

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460**

**Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973**

Order of Worship

10:00 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Fairest Lord Jesus” D. Hegerty

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Baptized in Water”

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 29

Leader: Give to the Lord the glory due his name!

People: *God’s voice is strong, the Lord’s voice is majestic.*

All: *Let the Lord give strength to the people! Let the Lord bless the people with peace!*

*HYMN #152 “I Sing the Almighty Power of God” Forest Green

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) “Baptism of the Lord” Hymnal #253

Father in heaven, at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Grant that all who are baptized into his name may keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, One God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*by the Pastor*)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Josh Tinley, adapted
Lord, redeem our broken world. Deliver us from fear and sadness, hopelessness and pain. Save us from our apathy, our brokenness and shame. We confess that our pride and anger, our selfishness and greed, have stolen our faith and hope in Christ. Remind us in this worship today that your Anointed One HAS come, offering healing and wholeness by breaking the bonds of sin and death for all who turn to him. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°
THE PSALTER Psalm 29 Hymnal p.761

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Genesis 1:1-5 Bible p.1
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #252 “When Jesus Came to Jordan” Complainer

*THE GOSPEL Mark 1:4-11 Bible p.910
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON “I’m Watching the Sunrise” Dr. Bodt

*THE APOSTLES’ CREED Hymnal #881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:

Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*THE GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #70

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: *Hear our prayer.*

*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: *And also with you.*
(*Greet one another with signs of Christ’s peace.*)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Come, Be Baptized”
(*The Adult Choir*)

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Hymnal p.9-11
(*Music for sung responses is Setting A, pages 17-18 in the Hymnal.*)

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*THE COMMUNION

(*The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. We use grape juice and gluten-free bread so all may come.*)

After the celebrants, ushers and choir commune, the ushers will direct you forward to the serving stations. Take the bread, dip in the cup, and eat. If you need to receive seated please notify an usher.)

*HYMNS DURING COMMUNION: 347, 605, 193, 618

PRAYER FOR LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS (*unison*)

Gracious God, we remember the apostolic Church which sent representatives from the Lord’s table to those unable to be present. Bless and assist these lay visitors who continue this

ministry. Nourish and strengthen those to whom this sacrament is brought, that they may know the comfort of your presence and the love of this community of faith. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

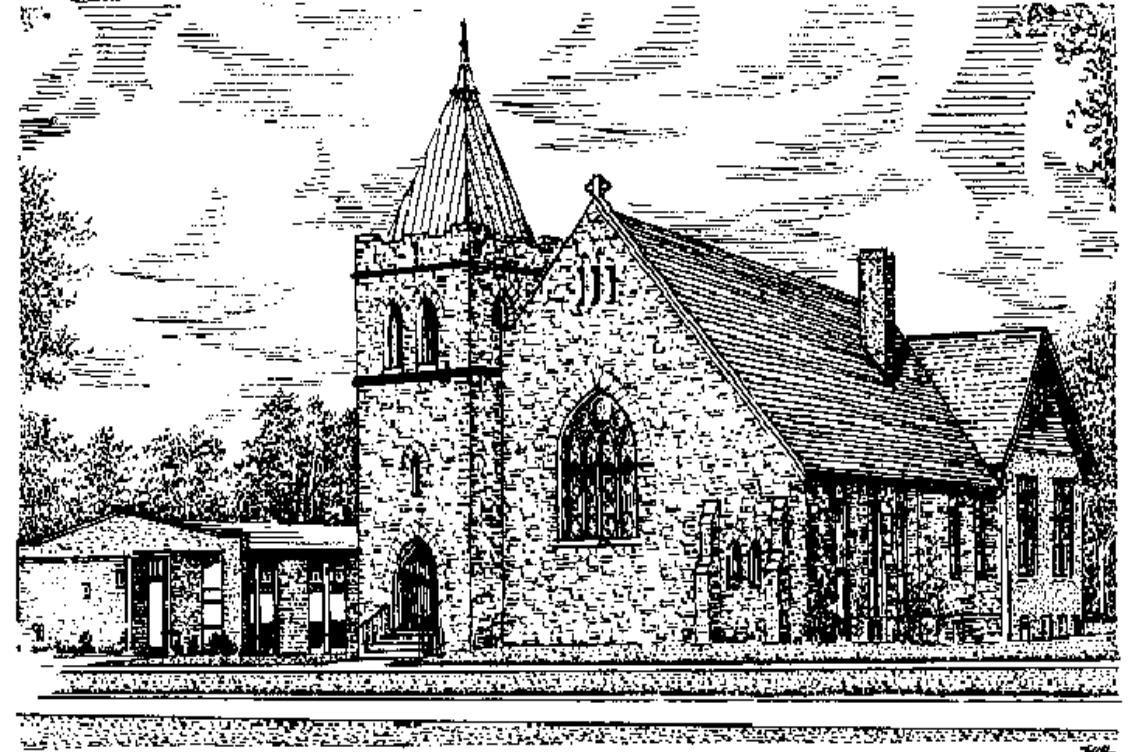
*HYMN #688 “God, That Madest Earth and Heaven” Ar hyd y nos

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

*POSTLUDE “Rondo” K. Sullivan
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



**Mary Taylor Memorial United
Methodist Church**

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

Nesting Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 7, 2018

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973

Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Andy Thomas	Outreach Pastor	Danielle Levine
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
		Theologian-in-Residence	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

**ADULT SPIRITUAL FORMATION
FOR 2018**

Different Books, Common Word

Muslims and Christians Together Building the Good Community

The Rev. Dr. Judith Bennett, MTMUMC Theologian-in-Residence, will offer a study on Christianity and Islam beginning in January, 2018 in response to requests for this kind of study. Her summary states:

Worship God and join nothing with him; and do good to parents, relatives, orphans, to the needy, to neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers. The Qu'ran (4:36)

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Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37-39

Given this “common word”, love of God and love of neighbor, how hard should it be for Christians and Muslims in America not only to live together in peace but to work together for the good of the communities in which we live? What keeps us apart? What is there in our separate histories that blinds us to this shared word? What is truly central to each faith and what is culturally determined?

This study will help us look at these questions and more, searching for a deeper understanding of Islam as we seek to deepen our understanding of our own faith. While there is no assigned text, we will turn to many other resources, including print articles, online materials, video and more.

The seven-week course will begin January 9th and 10th and follow our usual format of Tuesdays from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 a.m. The course will conclude on February 20/21. To register, please call (203.874.1982, ext. 110) or e-mail (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) the church office. Since there is no assigned text, the cost is to be determined. Whatever it is, scholarship help is always available.

*Grace Notes
January 7, 2018*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Thanks to everyone that expressed love and good wishes for my June retirement as announced last Sunday. The notes and conversations were heart-warming. I thank you deeply. Those on our mailing list received a letter on Tuesday or Wednesday. To answer briefly matters that have been raised by some folks that the letter did not address:

- *To my knowledge, my health is fine. I consult my doctors regularly.*
- *The decision to retire was mine alone and evolved over nearly six months. It was not forced or coerced by any outside agency.*
- *As with most major life decisions, the reasons I have chosen to retire are complex. My retirement is prompted primarily by being financially able to retire and being young enough to enjoy its benefits, including tackling projects and hobbies long delayed, that I cannot access working 50+ hours a week.*

The members of the Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC) are open to receive your questions about the process of identifying a new pastor, as well as the qualities and skills desired in that person. The District Superintendent has asked the SPRC to engage in intentional discernment on these matters through prayer and contemplation. I extend that invitation to the entire church as we ask God to guide us through this time of “goodbye,” “hello” and new beginnings. I remain confident that all is, and will be, well.*

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor

*Eddie Reichard, Chair; Tom Beyer, Chris Carveth, Stacey Cronk, Eileen Doyle, Shelly Lapadula, Kelly O'Hara, Jim Page, Alison Pitts, Becky Virgalla and Ethan Weed

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Kelly O'Hara

Liturgist: Christine McGregor

Cross Bearer: Stefano Cono

Greeters: Janice and Noel Fino

Acolytes: Matteo Cono

Bible Bearer:

Communion Stewards: Deb Dubien and Donna Venditti

Communion Celebrants: Pastor Brian, Pastor Hal, Christine McGregor and Shelly Lapadula.

A MISSION CROSS HAS BEEN PLACED and a donation made to UMARMY in memory of my grandson, Dennis III on his birthday, January 10, given by Judy Russell.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given with "*Glory to God! Blessings in the coming year!*" by Sandy Morgan; and in memory of her dad, Thomas Calabrese, and in honor of her husband, Rick Riccardi, celebrating their mutual birthday on December 31st, given by Stacey Riccardi.

TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children's bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" peel-and-stick name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the Narthex.

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. **Please return them completed to an usher or to the center aisle where the ushers will collect them on the opening hymn.** Our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. **You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.** Please obtain others' permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. **Please also consider joining our Yahoo e-communication group** (which was created for prayer concerns) to offer immediate posting of intercessory prayer requests. To sign up, contact the church office.

CHILD CARE for children five years old and younger is provided in the Wesley Center, the building to your left. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary since our child care is not staffed to provide for older children.

IF YOU NEED TO LEAVE THE SANCTUARY DURING WORSHIP, please exit by either the side aisle to your left or by the rear (Broad Street) doors. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar) and can be accessed either way. **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the Broad Street doors if weather and mobility allows.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal.

SERMON COPIES from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR December 31

Total worship attendance all services: 125; Dec. 31: 113; No GEUMC; Dec. 28 Taize worship:3; Jan.1 Healing and Wholeness: 9; Total Offerings for Dec. 31: \$4,297.72; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 6; No Sunday School, Confirmation, or Choir rehearsals; Disciple 4: 9; "G.U.T.S" (youth group): 4; Office Volunteers: 2; Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0. *Small Groups – please contact the church office mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

MISSIONS will be collecting supplies for the **Beth El Shelter** during the month of January. Following is a list of items needed:

Kitchen and Paper Supplies: Paper towels, hot/cold cups (6oz or 8 oz), 8 oz bowls, tall kitchen garbage bags (13 gal), paper placemats, paper napkins, food storage bags (gallon, sandwich and snack size), plastic wrap, heavy duty aluminum foil, toilet paper, facial tissue and large heavy duty garbage bags (55 gallon).

Cleaning Supplies: Anti-bacterial household cleaners such as; Lysol/Pine-Sol, bleach (gallon), kitchen wipes, glass cleaner, dish detergent, dishwasher detergent (liquid), scouring pads and sponges.

Other Items: Hand soap, feminine hygiene products, band aids, gauze, medical tape, surgical masks, Vinyl (no latex) powder-free gloves (s, m, l) and hand sanitizer.

Get ready for our annual Missions Fair which will be held on April 15th. If you know of a group that does great work locally, please contact Maryann Petremont at 203-877-0612, mapetremont@yahoo.com or Lorraine Carr at 203-931-0516, carrain@yahoo.com.



TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, January 7</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Chapel Worship</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time - Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Christmas Jar recap - Wesley Center</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“GUTS” Youth Group meeting – Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, January 8</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Finance Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, January 9</i>	<i>5:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation class – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Club planning meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Disciple 4 - Egan Room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Study: Christianity and Islam – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, Jan. 10</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Adult Study: Christianity and Islam – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Youth Leaders meeting – Pastor Dani’s office</i>
<i>Thursday, January 11</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Missions Committee – Chapel (rescheduled from 1/4/18)</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Prayer Shawl meeting – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, January 12</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, January 13</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Private Party – Laura Perregaux</i>
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<i>Sunday, January 14</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time and UMW 2nd Sunday Soup Sale - Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>2:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Memorial Service for Loretta Kelly – Sanctuary and Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“GUTS” Youth Group meeting – Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, January 15</i>		<i>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - Beacon Information Due Today</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Historical Society meeting – Dodd Hall – Marcia Winter contact</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, January 16</i>	<i>5:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation class – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Disciple 4- Egan Room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Study: Christianity and Islam – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, January 17</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Adult Study: Christianity and Islam – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, January 18</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall Alcove</i>
<i>Friday, January 19</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, January 20</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>2:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“Amazing Grace” matinee-Shubert Theater, New Haven</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Private party – Sheryl Hollyday – Dodd Hall</i>

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY is hosted by Bev Downing. Next Sunday’s hosts will be the Worship Committee.

CHRISTMAS JARS CONVERSATION will be held today, immediately after worship. Come share your story and your feelings from participating in the Christmas Jar sharing!

Becky Virgalla & Don Hastings

YOUR ASSISTANCE IS WELCOMED IN REMOVING THE OUTSIDE CRECHE STRUCTURE after worship today. Please see Marcia Winter to assist.

2018 ENVELOPES are available on the tables near the Broad Street entrance to the sanctuary. If you desire envelopes and do not find yours, please contact Lisa Sobolewski.

GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) -- is the new name for the Youth Group. Today January 7th, 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge, Wesley Center, 1st floor. Each week we will have a discussion topic and a different topic leader. Come join us for the Youth Group! All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome (friends, too)! Today’s topic: "Hitting the Reset Button" led by Pastor Dani Levine.

CHRISTMAS MAIL AT MTMUMC: Please pick up the remaining mail in Dodd Hall under the Rev. Ford plaque. The mailbox closes TODAY. Cards left behind will be mailed.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

“DIFFERENT BOOKS, COMMON WORD: Muslims and Christians Together Building the Good Community” begins this week and continues through Feb. 20/21. Identical sessions are Tuesdays from 7 – 8:30 p.m. or Wednesdays from 10 – 11:30 a.m., taught by the Rev. Judy Bennett. We meet in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. See more details on the rear cover. Sign up by calling the church office (203.874.1982) or just come!

MEETINGS THIS WEEK:

- **FINANCE**, Monday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m., Egan Room, finalizing proposed 2018 budget.
- **MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM**, Monday, Jan. 8, 6 p.m. in the Gunn Library.
- **MISSIONS COMMITTEE**, Thursday, Jan. 11, 6:30 p.m. in the Chapel.
- **STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS**, Thursday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m. in the Gunn Library.
- **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**, Thursday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m., Wesley Center, 1st Floor

NEXT SUNDAY, January 14

HUMAN RELATIONS DAY - The message “The Eli Implant” will be based on I Samuel 3:1-20. We will receive the denominational offering for Human Relations Day. We will also install our 2018 church officers and Steve Wasko will present a Mission Moment. After worship, our United Methodist Women will hold their “Second Sunday Soup Sale.”

(“Next Sunday” continued on next page)

A MEMORIAL SERVICE for Loretta Kelly, mother of Lamar, will be held next Sunday, January 14th 2 p.m. in the sanctuary with reception following. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to LaMar and Eileen Kelly, 1 Mansfield Grove Road, Unit 309, East Haven, CT 06512. Memorial contributions may be made to MTMUMC, memoed "Memorial Fund."

GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) will meet next Sunday, January 14th, 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Lounge, Wesley Center, 1st floor. Each week we will have a discussion topic and a different topic leader. Come join us for the Youth Group! All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome (friends, too)! Topic for 01/14: "It's A-Parent" led by Dawn Bettencourt. *This is the first topic in our Family Relationships series.*

2018 INAUGURAL DATES AND MEETINGS LATER IN JANUARY

FEBRUARY "BEACON" DEADLINE: Monday, Jan. 15. Please submit hard copy to the church office or electronically to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

CHURCH COUNCIL, Thursday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m. in the Dodd Hall alcove. Adoption of the 2018 church budget.

"FAIR ON THE GREEN" ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, Sunday, Jan. 21, after worship in the Wesley Center, 1st Floor. Fair dates are Friday and Saturday, June 1-2.

MTMUMC FOUNDATION, Thursday, Jan. 25, 7 p.m. in the Gunn Library. Election of officers.

WORSHIP, Thursday, Jan. 25, 7:30 p.m. Lenten planning.

LATER JANUARY EVENTS

DUCKPIN BOWLING & PIZZA PARTY. Friday, January 26, 7:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.2018.

Join members of the MTMUMC Gay Straight Alliance and Diversity Clubs from Foran, Jonathan Law and Platt Tech High Schools for Fun and Fellowship. All G.U.T.S. Members & Friends are invited. Devon Duckpin Bowling, 551 Naugatuck Ave, Milford, CT 06460
Questions, please contact Kelly O'Hara at 203-283-4676 or yankee89@optonline.net. *Sponsored by our MTMUMC Gay Straight Alliance*

"SAVE THE DATE" for the Youth Sponsored Ski Trip, at Ski Butternut in Great Barrington, MA. **Please note the date change to February 3rd** (the previously published back-up date). This event is open to the whole congregation. **Helmets are required.** Contact person is Shelly Lapadula, m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com.

CHURCH SECURITY TASK FORCE UPDATE

Our Church Security Task Force held its second meeting on Jan. 2nd. Steve Bettencourt was elected Convener and Kelly O'Hara was elected Recorder. We continue to recommend that the rear door to Dodd Hall be used for emergency exit only. The Church Council will review this recommendation at their Jan. 18th meeting. We will meet again on Feb. 1st from 6 – 7 p.m. These, and all meetings in the United Methodist Church excepting Staff-Parish, are open to all.

Other actions included a decision to review policies and procedures and bring preliminary ideas for a such policies to our next meeting; to focus initially on fire emergency protocols, and to clarify policies on the use and deployment of two-way radios for our child care worker. Please contact Steve, Kelly or any member of the committee (names from the church office) if you wish to discuss your ideas. We encourage all to help us keep our church community safe.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the weekly bulletin.

DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS. *Beth O'Brien (203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net) is now taking orders for 2018.* Flowers are \$20. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to support missions are honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for both are payable to MTMUMC, mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460. **Altar flowers are needed for January 7th.**

FOOD BASKET: Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets and for the canine facility. Towels and blankets are needed. Animal Control will not take peoples' released pets but will spay and neuter feral cats. Please leave your donations in the designated basket in the back of the Sanctuary. The Youth Fellowship brings these items to Animal Control each week. Bless you for caring for God's children with fur. **If you and your animals are in need please help yourself to the available donations.**

CONTACT THE PASTORS directly or through the church office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 111 or 203.895.3753. He is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink:** 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com. **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or Danielle.levine@mail.com.

"FIX IT BOX" is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous AND Gamblers Anonymous WEEKLY. Please call the church office for the schedule or see it posted on the bulletin boards.

PLEASE NOTE: During a medical or other emergency the Head Usher or a designee will call #911. Please do not call on your cell phone as multiple calls may delay response.