



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.

Campfire Church



SERVICE SUNDAY

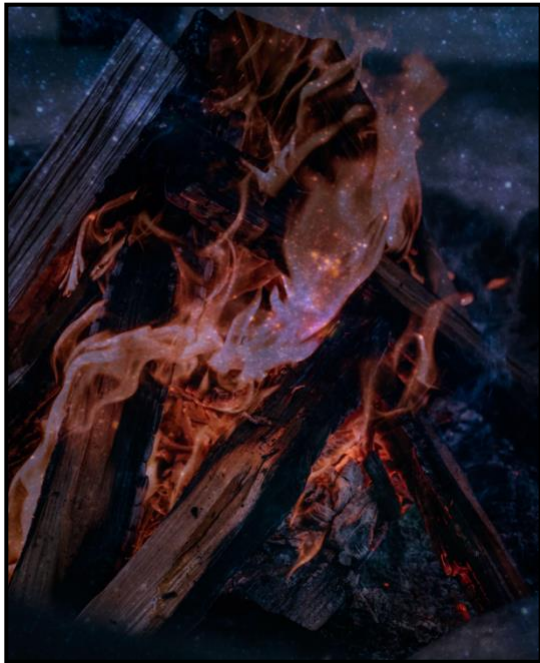
Please join in the planning of our first "Service Sunday"! The next meeting will be Monday, October 4 at 6:30pm in the church library. ~Kim

One Service Sunday Project

When Service Sunday starts, one choice is to join a group that will be in the Gathering Place. There will be four tables set up, one for cards and message writing, another for making cards. A third table will be set up as a phone call station. There will also be a children's table with coloring pages and materials to make bookmarks.

To make these items, we will need donations of materials. If you would like to donate new cards, used cards, stickers, art supplies or stamps, there are three containers in the narthex marked for these donations.

Thank You
Marye Martinez



On October 3 at 7:00 in the Courtyard we will have a new, informal and interactive worship service called, "Campfire Church." Please bring a blanket or chair as well as your mask and join in a time of sharing, singing, and encountering the Bible story in a different way! ~Pastor Andrew



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.



Kim asks for prayers for her friend Cara who is raising her small grandchildren after their mother died of COVID.

Pray for a joyous wedding for Emily Gilstrap..

Pray for healing for Ginger Munson after eye surgery for cataracts.

Joann Ewert asks for continued prayers for her grandson, Cameron, and other firefighters who are now fighting fire in the Sequoia forest.

Mimsie continues to ask for prayers for her foster daughter, Billie, who is in serious condition in the hospital with COVID.

Allison asks for continued prayers for healing for her dad.

Rita expresses joy about the ice cream feast with Emily and Lynda Sesser last Thursday...They hadn't been together for 2 years

Leanne Miller-Knippling asks for prayers for her husband and herself as they have a spousal immigration appointment on Tuesday, continuing the track for her husband to become a citizen.

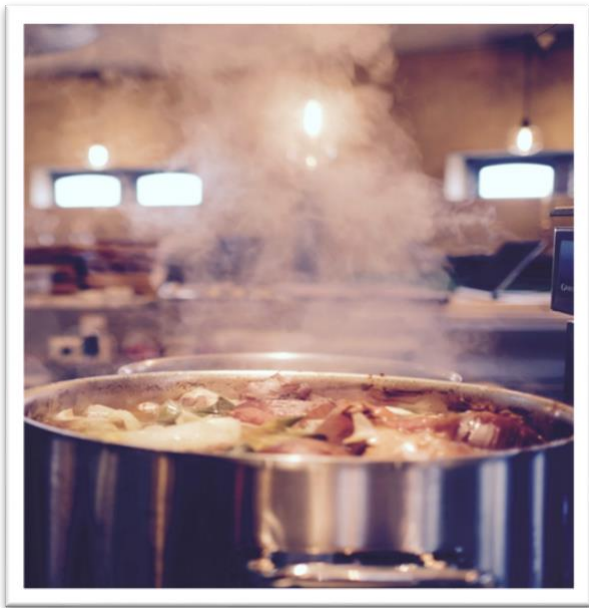
Elaine shares prayers of joy and gratitude for all those who are willing to say "yes" to leadership roles for worship and other roles. You are appreciated!

Larry Cole is adjusting to having an oxygen mask all the time, and is looking forward to getting a portable oxygen concentrator that will enable him to go out of the house.

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



9th and D Helpers



One way that we reach out to the community is by fixing meals each month for the people at the 9th and D Shelter and serving them during non-COVID times. Currently, the groceries for the meal are delivered during the week ahead, meal preparation starts around 2:00, and the meal is delivered to the shelter around 5:00. The meal serves around 140 people!

We are looking for people to help with meals for the shelter on the third Friday (October 15, November 19, and December 17). This is a good opportunity for students who need service hours for graduation. No experience necessary!

We need: grocery shoppers, cooks, cookie or dessert bakers, and drivers. Please contact the church office if you can help at: 523-1438 or Pastor Andrew (andrew@modcob.org) if you have questions.

Take-out Dinner



Well, we had 30 wonderful people participate in the take-out dinner on Wednesday night, so we are going to try it again next month.

Put October 13th on your calendars for a **Fun with Pasta** night. Take-out dinner ready at **5:30 pm, \$5.00** per dinner

Please reserve your dinner with Peggy at 209-815-3095 or with the church office.

Enjoy your Fall with an easy take-out dinner courtesy of your church family!

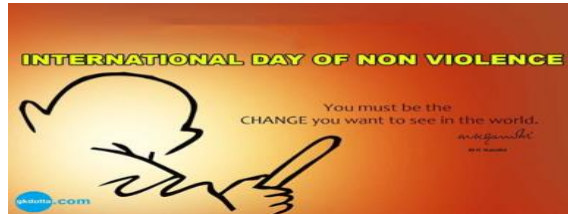


Lawn "Conversion"

No, this isn't evangelism to the grasses. It is converting water-guzzling lawns into landscapes that need no water (or hardly any). It is a way of conserving a scarce resource in California.

The city of Modesto encourages the conversion of lawns to save water and gives a subsidy of \$2 per square foot to help cover the cost of materials. Derek has spent most days for the last 4 months doing "lawn conversion" of over 1500 square feet, and has finally finished. The photo is of about 1/3th of the area converted. The lawn is artificial, the "golden" part is decomposed granite and the plants in the rocks are all on a drip system and are drought tolerant, so they need very little water. ~Derek Castle

LABYRINTH LUMINARY WALK "INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON- VIOLENCE"



6:30pm Saturday, October 2nd2021

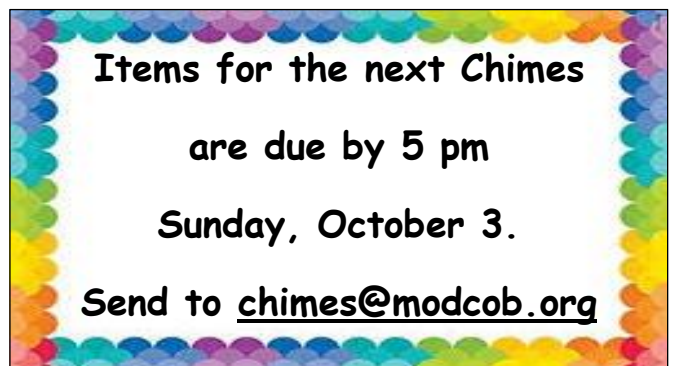
Theme: "Say No to Violence"

The International day of Non-Violence is observed on October 2, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the India independence movement and pioneer of the strategy of non-violence. On this special day we reaffirm "the universal relevance of the principle of non-violence" and the ongoing need for "a culture of peace, tolerance, understanding and non-violence." Quoting Gandhi's own words: "Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind. It is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by the ingenuity of man." Join us for a relaxing candlelight walk in the cool of the evening as together we "think on these things."

The Worship and Spiritual Life Commission



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 September 13, 2021

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

Absent: Peggy Hoover

Opening devotions, Elaine Forcier: *Desiderata of Happiness* by Max Ehrmann.

1. Approval of Agenda – M/S/P – Karleen Daniels/Jim Boardman
2. Approval of August 9, 2021, minutes – M/S/P – Jim Martinez/Marye Martinez
3. Treasurer's report for August, Edie – Total cash receipts for August were \$19,981.00. Cash disbursements were \$20,433.23. This left a cash decrease of \$452.23. The decrease for the year is \$3,258.84. Question: How do we clarify the use of vouchers with the church credit card? Answer: Each invoice and credit card charge must be approved; this must be done by the chair of the commission associated with the charge. M/S/P – Bill Johnson, Elaine Forcier.
4. Business:
 - A. September 19th council meeting / Constitution discussion – Kim Boardman: Do we want to rescind the Constitution draft, or, continue with the draft and go forward with the council meeting? Discussion: A motion was made to cancel the council meeting and return the Constitution revision back to the Constitution Committee. M/S/P – Felton Daniels/Marye Martinez. An all-church email will be sent out to notify church members of the cancelled council meeting.
 - B. Commissions and Deacons edit/clarify job descriptions– Kim: Job descriptions for commissions and deacons need to be updated periodically. Commissioners and deacons need to look at job descriptions in the current Constitution and identify needed corrections. Corrections should be made by December's board meeting. Job descriptions should be kept as generalized statements; lists of tasks, and other specifics, can be included in an appendix later.
 - C. 100th Anniversary Celebration committee appointment – Kim: Our congregation will be 100 years old on November 9th, 2022. It is suggested that a celebration to honor this milestone be held the weekend before the 2022 District Conference. A committee should be appointed to plan the event, after the nominating committee has filled open positions.
5. Reports:
 - A. Witness, Luella Cole: No report.
 - B. Personnel, Bill Johnson:
 - Evaluations have been sent out to the evaluators and these have been returned.

- Jill will be out of the office for several days, and volunteers have agreed to answer phones in her absence.
- C. Stewardship, Jim Martinez:
- Discussed CD bank investment. Linda Hunter has withdrawn the money and deposited it into the church's bank account. Alternative investments are being explored.
 - Tithing cards have been mailed out to the membership, and next Sunday Jim Martinez will make a presentation about them during the church service. The following Sunday, tithing cards will be collected. Based on the giving, the commission will develop a budget.
 - Biggest concern: Everyone serving on the stewardship commission is due to go off the commission next year, except for one. Please let Jim know if there are any suggestions for future members.
- D. Worship and Spiritual Life, Elaine Forcier:
- Positive feedback about worship has been received.
 - The internet service for the church has been upgraded, which has solved many projection issues during worship.
 - Regarding technology: suggestions have been made for a new IT person; screen projector estimates are being pursued.
 - There will be a labyrinth walk on Tuesday, September 21, the International Day of Peace.
- E. Member-at-Large, Felton Daniels: No report.
- F. Christian Education, Karleen Daniels:
- Youth: senior high youth have programs planned through December; program for junior high youth is to be determined.
 - A "Trunk or Treat" event is being planned for the neighborhood. During this time, our youth will host a haunted house.
- G. Fellowship and Recreation, Peggy Hoover: In Peggy's absence, Kim shared that events have been planned and scheduled; more information will be coming.
- H. Buildings and Grounds, Jim Boardman:
- The church is experiencing hot water issues. Hot water is being delivered to fixtures where it should not be. This may be caused by a crossover between hot and cold water supplies, or there may be an electrical malfunction at the pump.
 - Water sprinkler times have been reduced. Our new water station timer should be easier to program.
 - The dumpster will be relocated.
 - The rent for the Peace/Life Center's radio room has been finalized.
 - Work day October 16th.
- I. Moderator, Linda Hunter:
- No council meeting in September.
 - By October 15, all commissions should have their proposed budgets submitted to Stewardship.
- J. Pastor, Andrew Sampson:
- Andrew will be leading a bible study for PSW Conference, focusing on Acts 2 of the *Bible*.

- Sabbath days are Fridays, not Tuesdays.
 - NYC will be held in the summer of 2022. Work is being done to ensure safe spaces are provided for both progressive and conservative youth and advisors. Enrollment decreased dramatically at the last conference. This issue will be addressed.
 - Visitation has been difficult due to the constraints of COVID. Hospitals have limited visitation with only emergency cases allowing visitors. Phone calls have been made in lieu of visitations.
 - Facebook, the church website, and YouTube will have the stewardship video. Thank you to Chuck Messamer for doing the drone footage.
- K. Future Church Update, Felton Daniels:
- Service Sunday. Members have met three times to develop plans. The goal is to try to keep things simple to start with, then, add more projects at a later time.
 - There will be two to three events planned for the first Sunday. One event will be to either walk along Carpenter Road, and/or to Martone School, to pick up trash. Letter writing, and cooking a meal for the 9th and D Street Shelter, are other possible projects.
 - The third Sunday of every month will be Service Sunday, beginning on October 17th. Projects will begin at 9:00 AM and go until 10:30 AM. A mini worship service will be held from 11:00-11:30, followed by lunch.
 - A possible slogan for Service Sunday is, "Serve is the word on the third." Derek Castle and Annaliese Akpovi will serve as our co-coordinators. Central Catholic High School will include our church's Service Sunday as one of their service projects.
- L. Book study – Jim Martinez: *The Art of Neighboring*, by Jay Pathak. Questions to consider: What is our church's vision? How do we want to present ourselves to our neighbors? How can we enrich our church? How do we communicate the answers to these questions to our congregation, in person/online? If church members have any ideas, please share them with Kim Boardman or Jim Martinez.
- M. Deacons, Marye Martinez:
- Deacons will be meeting on October 31st.
 - Deacons will be contacting people who have not been attending church service or events.
 - Steve Reddy has been a music deacon by singing to a number of homebound congregants.
6. Other:
- A. PSWD delegate registration/housing has opened. Delegates are Andrew, Marin McCourt, Rachel Gilstrap-Katen, Monique Sanders, and Kim Boardman. Conference will be held in person and online.
 - B. Year-end council meeting date is Nov. 7, 2021, following worship.

Next board meeting: Monday, October 11, 2021 at 6:30 in church library.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Wilkinson