

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 “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT Tapestry on “Be Thou My Vision” Bell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Joel 2:13 (adapted)

Leader: Rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God.

People: *For God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.*

All: *Let us worship this merciful, loving and forgiving God.*

*HYMN #153 “Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose” St. Petersburg

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

O God our deliverer, you led your people of old through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your church that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

°°°

THE PSALTER Psalm 27 Hymnal p.758

THE EPISTLE Philippians 3:17 – 4:1 Bible p.1070

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

*THE GOSPEL Luke 13:31-35 Bible p.951

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #286 “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” Passion Chorale

THE SERMON “I Do My Best Work Under Pressure”

Dr. Bodt

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

O God, hear us as we confess our sins. In the presence of your love and our neighbor’s need, we acknowledge our disobedience and ingratitude; our pride and willfulness; our heedlessness and indifference. Despite our brokenness, you keep us as your own. Grant us true repentance, and forgive us all our sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
(Let each one confess in silence.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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.*
(Consider non-touching signs of Christ’s peace during flu season.)

PASTORAL CARE PRESENTATION The Rev. Jani Darak-Druck
“A United Methodist Cancer Support Ministry”

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Fairest Lord Jesus” J. Carter

*Presentation: ”The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

HYMN #496 “Sweet Hour of Prayer” Sweet Hour

HYMN #475 “Come Down, O Love Divine” Down Ampney

You are invited to come forward to receive a healing anointing for yourself or on behalf of others. Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak the name and need to the anointer. This practice from the earliest days of the Church expresses God’s love as a mysterious, caring expression of Christ’s promise “I will be with you always.” Please remain in prayer until all have returned to their seats.

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #666

(Consider virtual hand-holding with those near you as we sing.)

*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, Christ be your shalom.*

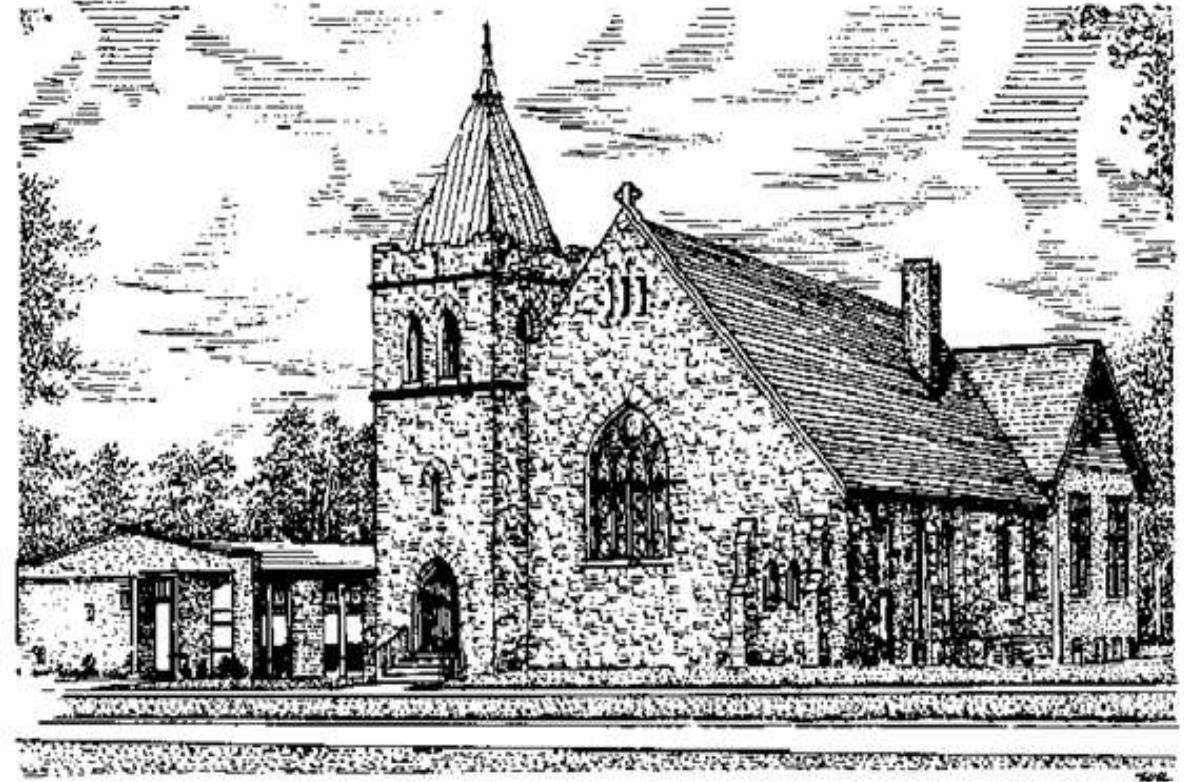
*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

POSTLUDE

“Just A Closer Walk”
(During the postlude please remain seated).

Bell Choir

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1843

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

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

LENT II

February 24, 2013

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, February 24 **LENT II**
9:00 a.m. *Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center*
10:00 a.m. – *Worship – Sanctuary*
11:30 a.m. *Caring Ministries – Wesley Center*
4:00 p.m. *Confirmation – Wesley Center*

Monday, February 25 7:00 p.m. *Service of Healing and Wholeness – Dodd Hall*

Tuesday, February 26 6:00 p.m. *Confirmation – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Disciple 2 – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Lenten study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*

Wednesday, February 27 9:00 a.m. *Volunteers-Beacon Mailing*
10:00 a.m. *Lenten study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*
6:30 p.m. *Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall*
7:45 p.m. *Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall*

Thursday, February 28 5:30 p.m. *Community Dinner – Dodd Hall*
7:00 p.m. *Worship Committee – Wesley Center*

Sunday, March 3 **LENT III**
9:00 a.m. *Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center*
10:00 a.m. *Worship/Sacrament of Baptism – Sanctuary*
11:30 a.m. – *Ambassador Training – Wesley Center*
11:30 a.m. – *MYF Easter Treat preparation – Dodd Hall*
2:00 p.m. – *Square One theatre outing, Stratford*
2:30 p.m. – *Rob and Sarah Levin wedding vow renewal – Sanctuary*
4:00 p.m. *Confirmation – Wesley Center*

Monday, March 4 7:00 p.m. *Service of Healing and Wholeness – Dodd Hall*
8:00 p.m. *Ambassador training – Wesley Center*

Tuesday, March 5 6:00 p.m. *Confirmation – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Disciple 2 – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Lenten study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*

Wed., March 6 10:00 a.m. *Lenten study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*
6:30 p.m. *Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall*
7:45 p.m. *Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall*

Thursday, March 7 6:00 p.m. *Missions Committee – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Board of Trustees – Egan Room, Wesley Center*

Grace Notes
February 24, 2013

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

“Lions and tigers and bears, oh my!”

I always associate this time of year with “The Wizard of Oz” since it aired on television in late February or early March. 28 years ago I watched it the night before my son Daniel’s March 2nd birth. The three travelers—Dorothy, the Scarecrow, and the Tin Man—hope to calm their fears as they chant it skipping through the darkened woods on their way to finding Oz and the Wizard. They run into the very thing they fear, a lion, only to find out that he is the Cowardly Lion and nothing to fear at all.

King David, to whom today’s Psalm is attributed, certainly had opportunity to fight lions and bears as a young shepherd. The Gospel narrative recounts one of many threats on Jesus’ life. The human fears that must have attended his journey toward Jerusalem and the cross are the unspoken background of the Lenten journey. It is worth considering that, metaphorically speaking, we all have lions and tigers and bears to face. It is the stuff of life to deal with fears unwelcome and uninvited, our temptation being either to flee or fold.

Some of our fears are simply Cowardly Lions and some of them are as real as the Cross. Evidencing courage in the face of fear is the theme of today’s message “I Do My Best Work Under Pressure.”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Martin D. McLee
Lay Leaders	Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Child Care Coordinator	Betty Laferriere	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Bruce Rumford	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
	Interim Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Kelly O’Hara

Greeters – Anna and John Henry

Cross Bearer – Nicholas Bettencourt

Liturgist – Christine Volgmuth

Acolytes – Kaylyn Bettencourt and Jamie Georgelos

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP is Rev. Bodt at the Dodd Hall door and Christine Volgmuth at the Narthex door.

TODAY’S ALTAR FLOWERS are in celebration of John Henry’s birthday, yesterday, given by his wife, Anna.

WELCOME VISITORS! We pray you experience God’s presence among us. Please introduce yourself to the pastor or greeters.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR follows worship in Dodd Hall. Today’s hosts are Membership and Evangelism. Next Sunday’s hosts are the Gay-Straight Alliance.

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 will 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. These prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. Please also speak your concerns as invited during the prayer.

CHILD CARE: *For children 5 and under* is provided in Wesley Center, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd Hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. *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 these children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*

INFORMATION: All informational sheets are available in the back of the church.

SERMON COPIES from February 17 are available in the rear of the church and on the web at www.mtm-umc.org.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

OFFICE HOURS this week are Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. If you come and Wesley Center is locked, call Mary Lou at 203.874.1982 or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753). **BULLETIN NOTICES** are due by Noon Wed., hard copy or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

OUR ADMIN. ASSISTANT SEARCH continues, led by Staff-Parish Relations. Interested applicants may send resume and cover letter to church168@yahoo.com.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS ORDERS are taken for Altar Flowers OR “In Lieu of Flowers,” an opportunity to give to missions (UMCOR, UM Army and others – please see info. table in back of church for list). Flowers may be ordered at any time. **When a donation is made in lieu of altar flowers, the cross with a miniature mission scarf will be displayed on the altar in place of flowers.* Please contact Beth O’Brien at 203.877.8668 or by email at bgobrien11@optonline.net or mail: Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

PLEASE KEEP NAME TAGS on for Fellowship Hour and return them before leaving.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon.-Thurs. **Pastor Hal** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@yahoo.com. Please inform us of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations as hospital will not release that information to us.

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: Should there be a medical or other emergency during the worship service, someone designated by the head usher will call #911. Do not call on your cell phone. Multiple calls may delay response. Thank you.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 17:

Total worship attendance all services: 236 (Ash Wednesday, Feb. 13: 20 [Noon] and 50 [7:30 p.m.]; Sun., Feb. 17: 160; Mon., Feb. 18: 6); Total Offering: \$7,223.29; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$408.25; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 69; Total number persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0. **Important! Small Groups – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or call (203.874.1982) the number of persons that met.*

Rise Up!

End Violence Against Women and Girls

Program sponsored by New York Annual Conference's Board of Church and Society, Commission on Religion and Race, Connectional Ministries Vision Table, Immigration Task Force, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Methodists in New Directions, United Methodist Men, United Methodist Women

Saturday; March 2, 2013
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Presenters:

Rev. Traci West, Ph.D.

Rev. Judy Stevens, Ph.D.

Kymerly McNair, Coordinator of Training, My Sister's Place

Music Leadership by Nehemiah Lockett

Worship Leadership by Rev. Tim Riss and Rev. Paul Fleck

Workshops:

Human and Sex Trafficking

Violence Against Women and Girls in the LGBT Community

Immigrant Vulnerability

Youth Workshop: Relationships and Warning Signs of Violence

Asbury-Crestwood UMC

167 Scarsdale Road

Tuckahoe, New York 10707

REGISTER ON-LINE AT NYAC.COM BY FEBRUARY 23
FEE FOR ADULTS (INCLUDES LUNCH) \$15
FREE FOR YOUTH (GRADES 6-12)

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

- **ALL ARE WELCOME TO TODAY'S CARING MINISTRIES TEAM MEETING**, when we will hear more from the Rev. Jani Darak-Druck on having a United Methodist cancer support ministry. We meet downstairs in the Wesley Center at 11:30 a.m.
- **SIGN UP FOR THE MARCH 3rd THEATRE OUTING** during Fellowship Hour today. See "This Week" for details.
- **DENTAL SUPPLIES COLLECTION** for folks in Appalachia continues. See the enclosed flier. Both Sunday and Tuesday Confirmation classes have chosen this as a mission project.
- **OUR CHAPEL WINDOW RESTORATION FUND CONTINUES** with \$1,910 received as of Feb. 19, now over 1/3 to of our \$5,700 goal to reinstall the stained glass in the Chapel's north wall. Checks may be made payable to the church, memo "Stained Glass Windows." See any member of the restoration committee for more details: Bill Petremont, Jim Repetsky, Joan Zauner or Margery Zurko.
- **WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE AS A LITURGIST?** We are looking for people interested in assisting in worship leadership by reading the scriptures and prayers as happens each Sunday. If interested, please contact Worship Chair Laura Perregaux at 203.283.5758 or misslmp2@yahoo.com.
- **SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR MEETING SCHEDULE.**
- **LITURGY TODAY** comes from Holy Scripture, The Book of Worship for Church and Home (1964), The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), and The U.M. Book of Worship (1992).

THIS WEEK

DRAMATISTS DESIRED! *I am looking for about 8 – 10 persons who will each be willing to memorize about 15 verses of scripture and recite them on Palm Sunday in a dramatic portrayal of the Passion story. Required is desire to enter the story as a spiritual experience; commitment to three rehearsals on Sunday afternoons, March 3, 10 and 17 from about 1-3 p.m.; an ability to memorize; and an ability to recite before the congregation. Based on the response over the next two weeks I will know if I can proceed with this portrayal this year. If you are interested, please contact me at 203.874.1982, ext. 11; or brian.bodt@yahoo.com.*

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS meet this **Wednesday, February 27th, 9 a.m.** in the Wesley Center to mail the March “Beacon.”

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC: We are recruiting help now for the next supper, **Thursday, Feb. 28, any portion of 2 – 6:30 p.m.** If you can help, contact:

Shopping and set-up: Phoebe Repetsky; (jimrepetsky@snet.net 203.874.8688)

Prep and cooking: Jim Repetsky (see contacts above) or Steve Huchet (203.610.7739)

Serving: Joan Zauner (jzauner@yahoo.com; 203.283.5643) or Liz Dillon

(elizabethdillon13@yahoo.com; 203.283.1626)

Clean-up: Dave and Eileen Doyle (ddoyle51@aol.com; 203.878.9049)

AMBASSADORS TRAINING will be held **Sunday, March 3 at 11:30 a.m. and Monday, March 4 at 8 p.m.** The purpose of Ambassadors will be to intentionally seek and welcome new people on Sunday mornings. The commitment will be to be in church as often as possible from mid-March to mid-September; to briefly greet people new to you; and to invite them to meet the pastors or lay leaders and to come to Fellowship Hour. **You may attend the training times to learn more without making a commitment to serve.** Interested? Speak with Pastor Brian or Cathy Cono (203.878.9218 or spikkio@optonline.net).

THEATER AND DINNER OUTING to the play "Distracted" at Square One Theatre in Stratford will be **Sunday, March 3rd at 2 p.m.**, with optional group dinner afterwards at restaurant in walking distance. Tickets are \$20 / \$19 for senior or student. Play is a comedy about living in our 24/7 sound bites world and how we've tuned out what really matters. Sign up with Membership & Evangelism during Fellowship Hour in February to reserve your spot!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SHELTON welcomes all to their 11th Annual Lenten Fish Fry dinners, Friday nights, February 15 through March 22 from 5:30-7:30 pm. Join them for some great home cookin', including baked or fried fish, choice of potato, pasta, homemade coleslaw, dessert and beverage. Clam chowder will be available for an additional charge. \$15 for adults, \$13 for seniors (60+) and children 14 and under are FREE! No reservations needed. Dine in or take out. First United Methodist Church is located at 188 Rocky Rest Road, Shelton (corner of Long Hill Avenue and Rocky Rest Road). Call 203-929-3537 for more details or visit www.umcshelton.org. Proceeds will support the church's ministries and missions.

NEXT SUNDAY

LENT III: We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper using Setting IV, a more penitential rite in keeping with Lent. The message "Difficult Truths" is based on Isaiah 55:6-11; I Corinthians 10:1-13 and Luke 13:1-9. Ambassador training will be held following worship: see "This Week" article.

MYF EASTER TREAT PREPARATION will be held following the worship service. See your advisors for details.

COMING SOON

MISSIONS FAIR on **Sunday, March 10th, right after worship** in Dodd Hall. Representatives from missions supported by YOU, Mary Taylor Memorial Church, will present their projects and dreams with banners, brochures and conversation. Friends of Appalachia (FOA); UMARMY; Mountains of Hope, Haiti; Beth El Center, Milford; Christian Community Action, New Haven; Bridges, Milford; and Bridgeport Rescue Mission will all be represented. Please be sure to stay and learn more about how your generosity helps God's children to survive and thrive. You will also discover there are hands-on things you can do to give time as well as financial aid. Hope to see you there as we discover together some of what goes on out there in the world beyond our red doors.

A RECONCILING MINISTRIES TWO-PART WORKSHOP will be held on **Saturday, March 16, 1-5 p.m. and Sunday, March 17, 3-6 p.m.** at Asbury-Crestwood U.M. Church, Yonkers, NY. The purpose of these sessions is to help continue our ministry of hospitality to all without regard to sexual orientation. Pastor Brian, Marcia Winter and Leigh Bak are currently committed to attend on March 16th and Marcia Winter to March 17th, so rides will be available. Please see one of them if interested.

MYF EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE planning session will be held on **Sunday March 17, 5-7 p.m.** Dinner will be served.

HOLD THE DATE: Saturday, March 23 Confirmation trip to New York. Details are still being finalized, but this will be an all-day trip leaving about 8 a.m. and returning at 6 p.m. and taking in John Street UM Church (oldest in America) and Anchor House, a U.M. residential alcohol and drug rehabilitation program. Cost will be somewhere around 30 with scholarship help available. Confirmands and mentors are eligible to attend. More details will follow.

MYF will be hosting the monthly COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC on Thursday, March 28 at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping out, please see Kate Georgelos or Mary Ann Petremont.