

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 “Contemplation” C. Saint-Saens

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

REPORT FROM THE STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE Edie Reichard, Chair

INTROIT “Sanctuary”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 32:1-2, 10-11, “The Message” paraphrase

Leader: Count yourself lucky, how happy you must be—you get a fresh start, your slate’s wiped clean.

People: *Count yourself lucky—God holds nothing against you and you’re holding nothing back from him.*

Leader: God-defiers are always in trouble; God-affirmers find themselves loved every time they turn around.

People: *Celebrate God. Sing together—everyone! All you honest hearts raise the roof!*

*HYMN #301 “Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross” Near the Cross

COLLECT FOR PURITY (*unison*)

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

°°°

A RECOGNITION OF GIRL SCOUTING Pastor Dani Levine

Introduction of our Scouts

*The Girl Scout Promise and Law (*all Girl Scouts standing as able and reciting*)

On my honor, I will try: To serve God and my country, to help people at all times, and to live by the Girl Scout Law.

I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do; and to respect myself and others, respect authority, use resources wisely, make the world a better place, and be a sister to every Girl Scout.

Unison Prayer: *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.

HYMN #410 (*seated*) “I Want a Principle Within” Gerald
(*Let the Girl Scouts return to the congregation.*)

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Exodus 20:1-17 Bible p.65 (LP, OT p.82)
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

*THE GOSPEL John 2:13-22 Bible p.967 (LP, NT p.113)
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #529 “How Firm a Foundation” Foundation

THE SERMON “The Temple” Dr. Bodt

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION (*by the Pastor*)

UNISON CONFESSION (*prayed by all*) (W.E. Orchard, England, 20th cent., alt.)

Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your loving kindness. According to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleans us from our sins. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS 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.*

WOMEN’S HISTORY MOMENT “Fanny Crosby” Pastor Dani Levine

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Take and Eat” G. Grier
(*The Adult Choir*)

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #613 “O Thou Who This Mysterious Bread” Land of Rest

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE (Setting IV)

Hymnal p.27

***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, and kneel or stand at the rail. During the distribution we will sing hymns #638, 620, 623, and 624.

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.

*HYMN #419

"I Am Thine, O Lord"

I Am Thine

***THE BENEDICTION**

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

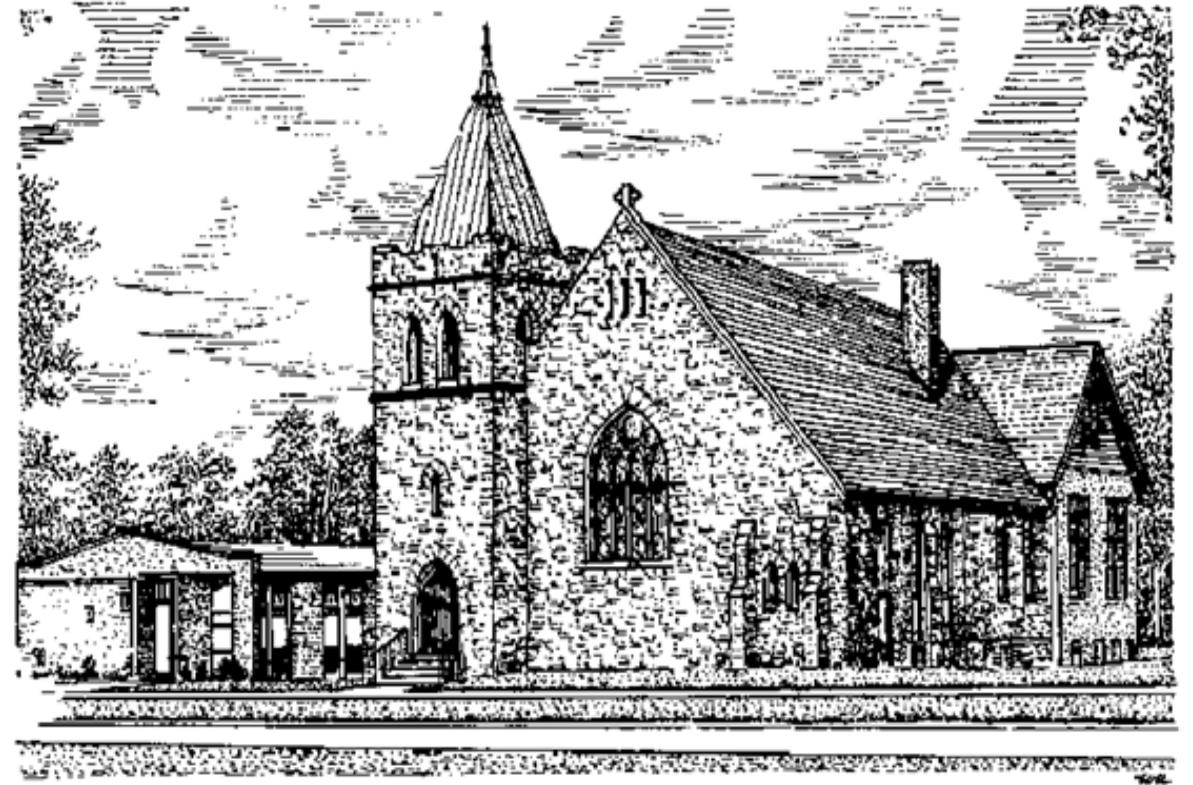
POSTLUDE

"Benedictus Es Domine"

G. Calkin

(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

Nesting Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016

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

**LENT III
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY
March 4, 2018**

(continued from front cover)

What can we do? In response to the Sutherland Springs, Texas church shooting of Sunday, November 5, 2017, our church formed a Church Security Task Force and has begun to implement common-sense security protocols for our church campus as well as consult with local law enforcement.

Change is hard. No one knows all the answers. I regret disappointing anyone who wished for me to have written or spoken sooner. The problem is a complex weave of the proliferation of high capacity weapons, inconsistent mental health assessment, and the waning of morality. “Thou shalt not murder” remains Commandment #6.

Each one of us must answer the question, “What will I do?” In addition to initiating the process and identifying the committee for our security task force, I will stand with all children as they find ways – from walking from their classrooms to appealing to legislators – to declare to the grown-ups in charge that “enough is enough.” I have, and will continue, to urge every one of my elected officials, at every level of government, to vote for sensible gun control, which as I understand it would include banning automatic weapons, so-called “bump stocks” and high capacity magazines.

I have, and will continue, to urge every one of my elected officials to vote for comprehensive mandatory background checks for every gun purchase. I have, and will continue, to urge every one of my elected officials to include funding for mental health screening and treatment. I will never knowingly vote for a candidate who takes money from organizations that do not support sensible gun control. I will attend those events that advocate these changes.

And I will not demonize those who disagree with me. I will not impute motives to their behavior. I will not question their patriotism or their commitment to the Constitution of these United States. And I will ask them not to question mine.

I will continue to pray for the end to this “sickness unto death” that is killing people, especially young people and their teachers, and sapping our spirits and sense of community. I will pray, knowing that the answer to prayer is most often heard in actions that reflect our prayers.

This is my response. As your pastor I ask, “What is your response?”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian Bodt

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. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
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
March 4, 2018

REFLECTIONS ON THE FEBRUARY 14 PARKLAND, FLORIDA SHOOTING

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

For far too many times a man with an automatic rifle has killed innocent people, particularly in schools where innocent children and teachers are seeking wisdom. With these murders, the safety that our children – and all children everywhere – have a right to expect has been destroyed. Families have been devastated and faith in our leaders has been diminished.

None of us know exactly what to do in order for this scourge of wanton killing to end. But we all know we are not doing enough to protect our children. Children everywhere in America know this. One of our parents shared with me that their child had a “stomach ache” after the Parkland, Florida massacre. Knowing from experience that a “stomach ache” was code for something else, the parent drilled down to find that their child was afraid to go to school that day.

A close clergy friend’s grandson asked his parents “Will you promise me I will be safe at school today?” No child, anywhere, should have to ask that question. No mom, or dad or grandparent should ever have to answer such a horror-filled, difficult to answer question. In our time, they have to hedge the answer or tell the honest truth: “No, I cannot make such a promise.”

At some point, we as parents, as grandparents, and as adults who love children whether or not we have biological children – and who instinctively know that our responsibility is to protect our children – have to say “Enough is enough.” That point has, as it has before, arrived. The thoughtful, emotion-fraught comments from some students in Florida after their traumatic ordeal reveal leadership and inspiration that we so badly need. We fail in our duty if we do not act on their pleas. We fail in our commitment to love them in concrete ways at this moment.

(continued on rear cover)

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Stacey Riccardi

Liturgist: Kelly O'Hara

Greeters: Sandra Marren and Nita Prior

Acolytes: Amanda and Mary Repetsky **Cross Bearer:** Zach Scott

Communion Stewards: Barbara Berglund and Beth Hanson

Communion Celebrants: Pastors Brian and Hal; Kelly O'Hara and Shelly Lapadula

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are for a Happy Birthday to Barbara Ann Griggs, whose birthday is March 8th, given by her families; and in memory of Ada Weyant, given by Jeanette Acton.

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 Narthex.

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.

CHILD CARE for children five years old and younger is provided in the Wesley Center, the building to your left. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary since our child care is not staffed to provide for older children.

IF YOU NEED TO LEAVE THE SANCTUARY DURING WORSHIP, please exit by the east (left) side aisle. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar). **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the east side aisle.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992) and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

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

Calendar, continued

Wednesday, March 14 6:40/7:45 p.m. *Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall*

Thursday, March 15

Beacon Information Due Today

7:00 p.m.

Charge Conference/Church Council meeting-Dodd Hall alcove

Friday, March 16

10:00 a.m.

Office Volunteers – Gunn Library

Saturday, March 17

9:00 a.m.

Men's Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel

MISSION NEWS

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL MISSIONS FAIR: Sunday, April 15th. If you know of a group that does great work locally, please contact Maryann Petremont at 203-877-0612, mapetremont@yahoo.com or Lorraine Carr at 203-931-0516, carrain@yahoo.com.

SOCKS 4 SENIORS: Eileen Potkay, LPN on our Parish Health and Wellness Team will be collecting new and gently used (any color or length) ADULT size socks for seniors in need living in local Nursing Homes.



This is our 3rd Annual Sock collection and there IS a need right here in Milford.

The collection will run until March 18, 2018. There will be a box in Dodd Hall to leave your donations. To learn more, see Eileen after worship or contact her at 203-809-0188 or Eileenmary68@aol.com. If you would like to leave a monetary donation, Stacey Riccardi will be happy to shop for you. Contact her at 203-562-6508 or stacey.riccardi@comcast.net.

CALL TO CHURCH CONFERENCE

A Church Conference will be held on **Thursday, March 15, 7 p.m.** in the Dodd Hall alcove. This will precede our regular Church Council meeting which will follow immediately thereafter.

The purpose of this Church Conference, in accordance with Par. 246.7 of The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church, is to receive three motions establishing funding for our proposed sanctuary sound system. Anyone is welcome to attend with vote reserved to members of Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church.

DODD HALL REAR DOOR CHANGES

Based on the recommendation of the Church Security Task Force and the endorsement of the Church Council at their January 18 meeting that the back door to Dodd Hall be an emergency exit only door, the Trustees have taken the necessary steps to permanently convert this door to an "emergency exit door only." In so doing, an alarm was installed on this door so that if it is opened either from the inside or the outside **an alarm will now sound.**

The signage associated with the door has also been updated to reflect the updated status of the door as an emergency exit only door. With this move the Trustees also had the outside cylinder changed so people can no longer enter this door using their church key. Should you trip the alarm by mistake, a key is located in the kitchen next to the stove hanging on a red wooden dowel. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Chris Paton, Trustee President, at 203.675.9093.

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~TODAY

<i>Sunday, March 4</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree Time – Chapel</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship/ Girl Scout Sunday</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time - Dodd Hall</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>UMCOR Fair Trade Coffee Project – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Usher Training – Sanctuary</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>New Member Class- Pastor’s study Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>“GUTS” Youth Group meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, March 5</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 6</i>	5:45 p.m.	<i>Confirmation class – Gunn Library</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Tres Dias meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Disciple 4- Egan Room</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 7</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Study: “Made for a Miracle” – Gunn Library</i>
		<i>Trash & Treasures-donations accepted today</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Study: “Made for a Miracle” – Gunn Library</i>
	Noon	<i>Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
	2:30 p.m.	<i>Golden Hill Community Dinner-Bridgeport</i>
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Choir Fellowship Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>New Members Class-Pastor’s study Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
	6:40/7:45 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, March 8</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry-Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	7:00p.m.	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, March 9</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, March 10</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday, March 11</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree Time – Chapel</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship/ UMCOR Sunday - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time - Dodd Hall</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Last United Methodist Women Soup Sale</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>New Member Class – Pastor’s study, Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>“GUTS” Youth Group meeting – Youth Lounge</i>
	<i>Monday, March 12</i>	6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.		<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 13</i>	Noon	<i>United Methodist Women meeting – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Tres Dias meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Disciple 4- Egan Room</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Study: “Made for a Miracle” – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 14</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Study: “Made for a Miracle” – Gunn Library</i>
	Noon	<i>Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
	5:00 p.m.	<i>Choir Fellowship Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>New Members Class-Pastor’s study Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>

FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY is hosted by Holly Firmender, Stacey Riccardi and Sue Pitre. Next Sunday’s hosts will be the Trustees.

UMCOR COFFEE PROJECT: Missions will once again be taking orders for coffee, tea, cocoa and chocolate in Dodd Hall after service. Payment must be made with your order, either cash or checks payable to “MTMUMC” with “Equal Exchange” in the memo section. **Orders will be delivered next Sunday, March 11.** See Christine McGregor for additional information.

USHER TRAINING is today at 11:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. Learn what ushers do so you might possibly become one. **You may attend this session without a commitment to be an usher.** Ushers lead dignified worship by welcoming people, distributing the Order of Worship, collecting the offering, directing people to the Holy Communion, and other seasonal tasks related to specific services. Training will provide more detail on the commitment, scheduling, and other questions you may have. See Dennis Darak or Stacey Riccardi to learn more if you can’t stay.

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION is today at 11:30 am – 12:30 p.m. in the Pastor’s study, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Three preparatory sessions are required. To accommodate schedules, those sessions are Sundays, March 4, 11 and 18, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. with professional child care offered; or Wednesdays, March 7, 14 and 21, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.; or one may alternate between the two. **New members will be received on Palm Sunday, March 25 at 10 a.m. worship.** See Pastor Brian if you are interested or have questions.

FROM YOUR PARISH HEALTH AND WELLNESS TEAM: Connecticut has been hit hard by the flu this year. Please remember the guidelines of the Center for Disease Control:

- Please stay home if you are ill, not feeling good, or “fighting something”
- Consider extending the “V” sign of peace instead of hand-shaking
- Wash hands or use the hand sanitizers in the Sanctuary and Dodd Hall window wells.

GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) meets today, March 4th, 4–5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. Each week we will have a discussion topic and a different topic leader. Come join us for the Youth Group! All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome; **friends and family, too!** Topic for today: "Stress-Away" led by Paul Downing and guest, Co-Lay Leader, Beth O'Brien. Bring an open mind and willingness to try gentle, meditative movement (yoga) and an introduction to guided meditation. We will provide mats, chairs, water, and snacks. There will be a time of Q&A. *Please wear comfortable clothing, as we will be participating in some physical activities* No one will be asked to do anything or participate in any way which is not comfortable for them.

EASTER FLOWER ORDER DEADLINE IS MARCH 11. See enclosed flier to order.

CHORAL EVENSONG is offered today, 4:30 p.m. at St. Peter’s Episcopal Church, 71 River Street, Milford with a reception following in the Parish Hall. The public is cordially invited.

THIS WEEK

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

LENT HOLY COMMUNION is held each Wednesday noon through March 28. The service of scripture, reflection and song lasts about 30 minutes. Come to this mid-week spiritual oasis!

MADE FOR A MIRACLE adult study begins this week as noted below. If you haven't signed up, or signed up but didn't get a book, please get one from Pastor Brian today and read Chapter 1. Pastor Brian will be the study leader. Michael Slaughter, pastor emeritus of Ginghamburg U.M. Church in Tipp City, Ohio is author of the book, video and leader's guide.

Sessions run March 6/7 through March 20/21; break for Holy Week (March 25-April 1) and resume April 3/4 through 17/18. Participants choose one day or the other or alternate if needed. Cost is \$10 and scholarship help is available. Please register through the church office at 203.874.1982, ext. 110; or mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT: this Wed., March 7, 2:30 – 5 p.m. We prepare the meal, led by Maryanne Meehan. Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector. If you'd like to help, contact Maryanne (maryannej43mm@gmail.com or 203.610.4936.

NEXT SUNDAY, March 11th

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT/LAETARE/"UNITED METHODIST COMMITTEE ON RELIEF SUNDAY" Daylight Savings Time begins: "spring forward" by moving your clocks one hour forward the night before. "Having the Conversation" is the message based on Psalm 107 and John 3:14-21. Our Mission Moment will be on the April 15 "Mission Fair" by Missions Co-Chair Lorraine Carr. We will receive a special offering for UMCOR, the United Methodist Committee on Relief. After worship the United Methodist Women will offer a final-until-fall "Second Sunday Soup Sale" and "Trash and Treasures" will have Easter items for sale, as well as on March 18 and 25.

GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) will meet next Sunday, March 11th, 4 – 5:30 p.m. in the Wesley Center, First Floor Youth Lounge. Each week we will have a discussion topic and a different topic leader. Come join us for the Youth Group! All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome (friends, too)! Topic for 03/11: "Surfin' QWERTY" will be led by Pastor Dani Levine and Youth, Emily Brennan.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING UPDATE

The G.U.T.S Youth Group would like to extend their thanks to the whole congregation for their generosity in supporting the Souper Bowl of Caring food drive. *Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church collected a total of 362.3 lbs. of food plus an additional \$725 to donate to the Beth-El Center's food program.* The generosity of this congregation is a true testimony to God's love and hope shared with this community. Thank you all for supporting this mission in our own Milford community! -- G.U.T.S Youth and Leaders

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the weekly bulletin.

DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS. *Beth O'Brien (203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net) is now taking orders for 2018.* Flowers are \$20. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to support missions are honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for both are payable to MTMUMC, mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460. **Our next open Sunday is April 8th.**

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 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, Gamblers Anonymous, and Recovery from Co-dependency (CODA) 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 25th

Total worship attendance all services: 207; Feb.25: 158; GEUMC: 18; Feb. 26: Healing and Wholeness: 11; Lent Feb. 28: 20 (Noon); Total Offerings for Feb.25: \$4,971.50; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$2,959.88; Engaged in Small Groups: 158; Sunday School: 32; Visitation Committee: 7; Community Supper: 44; "G.U.T.S" (youth group) : 10; Confirmation: 5; Disciple 4: 9; Christianity and Islam: Tues: 9; Wed. 8; Bell Choir:8; Adult Choir: 16; Office Volunteers: 10; 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.