

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 “Behold the Lamb of God” G.F. Handel

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT “As the Deer”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Romans 8:16-18, NRSV

Leader: We are children of God,

People: *And if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ--*

Leader: If, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

People: *The sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is about to be revealed to us.*

All: *Let us worship this God of glory, revealed in Jesus, the resurrection and the life.*

*HYMN #299 “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Rockingham

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.

HYMN #82 (*seated*) “Canticle of God’s Glory” Old Scottish Chant

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THE PSALTER Psalm 130 Hymnal #516

*THE GOSPEL John 11:1-45 Bible p.978

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

*HYMN #300 “O the Lamb” The Lamb

(First time: choir, Second time: all)

THE SERMON “An Early Easter” Dr. Bodt

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: **Hear our prayer.**

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE IV

Hymnal p.26

*THE PEACE

L: May the peace of the Lord be always with you. P: *And also with you.*

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Hear Us, Of Father” N. Price and D. Besig

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE IV

Hymnal p.27

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymnal #895

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS AND AGNUS DEI

Hymnal p.30

*THE COMMUNION

(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. Juice and gluten-free bread are the elements. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers to either serving station. Take the bread, dip in the cup, and eat.)

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 #292 “What Wondrous Love is This” Wondrous Love

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #294

But drops of tears can ne’er repay the debt of love I owe.

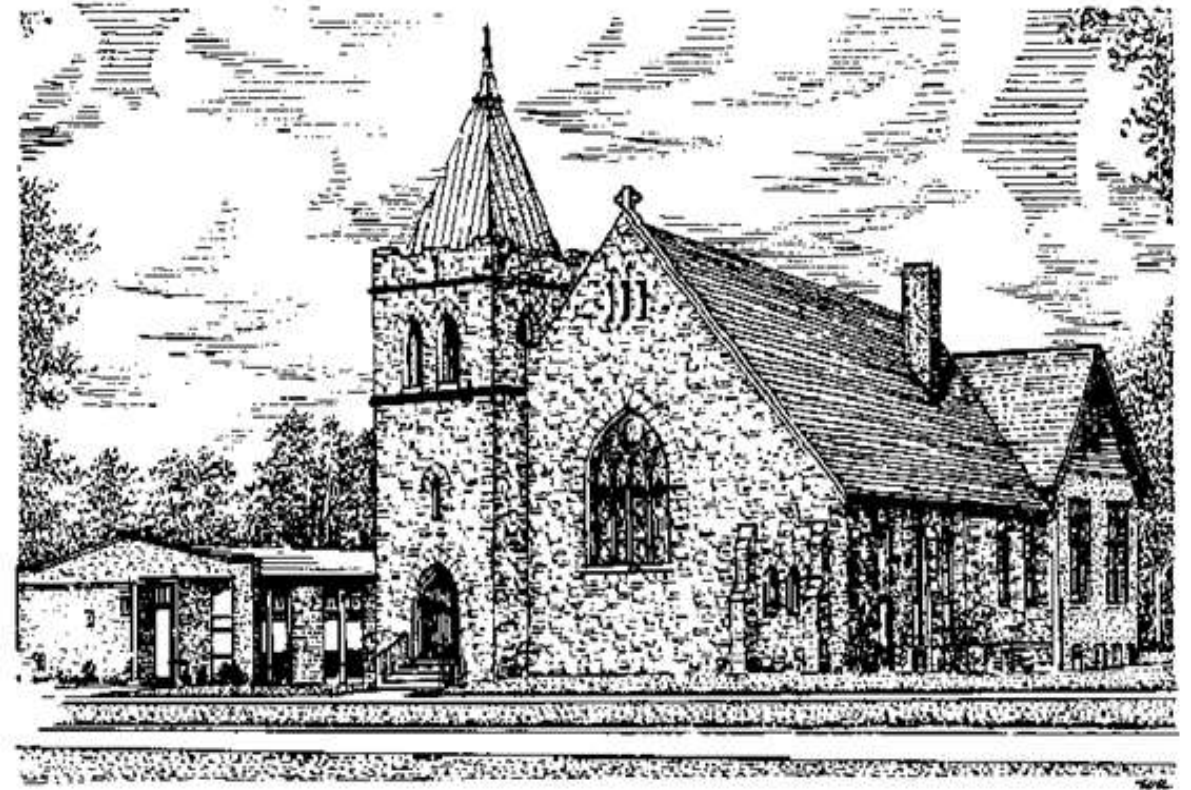
Here, Lord, I give myself away; ‘tis all that I can do.

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

*POSTLUDE “Voluntary in G Minor” E. Broughton

(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: 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 V
Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
April 6, 2014

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

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 and 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
6:00 p.m. Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Wesley Center
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
7:00 p.m. Palm Sunday reciters rehearsal - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thursday, April 10

Sunday, April 13 THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION, PALM SUNDAY
EASTER FLOWER ORDER DEADLINE
9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages/ Easter Egg Hunt – Wesley Center
8:30 and 9:00 a.m. Fasting Covenant Group-Wesley Center
10:00 a.m. Worship- Children’s Processional - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour-Dodd Hall
11:15 a.m. Missions - Easter Alternative Giving – Dodd Hall
11:30 a.m. MYF Treat Sale – Dodd Hall
11:30 a.m. Milford 375th Anniversary Parade meeting-Wesley Center

Monday, April 14 6:45 p.m. “The Way” Adult Study – Gunn Library
7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel

Tuesday, April 15 BEACON DEADLINE - NO Confirmation Class or Disciple Study
7:00 p.m. “Parables and Passion” Adult Study – Gunn Library

Wednesday, April 16 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

Thursday, April 17 MAUNDY THURSDAY
7:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service/Communion-Sanctuary

Friday, April 18 GOOD FRIDAY - The Church Office is Closed
Noon: Good Friday Community Worship Service 12-1:30p.m.
1:30 p.m. Church is open for prayer 1:30-3:00p.m.
7:30 p.m. Good Friday Worship Service - Sanctuary

Grace Notes
April 6, 2014

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

Last Sunday’s “Friends and Family Sunday” seemed like an early Easter. So does today’s scripture on the raising of Lazarus and Jesus’ promise: “I am the Resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live; and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.”*

Yet the grief in the story is palpable: “Lord, if you had been here my brother would not have died” lament the sisters, Mary and Martha. Indeed, Jesus’ delays his departure two days after word reaches him about Lazarus’ critical illness; and his theological comment that Lazarus’ illness is “for the glory of God,” appears to give Jesus an “F” in “pastoral care.”

The way we make sense of this story is to understand the bigger agenda of the writer of John’s Gospel; to understand it as a preview of the Easter promise; and to understand that it is a story about us. The description of these understandings and how we come to them is the subject of today’s message “An Early Easter.”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian

**Special music, spirited singing, lots of guests, Mayoral proclamation, food after worship, large (228) attendance: everything but the special flowers!*

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 – Bill Katt

Greeters – Carol Alex and Carol Galloway

Liturgist – Jane Vink

Acolytes – Sarah O'Brien and Jamie Georgelos

Cross Bearer – Jillian Doherty

Bible Bearer – Anna Wessinger

Communion Stewards – Lorraine Thorpe and Dawn Bettencourt

Communion servers: Dr. Bodt, Rev. Vink, Leigh Bak and Jane Vink

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP is Dr. Bodt at the Dodd Hall door and Lydia Smith at the Narthex door.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS have been given to the Glory of God.

A **MISSION CROSS** has been placed and a donation has been made to UMARMY in celebration of Erin O'Shea's 20th birthday on April 7th. Love from her parents.

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), and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992).

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 30:

Total worship attendance all services: 237 (Mar. 30, 228; Healing and Wholeness, Mar.31, 9;) Total Offering Mar. 30: \$6,109.00 Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 159 (Sunday School: 38; Fasting Covenant Group: 10; Disciple 1: 7 ; Confirmation: 6; Adult Bible Study Monday: 6; Adult Bible Study Tuesday 9; Adult Bible Study Wednesday: 11; Office volunteers: 2; Praisemakers 4; Bell Choir 8; Adult Choir 17; Long Range Planning: 13; Golden Hill dinner: 8; MTMUMC dinner: 20; Total number persons received on profession of faith: 2; 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!

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS MISSION PROJECT will focus on human trafficking. A front page article in the Sunday, March 23rd New Haven Register (www.nhregister.com/general-news/20140332/unh-forensic-scientist-targets-worldwide-sex-trafficking-through-dna) 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.

FRIENDS OF APPALACHIA 2014 DENTAL SUPPLY DRIVE: to provide dental supplies to assist the dire need of improved oral hygiene for impoverished children in Central Appalachia where regular dental care is inaccessible. FOA is collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss, and cash donations for additional dental supplies and/or shipping. Please leave your donations in the FOA box in Dodd Hall.

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!

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!

EASTER FLOWER ORDERS may be submitted to the church office using the enclosed form. The firm deadline is Palm Sunday, April 13. **THE EASTER LETTER** to the congregation was mailed on Thursday, April 3rd. Extra copies in the rear of the sanctuary.

A FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY THANK YOU to all who helped last Sunday. It was a big success and we couldn't have done it without all of you.

There will be a meeting next Sunday after church (11:30) in Wesley center to talk about the Milford 375th anniversary parade. Anyone interested in getting involved please join us.

Our next Membership and Evangelism meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 24th at 7pm in Wesley Center. All are welcome. *Michelle Craig, Chair, Membership and Evangelism*

THE METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will sell Easter treats in Dodd Hall to support their mission initiatives. They will also meet today from 4-6 p.m. in Dodd Hall to plan the Easter Sunrise service.

WESLEY CENTER RENOVATION: 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.

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

THE ADULT LENTEN STUDY “The Way, Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus” meets tomorrow and Mon, Apr. 13th at 6:45 p.m. through April 13 in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Even if you have been unable to attend prior sessions, you are welcome to these final sessions that prepare us for Holy Week. Just come, or contact Kelly O’Hara at 203.283.4676 or yankee89@optonline.net.

NO CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING in April. There is agenda significant enough to meet this week, and next week (our regular time) is Holy Week. We will meet May 15 with several significant items. An agenda will be forthcoming.

NEXT SUNDAY

THE SUNDAY OF THE PASSION, PALM SUNDAY: An Easter egg hunt for the children (9 am) during the Sunday School hour is followed by their joyful, triumphant Palm Sunday procession following Matthew 21:1-11. Philippians 2:5-11 will segue way to a memorized recitation of Christ’s passion in Matthew 26:14 – 27:66.

MISSIONS: there will be a Missions table in Dodd Hall after worship with an Alternative Easter Giving opportunity through Heifer International – bunnies, ducks and chicks! See how your gift will benefit those in need!

MILFORD 375th ANNIVERSARY PARADE MEETING: 11:30 a.m. in Wesley Center. Anyone interested in getting involved, please join us. For more information, contact Michelle Craig at 203-877-4332 or michellemtmumc@gmail.com.

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

COMING SOON

UMW’s 2014 ASSEMBLY being held at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, Kentucky on April 25-27th. Our theme is “**Make it Happen: Putting Faith, Hope and Love in Action.**” Assembly 2014 will be a forum for United Methodist women members, partners, and new attendees to gather, worship and learn about the needs of the women, children and youth of the 21st century. Let’s get a group to go from Mary Taylor and make it happen! Lydia will again share her gifts of drumming and singing. For more information, contact Lydia Smith at 203-497-8277 or lydiadrums@yahoo.com.

MYF WILL CELEBRATE EARTH DAY Saturday April 26 - 11:30 – 2 pm by taking some time out to care for God’s amazing creation! We’ll start at church and walk to Gulf Beach. We’ll enjoy the flora and fauna along the way, and do our part to clean-up where it’s needed. We’ll finish with lunch on the beach, weather permitting. Permission forms will be required for this event. Dress for walking and beach clean-up; friends, as always, are welcome. Leigh Bak is the lead adult for this event.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY NOTES

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.

MAY BEACON DEADLINE is Tuesday, April 15th. Articles may be emailed to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or hard copied to the church office.

UNITED METHODIST SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES were sent electronically 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.

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.