

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 “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 “Live In Charity” (Ubi Caritas)

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come! Hear the call of God.

P: *Some days there is so much noise. What will we hear?*

L: A world crying out for love.

P: *We gather to worship you, O God, to praise your loving presence and to be strengthened for the calling you have given us. Amen!*

\*HYMN #549 “Where Charity and Love Prevail” St. Peter

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(seated, unison)*

*Gracious and life-changing God, we ask your blessing on us as we gather as the body of Christ here today. We seek you, whose name is love, whose nature is compassion, whose presence is joy, whose Word is truth, whose Spirit is goodness, whose will is peace, whose service is perfect freedom, whose Gospel is revolutionary. Make us your love, and bless our time here together as we seek to bring forth the Kingdom of God. We pray this in Christ’s name. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Holy Lord, as we enter this Lenten season, we are reminded of our weakness and our need for your strength. We ask your forgiveness when we succumb to the temptations of this world, when we tread paths that are contrary to your will. We ask your forgiveness when we fail to look beyond our own desires to see another’s need. We ask for your presence in our wilderness wanderings. May your hand guide us from the arid land of sin into a land flowing with milk and honey—a land made rich and abundant by your saving love. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 13 Bible p.1047

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

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:43-48 Bible p. 881

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

THE SERMON “What Is Love?” Pastor Rachel Duncan

\*HYMN #647 “Your Love, O God, Has Called Us Here” Cornish

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.)*

MISSION MINUTE Maryann Petremont

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Fairest Lord Jesus” Carter/Bach

\*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #336 “Of All The Spirit’s Gifts To Me” Meyer

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE *(spoken)*

*May the blessing of God, fountain of living water, flow within us as a river of life.*

*May we drink deep of her wisdom.*

*May we never thirst again.*

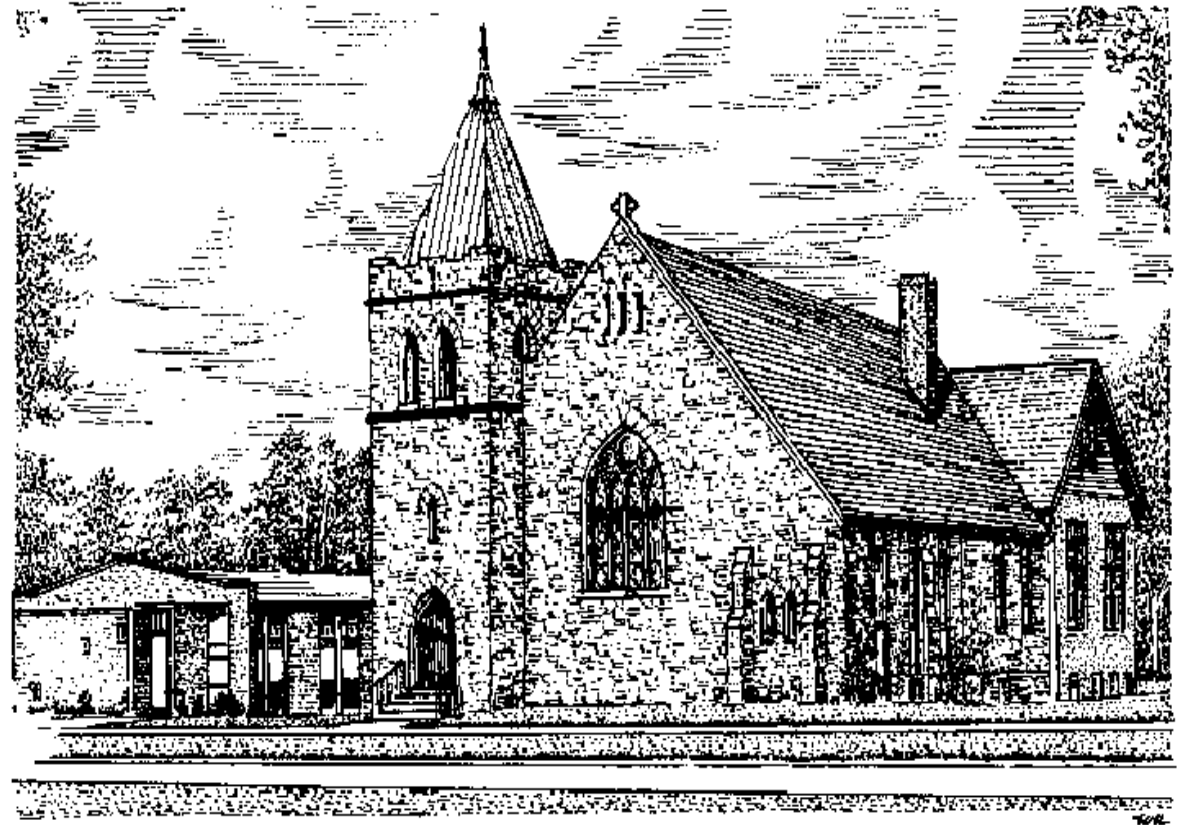
*May we go through life refreshing many, as a sign of healing for all;  
through the One who is life and love eternal. Amen.*

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

POSTLUDE “Sur Les Grand Jeux” L. Clerambault

*(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*

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

**LENT I**

**February 14, 2016**

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, February 14</i> <b>LENT I</b>	9:00 a.m. Sunday School - Wesley Center
	10:00 a.m. Worship — Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time/ Soup and Baked Goods – Dodd Hall
<i>Monday, February 15</i>	Church Office is closed in observance of President's Day <b>BEACON Information Due Today</b>
	7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel
<i>Tuesday, February 16</i>	NO Confirmation Class – Winter recess
	7:00 p.m. Adult Lenten Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
<i>Wednesday, February 17</i>	10:00 a.m. Adult Lenten Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
	Noon Taize worship– Sanctuary
	1:00 p.m. Pastoral Excellence Group – Gunn Library
	5:30 p.m. Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	7:00 p.m. Endowment Committee meeting – Gunn Library
	7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
<i>Thursday, February 18</i>	7:00 p.m. Worship Committee meeting – Gunn Library
	8:30 p.m. Taize Worship – Sanctuary
<i>Friday, February 19</i>	10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Wesley Center
<i>Sunday, February 21</i> <b>LENT II</b>	8:45 a.m. New Members class-Pastor's study, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor Wesley Center
	9:00 a.m. Sunday School - Wesley Center
	9:45 a.m. Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m. Worship — Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall
	11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings - Sanctuary
	4:00p.m. MYF Meeting – Wesley Center
<i>Monday, February 22</i>	7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel
<i>Tuesday, February 23</i>	5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan Room – Wesley Center
	7:00 p.m. Adult Lenten Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
<i>Wednesday, February 24</i>	9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers – Egan Room – Wesley Center
	10:00 a.m. Adult Lenten Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
	Noon Taize worship– Sanctuary
	5:30 p.m. Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
<i>Thursday, February 25</i>	5:30 p.m. MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall
	7:15 p.m. Ambassador Training – Gunn Library
<i>Friday, February 26</i>	10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers
<i>Saturday, February 27</i>	9:00 a.m. Sunday School Teacher's meeting – Sunday School office

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982

Fax: 203.877.8973

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	Outreach Pastor	Rachel Duncan
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

*Grace Notes*  
*February 14, 2016*

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*It is a pleasure to have Outreach Pastor Rachel Duncan preaching today. Rachel, a Florida native, is a Registered Nurse and holds her Master of Divinity from Yale Divinity School, Class of 2011. She has been our Outreach Pastor since September, 2015. Most of you have had an opportunity to meet her and a number of you work closely with her in our ministries of Christian education, youth and evangelism. Rachel is a full-time nurse at Yale-New Haven Hospital while serving 15 hours per week with us. It is a daunting schedule. Please keep her and the ministries with which she works in your prayers.*

*My wife Carol and I are traveling for the long weekend. I will return in time for the Lenten study beginning Tuesday evening. I hope to see some of you there.*

*As announced last Sunday, our stained glass windows are slated for restoration in 2016-17. Eight of our ten windows need restoration: four in 2016 and four more in 2017. The "bowing" will be corrected and the top louvres will be repaired so that the top portion may be opened for ventilation. Our Board of Trustees has contemplated this project for at least five years. Your budget support now makes it possible to maintain these treasures. The project will begin soon. Removed windows will have their openings covered with ¼" mahogany luan, caulked to insure no water leakage. Our contractor is Stained Glass Resources, Inc. of Hampden, Massachusetts. Worship will continue as usual during the restoration period. Mr. Chris Paton is the project manager. You may direct any inquiries to him at 203.874.9390 or Ms. Rachel Merva, Trustee President, at 203.641.5088.*

*May we observe a holy Lent.*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

*Pastor Brian Bodt*

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – Kelly O’Hara

**Liturgist** – Barbara Ann Griggs

**Acolytes** – Ryan and Sean Kingston

**Greeters** – Marilyn Long and Barbara Macisco

**Cross Bearer** – Olivia Kingston

**Bible Bearer** – Julia Shamansky

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Pastor Duncan and Barbara Ann Griggs.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in celebration of a happy anniversary to Don and Mary Lou Hastings; in memory of Pat Natlo on the anniversary of his death on February 13, given by his wife; and a happy 9<sup>th</sup> birthday in heaven to Tom Calabrese, love Stacey, Rick, Jason, Jen and Aiden.

A **MISSION CROSS** has been placed and a donation made to UMARMY in honor of our Mary Taylor Men’s Club with gratitude for all they do for our church.

**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

**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. 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 and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

**WELCOME VISITORS!** May you experience God’s presence today. Please complete a red visitor’s card (in the pew racks) and wear the “Visitor” name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the rear of the church.

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

## LENTEN STUDY, 2016

Our 2016 Lenten study will be John: The Gospel of Light and Life written by Adam Hamilton. The six week study, taught by Pastors Brian Bodt and Hal Vink, will follow our typical Tuesday evening/Wednesday morning format. Students will attend one session or the other but be able to “switch” sessions if schedule conflicts arise. The dates and times of the classes are:

**Tuesdays, 7 – 8:30 p.m., February 16 and 23 and March 1, 8, 15 and 22. Pastor Brian, teaching.**

**Wednesdays, 10 – 11:30 a.m., February 17 and 24 and March 2, 9, 16 and 23. Pastor Hal, teaching.**

**Please register no later than Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> with:**

- Pastor Hal: [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com) or 203.878.8977
- Pastor Brian: [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com) or 203.874.1982, ext. 11
- Mary Lou Kampert: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982, ext. 10

Quoting from the study description: *“The Gospel of John is the most deeply spiritual of the four Gospels. This writing is filled with rich images and profound truths, but John notes that his aim in writing the Gospel is that readers will not only believe in Jesus Christ, but that they “may have life in his name.” (John 20:31) “You’ll follow the life, ministry, death and resurrection of Jesus...and understand the context of some of the best-known verses in the New Testament.”*

Typical of studies by Rev. Hamilton, a video component is part of the curriculum.

The Rev. Adam Hamilton is Senior Pastor of the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, one of the leading congregations of the United Methodist Church; and author of many studies.

## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary) hosted today by the Finance Committee and next Sunday by the Worship Committee.

**SECOND SUNDAY SOUP SALE** by our United Methodist Women is held during Fellowship Time today with proceeds supporting their mission work.

**PASTOR BRIAN AND CAROL** remains on vacation through Tuesday, returning in time to begin the Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> Lenten study on John. For pastoral needs or emergencies please contact Leigh Bak at 203.215.0470. She will reach one of the pastors on call.

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.**

### THIS WEEK

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED tomorrow, February 15<sup>th</sup>**, for President's Day.

**MARCH "BEACON" DEADLINE** is tomorrow, February 15. Please submit articles to [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or hard copy to the church office.

**NO CONFIRMATION THIS TUESDAY:** winter recess. We resume Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5:45 p.m.

**TAIZE WORSHIP**, a contemplative 30 minute experience of music, scripture and prayer, is offered this week on Wed., February 17, noon and Thurs., February 18, 8:30 p.m., both in the sanctuary. This service is offered the third Wednesday and Thursday of each month.

**A REMINDER TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS:** please submit a brief monthly report on your group's ministry to Joanne Platt, Church Council Secretary at [jocbs@aol.com](mailto:jocbs@aol.com) by tomorrow, February 15<sup>th</sup>. Continuing monthly reporting was part of our decision to try meeting Church Council on alternate months, with the hope that communication would not be compromised if we continue written monthly reports. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

### NEXT SUNDAY

**LENT II** – Informal hymn singing precedes worship at 9:45 a.m. The message "Conviction" will be based on Psalm 27; Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17-4:1 and Luke 13:31-35. There will be a Stewardship Spotlight. After worship blood pressure screenings will be offered in the sanctuary.

**A NEW MEMBER CLASS** begins next Sunday, February 21 and continues Feb. 28 and March 6 from **8:45 – 9:45 a.m.** in the Pastor's study. If you are interested in learning more about membership at our church, please attend or contact Pastor Brian or the church office (203.874.1982). Attendance is not a commitment to join, but those desiring to unite in membership will be received at 10 a.m. worship on Sunday, March 13.



## UPCOMING EVENTS AND MINISTRY INVITATIONS

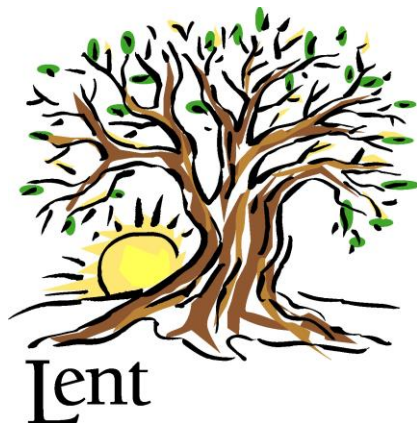
**TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS**, contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or [bgobrien11@optonline.net](mailto:bgobrien11@optonline.net). Flowers are \$20. A donation in lieu of flowers to support missions is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for either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

**SOCKS FOR SENIORS:** Eileen Potkay, L.P.N., Parish Health and Wellness Convener, is collecting new and gently used socks (any size and color, **matched pairs only**) for seniors in long-term care center or nursing home. **Please leave donations in the box in Dodd Hall through Mar. 20<sup>th</sup>** or contact Eileen at 203.809.0188 or [eileenmary68@aol.com](mailto:eileenmary68@aol.com).

**THE LITERACY CENTER** is looking for volunteer tutors to assist basic literacy and ESL students. No previous teaching experience is required. Tutor training will be held in Milford on February 3, 10, 17, 6-8:00 p.m. and in Stratford on March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 6-8:00 p.m. Call 203-878-4800 to schedule your orientation meeting. For information visit [www.lvsct.org](http://www.lvsct.org).

**THE WOODMONT LIBRARY** is looking for volunteers. Volunteers are low tech as the Library is not on computer and strictly pen and paper check in and out of books. If you have 2 hours a day or two hours a week to help out, please call the library at 203-874-5675. The library is located at 16 Dixon Street, at the Fannie Beach Recreational Center, next to the Literacy Center. Hours are M, T, W, F 10-12 & 2-4 pm, Thurs. 10-12 & 6:30-8:30 pm.

**NOW YOU CAN HELP BOTH TRASH AND TREASURE AND HELPING HANDS COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE AND FURNITURE BANK** in Orange at the same time. If you have an item that may be too big for Trash and Treasure to handle, call Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952, who will explain how we, Mary Taylor, can get money from Helping Hands from any gently used donation you make to them.



## OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

**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 and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS:** "Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets. Also wet and dry dog food 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.**

**CONTACTING THE PASTORS:** Please inform a pastor or the church office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations:

**Pastor Brian Bodt:** [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com); 203.874.1982, ext. 11 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](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com).

**Pastor Rachel Duncan:** 203.874.1982 or [rachel.e.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.e.duncan@gmail.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.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE:** Pastor Brian will consult with leaders as needed and agree on plans for worship, Sunday School, and other activities. **Weather-related closings will be posted on church voice mail, Yahoo e-mail group, and WTNH (Channel 8).**

**VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR February 7th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 255; February 7th: 157; February 8th: cancelled, snow; Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, Ash Wednesday: 4 [7 am], 33 [Noon], 61 [7:30 pm]. Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for February 7<sup>th</sup>: \$6,744.83; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$359.33; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$412.21; Engaged in Small Groups: 232; (Office Volunteers: 2; Sunday School 34; UMW: 9; Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (includes Confirmation class): 88; Souper Bowl Luncheon: 96; Trash & Treasures: 3; No choir rehearsals. 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.