



# 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.*



During Children' Church the children have been making books about the early beginnings of the Church of the Brethren. Their books begin in Germany with Alexander Mack and some of the beliefs that the early Church of the Brethren had which caused their members to risk losing all their possessions and even some of their lives.

They also have been learning about the early beginnings of the Church of the Brethren in America and their beliefs during the civil war that also caused them to take great risks to stand for what they believed God would want them to do. This is a picture of Felton portraying John Kline, who strongly believed in treating everyone with respect, even our enemies.

We will be moving on to some great leaders in our more modern world from the Church of the Brethren such as Dan West who started Heifer Project, and even some greats from our very own church in Modesto.

Some of those folks from our church include John Hunter's leadership in establishing Sierra Vista Children's Services, Ruth Sesser's leadership in establishing Interfaith Ministries and Habitat for Humanity in Modesto, and many leaders from our church that helped establish the Modesto Peace/Life Center, the most recent being Jim Costello.

When we are done with our books we will put them on display in the narthex to share with you.

Children's church teacher,  
Karleen Daniels



## And Service Sunday Each Third Sunday!

Sunday in-person worship continues weekly at Modesto Church of the Brethren. If you prefer, you may continue following worship online at [www.facebook.com/modcob](http://www.facebook.com/modcob)



Johnathan asks for prayers for friends struggling with addiction and homelessness. He also has a joy: "Service Sunday was awesome!"

"Al Nonymous" needs prayer for his family and himself.

Larry Cole was able to come to worship with no oxygen canister!

Mary B. is pleased that Richard and Habiba Harvey came from out of town to help on Service Sunday, and that they join into good fellowship with this congregation.

Steven asks for prayers for him, as his best friend, his 14 year old dog, went to sleep on Friday.

Rita Matthews has a joy that her daughter is coming this week to help her plan her future.

Carole Greathouse has a joy that her brother Jeff Glass and his wife are visiting with her at her home.

Leanne Miller-Knippling asks for continued prayers for her husband Benjamin to find alternative work after being furloughed.

Keep Aaron and Janet Rumble in your prayers after the tragic loss of their 19 year old grandson, Justin, last week.

Continue prayers for the Johnson family, especially Roland as he transitions to live with his sister in Manteca.

Maddox is thankful for his family and his church family.

Pray for Ron French who is still in rehab.

Continue to pray for the Gepley family.

Hold in your prayers the family of Billie Farrar, who passed after a long battle with COVID. Her son, Bryan and family, Mimsie, Ken, Carlee and Jaimie are grieving her loss.

Remember refugees who are learning to live in a new country.

Give appreciation for those who planned, organized and participated in Service Sunday.

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



### October Birthdays

4Taj Wolfe

19 Lynda Sesser

22 Jacob Johnson

24 Jim Boardman

25 Bonnie Munson

26 Bob Sesser

27 Eddie Hernandez

29 Romy Mueller

30 Leslie Wilkinson

### MORE



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

# board meeting

Good news!

The good news is that the nominating committee has received so many affirmative responses to their calls that they feel they have a full ballot to bring to our upcoming council meeting on Nov. 7 after worship!

Thanks to all of you that have agreed to serve in the various leadership positions within the church for 2022! It takes many hands to keep our ministries alive and dynamic.

With that all being said, the board did agree to a few constitutional "understandings" to make sure we do have these important positions filled. In one instance, the current Stewards chair has served for 6 consecutive years and terms out of that position at the end of 2021. The same person has been asked to serve as the new Vice-Chair of the Board. This is a completely different position. The board felt this did not compromise the intent of our current constitution.

In one other situation, the chairperson of the Fellowship and Recreation Commission has also served 6 consecutive years on that commission. Due to all of the Covid-19 limitations, however, it was felt that Fellowship and Recreation was unable to fulfill many of their typical duties this past year. So, the chairperson has agreed to continue for 2022. The board agreed that this was an acceptable compromise due to these unprecedented times.

Again, let's rejoice that the work of our church will continue with faithful leadership! AMEN!

Respectfully, Kim Boardman, Board Chair



## Take-Out

We had another successful Wednesday night Take-Out dinner with 32 meals

prepared and devoured.

We hope you enjoyed Deborah and Ron's Octoberfest celebration.

The next Take-Out dinner will be on November 10, so mark your calendars now. Who knows what deliciousness Deborah will come up with next?

Peggy

Fellowship & Recreation

## 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.

Items for the next Chimes

are due by 5 pm

Sunday, October 24.

Send to [chimes@modcob.org](mailto:chimes@modcob.org)

# 9<sup>th</sup> and D Helpers



## WHAT SHOWER SHUTTLE DOES

We provide more than 1000 showers each month and every pair of underwear that YOU provide helps stretch our budget and continue providing these life-changing showers. Together, WE are waging war against homelessness and poverty right here in our hometown while fulfilling the command to help "the least of these" (Matthew 25:40).

We collaborate with existing agencies 4 days a week at 6 different sites to provide hot showers, underwear, SOCKS, and hygiene kits to the homeless and working poor men, women and children in Stanislaus County. Our 2 Shower Shuttles average 50 showers each which means 100+ pairs of underwear, socks and hygiene kits ... EVERYDAY!

What we need Men's boxers or boxer briefs, sizes Small, Medium, and Large (No brief-style (tighty-whitey's) please! They may be lower in price but they are not a good value as our guests simply do not get a week's wear out of them) Women's panties, sizes Small, Medium, and Large. Any style. (Please note: Most of our women guests tend to be on the smaller side) \* We currently have an ample amount of children's sizes and styles, so we are not asking for these.

**Thanks to all who are bringing items for the Shower Shuttle. Keep those socks and undies (for men and women), coming! Don't forget the grocery bags! There is a constant need for all these items.**

One way that we reach out to the community is by fixing meals each month for the people at the 9<sup>th</sup> 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.

# The Condensed Calendar



What's happening at MCOB?  
Week of October 18<sup>th</sup>

Monday

Tuesday:  
Pastor's Sabbath

Wednesday:  
2p Bible Study/Zoom

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Next Sunday - October 24  
11a Worship

## Mark Your Calendar

- October 30 - Trunk or Treat -6 pm
- October 31 - Happy Halloween
- November 6 - Memorial/Norm Johnson 10:30a
- November 7 - Council meeting following  
Worship

See the Board Minutes on the next pages!

Modesto Church of the Brethren

Board of Administration Minutes October 11, 2021

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

Absent: Linda Hunter

1. Opening devotions, Jim Martinez – “Why Fall is the Most Positive Season”
2. Approval of Agenda – M/S/P – Elaine and Luella
3. Approval of September 13, 2021, minutes – Correction: Pastor’s Sabbath days are Tuesdays and not Fridays. M/S/P – Karleen/Mary Martinez
4. Treasurer’s report, Edie Ransom – Total cash receipts for September were \$32,597.28. Cash disbursements for September were \$20,088.23. This left an increase of \$12,509.05. M/S/P - Marye Martinez/Jim Boardman
5. Business:
  - A. Discussion/Inquiry from Nominating Committee, Felton Daniels –
    - The ballot is complete. The Nominating Committee has two recommendations. The current chair of the Stewards Commission has served for six consecutive years. He terms out of that position at the end of 2021. The committee recommends that he be asked to serve as the new vice-chair of the Board, which is a completely different position. It is felt that this does not compromise the intent of our current constitution. Recommendation passed unanimously.
    - The current Fellowship and Recreation Chair has served six consecutive years on the Fellowship and Recreation Commission. Due to Covid-19 limitations, the Fellowship and Recreation Commission was unable to fulfill many of their typical duties this past year. The Nominating Committee is recommending that the chairperson continue to serve for one more year; the chair has agreed. Recommendation passed unanimously.
  - B. 2022 Budget Proposal, Jim Martinez – Thirty families returned tithing cards. There was a 2% raise in administrative salary for the pastor and the administrative assistant. See attachment for the proposed budget figures for 2022. A budget will be emailed to Board members; this will be voted on.
  - C. Sanctuary projection proposal, Elaine Forcier – See attachment regarding projector quote comparisons submitted by Worship and Spiritual Life. Images on our current screen will be better once we have a new projector. However, the picture would be further improved if we purchased a new screen, as well. The proposal passed unanimously.
  - D. “Back Lot” discussion/information, Andrew – Our church is continuing dialogue with the Community Development Commission, as we consider how to meet the needs of our community. The State of California has given \$5 billion towards

providing housing for homeless people. Can we put houses on the church's back lot property? Yes. It is estimated that eight to ten 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom, 800-square foot houses can be built to provide temporary homes for working poor families. The families would rent the homes from the church at a cost of \$1100 a month. There are similar homes located at other local sites that we can look at to get an idea of how these homes will appear. The cost to build one home is \$150,000. The City of Modesto would be reimbursing up to 70% of the cost to build these homes. City Ministries will work with our church's neighbors to communicate this plan. The Board recommends that we continue to have conversations with City Ministries concerning this project.

6. Reports:

A. Witness, Luella Cole:

- This commission is continuing with the same budget as last year.
- The commission will be paying for T-Shirts for Service Sunday.
- Post cards are on hold right now.

B. Stewardship, Jim Martinez:

- The Stewardship drive was successful.
- \$26,000 for outreach has not yet been allocated.

C. Worship and Spiritual Life, Elaine Forcier:

- Once the projector is ordered, a deposit of \$9,000 will be needed. The projector will take 45 days to be delivered.

D. Member-at-Large, Felton Daniels: No report.

E. Christian Education, Karleen Daniels:

- Trunk and Treat – We need people to help park cars at the event. Currently we have 16 car trunks. Many candy donations have been received. Youth are busy on their tunnel.

F. Fellowship and Recreation, Peggy Hoover:

- A refreshment table and decorations for Trunk and Treat is being worked on.
- November 10<sup>th</sup> is the next Take-out Dinner. Marye Martinez is offering to pay for two free dinner tickets for each of the households across the street from the church.
- December 5<sup>th</sup> is the Holiday Dinner.

G. Buildings and Grounds, Jim Boardman:

- A work day will happen on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- Currently, the hot water circulation is turned off because there continues to be electrical and pump issues with the water pipes.

H. Moderator, Linda Hunter:

- Our next council meeting will be held November 7<sup>th</sup>.

I. Deacons, Mary Martinez:

- Mike Castaneda's memorial service will be on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. We have volunteers to help in the kitchen.
- Bags of cookies will be handed out for Norman Johnson's memorial service, November 6<sup>th</sup>.

J. Personnel, Bill Johnson:

- Annual reviews have been discussed with personnel, and went well.
- In the future, there needs to be better communication between our Board and staff.

K. Pastor, Andrew Sampson:

- Thanks to the deacons for caregiving and planning memorials.
  - Jill and Andrew are working to improve communication regarding events. This may entail sending out an events email each Wednesday. In addition, the paper program handed out on Sunday mornings, which includes a list of events, has been reinstated. Also, our church's Facebook and Instagram pages include information on events. (Commission chairs can let Andrew know if they want information on these social media platforms.) Announcements pertaining to upcoming events are already presented on screen on Sunday mornings; new items should be sent to Andrew or Jill by Thursday mornings.
  - The first evening campfire at church was held. These 30-minute services occur the first Sunday of each month, at 6:30 PM.
  - Every six weeks, webinars are offered by McPherson College. Their various topics include social, church, and practical issues, geared to support any church west of the Mississippi.
7. Other: Our church will be hosting a group performing at the Gallo Center on October 18-20 and October 25-27. During these periods we need two church members to monitor our facility and lock up afterwards. Members serving in this role will be paid \$20 an hour.

Important dates:

1. Year-end council meeting: Nov 7, 2021, following worship.
2. PSWD Conference: Insight sessions-Nov 7-10, 2021; Conference: Nov 12-14, 2021.
3. Next Board meeting: Nov 15, 6:30 PM, in the Gathering Place.

Respectfully submitted by Leslie Wilkinson