



The Chimes

Date: August 16, 2021
Volume 21 Number 33

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.

"I tell you this: whenever you saw a brother or sister hungry or cold, whatever you did to the least of these, so you did to Me." Matthew 25:40 (The Voice)



Serving Our Neighbors in Times of Change

This Bible verse is the end of a longer passage in which Jesus is telling His disciples to go out and serve others! That is exactly what the Future Church team is brainstorming and proposing as the Modesto Church of the Brethren explores what it means to know our neighbors and serve our community as "the future church".

Many on the Future Church team will be reading and discussing The Art of Neighboring by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon. The book study began on August 8, but all are invited to join for the remainder of the discussion times: August 22, 29 and September 12 at 9:30 am in The Gathering Place at church.

A BIG IDEA that is beginning to form is a monthly "Service Sunday". In concept, on one Sunday a month, various service projects would be available for church members, friends and families to sign-up and join. Instead of getting dressed for church, we would dress for service. One group's service project would be to prepare a simple lunch for everyone. When the groups finish their work after a few hours, they would return to the church for lunch and a group sharing, gathering and worship time.

Many, many details still need to be fleshed out, but I am excited about a new way to do and be the church while serving our community as the Church of the Brethren.

These are exciting times for the church. Many things are new and changing. We are all invited to be part of the change as we remain a loving church family. If you have service ideas, are interested in leading this adventure or would like to be part of the planning in any way, please call Pastor Andrew or me (209-985-0011). Our next meeting on Service Sunday will be on Tuesday, August 24 at 6:30pm in the church library. All are welcome!

Walking with you, my beloved brothers and sisters,
Kim Boardman





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.



Johnathan Goodrich has a joy that one of his close friends has taken the first few steps out of addiction.

Felton and Karleen Daniels had a very good visit with Larry Owen, David Owen's older brother, in his home in Healdsburg. He has had a stroke, walks with a walker, and is in very good spirits.

Linda Owen asks for prayers for all the folks dealing with the surge of migrants across the border, especially the refugees. She reports that the Humanitarian Respite Center where she worked in May is currently filled beyond capacity.

Monique Sanders asks for prayers for Hastings, her Golden Retriever, who has pulmonary edema and bronchitis and is having a hard time breathing,

Mimsie and Ken's dog, new from the shelter is getting over tetanus and is going for surgery Tuesday to remove foxtails, repair a hernia, and be neutered. Finally they will go from foster parents to adoptive parents. They are thankful for the Stanislaus Animal Services and also the Stanislaus Wildlife Care Center for caring for a baby dove found by neighbor children.

Leanne Miller-Kipping asks for prayers for a friend's daughter, Betta, age 6, who was hospitalized with COVID in Indiana.

Allison Sampson asks for continued prayers for her dad, as he is struggling during radiation treatment. She also asks for friend Candie as her family navigates multiple health concerns. She also asks for prayers for health care staff during this time of uncertainty.

We ask for prayers for the people of Afghanistan and also for the people of Haiti.

Please remember and keep Cal Aukeman and Mary Pieczarka in your prayers as Cal's brother, Owen, passed away last Sunday morning. Cal flew to Michigan as they prepare to remember and celebrate Owen's life. We pray for God's presence to be felt in the midst of their loss.

Keep Rita Matthews in your prayers as her "SuperBrother" Glenn R. Arnold passed on July 25th in Florida

Keep in your prayers all these joys and sorrows, and remember those who are left unspoken but remain in our hearts



Our deacon body is reminding us of a special book in our church library. It's a binder/notebook with pages about those of our church family who have passed on and have been cremated and where the ashes might have been scattered or buried; or one who might have donated his/her body to science after which the body is taken care of by the organization who benefitted from the remains. This means there is *no* tombstone or marker at some *place* to acknowledge the life of that person. So remembrances can be placed in the lovely and interesting notebook/binder with the name *Remembering* and a beautiful picture on the cover.

If you have had, or will have in the future, a church member or active participant who fits the description above, please know you are encouraged to make an addition about your special person to the *Remembering* book which is now in the church library, on top of the shelf which backs up to the kitchen wall.

The requirement is to put on an 8 ½ by 11 inch paper of your choice, information about your special person, and one or more pictures. The page can be simple and short or longer, with as much information as you wish.

Please put your page into the plastic sheet holder found behind the orange tab at the back of the book, and insert it into the *Remembering* book in order of date of death.

If you have any questions ask Mary Baucher, Pat Royer, or Marye Martinez. You will find the *Remembering* book in the library on a beautiful holder handcrafted by Wayne Davis. Feel free to look and get ideas from the pages there, or just peruse the pages to remember those of our church family who have moved on. But please leave the book in the library.



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

Chuck and Diana Messamer celebrated their 57th anniversary on August 15.

Please keep adding milestones to the Chimes! Birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, new jobs, retirements. Send any other milestones in your life that you would like to see here.



Our FUN event for this month is scheduled for August 20th at 6:30 p.m. Due to the increase in the Covid 19 virus and that it tends to be striking younger ones who have not been vaccinated, we will be having this event by Zoom once again. You should receive an email with the Zoom connection the day before the meeting.

The theme will be centered around "Back to School". Our goal this month is to help our children gain confidence in themselves, empathy for others, and an appreciation for differences and similarities in others we meet. We'll read, watch a video, make bracelets, play games, and of course have a yummy snack. It all adds up to a great time together even if we aren't together in person. We'll see you soon!

Christian Education Commission



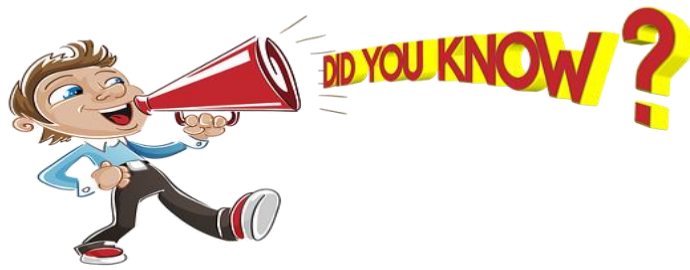
Sunday, August 22, **Pastor Andrew** will have a "blessing of the backpacks" during worship. **Andrew** will send out an email to all parents of school age children inviting them to come to church that Sunday.



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!



YOU NEED TO KEEP **AUGUST 22ND** OPEN FOR A HAPPENIN'?

WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?



Well, here it is!! That day at church **you** and anyone else going back to school (kids, teachers, secretaries, etc.) are being asked to bring their backpacks, computers, or anything else important to their wellbeing at school, to church to receive a blessing for the start of the school year. **But WOW!!** Immediately after church you Sr. Hi. youth will also travel to the Daniels home for pizza and a swim party from 12:30-3:30. We will be welcoming our new 9th graders at this party and it's a great time for you to invite any high school friends as well. We need RSVPs to know how much pizza to get. So let us know to count you in as soon as possible!

Email kdboardman@gmail.com or ashleygflores14@gmail.com or

Call Karleen Daniels 209 484 3163

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.



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