

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

*(Please keep our focus on the worship of God by sharing those items not published elsewhere.)*

LEARNING A NEW HYMN

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 his people!*

*Let the Lord bless his 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

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*O welcoming God, you spread your arms wide in welcome, and we are grateful that you have received us in mercy, forgiveness and blessing. Keep us, then, from miserly hearts and shriveled spirits. Forgive us those times that we build barriers instead of removing them. Help us be the light we want to see in the world. 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.*

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 19:1-7 Bible p.1012  
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 “A United Methodist Theology of Baptism” Dr. Bodt

\*HYMN #2250 “I’ve Just Come from the Fountain” rear cover

\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED Hymnal #881

\*GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #70

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

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

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

\*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.)*

“LIFT US UP” UPDATE Tom Beyer

*(Our campaign to fund handicapped accessible renovations to the Wesley Center.)*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Come, Be Baptized” G.A. Smith

\*Presentation: “Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow” Hymnal #94

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #77 “How Great Thou Art” How Great Thou Art

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #666  
*“Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom.”*

\*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.**

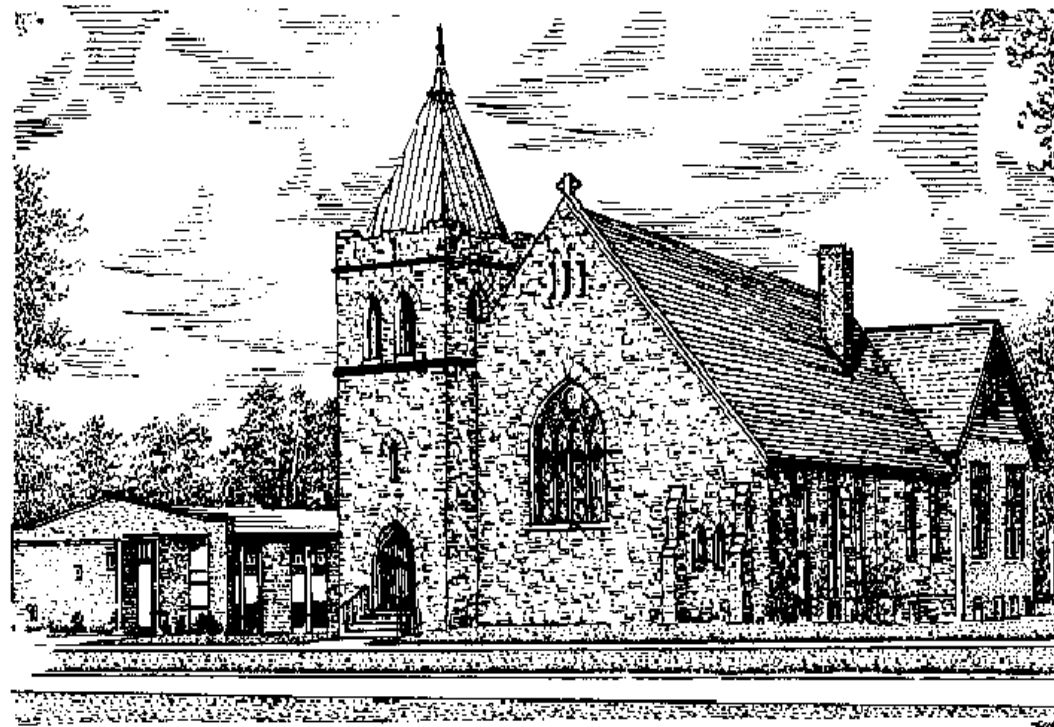
# 2250 I've Just Come from the Fountain

*Refrain*  $\text{\textcircled{S}}$

I've just come from the foun-tain, I've just come from the  
 foun-tain, Lord, I've just come from the foun-tain, his name's so  
 sweet. O Lord, I've sweet. 1. O broth-er, do you love Je-sus?  
 Yes, yes, I do love my Je - sus. Broth-er, do you love  
 2. O sister, do you love Jesus ... 3. O sinner, do you love Jesus ...

*1* *2 Fine Leader*

*All Leader*



## Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

*First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836*  
*Current building dedicated: 1893*  
*Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969*

*All* *D.S.*  
 Je - sus? His name's so sweet. O Lord, I've

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

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**  
 January 11, 2015



~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~ Continued

Grace Notes  
January 11, 2015

- Sunday, January 18** 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center  
9:45 a.m. Informal Hymn Singing - Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Worship and Installation of Officers - Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall  
11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings – Sanctuary-  
Sheryl Hollyday, R.N.  
11:15 a.m. Fair on the Green Meeting –  
Wesley Center – 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
11:30 a.m. New Members Class – Pastor’s study –  
Wesley Ctr. - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- Monday, January 19** Church Office is closed in honor of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.  
6:00 p.m. Historical Society Meeting – Dodd Hall  
7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel
- Tuesday, January 20** 5:30 p.m. Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center  
7:00 p.m. Disciple 3-Wesley Center  
7:00 p.m. Adult Bible study – Wesley Center
- Wednesday, January 21** 9:00 a.m. BEACON Volunteers  
10:00 a.m. Adult Bible study – Wesley Center  
5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall  
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals –  
Dodd Hall
- Thursday, January 22** 5:15 p.m. MYF – Community Supper – Dodd Hall  
5:30 p.m. MTMUMC - Community Supper – Dodd Hall  
6:30 p.m. MTMUMC Foundation Meeting – Gunn Library  
7:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism Meeting –  
Wesley Center  
7:00 p.m. Worship Committee Meeting – Chapel
- Friday, January 23** 10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers
- Saturday, January 24** 12:00 p.m. Rachel Merva-Private Party-Dodd Hall

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

*It is said of Martin Luther that, in times of doubt and despair, he would tap his forehead and say “Baptismus sum” (“I am baptized”). Baptism, a singular act of being claimed and set apart for God, brought Luther reassurance and hope.*

*Baptism is the essential rite of passage into Christian faith. In a sense, it models “grace:” others (parents and godparents) do for us what we cannot or are not ready to do for ourselves. Even in “believer’s baptism” (when a person is of the “age of consent”) we depend upon sponsors and a community of faith within which to fully live out the vows we take.*

*I have intentionally chosen to preach on baptism when no one is being baptized. This allows us an opportunity to reflect on the deeper meaning of the sacrament and to better prepare ourselves to “renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church....” [emphasis mine].*

*The brochure in today’s bulletin and copies of my message are things to share with others. One outcome of this message that I hope for is one (or more) people to work with me on reinstating our Cradle Roll, that process by which we track baptismal families from baptism until enrollment in Sunday School. If you sense God nudging you to learn more about this, please speak with me today.*

In Christ,

Pastor Brian

**MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Website: [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org)

[www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)

E-mail: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Lay Leaders	Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
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	Bruce Rumford	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck		

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – John Henry

**Greeters** – Bob and Becky Virgalla

**Acolytes** – Lillia Downing and Amanda Repetsky

**Cross Bearer** – Nate Carr

**Liturgist** – Bev Downing

**Bible Bearer** – Carolyn Hollyday

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Pastor Brian and Bev Downing.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given to the Glory of God.

**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

**PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS** using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads in each pew; or obtain one from an usher. Ushers collect them on the opening hymn and our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. Please obtain others' permission to share their concerns. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.

**TODAY'S LITURGY** is taken from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The Faith We Sing (2000).

**SERMON COPIES** from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org).

**CHURCH INFORMATION** is available in the racks in back of the church.

**CHILD CARE** for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for older children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL'S 1<sup>ST</sup> CHAPEL WORSHIP** was today January 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Our student-led chapel services are open to parents, friends, and all the congregation. We hope you joined us for a new and different worship experience!

## ~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

*Sunday, January 11*

*9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center*

*10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary*

*11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall*

*11:00 a.m. MYF Ice Skating-Milford Ice Pavilion-lunch provided*

*11:30 a.m. New Member's Class-Pastor's study,  
Wesley Ctr. 2<sup>nd</sup> floor*

*2:00 p.m. Gary Kingsley memorial service –  
Sanctuary and Dodd Hall*

*Monday, January 12*

*7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel*

*Tuesday, January 13*

*5:30 p.m. Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center*

*6:00 p.m. Boy Scout Court of Honor – Sanctuary and Dodd Hall*

*7:00 p.m. Disciple 3-Wesley Center*

*7:00 p.m. Adult Bible study – Wesley Center*

*Wednesday, January 14*

*10:00 a.m. Adult Bible study – Wesley Center*

*5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall*

*6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals –  
Dodd Hall*

*Thursday, January 15*

*BEACON Information Due*

*7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting-Dodd Hall Alcove*

*Friday, January 16*

*10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers*

*Saturday, January 17*

*3:00 p.m. Sheryl Hollyday -Private Party – Dodd Hall*

*Continued on next page*

## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

### PLEASE HELP US SERVE OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS!

**THURS., JANUARY 22nd SUPPER AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL:** We also seek volunteers for our fourth Thursday supper at 5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. If you can help, contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959. Needed tasks include *Shopping and set-up, prep and cooking; serving; and clean-up.* **Join our youth helping this month!**

**WED., JANUARY 28th SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL, BRIDGEPORT:** Our Missions Committee seeks others to join Maryanne Meehan and Bob Jordan, to assist them from about 2:30 – 5 p.m. to prepare the meal. A crew of 6-8 is needed. We only prepare; others serve and clear. Anyone 13 or in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older may serve.

Please let Maryanne know of your interest to prepare to serve our neighbors who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. You may reach her at [maryannej@charter.net](mailto:maryannej@charter.net), 203.610.4936 (cell) or 203.268.8850 (home). Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector in downtown Bridgeport.



**WELCOME VISITORS!** May you experience God's presence with us. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you warmly. Our Ambassadors will look for you!

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time host is the Finance Committee. Join us for a few moments of fellowship and conversation. Next week's hosts are the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

**NEW MEMBER CLASSES BEGIN TODAY** at 11:30 a.m. following worship in the pastor's office, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Preparation for membership is three required sessions: **today** (getting acquainted and membership vows), **January 18** (UMC and MTMUMC history) and **February 1** (mission and service). If you are interested in joining our church, please speak with Pastor Brian this morning. If you cannot attend today, ask about the next series of sessions, likely during Lent.

**A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GARY KINGSLEY**, father of Steven Kingsley (husband of Elizabeth), will be held today at 2 p.m. in our sanctuary.

**"LIFT US UP!" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** continues for handicapped accessible renovations to Wesley Center. *See the info table in Dodd Hall* with our new brochure. For more information please speak with co-chairs Tom Beyer (203.525.2265; [tom.beyer@cort.com](mailto:tom.beyer@cort.com)) or Rachel Merva (203.641.5088; [rmerva@optonline.net](mailto:rmerva@optonline.net)).

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR A STUDY ON ACTS!** The first class has met but Pastor Hal says you can still come if you let him know today!

- ❖ What happened when the risen Christ left his gathered band of followers and ascended into Heaven?
- ❖ How was the Christian Church birthed, and how did it begin its assignment to continue the saving ministry of Jesus? Fascinating stuff!

**Time:** Tuesdays, 7-8:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 10-11:30 a.m.

**Place:** Gunn Library, on the second floor of Wesley Center

**Dates:** January 13/14 to February 10/11

**THANK YOU** - Maryanne Meehan Jordan would like to thank all of you for the prayers, cards and phone calls she's received since the accident. They are most appreciated. She asks that you please continue to keep her in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.**

## THIS WEEK

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets this Thursday, January 15, 7 p.m. in the Dodd Hall alcove. Committee reports on activities since Church Conference (Nov. 16) are due to Paul Downing ([paul.downing@snet.net](mailto:paul.downing@snet.net)) by close of business tomorrow. Action items should be submitted by that deadline to Shelly Lapadula ([m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com](mailto:m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com)) or Pastor Brian ([brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com)). Please note that two main action items will be to adopt the 2015 church budget and to take action on the current status of our Long Range Plan. Reports received, along with an agenda, will be e-mailed on Tuesday.

## NEXT SUNDAY

**HUMAN RELATIONS DAY** - Informal hymn singing precedes worship at 9:45 a.m. The message "It's For You" will be based on I Samuel 3:1-20 and John 1:43-51. We will install our 2015 church officers and receive the denominational offering for Human Relations Day. Blood pressure screenings by Sheryl Hollyday, R.N. will follow worship in the sanctuary.

**THE FAIR ON THE GREEN MEETING** will be held right after worship in Wesley Center - 1st Floor. We will:

- Stuff envelopes
- Go over the menu and the new ticket system
- Look for new volunteers and anyone who would like to take on a committee
- Look for any new ways to make the Fair on the Green a success
- Old and new business and more

We look forward to seeing everyone there.

*Christine and Edie*

## ON-GOING MINISTRIES

**FEBRUARY "BEACON"** information is due by noon this Thursday, January 15th. Please submit materials on or before this date to [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or hard copy to the church office. If you are not receiving The Beacon, please contact the church office (203.874.1982).

**2015 ALTAR FLOWER OR MISSION CROSS ORDERS** are now being received by Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or [bgobrien11@optonline.net](mailto:bgobrien11@optonline.net). Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf placed on the altar. Checks for either one payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

**ACOLYTES, CROSS BEARERS AND BIBLE BEARERS WANTED!** Our children and youth make a positive contribution to our worship. See or contact Noel Fino: 203.877.3005.

## OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

**HOME VISITATION** by Pastor Brian is available to become better acquainted. Visits may also occur in his office. Weekday, evening and Sunday appointments are available. If you would like to arrange for one, please contact Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 10.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS** are Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, please call the office (203.874.1982) or ring the Broad Street doorbell. Thank you.

**BULLETIN NOTICES** are due by noon Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin.

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

**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS:** Wet and dry cat food is still needed for seniors with pets, but the Animal Control is not allowed to take in peoples' released pets. However, they do take care of kittens and will spay and neuter feral cats as has been the policy for years. They also request towels and blankets for the animals. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

**CONTACTING THE PASTORS:** **Pastor Brian** ([brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com): 203.874-1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

"**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

### **VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR JANUARY 4th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 183 (Jan. 4th, 176; Healing and Wholeness, Jan. 5th: 7)  
Total Offering (minus "Lift Us Up) for Jan. 4th: \$8,391.00; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts: \$3,045.00. Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 85 (Office Volunteers 3; Sunday School: 44; Disciple 3: 11; Adult Bible Study Tues.: 4; Adult Bible Study Wed.: 10; Confirmation: 13; No Choir rehearsals this week; Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) \*Important! Small Groups – please contact the church office ([mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) / 203.874.1982) with your attendance.