

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

**Order of Worship
10:00 a.m.**

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

INFORMAL HYMN SINGING (9:45 a.m.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Savior, Like a Shepherd, Lead Us” D. Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT “Gentle Shepherd”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Traditional Orthodox Liturgy (edited)

L: O Christ, by your cross you destroyed the curse of the tree in the Garden of Eden.

P: *By your burial you slayed the dominion of death.*

L: By your rising, you enlightened the human race.

P: *O benefactor, Christ our God, glory to you!*

*HYMN #88 “Maker, in Whom We Live” Diademata

THE COLLECT (seated, unison)

Almighty God, who shows us our errors so that we may return to your way of right living: grant that all who claim to follow you may avoid those things contrary to holy living, and follow all those things that show we are your disciples, that others may be drawn to your radiance and redemption; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Lutheran Book of Worship (edited)

God of all consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may attend to your Word, confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM Hymnal p.33

Stephen William Frison, son of Scott and Sabina

Godparents: Melissa Stabile and Derek Switzer Sponsors: Scott and Holly Firmender

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE (seated) “Children of the Heavenly Father” Hymnal #141

THE PSALTER Psalm 23 Hymnal #137, R.2

HYMN #136 (seated) “The Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want” Crimond

THE EPISTLE Revelation 7:9-17 Bible p. 1122

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

THE SERMON “Knowing Where You Stand” Dr. Bodt

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.)

STEWARDSHIP SPOTLIGHT Holly Firmender

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “My Shepherd is the Lord” P. Choplin

*Presentation: “Bless Thou the Gifts” Hymnal #587

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #733 “Marching to Zion” Marching to Zion

*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.

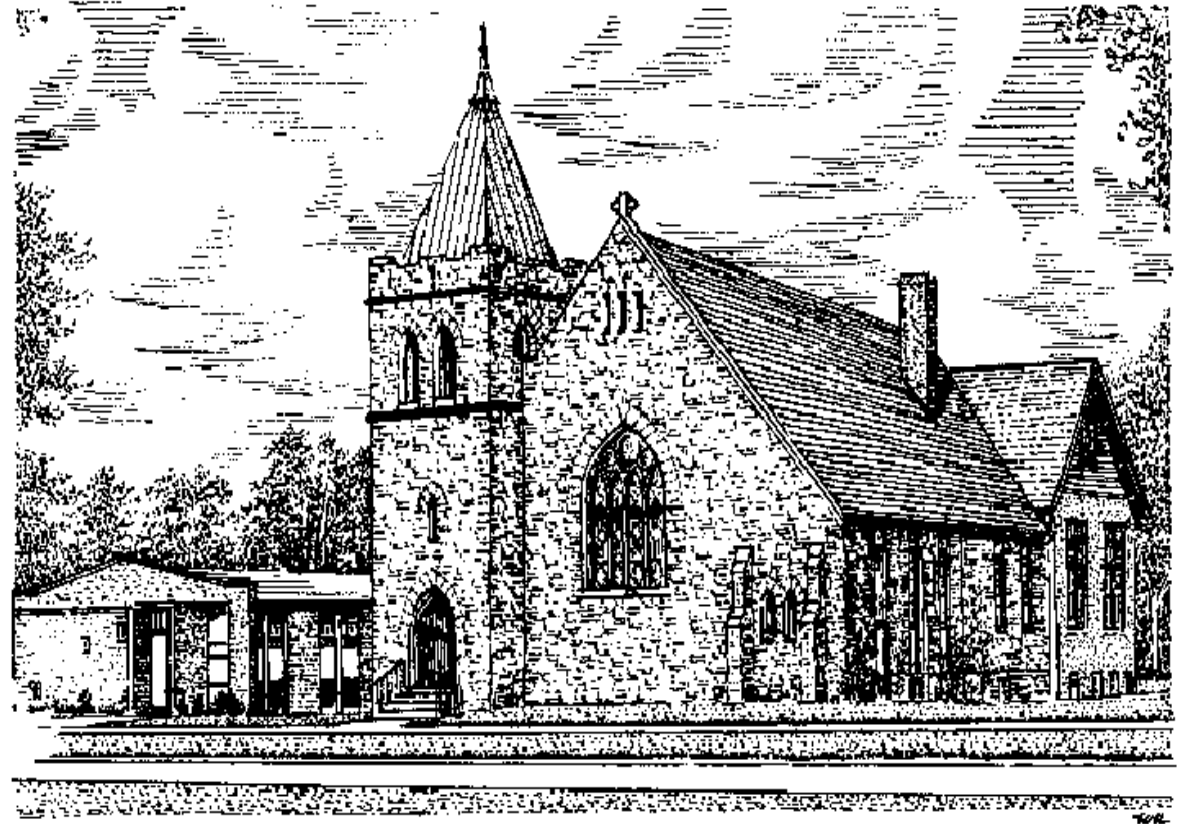
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom.”

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

POSTLUDE “Postlude on ‘Diademata’” L. Smith

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

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

EASTER IV
April 17, 2016

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, April 17	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School - Wesley Center
	9:45 a.m.	Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary
	10:00 a.m.	Worship - Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall
	11:15 a.m.	Blood pressure screenings – Sanctuary
Monday, April 18	6:00 p.m.	Membership & Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center
	7:00 p.m.	Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel
Tuesday, April 19		NO Confirmation Class – Spring recess
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
Wednesday, April 20	10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center
	Noon	Taize worship service – Sanctuary
	5:30 p.m.	Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal / 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
Thursday, April 21	7:00 p.m.	Worship Committee – Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2 nd Floor
	8:30 p.m.	Taize worship service – Sanctuary
Friday, April 22	10:00 a.m.	Office Volunteers – Gunn Library
	5:00 p.m.	Wedding rehearsal - Sanctuary
Saturday, April 23	3:30 p.m.	Smaldone-Keller wedding – Sanctuary
Sunday, April 24	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School/Chapel Service - Wesley Center
	10:00 a.m.	Worship - Sanctuary
	11:00 a.m.	Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall
	11:30 a.m.	Caring Ministries – Wesley Center, 1 st Floor
	2:30 p.m.	Hospitality begins for MIND meeting – Dodd Hall
	3:00 p.m.	MIND annual meeting – Dodd Hall and Sanctuary (MYF encouraged to attend)
	5-7 p.m.	Methodist Youth Fellowship off-site event (see notice)
Monday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel
Tuesday, April 26	5:45 p.m.	Confirmation Class – Egan Room, Wesley Center
	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library
Wednesday, April 27	9:00 a.m.	Beacon Volunteers – Egan Room, Wesley Center
	10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library
	5:30 p.m.	Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir rehearsal / 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall
Thursday, April 28	5:30 p.m.	MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall
Friday, April 29	10:00 a.m.	Office Volunteers – Gunn Library

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973
Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC
E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
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		

Grace Notes
April 17, 2016

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

We are pleased to celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism today for Stephen William Frison, son of Scott and Sabina. Scott and Sabina were married here on June 14, 2014 and today is Stephen's 1st birthday! We welcome them, godparents Melissa and Derek, and family and friends. The family's MTMUMC sponsors are Holly and Scott Firmender. Entrance into Christian community is always a joy and a commitment. I invite all of us to remember our commitment today as the Frison's make theirs.

The vows taken include rejecting and resisting evil. As many know, the People's United Bank branch adjacent to the church was robbed this past Wednesday. No one was hurt. As of publication time, the police were looking for the perpetrators. We give thanks to God for injury spared and for the work of "Milford's Finest" in their criminal investigation.

Many saw the report last week of the destruction of a home by fire and the displacement of the family. Eileen Potkay, our Parish Health and Wellness Coordinator, knows this family. We have assisted them in a small way through the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. They are receiving other forms of support including through the local chapter of the Red Cross. If other needs become known we will share them with you.

Please keep all of these situations in your prayers.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Brian Bodt

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Dave Doyle

Liturgist – Liana Pitre-Dahnke

Cross Bearer – Tanner Georgelos

Greeters – The Thompson family

Acolytes – Amanda Repetsky

Bible Bearer – Mary Repetsky

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Reverend Bodt and Liana Pitre-Dahnke.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are for a happy birthday in honor of Edie's father, Glenn Reichard; in memory of my mother, Rose Smith, given by Joanne Platt; and in honour of James Galloway's birthday and in memory of Mary Williams who would have celebrated her birthday on April 19th, given by Carol Galloway and Pastor Brian Bodt.

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

CHILD CARE for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. 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 an adult or guardian.

PLEASE OFFER PRAYER CONCERNS using the "Blue Sheets" in the attendance pads 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. Prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. You are also invited to speak your concerns when we pray.

TODAY'S LITURGY is taken from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992) and the Lutheran Book of Worship (1978).

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the rear of the church.

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

SAVE THE DATE!

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING: Monday, May 9, 6 p.m. in the Superintendent's office. We will plan for Christian Education Sunday on June 12th.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET: Tuesday, May 10, 6:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. You need not have a biological daughter to attend this event. Women are welcome to "adopt" other women as their "daughters" for this special occasion. **Please bring a pot-luck dish to share.** Our entertainment will be an original skit performed by members of our United Methodist Women, and written by the women of the First and Wesley United Methodist Church, West Haven. The humorous skit is entitled "Women of the Bible".

STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION

The article on the restoration previously appearing here has been well-publicized, especially through Holy Week and Easter to inform our many guests. The restoration is proceeding well. More details will appear in the May issue of the "Beacon." Questions in the meantime may be addressed to Chris Paton, project manager, at 203.874.9390 or Rachel Merva, Trustee President, at 203.641.5088.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin.

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

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: "Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets. Also wet and dry dog food 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.

"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.

INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICE: Pastor Brian will consult with leaders as needed and agree on plans for worship, Sunday School, and other activities. **Weather-related closings will be posted on church voice mail, Yahoo e-mail group, and WTNH (Channel 8).**

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR April 10th:

Total worship attendance all services: 182; April 10th : 174; April 11th: 8; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for April 10th : \$5,999.03; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$610.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$100.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 134 (United Methodist Women, April 9th: 34; April 12th: 11; Office Volunteers: 3; Sunday School: 44; Confirmation: 9; Trash & Treasures: 8; Bell Choir: 10; Adult Choir: 15; 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.

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary) hosted today by the Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Next Sunday will be hosted by the Missions Committee.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS offered after worship, sanctuary, by Emily Bak, R.N.

THE LAST PALM from Palm Sunday is available for purchase at \$11.00. Take today and pay Beth O'Brien at Fellowship Time next week if you would like it.

DENTAL SUPPLY DRIVE for "Friends of Appalachia" **continues**. These supplies to assist in improved oral hygiene for impoverished children of central Appalachia are shipped to Kids First Dental services in Kentucky. We are collecting toothpaste, toothbrushes and dental floss. There will be a box in Dodd Hall for these items. This collection continues through April.

NAME TAGS MAY BE ORDERED by signing the clipboard at the serving station at Fellowship Time. **Please return name tags to the baskets in the foyer or Dodd Hall.**

THE GLASS VASE IN THE NARTHEX (where most enter the church) is a receptacle for occasional mission projects. The Missions Committee has determined that gifts presented here as loose change or bills will be sent to the **Virtual Food Drive** of The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport. The drive will conclude on Mother's Day, May 8. Please bring your change (or bills) and make a difference in the lives of hungry people in our region.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

PASTOR BRIAN will be in Maryland through Tuesday to visit his father. Contact Dennis Darak, Staff-Parish Relations Chair, at 203.988.3554 to reach one of the pastors covering.

NO CONFIRMATION THIS TUESDAY due to the spring school recess.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY: Our Bible Studies resume with a 6 week study of "ROMANS" **April 19 & 20 to May 24 & 25.** Pastor Hal Vink will lead the usual Tuesday (7-8:30 p.m.), and Wednesday (10-11:30 a.m.) sessions in the Library. **Study books will be available after church (\$12.00).** Tell Pastor Hal to sign you up, or email him at vinkhaljane@gmail.com. Looking forward to seeing you!

TAIZÉ WORSHIP, a contemplative 30 minute experience of music, scripture and prayer, is offered in the sanctuary on the third **Wednesday, April 20th at noon** and the third **Thursday, April 21st at 8:30 p.m.** of each month.

CALENDAR CORRECTION: There is **no Church Council meeting this Thursday** as reported in the April "Beacon" calendar. There **is** a Worship Committee **meeting this Thursday at 7 p.m.** as reported in the "Grace Notes" calendars last Sunday and today.

NEXT SUNDAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets in the Chapel (Wesley Center, 2nd Floor) at 9 a.m. for its quarterly chapel service at the beginning of next week's session. **We are looking for youth musicians to help lead the worship.** Contact Lisa Gloates at lisagsings@yahoo.com for more information.

EASTER V: The message "No Mystery Here" will be based on Psalm 148, Revelation 21:1-6 and John 13:31-35. Prayer and healing anointing will be offered at the close of worship. After worship the Caring Ministries team will meet in the Wesley Center, 1st Floor.

THE "MIND" (Methodists in New Directions) **SPRING MEETING** will be held at our church next Sunday, April 24th from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Dodd Hall and the sanctuary. **We encourage you to attend!** Light refreshments will be offered in Dodd Hall **beginning at 2:30 p.m.** **MIND** is a grassroots organization of United Methodists working to end our denomination's doctrinal prejudice and institutional discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and is committed to living more fully into God's radical welcome here and now. This regional group organizing on the conference level within the New York Annual Conference (NYAC) of the United Methodist Church (UMC) is affiliated with the national Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) of which MTMUMC is a member. For more information, contact Eileen Doyle, Gay/Straight Alliance Chair at 203-878-9049.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP MEMBERS are encouraged to attend the MIND meeting noted above. Please join "our own" Sarah O'Brien and Callie Merva who are supporting and participating in this event, 3-5 p.m. in the church. **Following the MIND meeting,** from 5-7 p.m., MYF will get something to eat and go off-site for mini-golf or bowling (weather dependent). Permission slips required. Contact Paul Downing (203.676.5582 or 203.876.8540 or paul.downing@snet.net) to reserve a place.

EXPANDING THE GOOD WORK OF "TRASH AND TREASURES"

NOW YOU CAN HELP BOTH TRASH AND TREASURE AND HELPING HANDS COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE AND FURNITURE BANK in Orange at the same time. If you have an item that may be too big for Trash and Treasure to handle, call Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952, who will explain how we, Mary Taylor, can get money from Helping Hands from any gently used donation you make to them.

TRASH AND TREASURES UPDATE: We can use children's books as well as adult paperback and hardcover books, clothing for children larger than size 5 and clip on earrings. Thanks to a large donation, we believe we have enough packing.

