

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.)

INFORMAL HYMN SINGING (9:45 a.m.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “God’s Time is Best” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “As the Deer” Bell and Adult Choirs

*CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Psalm 119:33-34, 36

Leader: Lord, teach me your statutes

People: *And I will guard every part of them.*

Leader: Help me understand,

People: *So I can keep your instruction with all my heart.*

Leader: Turn my heart to your laws,

People: *Not to greedy gain.*

*HYMN #559 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation” Westminster Abbey

PRAYER OF THE DAY (seated, unison) Based on Psalm 119:35, 37-40

O God, lead us in the path of your commandments, so that we may delight in your law and have full life by living as you command. Confirm the promises you have made in scripture because you find us honoring and revering you. Help us to earnestly desire your precepts; and in your righteousness give us life. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of Holiness, we confess that we do not always yearn to be holy. We think it stuffy and stifling. We excuse ourselves saying “I’m only human” before we seek the harder path and your way of righteousness. Give us grace to seek not only forgiveness but wholeness, completed by your mercy as revealed in Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 Bible p.105

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

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23 Bible p.1039

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

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 5:38-48 Bible p.881

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

*HYMN #402 “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” I Want to Be a Christian

THE SERMON “The Complete Package” Dr. Bodt

HAITI MISSION TEAM COMMISSIONING

Emily Bak, RN; Leigh Bak, APRN; Tina Gage, DDS

Leigh Bak: an overview of the mission

Pastor: All who take upon themselves the name of Christ are called into ministries of love and service by the example of Christ. As Emily, Leigh and Tina begin their work among the people of Furcy, Haiti, we pray the blessings of God and this community on their mission.

People: *We recognize you as ambassadors of this congregation in ministry with the people of Furcy, Haiti and dedicate you to service in the name of Jesus Christ. Through our gifts and prayers we will be united with you in your work. May God richly bless your labors.*

Pastor’s prayer of blessing

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.)

BLACK HISTORY MOMENT Tom Beyer

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Cantique de Jean Racine” G. Faure
(The Adult Choir)

*Presentation: “Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #438 “Forth In Thy Name” Duke Street

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #672, vs. 1 only

*“God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you.
With his sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.”*

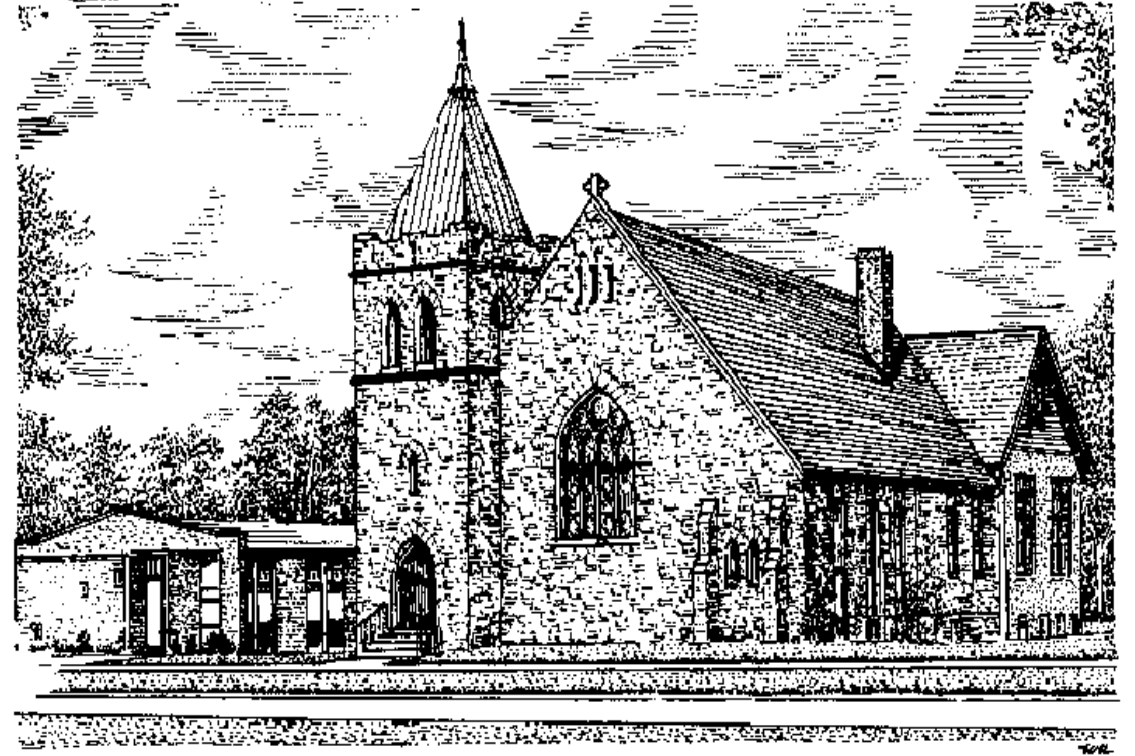
*THE BELL TOLLS – *Sending us to walk with and witness for Jesus*

POSTLUDE

“Bound for Glory”
(Please be seated until the conclusion of the postlude.)

The Bell Choir

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 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 19, 2017

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, February 19</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School - Wesley Center</i>
	9:45 a.m.	<i>Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Blood pressure screenings by Eileen Potkay L.P.N. - Sanctuary</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 20</i>		<i>Church office closed in observance of Presidents’ Day</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, February 21</i>	Noon	<i>Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster – off site</i>
	2:30 p.m.	<i>Milford Clergy Association meeting – 30 Ormond St. NO Confirmation class – school recess</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Men’s Club meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study-Gunn Library</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>St. Mary Job Search support group – 70 Gulf St. Milford</i>
<i>Wednesday, February 22</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Beacon Volunteers – Egan room</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	Noon	<i>Taize Worship service – Sanctuary</i>
	6:30/7:45 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Stewardship Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, February 23</i>	5:30 p.m.	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:45 p.m.	<i>Taize Worship service – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, February 24</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, February 25</i>	6:45 a.m.	<i>MYF Ski Trip to Butternut Mtn. – Shelly Lapadula contact</i>
<i>Sunday, February 26</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>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Caring Ministries – Wesley Center</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>NO MYF today</i>
<i>Monday, February 27</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, February 28</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Pastor Brian leads worship at Wesley Heights</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – Dodd Hall</i>
		<i>Confirmation Class attends supper</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>“Half-Truths” study – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 1</i>	7:00 a.m., Noon and 7:30 p.m.:	<i>Ash Wednesday worship – Sanctuary</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>“Half-Truths” study – Gunn Library</i>
	2:30 p.m.	<i>Golden Hill Community Supper – Bridgeport</i>
<i>Thursday, March 2</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Mission Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Board of Trustees meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, March 3</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	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

*Grace Notes
February 19, 2017*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton has announced the appointment of the Rev. Alpher Sylvester as the Superintendent of the Connecticut District, effective July 1, 2017. Rev. Sylvester is currently pastor at Grace United Methodist Church, St. Albans (Queens), New York. The Superintendent is the Bishop’s regional representative, responsible for pastoral appointments and oversight of the 80 churches of our District.

Rev. Sylvester has been a local church pastor since 2004. Previously he held several senior administrative positions in the public sector. His degrees include a Masters of Public Administration (magna cum laude) from the City University of New York and a Master of Divinity (cum laude) from The Theological School, Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Rev. Sylvester is currently in the writing phase of his doctoral degree at Drew.

Rev. Sylvester and his wife Carlene have three children, Nicholas, Simon and Vanessa. A more detailed biography, including his own reflections on his ministry, may be found on the District website at www.ctdistrictumc.org and then clicking on “February 2017 Newsletter” under “What’s New on this Site?” on the right side of the screen.

At this mid-February writing, no appointment has yet been announced for our current Superintendent, Rev. Ken Kieffer, who has completed the maximum term of eight years. We will share his new information as it becomes available.

We pray continued blessings on Reverends Sylvester and Kieffer during this transition time in their ministry.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Pastor*

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Kelly O’Hara

Greeters – Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs

Liturgist – Nate Carr

Acolytes – Shannon Thompson and Devyn Weed

Cross Bearer – Ryan Thompson

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in honor of Tom Calabrese’s 10th birthday in heaven today. Love, Stacy, Rick, Jason, Jen, Aiden and Madison; and in memory of Patrick Natlo given by his wife Marilyn.

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, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992). The Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day were adapted from Psalm 119, and the Unison Prayer of Confession was written by Pastor Brian Bodt. The Haiti Mission Commissioning is adapted from the U.M. Book of Worship.

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

A WORD OF THANKS TO OUR MARY TAYLOR FAMILY:

Our trip to Haiti is less than a week away! We have done a great deal of planning & preparation and are very excited to be “packing our bags” this afternoon!

We can’t thank our generous Mary Taylor family enough for all the donations you have made in response to our requests: toothbrushes & toothpaste, backpacks, first aid supplies, OTC medications as well as the suitcases to carry them all in!

We ask you to hold our Volunteers in Mission (VIM) team and our Haitian brothers & sisters in prayer; for abundant health, for safety and for all of us to know & share the love of God in our time there. As you have likely heard:

- This is only the second time that a VIM team has brought a dentist to Furcy. Tina's clinic may be the only opportunity for dental care that some of the villagers will have in a lifetime; imagine that!
- The First Aid Training for Community Health Workers is a new endeavor for us all. Your generous donations will allow us to send 10 individuals back to those remote areas armed with knowledge as well as the supplies they need to improve the health of communities in areas even more remote than Furcy where there is no doctor, nurse or clinic. Imagine that!
- Our team is bringing 150 feminine hygiene kits assembled by volunteers at the United Methodist Church of Hyde Park (NY) through the “Days for Girls” program. These kits have been credited with allowing women (young & mature) to fully participate in school and work rather than having to “sit out” several days each month of their reproductive cycle. Emily will be teaching the women of the village how to use and maintain these kits so they can last for an anticipated 3+ years, which translates to as much as 7 or 8 months of full participation in school over the course of 3 years; imagine that!

Thank you again for 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 next Sunday.

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 February 12th:

Total worship attendance all services: 112; Feb. 12th: 103; GEUMC, cancelled, snow; Feb. 13th: Healing and Wholeness worship: 9; Total Offerings for February 12th \$8,747.75; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$764.26; Engaged in Small Groups: 197; Sunday School: 31; Methodist Youth Fellowship 15; United Methodist Women: 15; Confirmation class: cancelled; Adult Bible Study, 7 pm: 9; Adult Bible Study, 10 am: 7; Bell Choir: 8 (2/8) and 8 (2/15), Adult Choir: 14 (2/8) and 14 (2/15); Valentine's Dinner Dance: 74; 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.

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY is hosted by the Finance Committee. Next Sunday's hosts will be the Education Committee.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS will be offered after worship in the sanctuary by Eileen Potkay, LPN.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will be resuming regularly scheduled meetings today at 4 pm in the Youth Lounge.

THE BOOKS FOR HALF-TRUTHS are available from Pastor Brian. This Lenten study **begins Feb. 28/March 1**. Please see the separate article detailing class schedules, topics, etc. Books are \$10 payable today or at the first session.

SOCKS FOR SENIORS continues until March 5th. Eileen Potkay, LPN, a member of our Parish Health and Wellness team, invites donations of new and gently used Adult size (any color) socks for local seniors in need. They may be left in the marked box in Dodd Hall. **Don't have time to shop? Monetary donations gratefully accepted and Stacy Riccardi will shop for you.** Any questions please contact Eileen 203-809-0188 or email her at Eileenmary68@aol.com, or see Stacy or Eileen after church.



HAND-SANITIZERS are available in the Dodd Hall window wells on the east (Wesley Center) and west (People's Bank) sides; and in the sanctuary along the north (Broad Street) wall.

GOOD NEWS! TRASH AND TREASURE IS NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS. We hope to have a great year and want to start early to prepare for the big Fair on the Green, 2017! If you are donating clothing, we can only accept spring and summer items. You can save the winter items for the Oyster Festival sale or give it to those in need now or to your favorite charity. Remember to call Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952, before you bring in large items. Try to pack your donations in small, manageable boxes which we will be happy to loan to you.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

MEN'S CLUB MEETING, this Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6:30 p.m., Dodd Hall. Please come join us as we discuss plans and goals for the rest of the year.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS meet this Wednesday, February 22 in the Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor, to mail the March "Beacon."

TAIZE WORSHIP is held this Wednesday at noon and Thursday at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. This is a 30 minute contemplative service of prayer and music. Come worship with us!

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC is this Thursday, Feb. 23, any portion of 2-6:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. To assist, contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959 or Jim Repetsky at 203.874.8688.

THIS WEEK Continued

MTMUMC COMMUNITY DINNERS could use your help. We would greatly appreciate any donations of cans of Dinty Moore Beef Stew. The stew is not the meal but would be used in case food runs out. It doesn't happen often, but it's best to be prepared. You can leave your donations in the kitchen in Dodd Hall. Thank you! *Lorraine Carr, Missions Co-Chair*

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL SKI TRIP: this Saturday, Feb 25th. Beginners welcome (lessons available). Bring a friend! We will depart from church parking lot at 6:45 am and return approximately 6:30 pm. 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. Reservation no later than this Thursday, Feb 23. Contact person: Shelly Lapadula at m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com.

NEXT SUNDAY, February 26th

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY – “Stardust People” will be the message based on Exodus 24:12-18 and Matthew 17:1-9. Our Black History Moment will be on Wilma Rudolph, presented by Carol Galloway. We will introduce our new Sexton, Andy Thomas. Prayer and healing anointing will be offered to conclude the worship. After worship the Caring Ministries Team will meet in the Wesley Center.

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 by next Sunday, February 26.

OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

CHORAL EVENSONG at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 71 River Street, Milford next Sunday, February 26 at 5:00 p.m., sung by the Choir of St. Peter's under the direction of Frederick Backhaus. This is the choral Service of prayer and praise that has been offered daily in the great English cathedrals for four hundred years. If you have not been to Evensong before, you will find that the Choir does the majority of the work! The congregation sings hymns and participates in the spoken prayers. The Service is free and you are most warmly invited to attend.

SHROVE TUESDAY is celebrated the day before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. This was originally a solemn day serving as a reminder that Christians were entering a season of penance. Ironically however, over the centuries, Shrove Tuesday has taken on a festive nature, and has become known today as Fat Tuesday or Mardi Gras (which is simply French for Fat Tuesday).

The tradition of eating pancakes the day before Ash Wednesday came about as a way to use up eggs, milk, and sugar before the 40 days of Lent. In keeping with this delicious tradition, you are invited to join your MTM family for an evening of fellowship and fine dining this Shrove Tuesday.

More details will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now!

FEBRUARY 28th

5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall

All Are Welcome!

Food, Family, Fun

**Co-sponsored and hosted by the Men's Club
and Membership and Evangelism**

ICE SKATING! Mark your calendar and join us for an afternoon of ice skating at Milford Ice Pavilion, 291 Sub Way in Milford on Sunday, March 5th, 12:45 - 2:30 pm. Cost of \$5 per skater includes skate rental. Friends and family are welcome, the more the merrier!

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN: to be specific, 12 of them. On Maundy Thursday, April 13, we will present a recitation called "The Twelve." The skill needed is a willingness to memorize a brief monologue to portray one of the 12 disciples. The tableau is Rembrandt's famous "Last Supper" painting. No acting is required but you'll need to imagine being one of "the Twelve." If interested, speak with Paul Downing (203-676-5582 or paul.downing@snet.net) or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753 or brian.bodt@yahoo.com).

