is being planned.
 - Looking at new ways to provide food for gatherings.
 - C. Personnel, Bill Johnson: No report. Bill sent an email to his committee indicating forms for evaluations have been sent out and are due back in mid-September.
 - D. Stewardship, Jim Martinez:
 - There is a concern about not having enough money for outreach.
 - Audit has been rescheduled.
 - Stewardship Sunday – ideas about how to highlight outreach giving.
 - Interest has been paid for the loan for the solar panels.
 - Currently, Stewardship keeps a binder of paid expenditures, available in the church office. A motion was made that we change to only monthly reports placed in the binder and available in the office. M/S/P Felton, Karleen.

- E. Worship and Spiritual Life, Elaine Forcier:
- Average online worship attendance is increasing.
 - Checklists have been made for sound and video assistance.
 - Schedules have been made for the following roles: piano, children's church, worship leader.
 - Projector is dim. New bulb didn't make much difference.
 - To improve the appearance of virtual services, spotlights and blinds were adjusted and the pulpit moved. These changes have helped with the online experience.
 - Concerning the purchase of a new projector, an alternative was proposed, and discussed, to purchase two large screen TVs for the sanctuary. Both options need to be explored.
- F. Member-at-Large, Felton Daniels: We need to be thinking about how members can have activities beyond worship. Currently, Fellowship and Rec Committee holds events. But, as a Board, we need to be coming up with more ideas for congregants to participate in.
- G. Christian Education, Karleen Daniels:
- Leadership for our Senior High Youth is still a concern. Andrew, Kelsey, and Ashley are the current leaders. Bringing a BVSer on board has been proposed.
 - Rachel is working on upgrading the Youth Room. There is \$5,000 in the Designated Funds for Youth/NYC/NJHC. A request was made to transfer some of this money to equip the youth room. There was consensus to spend some of the money pending a proposal with budget estimates from the youth to the Board.
- H. Fellowship and Recreation, Peggy Hoover:
- Potluck on July 23rd was sparsely attended.
 - Nothing planned for August.
 - Do we want an Ice Cream Social and Harvest Festival?
 - Take-out dinners may start again because of the virus.
 - Trunk or Treat activity?
 - Calendar a Holiday Dinner for the first of December.
- I. Buildings and Grounds, Jim Boardman:
- Budget issue: Expenses for church building phones are in arrears. Bill has worked out a plan with Comcast to address this issue. Phones and internet were together and now are split. Internet will cost \$88.00 a month. Our six leased phones are being reduced to three. Phone service will cost \$130.00 a month.
 - Buddhists meet in Room 6.

- Peace/Life Center radio station is newly located in Room 5 with a monthly rent of \$438.00.
- Landscaping company is paying for the broken window.
- Water issues: a valve separating hot and cold water will be installed; outside, leaking sprinklers are being investigated; outside water usage should be cut back because of our drought; border areas by drive-way are being capped off to save water.

J. Moderator, Linda Hunter: Constitution meetings coming up. The dates are: August 25th and August 29th. – Council meeting September 19th.

K. Pastor, Andrew Sampson:

- Good job keeping our masks on, since the Delta variant has created a COVID resurgence.
- Annual Conference is over. One business item was passed: Compelling Vision paper.
- An evening worship service is planned for October 3rd at 6:00 PM. It will be called Community Around the Campfire.
- Starting September 13th, the pastor is returning his Sabbath day to Tuesdays instead of Fridays. This change will allow someone to be available to answer office phones every day of the week.
- One of the workshops/insight sessions attended introduced a change in pastoral compensation which will come as New Business to next year's conference, and go into effect in 2023.

L. Future Church Team update: Kim

- Jim Martinez will be leading a book study Sundays at 9:30, other than Labor Day Weekend. The first will be The Art of Neighboring by Jay Pathak.
- Andrew has proposed a concept called Service Sunday, which would involve church outreach into our community in lieu of a regular church service. Service Sunday would occur one Sunday a month. Before the day, people would sign up for local service projects. One project would always be a group making lunch at church for all of the day's participants. During lunch, people can share the fruits of their day's labors, thus building relationships and forging a ministry beyond our building. Such an endeavor will hopefully draw people beyond our congregation to become involved. Potential impediments to this idea include COVID and recruiting organizers and workers. Projects have been brainstormed. An article about this idea will appear in the Chimes and on the church's social media. Anyone interested in the Service Sunday concept is invited to a meeting on August 24th to talk.

M. Other: None

Next meeting: Monday, September 13, 2021 at 6:30pm (In-person)

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Wilkinson