

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 Broad Street

Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982

FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship

10:00 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Prelude and Fugue in A Minor” J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

MISSION MINUTE “Mission Fair” Deb Dubien

INTROIT “How Great is Our God”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Uncrowd our hearts, O God, until you can illumine them with your holy vision;

People: *Open the eyes of our hearts to see your salvation in our day.*

Leader: Let us also see in one another the very face of Christ.

People: *That this time of worship may refresh us to live the Christian life.*

All: *Let us worship you in spirit and in truth.*

*HYMN #2128 “Come and Find the Quiet Center” rear cover

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*unison*) “Prayer of John Chrysostom” Hymnal #412

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, life’s distractions have drawn us away from You. Single-minded pursuit of wealth; averting our gaze from people who are suffering; judging others while overlooking our own shortcomings; calling for peace when moral courage is needed: all these blind us to your call in our day. Forgive the ways we fail to live up to our calling as Christ’s disciples. In that forgiveness, give us the courage to begin again. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

GREETINGS FROM HONORED GUESTS

The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer, Superintendent, on behalf of Bishop Martin McLee

The Honorable Ben Blake, Mayor, City of Milford

THE PSALTER Psalm 23 Hymnal #137, R.1

ANTHEM Animals A-Comin’ The Praisemakers Choir

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*THE GOSPEL John 9 Bible p.976

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #454 “Open My Eyes, That I May See” Open My Eyes

THE SERMON “Was Blind, But Now...” Dr. Bodt

RESPONSE TO THE SERMON “Amazing Grace” Traditional

Verse 1: Mary Lou Kampert, harpist and soloist

Verse 2: Adult choir with organ and harp

Verse 3: Congregation and organ

*“When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.”*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Hymnal p.33-35 and 38

New members and their [sponsors] are Deirdre James [Flo Berrien] and Barbara Ann Welker [Sue O’Shea].

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.)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, including the special offering for the

The One Great Hour of Sharing

Offertory Anthem: “Open the Eyes of My Heart, Lord” arr. by J. Schraeder

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

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

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shalom to You” Hymnal #666

“Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom.”

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

*POSTLUDE “Triumphant March” R. Thygerson

(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

GRACE

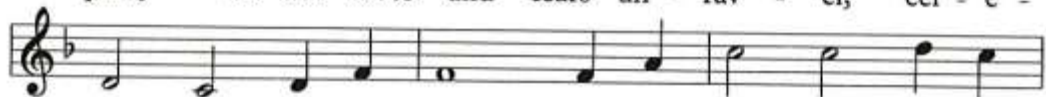
2128 Come and Find the Quiet Center



1. Come and find the qui - et cen - ter in the crowd-ed life we
2. Si - lence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
3. In the Spir - it let us trav - el, o - pen to each oth - er's



lead, find the room for hope to en - ter, find the
pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
pain, let our loves and fears un - rav - el, cel - e -



frame where we are freed: Clear the cha - os and the
be - ing, touch-es base, mak - ing space with - in our
brute the space we gain: There's a place for deep-est



clut - ter, clear our eyes that we can see all the
think - ing, lift - ing shades to show the sun, rais - ing
dream - ing, there's a time for heart to care, in the



things that real - ly mat - ter, be at peace, and sim - ply be.
cour - age when we're shrink - ing, find - ing scope for faith be - gun.
Spir - it's live - ly schem - ing there is al - ways room to spare.

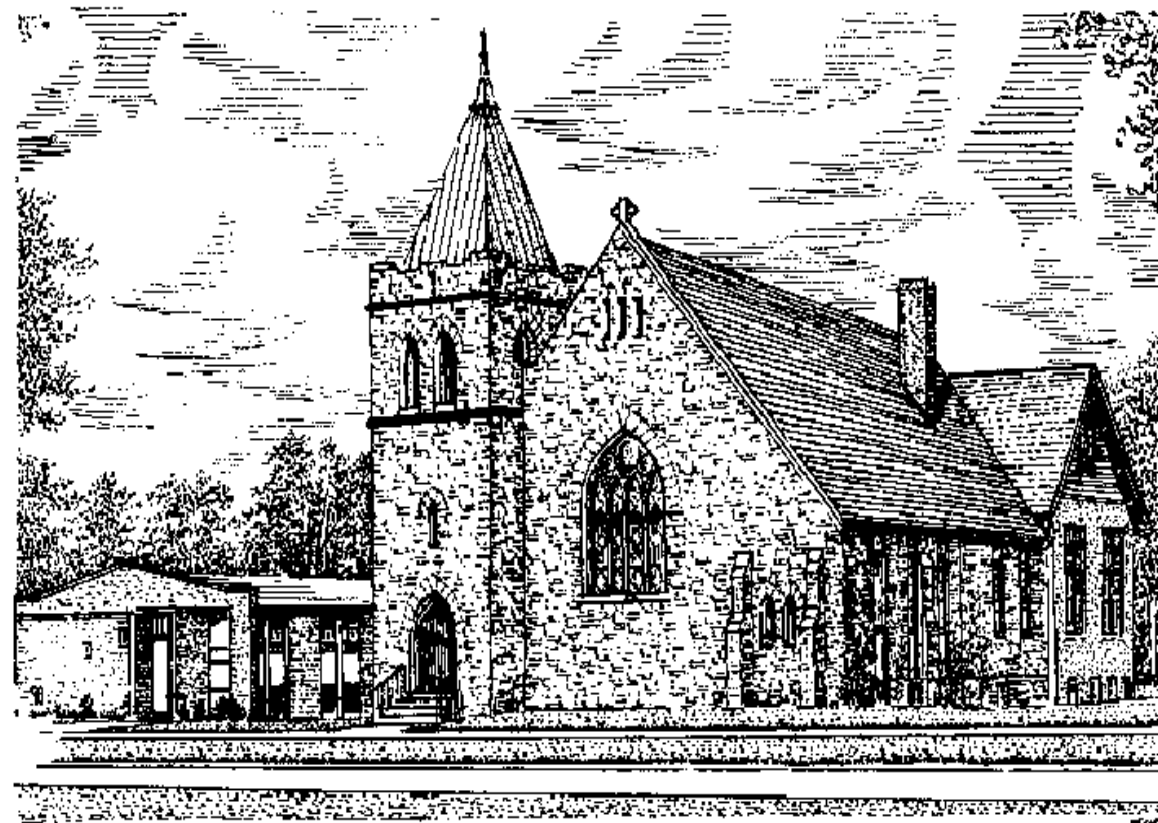
WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray

MUSIC: Attr. to B. F. White

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BEACH SPRING

87.87 D



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1843

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

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

LENT IV

“FRIENDS AND FAMILY SUNDAY”

March 30, 2014

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, March 30

LENT IV 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center
8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Fasting Covenant Group-Wesley Center
10:00 a.m. Worship/Reception of new members – Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour/Light luncheon/Soup Sale – Dodd Hall
4:00 p.m. Long Range Planning Cottage Meeting at Sandy and Brec
Morgan's home, 39 Orland Street, Milford

Monday, March 31

6:45 p.m. "The Way" Adult Study – Gunn Library
7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel

Tuesday, April 1

5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan Room
7:00 p.m. Disciple I Bible Study – Wesley Center
7:00 p.m. "Parables and Passion" Adult Study – Gunn Library

Wednesday, April 2

10:00 a.m. "Parables and Passion" Adult Study – Gunn Library
5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall
6:00 p.m. Palm Sunday reciters rehearsal – Egan Room-Wesley Center
6:15 p.m. Sound System Sub-committee - Sanctuary
6:30 p.m. Gay/Straight Alliance – Gunn Library
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
6:45 p.m. Long-Range Planning Committee meeting – Egan Room

Thursday, April 3

6:00 p.m. Pastors-Lay Leaders Meeting- Pastor's study
6:30 p.m. Missions Committee Meeting - Gunn Library
7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting – Egan Room

Saturday, April 5

9:00 a.m. MYF Treat Making – Dodd Hall
4:00 p.m. Baby Shower for Akanksha Joshi-Wesley Center

Sunday, April 6

LENT V 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center
8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Fasting Covenant Group-Wesley Center
10:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour-Dodd Hall
11:15 a.m. Missions Fair – Dodd Hall
11:15 a.m. MYF Treat Sale- Dodd Hall
4:00 p.m. MYF Easter Sunrise Service Planning – Dodd Hall

Monday, April 7

6:45 p.m. "The Way" Adult Study – Gunn Library
7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel

Tuesday, April 8

12:00 p.m. UMW Meeting – Wesley Center
5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan Room
7:00 p.m. Disciple I Bible Study – Wesley Center
7:00 p.m. "Parables and Passion" Adult Study – Gunn Library

Wednesday, April 9

10:00 a.m. "Parables and Passion" Adult Study – Gunn Library
5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
7:00 p.m. Palm Sunday reciters rehearsal - Sanctuary

Thursday, April 10

7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

Grace Notes
March 30, 2014

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

We are happy you are here! I hope that this inaugural "Friends and Family Day" will be repeated as we self-consciously extend a welcome and hospitality in Jesus' name.

We ask all our visitors to allow us to recognize them with a red ribbon prepared for this occasion; and to receive our customary "mug" and newsletter. Please also use the visitors card and peel-and-stick name badge so that we may call you by name. If we can make your visit more comfortable in any way, speak to anyone but especially our "Ambassadors" identified with a white ribbon.

We ask all our members and regular attenders to especially remember to wear their name badges today and to greet at least one person you do not know. A wonderful greeting for all of us is "Hi, I'm (name). Are you new, or new to me?"

Among our visitors today are the Rev. Kenneth Kieffer, Superintendent of the Connecticut District of the United Methodist Church; and the Honorable Ben Blake, Mayor of the City of Milford. Both will bring greetings.

We hope everyone will come to Dodd Hall (the social hall behind the sanctuary) after worship for a complimentary light lunch including cake in honor of our new members received today. Please do! You will find a soup sale there to benefit missions.

Many have been involved in creating this day. Special thanks to Michelle Craig and the Membership and Evangelism Committee for creating this occasion.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

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

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Stacey Riccardi

Greeters – Carol Koch and Nita Prior

Liturgist – Christine Volgmuth

Acolytes – Amanda Repetsky and Lillia Downing

Cross Bearer – Olivia D’Andrea

Bible Bearer – Mateo Cono

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

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given by Flo Berrien in celebration of Friends and Family Day.

TO ASSIST YOU IN WORSHIP, see our ushers for:

- Large print Bibles, hymnals and bulletins
- Hearing Assist Devices
- Children’s bulletins for ages 3 – 6 and 7 – 12

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in 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. These prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. Please also speak your concerns as invited during the prayer.

TODAY’S LITURGY is from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992) and The Faith We Sing (2000). The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are original compositions of the pastor.

SERMON COPIES from last Sunday are available in the rear of the church. Previous messages are available there and on-line: www.mtm-umc.org.

CHURCH INFORMATION is available in the racks in back of the church.

CHILD CARE: *For children 5 and under* is provided in Wesley Center, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd Hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. *Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide for older children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

NORMAL OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. If Wesley Center is locked, call Mary Lou at 203.874.1982 or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753). **BULLETIN NOTICES** are *due by noon each Wednesday* for the following Sunday bulletin.

FOOD BASKET: Please place non-perishable food items in the basket located in the back of the church & monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: **Wet and dry cat food is desperately needed for seniors with pets.** Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS ORDERS: Orders are taken at any time for Altar Flowers OR “In Lieu of Flowers” to support missions (UMCOR, UM Army and others – please see info. table in back of church for list). **A donation in lieu of altar flowers is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf placed on the altar.* Please contact Beth O’Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net or Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874-1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@yahoo.com. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

“**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.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR MARCH 16:

Total worship attendance all services: 176 (Mar. 23, 167; Healing and Wholeness, Mar. 24, 9;) Total Offering Mar. 23: \$5,731.00 Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,095.16; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 145 (Sunday School: 44; Fasting Covenant Group: 10; Caring Ministries 10; Disciple 1: 8 ; Confirmation: 8; Adult Bible Study Monday: 5; Adult Bible Study Tuesday 11; Adult Bible Study Wednesday: 12; Office volunteers: 2; Praisemakers rehearsal cancelled; Bell Choir 10; Adult Choir 14; MYF: 11; Total number persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) **Important! Small Groups – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or call (203.874.1982) with your attendance.*



NAME THE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN

for our new building project to Wesley Center!

Our new building project includes handicap access to the building, a new lobby, a handicapped accessible washroom on the ground floor, Fair on the Green storage area, and an elevator to the second floor.

All entries must be submitted to the church office by April 6th. Judging will be done by the Building Committee.

Winners will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate to Rainbow Gardens, and attend the ribbon cutting ceremony at the completion of the project.

Let's get this fund raiser off the ground!

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God's presence with us. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you warmly. Our Ambassadors will look for you!

FELLOWSHIP HOUR AND A LIGHT LUNCHEON follows worship in Dodd Hall. We wish to thank these supporters of our luncheon: *The Missions and Membership and Evangelism Committees* (sandwiches and cake); *the Ambassadors* (sandwiches) *Subway, Inc.* (sandwiches); *Aaron and Tracy Lund* (individual snack packs).

WESLEY CENTER RENOVATION: as announced last Sunday, the initial design for long-discussed handicapped accessible renovations to the Wesley Center were unanimously approved by Church Council as recommended by the Board of Trustees and the Building Design group. Architectural drawings are on display in Dodd Hall. See the related notice on naming the campaign and watch for more details. Please keep all our leaders in prayer.

SOUP SALE, original creations by our own MTMUMC members, follows worship in Dodd Hall: cabbage and kielbasa, bacon corn chowder and tomato basil. Proceeds benefit missions. Some will be set aside for our visitors. For the rest, first come, first served!

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERING FOR "THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING" supports the United Methodist Committee on Relief on disaster response, domestically and globally. See details and envelope on the flier enclosed.

A LONG-RANGE PLANNING COTTAGE MEETING will be held today March 30th, 4 p.m. at the home of Sandy and Brec Morgan, 39 Orland Street, Milford. Please reserve your place to discuss our church's future ministry dreams at sgmorgan@aol.com or 203.874.4374.

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS may be submitted to the church office using the enclosed form. The firm deadline is Palm Sunday, April 13.

UNITED METHODIST SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES were sent electronically last Tuesday to our Yahoo-group, Confirmation and Sunday School Superintendent addresses. If you did not receive it please pick up a hard copy in the rear of the sanctuary or contact Mary Lou at mtmumc@sbcglobal.net with your e-mail address.

CHOIR HOST HOMES NEEDED FOR MAY 13: The University of Mount Union concert is at Nichols UM Church, Trumbull on Tuesday, May 13 at 7:30 p.m., co-sponsored by our United Methodist Cluster. Hosts for choristers that evening are needed. If you can host or would like more details, please speak with Pastor Brian Bodt or Carol Galloway today; or contact him at 203.895.3753 or brian.bodt@yahoo.com.

SEE THE CALENDAR FOR THE WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

PASTOR BRIAN will be off tomorrow rather than Friday this week to visit his father in Maryland. He will return by 1 p.m. Tuesday in time for all afternoon and evening programming. For emergencies, contact Pastor Hal at 203.878.8977.

THE ADULT LENTEN STUDY “The Way, Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus” continues on **Mondays only at 6:45 p.m.** through April 13. This six session study by Rev. Adam Hamilton explores the life and ministry of Jesus: from Jesus’ baptism, the temptations, the people he loved, and the healing he brought, to the parables he taught and the enemies that he made. Sessions are in **Gunn Library**, Wesley Education Center. Even if you cannot attend the class but would like a copy of the book, contact Kelly O’Hara at 203.283.4676 or yankee89@optonline.net.

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE will meet **at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, April 2** in the Egan Room, Wesley Center.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS meet **Friday, April 4, 10 a.m.** to mail the Easter letter.

MYF: Confirmation class through 12th grade; Easter treat making on **Sat. April 5 from 9 am to noon**. Treats will be sold after worship on Sunday, April 6th.

NEXT SUNDAY

LENT V – We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper using Setting IV. The message “An Early Easter” is based on Psalm 130 and John 11:1-45. **FELLOWSHIP HOUR** will be hosted by the Finance Committee.

A **MISSIONS FAIR** will be held in Dodd Hall after worship. This is your opportunity to meet personally with representatives from the following agencies already supported by YOUR MTMUMC mission dollars: Bridgeport Rescue Mission, Christian Community Action, Beth-El Center, Simply Smiles, Mountains of Hope for Haiti, Bridges, Friends of Appalachia and UM Army. There will also be a Missions table with an Alternative Easter Giving opportunity through Heifer International – bunnies, ducks and chicks! See how your gift will benefit those in need!

THE METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will sell Easter treats in Dodd Hall to support their mission initiatives.

COMING SOON

FRIENDS OF APPALACHIA 2014 Dental Supply Drive during March & April. Help provide dental supplies to assist the dire need of improved oral hygiene for impoverished children in Central Appalachia. Please leave your donations in the box in Dodd Hall.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS MISSION PROJECT will focus on human trafficking. A front page article on this evil appeared in the Sunday, March 23rd New Haven Register (www.nhregister.com/general-news/20140332/unh-forensic-scientist-targets-worldwide-sex-trafficking-through-dna) and is posted in Dodd Hall. The United Methodist Church speaks clearly and forcefully against this modern form of slavery (“The Social Principles,” pages 111-112, 2012 Book of Discipline). The United Methodist Women are also working to save lives from exploitation: www.new.gbgm-umc.org/umw/news/press/item/index.cfm?id=1290. More information and opportunities to support the youth will be forthcoming.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY NOTES

MARYANNE MEEHAN JORDAN wishes to convey her gratitude to the congregation and pastors for the cards, calls and prayers during her recent convalescence. She is healing and now “out and about” including serving at last Wednesday’s Community Supper at Golden Hill United Methodist Church, Bridgeport. Thanks be to God!

ADULT DISCUSSION GROUP: Parents are welcome to participate in our Adult Discussion Group which meets every week during Sunday School hours in Wesley Center, 2nd floor. The group uses a weekly study guide to direct their meeting. This is a great opportunity to share time and reflections with other parents while your children participate in Sunday School.

NEW ACOLYTE ROBES have been purchased to replace the current robes, worn with time and difficult to repair. We have five donors and need two more at \$100 each to underwrite this expense. If you are interested in so doing, please contact Pastor Brian.

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION SERVICES are held at the Milford Senior Citizen Center, 9 Jepson Drive, by scheduling an appointment: 203.736.5420, ext. 206.

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER TO SERVE AS AN ACOLYTE, CROSS-BEARER OR BIBLE BEARER? Contact Noel Fino at 203.877.3005.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ SCRIPTURE IN 2014? Contact Priscilla James at 203.874.2742 or pcjames60@gmail.com.

LAURALTON HALL invites 7th grade girls to spend a day as a shadow student **March 19 - April 30**. For more information call the Admissions Office at 203-877-2786 ext. 144.

CHAIRS FOR SALE: we have 26 chairs for sale at \$10 each that are being stored in Jesse Lee Hall. Please see me today or email me if you are interested in purchasing: rmerva@optonline.net Thanks. *Rachel Merva, Trustee Vice-President*

NEW CRIB, CHANGING TABLE AND MATTRESS: Bill Katt has this available for a young family who might be able to use it. billkatt@sbcglobal.net or 203.376.9176.