

# Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 0646

Phone: 203.874.1982  
FAX: 203.877.8973

*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.*

**ASCENSION SUNDAY  
FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME  
MOTHER'S DAY  
May 8, 2016**

**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.*

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

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “How Can We Name a Love” arr. by D. Hegarty

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Hosanna”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 66:13, 49:19, Proverbs 16:3-4a, edited

Leader: Says the Lord: “I will comfort you as a mother comforts her child.”

**People: Rejoice when God brings comfort and restoration as of old.**

Leader: I am about to do a new thing; do you not perceive it?

**People: Yes! Let us commit our work to the Lord.**

ALL: *The Lord has made everything for its purpose. Alleluia!*

\*HYMN #154 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” Coronation

THE COLLECT (*seated, unison*)

*O God, whose nature and name is Love: grant us heads and hearts united in the will to love, that we may fulfill your command so to do, bringing hope to the loveless and joy to*

*your heart; this we pray through the One who is Love Incarnate, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Lord Jesus, we confess at times there is strife in our families. Even our best intentions go awry. We remember how, following your heavenly Father, you brought worry to your earthly mother and father. Yet your love never wavered.*

*Help us to let go of the times of failure and hurt, and to claim anew your love that forgives sins and grants us a new start. This we pray in your holy name. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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THE PSALTER Psalm 47 Hymnal p.781

ANTHEM “Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam” Praisemaker’s Choir

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1:1-11 Bible p.991

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

\*THE GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53 Bible p.965

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

\*HYMN #111 “How Can We Name a Love” Terra Beata

THE SERMON “Are We There Yet?” Dr. Bodt

\*OUR MISSION STATEMENT (*unison*)

*Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church is a community growing in God’s grace and love. We are committed to following Christ’s teaching and example by heeding his call to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, preach the good news, teach our children and youth, and visit the sick, homebound and imprisoned. We recognize and celebrate the diversity of God’s creation and God’s gifts. As disciples of our Lord, we publicly acknowledge, welcome and support people of all races, genders, sexual orientations and gender identities, ages, nationalities, ethnicities, abilities and socio-economic situations. Our welcome knows no boundaries. Called by the Holy Spirit to share a ministry that reflects God’s love and justice, we embrace and honor all who participate in the ministries and leadership of our church.*

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.)

MISSION MINUTE "U.M.C.O.R. Health Kits" Stacey Riccardi

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, *including the*  
*Glass Vase offering given to the Hunger Outreach Network*  
*of The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport*

Offertory Anthem: "Risen Indeed!" L. Shackley

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

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #312 "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise" Llanfair

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #557

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;*  
*the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.*

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

\*POSTLUDE "Fanfare on 'Llanfair'" E. Broughton  
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

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



~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, May 8</i>		<i>NO Sunday School today</i>
<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b>	9:45 a.m.	<i>Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 9</i>	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation Rehearsal – Sanctuary</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<i>Sunday School teachers meeting-Sunday School office</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 10</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>UMW Mother-Daughter Banquet – Dodd Hall</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 11</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal / 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 12</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Trash and Treasures is open today until 2:00 p.m.</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<i>Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting –Pastor's office, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center 1<sup>st</sup> floor</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff-Parish Relations Comm. meeting – Gunn Library, Wesley Ctr.</i>
<i>Friday, May 13</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers- Gunn Library</i>
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<i>Sunday, May 15</i>		<b>BEACON INFORMATION DUE TODAY</b>
<b>PENTECOST/ CONFIRMATION</b>	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>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Blood Pressure Screening-Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Chiropractic Presentation-Wesley Center</i>
<i>Monday, May 16</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 17</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 18</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>Taize Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	7:45 p.m.	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 19</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Trash and Treasures open today 9am-2pm</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>D'Ambrose/Conte wedding rehearsal – Sanctuary</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Church Council meeting –Dodd Hall alcove</i>
	8:30 p.m.	<i>Taize Worship – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, May 20</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, May 21</i>	5:00 p.m.	<i>Melissa D'Ambrose/Marco Conte wedding – Sanctuary</i>

**MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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*  
*May 8, 2016*

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*Happy Mother's Day! We give thanks on this Mother's Day for our mothers, alive in the Church Militant and in the Church Triumphant, and for their remembrance today.*

*Mother's Day reminds us of the advocacy of women in the Church throughout the ages and throughout the United Methodist Church. The national United Methodist Women have long been leaders in mission and outreach. By these tireless advocates we all are blessed.*

*Mothers (and fathers) are familiar with another kind of tireless advocate: the child's refrain that accompanies travel, particularly over long distances and in confined quarters: "Are we there yet?" No matter how or how often, parents explain about time and distance, the chant isn't over until the trip is.*

*I feel something of this in the disciples' question "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" Are we there yet, Jesus? Come aboard to ride with the disciples in the readings and message for today.*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

*Pastor Brian Bodt*

*P.S. General Conference, meeting May 10-20 in Portland, Oregon, is the supreme legislative body of the United Methodist Church. Lydia Smith, part of the music team, reminds us that it is a live-streaming event. Go to [www.umc.org](http://www.umc.org) and click on "General Conference." You can see the main worship service every day at 8 a.m. and see legislative sessions in process.*

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – Stacey Riccardi      **Greeters** – Bev Pierpont and daughters Shelly and Stacy  
**Liturgist** – Joan Zauner      **Acolytes** – Ryan and Sean Kingston  
**Cross Bearer** – Olivia Kingston      **Bible Bearer** – Mary Repetsky

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Reverend Bodt and Joan Zauner.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in memory of George Zauner; and in memory of Bunny Calabrese's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday in heaven on May 7, Love, Stacey, Rick, Jason, Jennifer, Aiden and Madison.

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

**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).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** may be given to Pastor Brian to be spoken. "Same day" notices will receive special attention. **Please read our printed notices.** Leaders are encouraged to continue to submit printed notices to the church office. 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. The goal of this change is an enhanced worship experience for all.



## MICHAELA'S GARDEN PROJECT SEEDS FOR THE PETIT FAMILY FOUNDATION ~

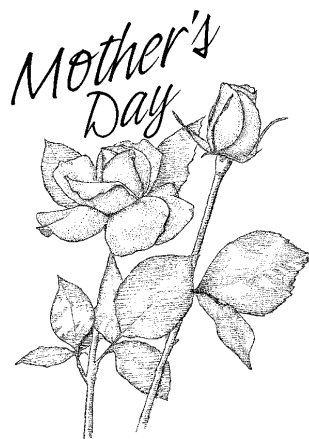
My friend Bill Petit started the Petit Family Foundation nine years ago to honor the memory of his beautiful wife Jennifer and daughters Hayley & Michaela. All of the "Petit Girls" were active members of the Cheshire United Methodist Church, and Jennifer was the daughter of Richard A. Hawke, a United Methodist Pastor and former District Superintendent in the Pittsburgh area.

Each year, hundreds of thousands of dollars are raised by the foundation to support:

- scholarships for young people in the sciences
- those who suffer from chronic diseases
- victims of violence

Every spring, I sell 4 O'Clock seeds from **Michaela's Garden Project** to support the **Petit Family Foundation**. Each packet of seeds is only \$5 (more if you like), but the impact your purchase has is so much greater. I'll have seeds available **after worship today** during Fellowship Time.

**Leigh Bak**



## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

**FLOWERS FOR ALL WOMEN PRESENT TODAY** are a gift of the Men's Club in honor of Mother's Day. Blessings to all the ladies with thanks to the gentlemen!

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary) hosted today by the Methodist Youth Fellowship. Next Sunday will be hosted by the Finance Committee.

**FAIR ON THE GREEN UPDATE:** see the enclosed insert.

**ALLY 101 WORKSHOP:** A **sign up table** is in Dodd Hall, staffed today by **Sarah O'Brien** for the May 22<sup>nd</sup> training event on how to combat bullying. Please see the enclosed flier for details.

**THE GLASS VASE DRIVE CONCLUDES TODAY!** Your loose change or bills for the **Virtual Food Drive** of The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport make a difference in the lives of hungry people in our region.

**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.**

**SUMMER PUNCH BOWL SIGN-UPS:** Only three left: **June 26<sup>th</sup>, July 17<sup>th</sup> and September 4<sup>th</sup>**! Summer Punch Bowl is our summer version of Fellowship Time. We host it outside (weather permitting) after 9:30 a.m. summer worship in a simple format: iced tea or lemonade or punch plus some cookies or small treat after worship. **You can sign up today** on the clipboard on the serving table at Fellowship Time. To learn more, contact Sandy Morgan (203.874.4374; [sgmorgan@aol.com](mailto:sgmorgan@aol.com)) or Holly Firmender (203.530.2621; [holly.firmender@gmail.com](mailto:holly.firmender@gmail.com)).

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.**

### THIS WEEK

**CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL** is **tomorrow, 5:30 – 6 p.m.**, sanctuary. **Please be prompt!**

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

**THE MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET** is **this Tuesday, May 10, 6:30 p.m.** in Dodd Hall. You need not have a biological daughter to attend! Women are welcome to "adopt" other women as their "daughters" for this special occasion. **Please bring a pot-luck dish to share.** A funny skit, "Women of the Bible," was written by the women of the First and Wesley United Methodist Church, West Haven and will be performed by our United Methodist Women. **To learn more** please speak with Joan Zauner (203.283.5643; [joanzauner@gmail.com](mailto:joanzauner@gmail.com)) or Sue O'Shea (203.494.5339; [sueoshea@optonline.net](mailto:sueoshea@optonline.net)).

**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!



## NEXT SUNDAY

**THE DAY OF PENTECOST/CONFIRMATION** – No informal hymn singing before worship (moved to Mother’s Day). Acts 2:1-21, the story of the first Pentecost, along with Romans 8:14-17 and John 14:8-17, are the basis of the message, “The Grace of Daily Obligation.” We will celebrate the Order for Confirmation for seven of our youth. **Everyone is invited to wear something red**, the color associated with the Holy Spirit. Blood pressure screenings by Brenda Pineau, R.N., will follow worship in the sanctuary. Also after worship the Parish Health and Wellness team will host Dr. Paterna, a chiropractic physician, who will make a brief presentation in the Wesley Center on the benefits of chiropractic care and adjustments.

**THE JUNE “BEACON” DEADLINE** is next Sunday. Please submit materials to [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or hard copy to the church office on or before that date.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**CHURCH COUNCIL** meets *Thursday, May 19, 7 p.m.*, Dodd Hall alcove. Written committee reports are due to Joanne Platt by *Monday, May 16* at [jocbs@aol.com](mailto:jocbs@aol.com). Agenda items are due by the same date to Council Chair Shelly Lapadula at [m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com](mailto:m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com) or to Pastor Brian at [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com).

**TAIZÉ WORSHIP**, a contemplative 30 minute experience of music, scripture and prayer, is offered in the sanctuary on the third *Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at noon* and the third *Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m.* of each month.

**MILFORD HOSPITAL** is looking for **afternoon and evening volunteers** to commit to one 3 ½ hour shift per week. The greatest need is for volunteers in the gift shop, information desk, emergency department and the walk in center on Post Road. Orientation will be *Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am - noon* at the hospital. For information or to register call 203-876-4062.

## “TRASH AND TREASURES” UPDATES

**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:** We continue to welcome donations even with our limited space, with these restrictions: we cannot accept any more clothing except for girls’ items; no Christmas or Easter-themed items and no coffee mugs (we have over 100). We can still use children's books. **To see what we need or what you may need, you can visit us after worship on Sunday or on Thursdays, May 12 and 19, from 9 am to 2 pm.** Early birds are welcomed and encouraged! **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 properly.

## 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.

**OUR STAINED GLASS WINDOW RESTORATION** is proceeding well. More details are in the May issue of the “Beacon.” Questions may be addressed to Chris Paton, project manager, at 203.874.9390 or Rachel Merva, Trustee President, at 203.641.5088.

## **VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR May 1st:**

Total worship attendance all services: 136; May 1st: 129; May 2nd: 7; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for May 1st: \$4,975.55; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$806.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$75.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 131; Adult Bible Study Tues:10; Wed:11; Sunday School: 38; Confirmation: 9; Membership & Evangelism lunch: 11; MYF Earth Day: 12; Trash & Treasures:15; Praisemakers: 0; Bell Choir: 8; Adult Choir: 17; 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.