

# MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

168 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982  
FAX: 203.877.8973

## The Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Day April 16, 2017

Order of Worship  
8: 30 and 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 “Prelude and Fugue in C Minor” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Christ Is Risen!”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Colossians 3:1-2, adapted

L: The Lord is Risen!

***P: The Lord is Risen indeed! Alleluia!***

L: You have been raised with Christ so seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

***P: On this resurrection day, let us set our minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.***

***ALL: CHRIST IS VICTORIOUS OVER THE GRAVE! ALLELUIA!***

\*HYMN #302 (vss. 1-4) “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” Easter Hymn

°°°

THE EASTER COLLECT (seated, unison) Hymnal #320

***Almighty God, through Jesus Christ you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we, who celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection, may, by the renewing of your Spirit arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

HYMN #306 (seated, 10 a.m.) “The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done” Victory

ANTHEM (10 a.m.) “Hallelujah!” Praisemaker’s Choir with Tina Gage, bells

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

THE EPISTLE Colossians 3:1-4 Bible p.1073

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

ANTHEM ”Toccata on ‘King’s Weston’” The Bell Choir

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 10:34-43 (10:00 a.m.) Bible p.1002

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

\*THE GOSPEL (8:30 a.m.) Matthew 28:1-10 Bible p.909

(10 a.m.) John 20:1-18 Bible p.988

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

\*HYMN #314 “In the Garden” Garden

THE SERMON (8:30 a.m.) “Greetings!” (10 a.m.) “Victorious Living” Dr. Bodt

\*HYMN #310 (8:30 a.m.) “He Lives” Ackley

\*HYMN #370 (10 a.m.) “Victory in Jesus” Hartford

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles’ Creed” Hymnal #881

THE PASTORAL PRAYER

\*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: “Can’t Keep-a That Glory In!” Parker and Lantz

(The Adult Choir)

\*Presentation: “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing” Hymnal #317, vs. 5

***On this most holy day of days our hearts and voices, Lord, we raise to thee, in jubilee and praise. Alleluia! Alleluia!***

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

***P: And also with you.***

L: Lift up your hearts

***P: We lift them up to the Lord.***

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***P: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

*(Here the pastor gives thanks to the Lord, concluding)*

L: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise God’s name:

\*HYMN #155 (vss. 1,2,5,6) “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” Diadem

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION (all seated, spoken by the pastor)

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal # 895

\*THE COMMUNION

*(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive)*

*or refrain from receiving. We use grape juice and gluten-free bread so all may come.  
After the celebrants, ushers and choir commune, the ushers will direct you to one of four stations.  
Take the bread, dip in the cup, and eat. If you need to receive seated please notify an usher.)*

\*HYMNS DURING COMMUNION Numbers 303, 311, 307, 322, 315, 304

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\*HYMN #318 “Christ Is Alive” Truro  
*(Those desiring to sing the “Hallelujah” chorus with the choir, please come forward during the hymn.)*

\*THE BENEDICTION

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

\*CHORAL POSTLUDE “Hallelujah” from “Messiah” G.F. Handel  
*(Please stand if able and depart following the postlude).*

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

**OUR GRATITUDE TO THESE WORSHIP LEADERS DURING LENT AND EASTER:**

The Adult, Bell and Praisemakers choirs and the parents and spouses that support them; soloists Barbara Repetsky (voice), Mary Lou Kampert (harp), Pastor Dani Levine (saxophone), Mark Dennis (trumpet), Lydia Smith (drums), Ken Wilhelm (bass) and our Director of Music Dr. Rick Riccardi;

Our Worship Committee chaired by Leigh Bak and Nancy Bennett; Liturgist coordinator Leigh Bak; Noel Fino, altar servers; Beth O’Brien, flowers; Rich Perregaux, banners; Flo Berrien, greeters; Dennis Darak, ushers; Phoebe Repetsky, Communion Stewards; our Maundy Thursday disciple portrayers; and the “Ambassadors” of our Membership and Evangelism Committee;

The Methodist Youth Fellowship and its adult leaders for today’s Sunrise worship at Gulf Beach;

Our Christian educators, notably Superintendent Cathy Cono, Holly Firmender and all the teachers, especially for last week’s Easter egg hunt organized by the Fino family and the triumphal procession of the Sunday School children.

Our publicity team of Kelly O’Hara (Facebook and Shutterfly), Kat Bennette (web page and newspapers) and Ken Hawkins (sign and hymn boards). To anyone we inadvertently overlooked, our heartfelt thanks.

<i>Sunday, April 16</i>	<i>6:45 a.m.</i>	<i>MYF gather at Gulf Beach</i>
<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	<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>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time-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 &amp; 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>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Gay/Straight Alliance meeting – Gunn Library</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>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Team meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Sunday, April 23</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Family Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>10:00a.m.</i>	<i>Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time-Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings by Carol Galloway - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Private Party – Dodd Hall – Mary Lou Hastings</i>
	<i>TBD</i>	<i>MYF – Billiards and dinner</i>
<i>Monday, April 24</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing &amp; Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, April 25</i>	<i>2:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Milford Clergy Assn, UCC, Devon (pastor)</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation Class – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, April 26</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Beacon Volunteers</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>Noon</i>	<i>Taize service - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, April 27</i>	<i>1:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bereavement Group-St. Mary's Church- 70 Gulf St.</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Taize service – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, April 28</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, April 29</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Open Mic Café hosted by MYF – Dodd Hall – all are welcomed</i>

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**Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973**

**Website: [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org) [www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)**

**E-mail: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)**

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Andy Thomas	Outreach Pastor	Danielle Levine
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
		Theologian-in-Residence	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

***Grace Notes***  
***April 16, 2017***

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*The Lord is Risen! He is Risen, indeed! This ancient “call and response” reminds us of the promise of Easter Day: that death is defeated and believers are promised eternal life beyond the grave and new life, here and now.*

*It has been said “The cross is in the crèche.” This means that the innocence of Christmas faith in the baby born in Bethlehem is not enough. The baby grows up, and so must we. Jesus’ maturity meant challenging oppressive beliefs and systems. His way of living was first called “The Way,” and its followers were taught, among other things, that “God shows no partiality” (Acts 10: 34).*

*The mini-Easter baskets given to the children today\* use baskets from the story I told on Christmas Eve. At Christmas Eve the basket had nothing in it except the love and kisses the little girl blew in for her daddy. At Easter, that love is revealed in the unfailing love of Christ on the cross and the faithfulness of God by raising Jesus from the dead. The festive contents are a reminder of the new life in Christ at Easter.*

*May Easter remind you that “the worst thing is not the last thing” with its joyful and hopeful message of victorious living. “Greetings,” says the Risen Christ. The door is open to all he offers. Step through it, today!*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

*Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor*

*\*Thanks to Mary Lou Kampert for preparing these baskets with help from Flo Berrien, Donna Venditti and Joan Zauner.*

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** –Dennis Darak

**Liturgists:** Pastor Dani Levine (8:30) Carol Galloway (10)

**Greeters:** Dawn Bettencourt and Diana Cable (8:30) Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs (10)

**Cross Bearer** – Olivia Kingston (8:30) Lucas Greifzu (10) **Bible Bearer** – Paige Perregaux (10)

**Acolytes** – Ryan and Sean Kingston (8:30) Carolyn Hollyday and Addyson Perregaux (10)

**Communion Stewards:** Joan Zauner and Tara Volgmuth (8:30)

Joan Zauner and Donna Venditti (10)

**Communion celebrants 8:30a.m.:** Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt and Pastor Dani Levine; Rev. Dr. Judy Bennett and Don Hastings; Beth O'Brien, Co-Lay Leader and Sarah O'Brien; Mark Platt and Joanne Platt.

**Communion celebrants 10:00 a.m.:** Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt and Carol Galloway; Rev. Dr. Judy Bennett and Pastor Dani Levine; Rev. Harold V. W. Vink and Jane Vink; Shelly Lapadula, Co-Lay Leader and Ryan Lapadula.

**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.

**SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org).



## 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](mailto: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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or [Danielle.levine@mail.com](mailto: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 9:**

Total worship attendance all services: 251; Apr.9: 209; GEUMC, 14; Apr. 10: Healing and Wholeness worship:11; Taize Service Apr.12: 17; Total Offerings for April 9th : \$7,337.79; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 98; Sunday School: 55; Methodist Youth Fellowship: 18; Trash and Treasures: 8; CPR Class: 7; Choir attendance to be reported next week. Office Volunteers: 10. Total persons received on profession of faith: 5; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions:0. \*Small Groups – please contact the church office [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

## TODAY

**FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY** is hosted in Dodd Hall by the Men's Club – Easter Breakfast. Next Sunday's hosts will be the Healing and Wholeness Committee.

**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.

**NO METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP** today so that all may celebrate with family.

**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](http://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*

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

## THIS WEEK

**"INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW TESTAMENT"** begins this week. This introductory course is a wonderful opportunity to get to know, or know better, the scriptures. Participants may attend either Tuesdays at 7 p.m. or Wednesdays at 10 a.m. The sessions are 90 minutes and run April 18/19 through May 23/24. Attendees may alternate days if needed. **Please register** with Mary Lou Kampert at [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982, ext. 110.

**PASTOR BRIAN** will be in Maryland April 19-22 following his father's eye surgery. For pastoral emergencies, please contact Edie Reichard, Staff-Parish Relations Chair, at 203.650.5733 and she will reach the pastor on call.

**THE GAY/STRAIGHT ALLIANCE** will meet on Thursday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Center, Gunn Library. For additional info contact Kelly O'Hara at [yankee89@optonline.net](mailto:yankee89@optonline.net).

**OUR HEALING AND WHOLENESS WORSHIP TEAM** will meet this Saturday, April 22, 10 am – 11:30 am in the Gunn Library. Anyone interested in sharing insights and perspectives on this ministry, or desiring to learn more about it, is welcome to attend. You may also contact Pastor Hal Vink (203.878.8977) or Mary Lou Hastings (203.877.4554) for more information.

## NEXT SUNDAY, April 23

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER:** The message will be by Pastor Hal. Lectionary readings are Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; I Peter 1:3-9 and John 20:19-31. Blood pressure screenings conducted after worship by Carol Galloway, P.T.

**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](http://www.firstbaptistmilford.com).

## SAVE THE DATES

**“MIND” WITNESS AT JUDICIAL COUNCIL:** The Judicial Council, the “Supreme Court” of the United Methodist Church, will meet in Newark, New Jersey at the Hilton at Newark Penn Station, 1048 Raymond Blvd., Newark, NJ 07102 on **Tuesday, April 25 from 9 am to noon** to make declarations of church law on issues related to human sexuality and ordination. “Methodists in New Directions” (MIND) will have a witness there and invites all to join them. Reach Pastor Brian (contacts under “Contact the Pastors”) for more information.

**“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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ddoyle@aol.com/203.878.9049)) or Pastor Brian ([brian.bodt@yahoo.com/203.895.3753](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade girls. Register at [www.lauraltonhall.org](http://www.lauraltonhall.org) by Thursday, April 20. For further information, please call (203) 877-2786 ext. 144.