

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

Palm Sunday April 9, 2017

Order of Worship
10:00 a.m.

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

Please remember to mute or turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” P. LaPlante

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Hosanna, Hosanna!”

*THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY Matthew 21:1-11 Bible p.898

*HYMN #278 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” Ellacombe

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

HYMN #277, vs.1 (*seated*) “Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” Stories of Jesus
*Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear; things I would ask him to tell me if he were here:
scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea, stories of Jesus, tell them to me.*

°°°

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we praise thee for the Master, who rode in triumph into the city of his forebears. We thank thee that he came not as a conqueror to destroy but as a Messiah to save, and that he appealed to human hearts with the glory of love. In the spirit of praise and worship we ask that every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess that we like big demonstrations of power. We confess that we get confused when power is revealed in humility, kindness and love. We confess that too often we mistake kindness for weakness. Forgive our worldly mind and impulses as you help us to understand our Lord’s words, “My kingdom is not of this world.” Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

THE PSALTER

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Unison chorus: “*All glory, laud and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*”

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

P: *Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.”*

L: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

P: *This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it.*

L: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

P: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.*

L: This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

P: *This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

Unison chorus: “*All glory, laud and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*”

L: Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success!

P: *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.*

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

L: The Lord is God, and he has given us light.

P: *Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.*

L: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

P: *O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Unison chorus: “*All glory, laud and honor, to thee, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.*”

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Hymnal p. 33

New members joining today and their (*sponsors*) are:

Letter of transfer: **Lanette Kardos** (*Dawn Bettencourt*), **Nancy Kardos** (*Joan Zauner*)
and **Lodemia Lopes** (*Dick and Diana Cable*)

Confession of faith: **Michelle Connor** (*Flo Berrien*) and **Beth Hanson** (*Marcia Winter*)

HYMN #280 (*seated*) “All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

St. Theodulph

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

Offertory Anthem: "Ride On, King Jesus" arr. Philip Kern
The pre-Emancipation (before 1865) lyrics of "Ride On, King Jesus" echo Palm Sunday's triumphant entry but were also an answer to the mistreatments of Black Americans by slave masters, who were no match for the God who was on the slaves' side. – edited from Pamela Crosby at www.umc.org.

(The Adult Choir)

*Presentation: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #285 "To Mock Your Reign, O Dearest Lord" Kingsfold

THE EPISTLE Philippians 2:5-11 Bible p.1069

THE MESSAGE "Just Suppose" Dr. Bodt
(The script and story of the centurion at the cross is an original composition of Dr. Bodt.)

*HYMN #298 "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" Hamburg

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymn #292

*What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!*

*What wondrous love is that that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul, to bear the dreadful curse for my soul.*

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

*POSTLUDE "Finale in D Major" F. Biggs
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE STORY CONTINUES.....



<i>Sunday, April 9</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School - Easter Egg Hunt - Wesley Center</i>
<i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/New Members– Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friends of Appalachia</i>	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Dental Drive thru April</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday rehearsal - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>MYF meeting – Blanket Making - Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, April 10</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, April 12</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Taize worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, April 13</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday Service – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, April 14</i>		<u><i>The Office is closed in observance of Good Friday</i></u>
	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Good Friday Service – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>1:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Sanctuary is open from 1:30-3:00 p.m. for prayer & meditation</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Good Friday Service – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Saturday, April 15</i>		<i>BEACON Information due today</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Tres Dias Men’s Reunion Group - Chapel</i>
<i>Sunday, April 16</i>	<i>6:45 a.m.</i>	<i>MYF gather at Gulf Beach</i>
<i>EASTER SUNDAY</i>	<i>7:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Easter Sunrise worship at Gulf Beach</i>
	<i>7:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Breakfast hosted by the Men’s Club – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friends of Appalachia</i>	<i>8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Dental Drive thru April</i>	<i>10:00a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Hour-Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, April 17</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, April 18</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation Class – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>St. Mary’s Job Search Support Group – 70 Gulf St.</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, April 19</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, April 20</i>	<i>1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bereavement Group – St. Mary’s Hall – 70 Gulf St.</i>
<i>Friday, April 21</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, April 22</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Tres Dias Men’s Reunion Group - Chapel</i>

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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
April 9, 2017

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Imagination plays an important role in faith. As we recall the dramatic events of Holy Week, this becomes especially evident. We imagine the triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Shouts of “Hosanna” – a political call to action that translates “O save us” - quickly turn to the clandestine Last Supper and then Jesus’ betrayal, arrest, denial and crucifixion. While we cannot truly know what it was like “to be there,” we can imagine.

This week’s worship helps us do that. The message today is what I imagine – based on scripture – might have happened to the Roman centurion who was led to declare “Surely this man was God’s Son.” (Matthew 27:54) This was heresy in a time when Caesar was worshipped as God’s Son. We also can only imagine the distress of enslaved Black Americans prior to the Civil War that led them to the evocative lyrics of today’s anthem “Ride On, King Jesus.” The Jesus who “rides on a milk white horse” and “rides in the middle of the air” evokes a vision of freedom for those enslaved because “no man works like him.”

On Maundy Thursday we will hear reflections of each of the 12 disciples as they wonder whether “Is it I?” in response to Jesus’ declaration that he will be betrayed. “The Twelve” was produced here some 25 years ago and we are excited to re-present it to you for this generation.

Good Friday recalls the “Seven Last Words” of Jesus (noon) and his Passion (7:30 pm) as the traditional hymn asks “Were you there when they crucified my Lord?”

I remain convinced that the joy of Easter is heightened by attendance at these services. I hope you will attend as many as you can. Bring your imagination, especially to imagine how deep and wide is God’s love to send his only Son to suffer on the cross for our redemption.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher –Dennis Darak

Greeters – Becky and Bob Virgalla

Liturgist – Chris Carveth

Acolytes – Addyson Perregaux and Chris Leum

Cross Bearer – John Leum

Bible Bearer - Paige Perregaux

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 either the side aisle to your left or by the rear (Broad Street) doors. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar) and can be accessed either way. **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the Broad Street doors if weather and mobility allows.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989). The Unison Prayer of Confession was written by Pastor Brian.

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

HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9

9 a.m. – Easter egg hunt for the children

10 a.m. – Celebrative Palm Sunday worship and reception of new members.

HOLY MONDAY, APRIL 10

7 p.m. – Healing and Wholeness worship in the Chapel, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor (building next to church)

HOLY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12

Noon - Taize worship, sanctuary

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 13

7:30 p.m. – Scripted drama "The Twelve" reflects on the 12 disciples last night with Jesus. Simple setting of the Lord's Supper with special choral and instrumental music.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 14

Noon – 1:30 p.m. – Community Good Friday worship: the "Seven Last Words" of Christ.

"Come when you can, leave when you must."

1:30 – 3 p.m. – Sanctuary open for silent prayer

7:30 p.m. Service of Tenebrae ("Shadows")

EASTER DAY, APRIL 16

7 a.m. – Easter Sunrise Service, Gulf Beach

8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. Resurrection services of Holy Communion, sanctuary

"COME WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS"



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 donations are needed for April 23rd and 30th.

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 April 2:

Total worship attendance all services: 220; Apr. 2: 167; GEUMC, 18; Apr. 3: Healing and Wholeness worship:14; Taize Service Apr.5: 21; Total Offerings for April 2nd : \$6,616.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$5,083.96; Engaged in Small Groups: 178; Sunday School: 44; Confirmation class: 9; Trash & Treasures: 7; Bible Study Tues: 9; Wed: 20; United Methodist Women, April 1: 27; MYF: 8; UM ARMY, April 5: 20; Bell Choir: 10; Adult Choir:19; Praisemakers: 2; Office Volunteers: 3. 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 in Dodd Hall by the Visitation Committee. Next Sunday's hosts will be the Men's Club – Easter Breakfast.

HAND-SANITIZERS are 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.

THE METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP will be hosting a blanket-making session for the congregation in Dodd Hall from 4-5:30 pm. Come out and support the MYF in this mission project, to provide soft blankets to children in the Yale New Haven Hospital System. All ages and skill levels welcome!

DENTAL SUPPLY DRIVE continues throughout April to ship needed dental supplies to Kids First Dental Services of Kentucky, part of our partnership with Friends of Appalachia (www.friendsofappalachia.org). We are collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes and dental floss. Please leave them in the box in Dodd Hall, with our thanks. *Missions Committee*

LAST CALL TO PURCHASE EASTER DECORATIONS, right in Dodd Hall offered by **Trash and Treasures**. We also **welcome your donations** after worship on Sundays or almost every Thursday morning from 9 a.m. until noon or later. Spring and summer clothing are accepted now. Please save your winter items for the August Oyster Festival Sale. We no longer need paper or plastic bags. Please call Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952, before you bring in furniture or other large items. Thank you for your continued support.

"INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT" BOOKS are now available, \$10 each, from Pastor Brian. This Bible study begins the Tuesday/Wednesday after Easter, April 18/19 through May 23/24, following a 7 p.m. Tuesday/noon Wednesday format. Attendees choose either one with the opportunity to alternate days if needed. **Please register** with Mary Lou Kampert at mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982, ext. 110.

APPROVED CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES from our March 16th meeting are available in the Narthex (the rear of the church).

THIS WEEK

THE HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE is on the inside rear cover. Details for each service are found in the April "Beacon" (copies in the rear of the church) and in the Easter letter mailed March 31st. "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

NO MEETINGS this week. **THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED ON GOOD FRIDAY.**

MAY "BEACON" DEALINE is this Saturday, April 15. Please submit articles to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or hard copy to the church office.

NEXT SUNDAY, April 16, EASTER DAY

Services at 7 am (Gulf Beach) and 8:30 and 10 a.m. (sanctuary). There will be **no Sunday School on Easter Day** so that all may attend worship and celebrate with family.

*Please remember to bring a flower to place in the wire-mesh cross in front of the church.
Watch at the resurrection blooms as morning unfolds!*

SAVE THE DATES

INSTALLATION OF THE REV. HORACE A. HOUGH, new pastor of First Baptist Church, Milford, Sunday, April 23, 4 p.m. at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, 70 West River Street, Milford. All welcome. More at www.firstbaptistmilford.com.

“ELDER ABUSE: RECOGNIZING, PREVENTING AND RESPONDING” Saturday, April 29, 9 am – 1 p.m. at Memorial UMC, 250 Bryant Avenue, White Plains, NY. Experts with experience in areas of elder abuse will share wisdom through panel discussion with plenty of time for questions and answers. Bring a sandwich; drinks and desserts provided. Register by sending name, address, e-mail address and church name to the Rev. Jim Stinson, 91C Penny Meadow Lane, Stratford, CT 06614 or e-mail Rev. Stinson at jstinson4242@aol.com.

FIRST-EVER OPEN MIC CAFÉ, Saturday, April 29, 6:30 – 9 p.m., Dodd Hall. The Methodist Youth Fellowship will host an Open Mic Night. Come and share your talents and skills with the congregation. This is open to all ages and skill levels. Sign-ups for acts will be at the door. Come for a relaxed night featuring fun, laughter and fellowship! Stay tuned for more information.

“HAVING THE CONVERSATION,” Sunday, April 30, 11 a.m. in Dodd Hall following morning worship. This 60 minute presentation and discussion will focus on why it is important to discuss your values and wishes about your life and death with those who will handle these matters when you cannot. Sheryl Hollyday, FNP-BC, APRN, is a palliative care professional. **A light luncheon will be served. Please reserve your attendance** not later than Monday, April 24 with Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 110 or mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

DISTRICT CONFERENCE, Sunday, April 30, 2- 4 p.m., First U.M. Church, 15 Pleasant Street, Meriden, CT. Pastor Brian will attend (3-4 car seats available!) and we hope others will, too. A choir from Ghana Emmanuel UMC, the congregation we “nest” in the Wesley Center each Sunday, will sing. This is our final Conference for our out-going Superintendent, the Rev. Kenneth Kieffer. Rev. Kieffer will be the pastor of the Cheshire (CT) U.M. Church effective July 1, 2017.

METHODISTS IN NEW DIRECTIONS (“MIND”) SPRING MEETING, May 7
Methodists In New Directions, our regional affiliate of the Reconciling Ministries Network, will hold its Spring Meeting in multiple locations around the Conference. *(continued next page)*

Our local Connecticut gathering will be Sunday, May 7, 3 – 5 p.m. at the Cheshire United Methodist Church, 205 Academy Road, Cheshire. At this writing, at least two cars are going that can hold an additional 8 passengers total. Contact Eileen Doyle (ddoyle@aol.com/203.878.9049) or Pastor Brian (brian.bodt@yahoo.com/203.895.3753) to reserve one of the open seats. If others can drive we can take more. Please let Eileen, P.B., or Kelly O’Hara, GSA chair, know (yankee89@optonline.net).

If you have not been to a MIND meeting, you will find it a time of inspiration and encouragement as we work toward a United Methodist Church that truly lives its motto of “*Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.*”

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET, Tuesday, May 9, 6:30 p.m., Dodd Hall. Our United Methodist Women invites all women, either with your female offspring or a woman you “adopt” as a “daughter for the day” to attend this fellowship meal. For more information, please contact Sue O’Shea at 203.494.5339 or sueoshea@optonline.net.

BISHOP’S DAY ON OUR DISTRICT: MAY 16, 2017. Bishop Bickerton will meet with **laity** at Waterbury United Methodist Church, 250 Country Club Road, with an invitation to dinner from 6 – 7:15 p.m. and “Questions and Answers” with the Bishop from 7:30 – 9 p.m. The dinner is open to laity and clergy but the evening session is **laity only**. Clergy have times earlier that day to meet with the Bishop.

CHARLES WESLEY SINGERS HOST HOMES NEEDED, June 22

Charles Wesley Singers ON TOUR: New England 2017. The Charles Wesley Singers (Damascus United Methodist Church, Damascus, Maryland) will be at MTMUMC on Thursday, June 22 for a concert at 7 or 7:30 p.m. Overnight hosts for the choristers and chaperones are needed. If you are interested in hosting a member of the choir, please call Pastor Brian at 203-895-3753 for details. The singers will present a concert *Of Prayer and Prophecy* featuring Mendelssohn’s *Hear My Prayer*, sacred anthems, selections for chamber ensemble, and organ improvisation and soloists.

OTHER MINISTRY MATTERS

SUPPORT OUR TRUSTEES: various projects are underway at church, currently the stained glass window restoration and a new fire alarm system installation. These projects are contracted under the supervision of our Board of Trustees. If you have expertise you would like to share on a given project, please share it with our Trustees. Giving direction directly to contracted workers confuses them as to who they report to and slows the work. Contact the church office if you want a list of the Trustees or the name of the particular Trustee managing a particular project. Thanks for helping us work together.

DISCOVER LAURALTON: Lauralton Hall will host Discover Lauralton on Sunday April 30 from 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. for 5th, 6th and 7th grade girls. Register at www.lauraltonhall.org by Thursday, April 20. For further information, please call (203) 877-2786 ext. 144.