

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

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
Nesting Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016

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

ASCENSION SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY THE ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION May 13, 2018

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 “Christ Is Risen” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Majesty” The Bell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Don Saliers, USA, 20th cent.

Leader: Risen with Christ, let us seek the realities of the Spirit.

People: *Our life is hidden with Christ in God.*

Leader: The One who descended is also ascended far above the heavens,
that he might fill all things.

People: *When Christ, our Life, appears, we shall appear with him in
glory! Alleluia!*

*HYMN #327 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” Diademata

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*)

*Everliving God, your eternal Christ once dwelt on earth, confined by time and space.
Give us faith to discern in every time and place the presence among us of him who is head
over all things and fills all, even Jesus Christ our ascended Lord. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of resurrection power, we confess that we do not always keep the main thing, the main thing. You call us to proclaim, and we procrastinate. You present yourself alive to us with many convincing proofs, and we ask whether you will act now. You grant Christ power and authority above every name, and we quibble over when you will restore our place of prestige and privilege. Forgive us for not trusting you or one another with the power to proclaim and the freedom to forgive. Help this confession to enable transformation in us so that we might claim and share Christ's glorious inheritance of love. We pray this for your Name's sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1:1-11 Bible p.991 (LP, NT p.143)

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

(Rev. Aduku reads in Akan, a Ghanaian dialect. Mr. Cono reads in English.)

THE EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23 Bible p.1064 (LP, NT p.234)

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

(Mr. Kingston)

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

Based on Ephesians 1:16

*HYMN #168 “At the Name of Jesus” King's Weston

*THE GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53 Bible p.965 (LP, NT p.111)

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

(Rev. Dr. Sylvester)

*HYMN #312 “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” Llanfair

THE SERMON “The Common Thread” Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal #895

HYMN #334 (*seated*) “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” Sweet, Sweet Spirit

*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: “Hallelujah Side” Oatman/Pethel
(The Adult Choir)

*Presentation: “Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow” Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #331 “Holy Spirit, Come, Confirm Us” For the Bread
(During the hymn the confirmands and sponsors come forward.)

THE ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION Hymnal p.33
(The recitation of the Apostles’ Creed is Hymnal #881.)

Confirmand

Stefano Tyler Cono
Ryan Patrick Kingston

Sponsor

Bob Virgalla
Jim Page

*HYMN #581 “Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” Beach Spring

*THE BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE “Beach Spring Stomp” Bell Choir
(Please remain seated during the postlude.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC LEADERS TODAY

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton, New York Area,

The United Methodist Church

Stefano Tyler Cono, Confirmation student

Ryan Patrick Kingston, Confirmation student

The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester, Superintendent, The Connecticut District

The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor, Mary Taylor Memorial U.M. Church

The Rev. Ebenezer Aduku, Pastor, John Wesley U.M. Church, Brooklyn, NY and Ghana

Emmanuel U.M. Church mission, Milford, Connecticut

Pastor Dani Levine, Outreach Pastor,

Mary Taylor Memorial U.M. Church

Dr. Rick Riccardi, Director of Music Ministries

The Bell Choir

The Adult Choir

Mr. Mark Dennis, trumpet

Ms. Lydia Smith, drums

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton

Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton was appointed as the spiritual leader of the 447 United Methodist congregations in the New York Annual Conference in the fall of 2016.

As a part of his episcopal responsibilities, Bishop Bickerton also serves on the General Board of Global Ministries, the Standing Committee on Central Conference affairs, and the Commission on the General Conference.

Bishop Bickerton was elected to the episcopacy in 2004 and served the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference from 2004-2016. Most recently he served as the chairperson of The United Methodist Church's *Global Health Initiative* which deals with the church's response to the killer diseases of HIV/Aids, tuberculosis and malaria. This effort, through the church's *Imagine NO Malaria* campaign, raised over \$70 million dollars within the denomination to eliminate malaria-related death across the world.

A native of West Virginia, Bishop Bickerton began his pastoral career as a student pastor serving a six-point charge. He later was pastor of medium and large membership churches as well as serving as a District Superintendent. As he worked in partnership with laity, the churches he served experienced significant growth in the number of baptisms, professions of faith, and members. His church in Shady Spring, West Virginia grew from 85 to 225 members in his six years there, and during his nine years at the Forrest Burdette church in Hurricane, West Virginia, the membership more than doubled from 585 to 1368. The Bishop remains committed to the idea that the vitality of the local church is the key to carrying out the church's mission to "make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world" and, as a result, spends significant time preaching and teaching in local settings as well as working with his cabinet and staff in centering the life of an Annual Conference around facilitating the ministry of the local church.

Bishop Bickerton's life has been significantly shaped by involvement in ministry beyond the walls of the local church. His work with Volunteer-in-Mission teams in his home state, as well as in Africa, Argentina, Israel, Mexico, Russia, Cuba, and the U. S. Gulf Coast, has given the Bishop a "true global perspective on the need to be in ministry to all of God's children."

Bishop Bickerton earned a Bachelor's of Arts degree in sociology and psychology from West Virginia Wesleyan College (1980), a Master's of Divinity degree from Duke University Divinity School (1983), a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary (1994), and an honorary doctorate from West Virginia Wesleyan (2015). He has also served as an adjunct faculty member at United, teaching Wesleyan doctrine and United Methodist polity.

Bishop Bickerton has also served the ministry of the wider church over the years in the General Commission on Archives and History, the General Commission on United Methodist Communications, and the General Commission on United Methodist Men.

Bishop Bickerton is the author of the book and accompanying study resources entitled, [What Are We Fighting For: Coming Together Around What Matters Most](#) and a contributing author to the book, [The Future of the United Methodist Church](#).

The Bishop is an avid sports fan and enjoys travel, playing golf, and photography.

He and his wife Sally are the parents of Elizabeth (Chris), T.J. (Claire), Ian and Nick.

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. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
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

May 13, 2018

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

What a special and joyful day in the life of our church! We welcome Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton and his wife, Sally Bickerton, to our worship and our community. Bishop Bickerton's biography is on the rear cover. Bishop Bickerton is not only here to bring God's Word as he has to many other congregations, but to confirm Stefano Cono and Ryan Kingston. I asked Bishop last Sunday at District Conference when he had last confirmed someone and he said, "Not in a while." We are joyfully helping him with that today!

Stefano and Ryan have been in weekly study since September with Pastor Levine and me, including memorizing key elements of scripture and belief; and our annual trip to New York to see John Street Church and the 9/11 Memorial. They have been a pleasure to teach.

In addition to Bishop Bickerton, we are delighted that our District Superintendent, Dr. Alpher Sylvester and his wife Carlene; and the Rev. Ebenezer Aduku and his wife, Candida, are with us in worship today. We also welcome the members of Ghana Emmanuel UM Church, our "nesting" congregation, who are worshipping with us today.

This Mother's Day we also celebrate the presence of all mothers and women, recalling their sacrifices on behalf of sons and daughters, brothers and sisters, parents and other family. We recall that Anna Jarvis, who started the tradition of recognizing mothers by recognizing her mother at the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1907, was a native West Virginian, as is our Bishop. As always, our Men's Club has flowers for each woman present today. May all that is prepared for this worship bring both temporal joy and, more importantly, glory to God.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Ed Pineau
Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Bodt
Cross Bearer: Olivia Kingston

Greeters: Becky Virgalla and Michelle Connor
Acolytes: Carolyn Hollyday and Mary Repetsky
Bible Bearer: Zoe Browne

A **MISSION CROSS** has been placed and a donation made to Project Chacocente in memory of Charlene Riccardi given by Stacey, Rick, Jen, Jason, Aiden and Madison.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in memory of my brother, Brian DeVito, on his birthday and my mother, Jeanette DeVito; and in honor of all mothers on Mothers' Day, given by Michelle Connor.

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 the east (left) side aisle. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar). **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the east side aisle.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992). The Prayer of Confession was written by Dr. Bodt.

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

TOMORROW!

UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT UNION CONCERT CHOIR



NICHOLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
MONDAY, MAY 14
7:30 PM

The concert is free and appropriate for people of all ages.

Their music ranges from the Renaissance through the 21st century, including spirituals, gospel music, folk songs and music celebrating a global perspective.

The University of Mount Union Concert Choir is conducted by Dr. Grant Cook, It is among the oldest collegiate choirs in the United States, tracing its roots to 1896. Mount Union is a Methodist school in Alliance, Ohio. Open by audition to all students on campus, the Concert Choir comprises musicians from a wide variety of academic disciplines and, thus, truly represents the University's strong liberal arts foundation. Serving as an ambassador of the University, the Concert Choir performs annually throughout the continental United States and undertakes an international tour every four years. They will be touring Scotland in 2019.

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, May 13</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>NO Sunday School today</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/Mother's Day/Confirmation - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time - Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>GEUMC gathering – Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>NO GUTS Youth Group meeting today</i>
<i>Monday, May 14</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>University of Mount Union Concert-Nichols UMC</i>
	<i>8:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor's study</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 15</i>		<i>Beacon Information Due Today</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Pastoral Transition Event- Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 16</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>New Members Class-Pastor's study-Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 17</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
<i>Friday, May 18</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, May 19</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men's Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Milford Trail Walking-Wilcox Park-Holly Firmender contact</i>
<i>Sunday, May 20</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Jamboree Time – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/ Order of Thanksgiving for Marco Sage Conte- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time - Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood pressure screenings – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>3:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Methodists in New Directions (MIND) meeting – Sanctuary and Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>GEUMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>GUTS Youth Group meeting – Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, May 21</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship- Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 23</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Beacon Volunteers</i>
	<i>Noon – 12:30 pm</i>	<i>Sanctuary open for prayer – Pastor Brian, host</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>New Members Class-Pastor's study-Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
<i>Thursday, May 24</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Worship Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, May 25</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, May 26</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men's Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR May 6th

Total worship attendance all services: 166; May 6:141; GEUMC:17; May 7th Healing and Wholeness: 8; Total Offerings for May 6: \$8,824.25: Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 130; Sunday School: 22; "G.U.T.S" (youth group): 0; Mother/Daughter Banquet: 58; Confirmation: 8; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 19; Trash & Treasures: 10; Office Volunteers: 4; 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 by GUTS and Membership and Evangelism. Next Sunday's hosts will be the United Methodist Women, A-M.

FAIR ON THE GREEN - Fair days are *Friday and Saturday June 1 and 2.* Visit the FOTG table in Dodd Hall *today* to sign up to volunteer; take a flier for your car or workplace. Lawn signs are available for those in large traffic areas. Create a theme basket – see the enclosed insert for additional information.

UMCOR HEALTH KITS UPDATE: 500 kits have been prepared for delivery to Annual Conference. With judicious shopping, the cost per kit, including the \$1 for shipping, is \$3.12. UMCOR's website estimates the per-kit cost at \$12, so this is great stewardship at work. We have received financial support from the Missions Committee (the oversight ministry for this project), the United Methodist Women, and individual donors. More support is needed. If you would like to make a donation to support this worthy project, please make your check payable to "MTMUMC" with the memo "UMCOR kit." We will have a financial status report next Sunday. Thanks to Stacey Riccardi for providing leadership for this project.

TRASH & TREASURES requests donations of clean, working electrical appliances. **We can really use children's and baby clothing, short sleeve blouses for women. May 20 is the absolute deadline for donations. It's going to be a great sale, please continue to bring us your best!!.** Bubble wrap, wrapping paper and strong bags with corded handles are badly needed. (*No newspaper or brown paper bags, please*). Please call Dolly Bonisch for more information, or for donations of large items, at 203-783-9952.

NO GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) today, observing Mother's Day. **PLEASE SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR** for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

NICHOLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CONCERT – tomorrow, Monday, May 14th 7:30 pm. See the inside back cover of this "Grace Notes" for additional information.

COME MEET PASTOR KRISTINA AND LESLIE HANSEN this Tuesday, May 15 at 7 – 8:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. We look forward to seeing you! It helps to know if you are coming so that we have adequate hospitality and room set-up. Please let Mary Lou Kampert (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net; 203.874.1982, ext. 110) know if you can. If you'd like to contribute to hospitality, let Edie know at 203.650.5722 or ereichard@juno.com

Edie Reichard, Chair, Staff-Parish Relations

Rev. Dr. Brian Bodt, Pastor

ARTICLES FOR THE JUNE "BEACON" are due *Tuesday, May 15* to the church office, hard copy or e-mailed to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

THIS WEEK, *continued*

THE SECOND NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION SESSION is offered on Wednesday – May 16th. The final session is May 23rd – from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Pastor Brian’s study, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. New members will be received on May 27th. You may still attend sessions to observe without a commitment to join. If interested please let the church office know at 203.874.1982, ext. 110 or mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

YOUTH: Are you attending GUTS youth group next Sunday, May 20th? I need to know. Did you receive my e-mail last Wednesday? If not, let me know. If so, please reply; with thanks to those who already did. Please let me know by this Wednesday, May 16. You may call or text 203.895.3753 or e-mail brian.bodt@yahoo.com. *Pastor Brian Bodt*

CHURCH COUNCIL meets Thursday, May 17, 7 p.m. in the Dodd Hall alcove. The agenda and reports will be distributed electronically today. **Please note that the opening portion of the meeting will be convened as a Charge Conference**, approved by the District Superintendent, to set the compensation package for Rev. Hansen effective July 1.

MILFORD TRAIL WALKING TOUR of Wilcox Park is this Saturday, May 19th, 9:00 a.m. Meet at Mary Taylor and walk to Shipyard Lane to begin the walk. Please bring a small bag to pick up any refuse along our path. Master Gardener Cheryl Cappiali will walk with us and help us to observe God’s blessings in nature. The trail takes approximately 30 minutes to complete without stopping. Please join us for our first walk of the warm season. For additional information contact Holly Firmender at 203-203-530-2621 or holly.firmender@gmail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY, May 20th

THE DAY OF PENTECOST - Informal hymn singing begins at 9:45 a.m. Acts 2:1-21 and John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 frame the message “Why Are We Still Singing Easter Hymns?” We will celebrate an Order of Thanksgiving for the birth of Marco Sage Conte, son of Luigi (Marco) and Melissa. Dennis Darak will be the Stewardship Spotlight speaker. Blood pressure screenings will be offered by Carol Galloway, M.S., P.T in the sanctuary after worship.

LAST DAY FOR “TRASH AND TREASURES” DONATIONS is next Sunday. See Dolly Bonisch or contact her at 203.783.9952 to arrange for donations.

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL WILL HOST the spring Connecticut regional meeting of “Methodists in New Directions” next Sunday, May 20th, 3-5 p.m. in the sanctuary and Dodd Hall. **If you would be willing to assist** by providing a baked good, setting up hospitality or serving as a welcoming greeter, please contact Marcia Winter at 203.640.5941/mcbwinter@att.net or Kelly O’Hara at 203.913.2969/yankee89@optonline.net.

GROWING UP TOGETHER SPIRITUALLY (G.U.T.S) meets next Sunday, May 20th, 4 - 5:30 p.m. in **Dodd Hall**. All youth, grades 6-12, are welcome (friends, too)! Topic: “No Rules (Just Right)” led by Pastor Brian. See Pastor Brian’s “This Week” reminder to RSVP by Wed.

COMING SOON

COMMUNITY SUPPER meets Thursday, May 24, 2-6:30 p.m. To help for any of that time, please contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959.

DEADLINE FOR GRADUATE SUBMISSIONS is Tuesday, May 29th. Please submit the form enclosed in today’s “Grace Notes” or on page 18 of the May “Beacon” to the church office; e-mail to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or call 203.874.1982, ext. 110. **Graduates will be recognized on Sunday, June 3rd at 10 a.m. worship.**

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the weekly bulletin.

DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS. *Beth O’Brien (203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net) is now taking orders for 2018.* Flowers are \$20. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to support missions are honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for both are payable to MTMUMC, 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 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 takes 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 dani.m.levine@gmail.com.

“FIX IT BOX” is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, and Recovery from Co-dependency (CODA) 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.