

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.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Yes, I Know My Savior Lives” L. Smith

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “He Is Exalted”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 148:1, 13

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!

P: *Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above earth and heaven.*

\*HYMN #62 “All Creatures of Our God and King” Lasst uns erfreuen

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated*) Gelasian Sacramentary, 5<sup>th</sup> cent., alt.

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

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) Ruth Duck, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

*God of all nations, we praise you that in Christ the barriers that have separated humanity are torn down. Yet we confess our slowness to open our hearts and minds to those of other lands, tongues, and races. Deliver us from the sins of fear and prejudice, that we may move toward the day when all are truly one in Jesus Christ. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°  
THE PSALTER Psalm 148 Hymnal p.861

THE EPISTLE Revelation 21:1-6 Bible p.1132  
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

\*HYMN #726 “O Holy City, Seen of John” Morning Song

\*THE GOSPEL John 13:31-35 Bible p.982  
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON “No Mystery Here” Dr. Bodt

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

\*THE GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #70

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: “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” G. Young

Presentation: “All Things Come of Thee” Hymnal #588

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #2212 “How Can I Keep from Singing” rear cover  
(*Let the ushers and acolytes retire and the anointers come forward.*)

A RITUAL OF PRAYER AND HEALING ANOINTING

*On the last Sunday of each month all are invited to come forward to receive prayer and optional healing anointing for oneself or on behalf of another. Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles as we sing, as needed, hymns 384, 408, 532, and 510. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak name and need to the anointer. This ancient Church practice expresses God’s love as a mysterious, caring expression of Christ’s promise “I will be with you always.” Please remain in prayer until all have returned to their seats.*

\*HYMN #428 “For the Healing of the Nations” Cwm Rhondda

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #473  
*“Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.  
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.”*

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

\*POSTLUDE “Voluntary on ‘Lasst uns erfreuen’” J. Mansfield  
(*During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.*)

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

2212

My Life Flows On  
(How Can I Keep from Singing)

1. My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's la-men-  
 2. Through all the tu-mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic  
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav-ior  
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er

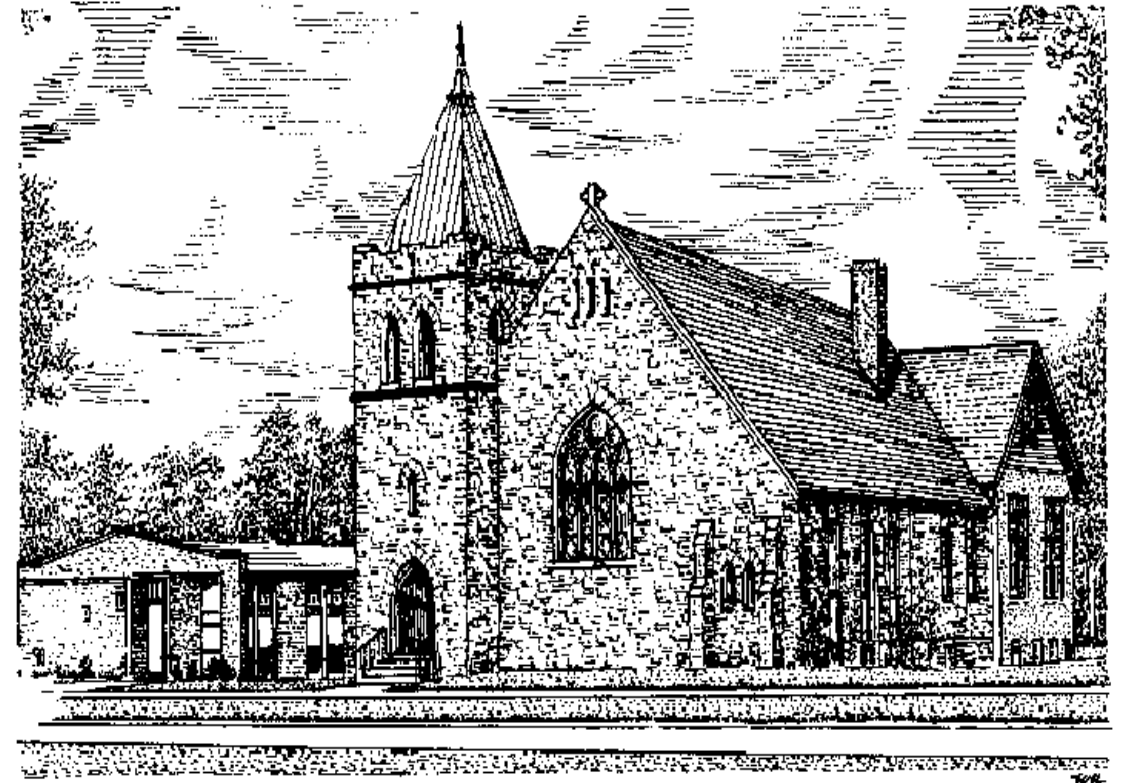
ta-tion. I hear the clear, though far-off hymn that  
 ring-ing. It finds an ech-o in my soul. How  
 liv-eth. What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs  
 spring-ing! All things are mine since I am his! How

*Refrain*

hails a new cre-a-tion.  
 can I keep from sing-ing? No storm can shake my  
 in the night he giv-eth.  
 can I keep from sing-ing?

in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing. Since

love is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?



### 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 V**

April 24, 2016

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, April 24</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School/Chapel Service - Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Caring Ministries – Wesley Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor</i>
	2:30 p.m.	<i>Hospitality begins for MIND meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	3:00 p.m.	<i>MIND annual meeting – Dodd Hall and Sanctuary (MYF encouraged to attend)</i>
	5-7 p.m.	<i>Methodist Youth Fellowship off-site event (see notice)</i>
<i>Monday, April 25</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, April 26</i>	5:45 p.m.	<i>Confirmation Class – review for final – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, April 27</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Beacon Volunteers – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal / 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, April 28</i>	5:30 p.m.	<i>MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friday, April 29</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, April 30</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Friends of Appalachia “Taste of Spring” Mill River Country Club Stratford, CT (to purchase tickets: <a href="http://www.friendsofappalachia.org">www.friendsofappalachia.org</a>)</i>
<i>Sunday, May 1</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School - Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Methodist Youth Fellowship “Earth Day” event at Rivercrest Farm (see notice – pick up at church at 4 p.m.)</i>
<i>Monday, May 2</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 3</i>	5:45 p.m.	<i>Confirmation Class – final exam – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 4</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
	2:30 p.m.	<i>Community Supper – Golden Hill U.M. Church, 210 Elm St., Bpt.</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal / 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 5</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Missions Committee, Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Board of Trustees – Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor</i>
<i>Friday, May 6</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</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. 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 24, 2016*

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*I urge you to attend today’s “MIND” (Methodists in New Directions) SPRING MEETING hosted by us. It begins with refreshments in Dodd Hall at 2:30 p.m. and moves to a program meeting in the sanctuary from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.*

*The purpose of MIND\* is to help open our United Methodist Church to all people regardless of sexual orientation. The official position of the Church is still that weddings for same-gender couples are not to be performed by our clergy; that such weddings are not to be held in our sanctuaries; and that homosexual people may not be ordained as clergy.*

*Our congregation stepped out many years ago as leaders in the fight to welcome all people into the United Methodist Church regardless of sexual orientation. In 2013, we expanded that to allow weddings for all people in our sanctuary. One of the characteristics of leaders is to take risks. I am honored to serve a church that is a leader. To those who express hesitation about this prophetic stance, I often ask “What if it was your family member who was in a same-gender relationship and wanted to marry or be ordained?”*

*I hope to see you this afternoon.*

*Grace and peace,*

*Pastor Brian Bodt*

*\*MIND works to end doctrinal prejudice and institutional discrimination against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in the United Methodist Church. This regional group is within the (regional) New York Annual Conference (NYAC) of the United Methodist Church (UMC) and is affiliated with the national Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN). Our church belongs to both. Eileen Doyle is our Gay/Straight Alliance Chair (203-878-9049).*

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – Dave Doyle

**Greeters** – The Bennett family

**Liturgist** – Elizabeth Wright

**Acolytes** – Mateo and Stefano Cono

**Cross Bearer** – Olivia Kingston

**Bible Bearer** – Carolyn Hollyday

**Intercessor** – Mary Lou Hastings

**Healing Anointers** - Pastor Hal Vink, Barbara Ann Griggs, Priscilla James, Sandy Morgan and Mark Platt.

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Reverend Bodt and Elizabeth Wright.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are from the wedding of Sherry Keller and Suzanna Smaldone; and in memory of my husband, Robert who went into the arms of our Lord 22 years ago on this date, given by Faye Zeiner.

**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

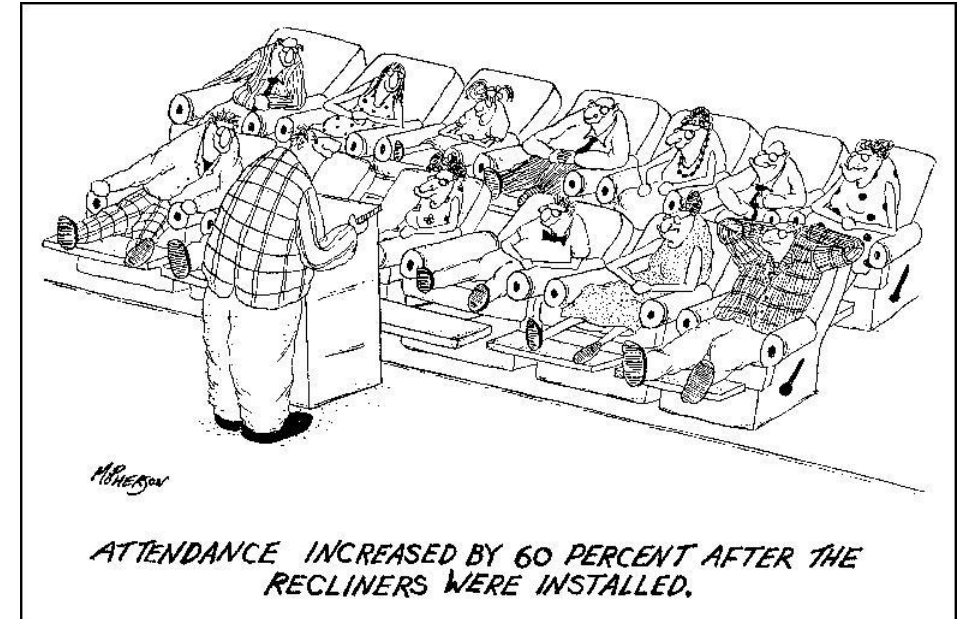
**CHILD CARE** for children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, the building next door. You may also hear the service in Dodd hall should your child become restless. Please note that children over five are expected to remain in the sanctuary; the child care in Wesley Center is not staffed to provide 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. **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.

**TODAY'S LITURGY** is taken from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992) and The Faith We Sing (2000).

**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](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.

**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](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).

**"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).**

### 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.

### ONE YEAR AGO

We broke ground on the handicapped-accessible renovations to the Wesley Center one year ago: April 26, 2015. What hath God wrought!

## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

**OUR NEW ANNOUNCEMENT FORMAT** has the pastor speak the announcements. The Worship Committee approved this change unanimously at their recent meeting. "Same day" activities will receive special attention. Most announcements are printed. We encourage leaders to continue to submit printed notices to the church office. **If you wish to have notices announced please let Pastor Brian know.** Activities and events needing extended coverage will be planned in advance and included as part of the liturgy as has been done for some time.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** meets in the Chapel (Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) at 9 a.m.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary) hosted today by the Missions Committee. Next Sunday will be hosted by the United Methodist Women.

**CARING MINISTRIES** meets at 11:30 a.m. in the Wesley Center.

**DENTAL SUPPLY DRIVE** for "Friends of Appalachia" **concludes today.** 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.

**METHODISTS IN NEW DIRECTIONS ("MIND") SPRING MEETING** is *today* with refreshments at 2:30 p.m. and program beginning at 3 p.m. See the front cover for more details.

**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. See or contact Paul Downing (203.676.5582 or 203.876.8540) if you did not reserve a place or need a permission slip.

**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

**CONFIRMATION** resumes Tuesday, 5:45 p.m. with a review for the final exam.

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON ROMANS** continues Tuesdays (7-8:30 p.m.) and Wednesdays (10-11:30 a.m.) in the Library, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Pastor Hal Vink teaches and welcomes new attendees. See or email him at [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). Looking forward to seeing you!

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS** meet Wednesday, 9 a.m., Egan Room to mail the May “Beacon.”

**COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC:** this Thursday, April 28, 5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. We welcome help anytime between 2 – 6:30 p.m. Contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959.

**FRIENDS OF APPALACHIA** presents a “Taste of Spring” fundraiser, Saturday April 30, 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. at the Mill River Country Club, 4567 Main Street, Stratford. Join them for an evening of fun and live entertainment. Friends of Appalachia strive to address the needs of the impoverished people in central Appalachia. Tickets may be purchased on line at [www.friendsofappalachia.org](http://www.friendsofappalachia.org).

## NEXT SUNDAY

**EASTER VI** – We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper using Setting B. The message “A Destination City” will be based on Acts 16:9-15 and Revelation 21:1-10, 22-22:5.

**METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP** will honor **Earth Day at Rivercrest Farm**. We will meet at the church following morning worship and proceed to the Farm. The Macri’s are providing pizza. Pick up is at the church at 4 p.m. Permission slips required. See or contact Paul Downing (203.676.5582 or 203.876.8540) to reserve a place or obtain a permission slip.

**FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON:** the Membership and Evangelism Committee has planned a fellowship lunch get together at Milford Green Pizza on Sunday, May 1st following service and coffee. It’s a wonderful way to meet new people and catch up with old friends. It’s a short walk to Milford Green Pizza, prices are quite reasonable plus their food is delicious. We hope you will be able to join us. For more information contact Sandy Morgan at 203.874.4374 or [sgmorgan@aol.com](mailto:sgmorgan@aol.com)

## SAVE THE DATE!

**COMMUNITY SUPPER** at Golden Hill U.M. Church: Wednesday, May 4, 2:30 – 5 p.m. The church is located at 210 Elm Street, Bridgeport, 20 minutes away at Exit 2 off the Routes 8/25 connector. **Contact Maryanne Jordan** (203.268.8850) to learn more or offer to serve.

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

## SAVE THE DATE, continued

**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”.

**CELEBRATE RESPECT MONTH IN MILFORD:** Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 11:15 a.m. – 1 p.m. in Dodd Hall. Please join us for a complimentary luncheon and workshop designed to empower those in our Milford community to combat bullying. Using the Ally 101 Workshop model, members of our GSA will guide participants through thought-provoking exercises and interactive discussion to learn what it means to be an ally to anyone who feels victimized so they know they are not alone. Reservations are requested but not required. Bring a friend. For more information contact Eileen Doyle at 203.878.9049 or [ddoyle51@aol.com](mailto:ddoyle51@aol.com).

## 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. **PLEASE NOTE: We are not allowed to sell any size fuel tanks,** with or without gas in them. Please recycle these and other hazardous items at the proper places.

## **VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR April 17th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 188; April 17<sup>th</sup> : 165; April 18th: 9; April 20, noon (Taize): 11; April 21, 8:30 pm (Taize): 3 Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for April 17<sup>th</sup> : \$5,008.50; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$289.34; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$3,303.22; Engaged in Small Groups: 169; Office Volunteers: 3; Adult Bible Study Tues:10; Wed:11; Sunday School: 32; No Confirmation; Bishop’s Day: 7; Trash & Treasures: 12; UMW Day Apart: 10; Prayer Shawl: 5; Men’s Surprise Dinner: 49; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 14; Worship Committee: 7. 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.