

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 “Communion” D. Auber

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “A Place at the Table”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Francis of Assisi, Italy, 13th cent.

Leader: Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;

Leader: Where there is hatred, People: *Let me sow love;*

Leader: Where there is injury, People: *Pardon;*

Leader: Where there is doubt, People: *Faith;*

Leader: Where there is despair, People: *Hope;*

Leader: Where there darkness, People: *Light;*

Leader: And where there is sadness, People: *Joy.*

*HYMN #103 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” St. Denio

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) Francis of Assisi, Italy, 13th cent.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life. Amen.

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION (*by the pastor*)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty and most merciful God, we confess to you this day that we have sinned against you. We have taken for granted the grace that Jesus offered us upon the cross. We have not held fast to your commandment to love our neighbor as ourselves. We admit that sometimes, we come to your table of grace seeking forgiveness without repentance. For this we are truly sorry. Help us to truly repent of our sins and know that as your forgiven children, we are called to love not only our neighbors, but our adversaries. Grant us the strength and the resolve to act according to your commandments, knowing that through your grace alone, we have been made righteous; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

A RECOGNITION OF BOY SCOUTS

Let us pray: *O God, your will is that all your children should grow into fullness of life.*

*We lift to you the ministry of Scouting. We offer you thanks—
for camping, to teach us that the world is our great home;
for study and work, to build character;
for service, to see our responsibility to those in need;
for encouragement in genuine patriotism and vital faith.*

Bless the work of Scouting, in this place and around the world, that, through its efforts, the young may, like our Lord, increase in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with you and all people. Amen.

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 58:1-12 Bible p.674

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

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 Bible p.1039

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

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:13-20 Bible p.880

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

*HYMN #519 “Lift Every Voice And Sing” Lift Every Voice

THE SERMON “A Spark in the Dark” Pastor Levine

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.*)

BLACK HISTORY MOMENT Chris Carveth, J.D.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, *including the special “Souper Bowl” offering for alleviating hunger through the Beth-El Center, Milford. Our youth will follow the ushers for your “second mile” gift, checks to “MTMUMC,” memo “Souper Bowl.”*

Offertory Anthem: “I Am the Bread of Life” J. Stainer

*Presentation: “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Hymnal p.18-20

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 gluten-free bread and grape juice. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. During the distribution we will sing hymns # 624, 618, 620, 629

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 #581 "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" Beach Spring

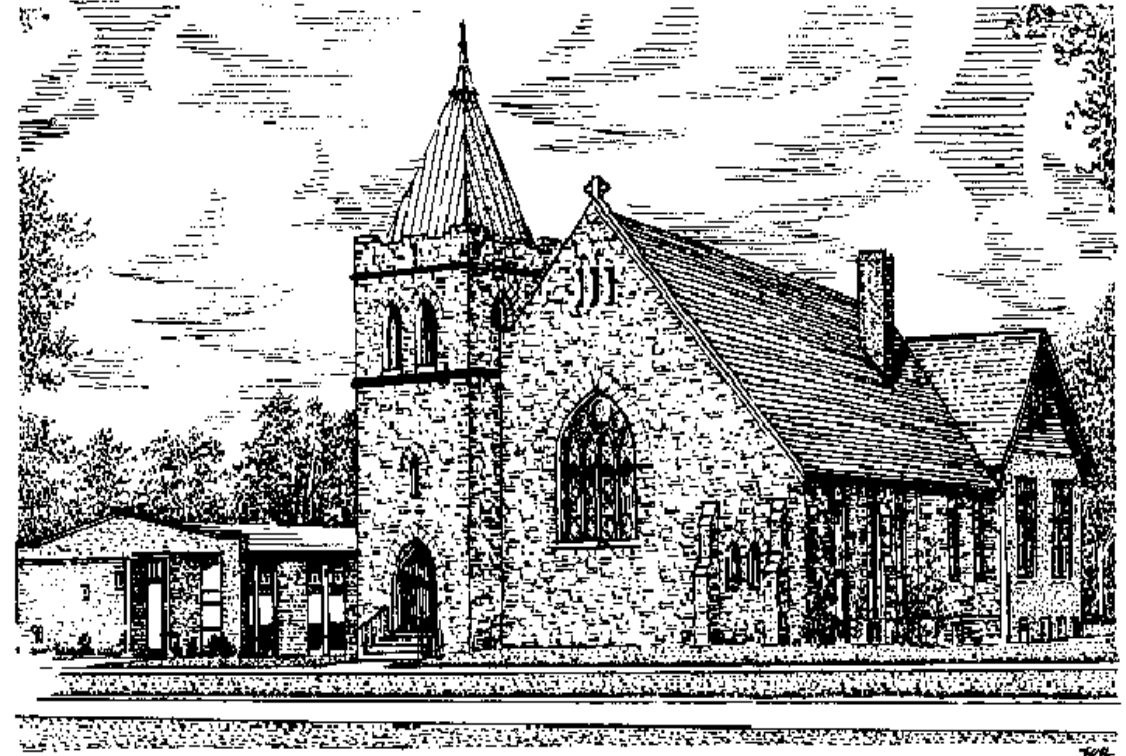
*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Freely, Freely" Hymnal #389, refrain
"He said, 'Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give. Go in my name, and because you believe, others will know that I live.'"

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

POSTLUDE "Trumpet Tune in D Major" G. Martin
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastors 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 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 5, 2017

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, February 5</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School - Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>“Souper Bowl of Caring” Men’s Club sponsored soup and sandwich luncheon – Dodd Hall</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, February 6</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, February 7</i>	8:00 a.m.	<i>Lauralton Hall “Take-a-Look” 200 High St. Milford</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation class – Egan Room</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, February 8</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	6:30/7:45 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, February 9</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl ministry – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, February 10</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<i>MYF “Lockdown” – Dodd Hall and Sanctuary-Pastor Dani contact (6:00 p.m. Friday through 10:00 a.m. Saturday)</i>
<i>Saturday, February 11</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Dodd Hall reserved for dinner dance set-up</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Valentine’s Dinner Dance – Dodd Hall</i>
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<i>Sunday, February 12</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School - Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>UMW Soup and Bakery sale – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Christmas Jars rollout – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>MYF meeting – Youth Lounge – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Monday, February 13</i>	6:00 p.m.	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, February 14</i>	Noon	<i>UMW meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation class – Egan Room</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, February 15</i>		BEACON INFORMATION DUE TODAY
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	6:30/7:45 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friday, February 17</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers</i>

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. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O’Brien	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		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

*Grace Notes
February 5, 2017*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

As you may have noticed, I have joined the choir on Sunday mornings. I have been singing in groups since I was very, very young. I started in the children’s choir in my home congregation growing up. In elementary school, I was in three different choruses, two in my elementary school and one town-wide “Special Chorus,” as it was called. I also play several instruments. Music has played a major role in my life. In fact, you will rarely see me without headphones on or music playing as I work or study.

I tell you this because there is one song that I sang as part of the Special Chorus that I still remember to this day, 17 years later. The song was based on a line from Shakespeare’s play, Twelfth Night: “If music be the food of love, play on.”

Music is truly a gift from God, and a gift to God. I can think of no greater way to praise God than to offer music. As a musician and a vocalist, I recognize that this is easy for me to express. Hymns have been a vital part of my spiritual formation, favorites being, “Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing,” “I Love to Tell the Story,” and any song to the tune “Beach Spring” (as with our final hymn this week).

Charles and John Wesley also recognized the power and potential of music as both a “Spark” of the Holy Spirit, and a vessel for God’s message, as evidenced by the multitude of hymns written by Charles, and John’s “Directions for Singing,” found on page vii of the hymnal in your pew.

I have enjoyed sharing some of the gifts God has given me with you all, and I look forward to sharing more as we continue to grow together in ministry.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Dani Levine

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Kelly O’Hara

Greeters – Liz Dillon and Dawn Tremills

Liturgist – Rev. Dr. Brian Bodt

Bible bearer – Elise Pitts

Cross Bearer – Olivia Kingston

Acolytes – Ryan and Sean Kingston

Communion Stewards: Deb Dubien and Bev Downing

Communion Celebrants: Pastors Bodt, Vink and Levine; and Beth O’Brien

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in memory of Kristin Ann Carveth, given by her family.

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 rear 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.

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.

TODAY’S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

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

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION TRIP TO FURCY HAITI FEBRUARY 24TH – MARCH 4TH

Three of us from Mary Taylor (Tina Gage, DMD, Emily Bak, RN and Leigh Bak, APRN) are headed to Furcy Haiti on February 24th for a week-long mission trip. There will be two medical foci of the trip: a dental clinic and a first aid training program for community health workers in the area surrounding the remote village of Furcy.

We ask you to pray for our team and our brothers & sisters in Haiti. The Dental Clinic may be the only opportunity for dental care that some of the villagers will have in a lifetime, and the First Aid Training is a new endeavor that will bring essential care to people living in even more remote areas than Furcy.

We will also be collecting supplies and monies to purchase dental supplies & additional materials on our arrival in Haiti. A collection box will be set up in Dodd Hall for donations. Items needed are:

Toothbrushes

Ace wraps

Large bandanas or triangle bandages (for making slings)

Bandages (bandaids, dressings, adhesive tape, butterfly bandages, bandages scissors)

Neosporin ointment

Ibuprofen (Advil, Motrin), acetaminophen (Tylenol) and

Imodium

Cloth diapers, pins, diaper covers

Bars of soap

Washcloths

Large rolling suitcases



Monetary donations in the form of checks can be made out to “Mary Taylor Memorial UMC” with “VIM Trip to Haiti” in the memo section.

We gratefully appreciate your prayers and your generous partnership in mission with our brothers and sisters in Haiti.

~Tina, Emily & Leigh

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

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

TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS, contact **Beth O'Brien** at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net. Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for either are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

Altar flower donation open dates begin February 26.

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 ESPECIALLY NEEDED NOW, according to Paul Downing's contact with the animal shelter. "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.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR January 29th:

Total worship attendance all services: 206; Jan. 29: 157; GEUMC, 33; Jan. 30: Healing and Wholeness worship: 11; Taize, Jan.26: 5; Total Offerings for January 29 minus "Lift Us Up": \$8,199.00; Lift Us Up: \$20.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 167 Community dinner, Jan. 26: 58; MTMUMC Foundation: 7; Worship Committee: 10; Sunday School: 36; Methodist Youth Fellowship: 21; Confirmation class: cancelled; UMW: cancelled; Adult Bible Study, 7 pm: cancelled; Adult Bible Study, 10 am: 12; Bell Choir: 6; Adult Choir: 14; Office volunteers, 3; Total persons received on profession of faith: 1; 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.

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY is hosted by the Men's Club. Next Sunday's hosts will be the Methodist Youth Fellowship.

"SOUPER BOWL" OF CARING LUNCHEON TODAY is hosted by the Men's Club. There is no charge and everyone is welcome. **Today** is "Souper Bowl" Sunday. That's right, "Souper" not "Super." If this is new to you, please see the Souper Bowl of Caring website <https://souperbowl.org>. Please leave your canned or other non-perishable food in Dodd Hall. You may also make a financial contribution (*cash in an envelope marked "Souper Bowl" or checks payable to "MTMUMC" with "Food" in the memo section*) in today's offering. Proceeds benefit the Beth-El Center, our local Milford shelter to help people escape homelessness. Thank you for your support.

SOCKS FOR SENIORS continues under the leadership of Eileen Potkay, LPN a member of our Parish Health and Wellness team. There is a collection box in Dodd Hall for your new and gently used Adult size (any color) socks for local seniors in need. Any questions please contact her directly at 1-203-809-0188 or email her at Eileenmary68@aol.com. **We will be collecting until March 5th.**



IT'S COLD AND FLU SEASON: Hand-sanitizers are available for anyone desiring them in Dodd Hall. You will find them on the east (Wesley Center side) and west (People's Bank side) window wells with a sign inviting their use, courtesy of our Parish Health and Wellness team.

TRASH AND TREASURES needs 2 or 3 hollow-core doors, no windows, unpainted preferred, for display purposes. Please call Dolly Bonisch at 203-783-9952 before bringing them down.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

RESERVATIONS FOR THE VALENTINE'S DINNER DANCE are due tomorrow, Feb. 6, to Paul Downing at paul.downing@snet.net or 203.676.5582. You need not be a couple to enjoy this festive evening. **See details on the following page.**

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP LOCK-IN: Friday, Feb 10th, 7 pm to Saturday, Feb. 11th at 9 am: games, movies, stories, snacks, hot breakfast, and lots more included. No cost. Permission slip required. **RSVP is due today!** Contact Pastor Dani Levine: danielle.levine@mail.com. -



VALENTINES DAY DINNER DANCE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2017
5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
DODD HALL



COME ONE – COME ALL

To the MTMUMC Annual Valentine's Day Dinner Dance –

Food by Chez Bob and Chez Charles, Music by Maestro Rick

Hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dancing, laughter and merriment will be served! Please join us – All adults are welcome and as usual, there is no charge for the dinner. Bring a guest!

Child care will be provided in the Wesley Center.

Please RSVP your reservation by February 6th to Paul Downing at 203-676-5582 or paul.downing@snet.net.

Sponsored and hosted by the Men's Club.

NEXT SUNDAY, February 12th

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY – The texts of Deuteronomy 30:15-20; I Corinthians 13:4-13 and John 15:7-17 will be the basis of the message “What does Love have to do with it?” given by Sandy Morgan, Certified Lay Servant. We will have a Black History Moment on Bishop Woodie White presented by Pastor Dani Levine; and the Mission Moment will be Nick Bettencourt and Ryan Lapadula speaking on the Yale Blanket Project.

“SECOND SUNDAY SOUP AND BAKED GOODS SALE” also follows worship in Dodd Hall, hosted by our United Methodist Women (UMW). Proceeds benefit UMW missions.

CHRISTMAS JAR ROLLOUT



A Christmas Jar can be a pickle jar, spaghetti sauce jar, mayonnaise jar, Mason jar, etc.; please start saving jars for this project. What a perfect project for the entire family. It's all about inspiring HOPE in others. Please join us, directly after worship, **Sunday, February 12,** to find out how you can participate and make a positive difference in someone's life. Let's focus on random acts of kindness in 2017! Don Hastings & Becky Virgalla

MTMUMC FOUNDATION ELECTIONS

Officers elected on January 26th include:

President - Sue O'Shea, Vice President - Tom Beyer, Secretary - Nancy Bennett, and Treasurer - Tom Griggs. **Congratulations to all!**

MYF EVENTS

Due to the Superbowl, the **Methodist Youth Fellowship** will *not* be meeting this evening. Regular meetings will resume next Sunday with a special presentation!

Methodist Youth Fellowship will be hosting Fellowship Time next Sunday, February 12th. Bring a treat to share!

Methodist Youth Fellowship Lock-In: Friday, Feb 10th from 7pm - Saturday February Feb 11th at 9 am: games, movies, stories, snacks, hot breakfast, and lots more included. No cost. Permission slip required. **RSVP is due today!**

Contact person: Pastor Dani Levine: danielle.levine@mail.com

Methodist Youth Fellowship Annual Ski Trip: *Note Date Change* Saturday, Feb 25th. Beginners welcome (lessons available). Bring a friend! We will depart from church parking lot at 6:45am and return approximately 6:30pm. Lift ticket cost \$40.00 per person. Additional cost for ski rentals. **HELMETS REQUIRED.** Brown bag your lunch or bring money to buy lunch. Snacks provided. Permission slips required. RSVP no later than Feb 23.

Contact person: Shelly Lapadula at m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com

LENTEN STUDY

Our Lenten study will be based on the book HALF TRUTHS: “God Helps Those Who Help Themselves and Other Things the Bible Doesn't Say” by the Rev. Adam Hamilton. The study will focus on five popular sayings, simple phrases that “sound” Christian but miss the point in important ways:

“Everything Happens for a Reason”

“God Helps Those Who Help Themselves”

“God Won't Give You More Than You Can Handle”

“God Said It, I Believe It, That Settles It”

“Love the Sinner, Hate the Sin”

Classes will be taught by Pastor Brian Bodt and meet in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center on:

Tuesdays, Feb. 28 and March 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 7 – 8:30 p.m. or

Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 10-11:30 a.m.

TO REGISTER: Please contact Mary Lou Kampert in the church office at 203.874.1982, ext. 110 or mtmumc@sbcglobal.net, or speak with Pastor Brian.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26.