



*Grace Notes
May 24, 2015*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Confirmation, Aldersgate Day, Pentecost and cake. A grand slam!

Confirmation: six of our youth are being confirmed as full members of the church today. Their names, and what they have accomplished to arrive at this moment, are found in the Order of Worship. To all who celebrate with them, blessings!

Aldersgate Day: May 24th, 1738 is the date 277 years ago that the Rev. John Wesley, a priest in the Church of England, experienced his heart-warming conversion at a prayer meeting on Aldersgate Street in London. His transformation led to a renewal movement that led to the "people called Methodist" becoming a world-wide church.

Pentecost: a Jewish agricultural festival became the birthday of the Church according to Acts 2, as the Holy Spirit came on the disciples waiting in Jerusalem as Jesus told them to at his Ascension (Luke 24:49). God's power through the Spirit came not only to the Twelve but to people of all nationalities in an explosion of power that tore down barriers that would have otherwise separated people from one another.

Cake: what's not to like? Thanks to the Men's Club for offering this annual expression of hospitality to our newest members, their families and all of us.

May we revel in God's goodness and mercy on this day of celebration.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Brian

FAIR ON THE GREEN JUNE 5 & 6, 2015

CATCH THE SPIRIT!!! The *Fair on the Green* is days away! Whether you are new to Mary Taylor Memorial UMC, new to our *Fair*, or a tried-and-true volunteer, you're sure to enjoy much fun and fellowship when you give your time to this important fund raiser for our General Fund. Please be on the lookout for **volunteer sign-up sheets** in Dodd Hall this month and sign up for the area where you would like to help out. **DON'T MISS THE SIGN UP SHEETS ON MAY 31st!**

VOLUNTEERS: Thursday, **June 4th- 5:00 P.M.** Please mark your calendar with a big ★ as a reminder to "come on down" to help with set-up for the *Fair*. We especially need folks with strong backs and people willing to clean the tables and coolers with Bleach - wear work clothes!

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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		

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Tanner Georgelos

Greeters – Cathy and Pete Liontas

Cross Bearer – Callie Merva

Acolytes – Sarah O’Brien and Ryan Lapadula

Liturgists – 2015 Confirmation students

Musicians - Ken Wilhelm, bass

Lydia Smith, percussion

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and the 2015 Confirmands.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are in memory of Oakley Weyant, given by his family.

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 and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989). “An Aldersgate Prayer” is from The Book of Worship (1964). The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession were written by the Pastor.

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God’s presence with us. Please complete a red visitor’s card (in the pew racks) and wear the “Visitor” name tag to help us greet you warmly. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is available in the racks in back of the church. **SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, May 24</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>
<i>Pentecost/Confirmation</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship–Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 25</i>	<i>The Church Office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day</i>	
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 26</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 27</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting-Wesley Center - Egan Room</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Golden Hill Community Dinner- Bridgeport</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 28th</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Nominating Committee – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Worship Committee – if needed</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, May 29th</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Sunday, May 31</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship–Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Visitation Ministry-1st floor, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>MYF Scavenger Hunt – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, June 1</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, June 2</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, June 3</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting-Wesley Center - Egan Room</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, June 4</i>	<i>5:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Fair on the Green set up- Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friday, June 5</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fair on the Green</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, June 6</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fair on the Green</i>

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

PLEASE GREET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS, the Confirmation Class of 2015, in Dodd Hall during Fellowship Time today.

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time hosts are the Methodist Youth Fellowship. Join us for fellowship and conversation. Next week's Fellowship Time host is the Education Committee.

DEADLINE FOR HEALTH KIT DONATIONS IS TODAY! Please leave your items in the collection box in Dodd Hall. If you were unable to donate from the list in the May "Beacon" but would like to make a monetary donation, please see Deb Dubien or Maryann Petremont.

THE JUNE "BEACON" (our monthly newsletter) was mailed this past Wednesday. Extra copies are on the rear of the sanctuary.



TRASH AND TREASURE UPDATE: Presently we cannot accept clothing, books and grocery bags. We do need clip on earrings! June 1st is still the last day to drop off donations but we would appreciate getting them as early as possible before the deadline. We remain open Fridays in May from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and varying hours the rest of the weekdays. Please continue to donate clean items and those not needing repair. Call Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952 before dropping off large items. Please do not donate:

hangers, food items, TV's, computers, old printers, mattresses, baby car seats, helmets of any kind, old computer books or obsolete editions of educational books.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have some members who cannot get to our Sunday Services. We are looking for volunteers who can help out other parishioners by picking them up on the way to church. Please contact Michelle Craig at 203-877-4332 or michellemtmumc@gmail.com, or Don Hastings at 203-877-4554 nctmwash@aol.com, if you would like to volunteer.

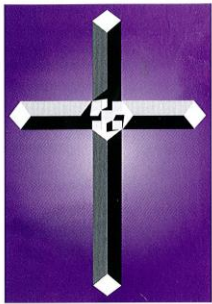
SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED TOMORROW in honor of Memorial Day. We reopen on Tuesday, May 26th at 9 a.m.

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT *is this Wednesday, May 27th, 2:30 – 5 p.m.* We prepare the meal, led by Maryanne Meehan Jordan and Bob Jordan. Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector.

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC is *this Thursday, May 28th, any portion of 2 – 6:30*



MILFORD PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER

*A faith-based center for healing
wholeness and reconciliation*

AN AID TO ADDRESSING PROBLEM DRINKING

Our congregation is a founding member of the Milford Pastoral Counseling Center, located in the Pilgrim Building of First United Church of Christ (Congregational), 34 West Main Street. Joan Zauner is Board Vice-President and Dr. Bodt is a member of the Board.

The Center offers counseling using the best professional psychotherapeutic practices in the context of faith and, specifically, Christian faith. Both staff therapists—the Rev. Dr. John Sandel and the Rev. Dr. Alice deV. Perry—are ordained Christian clergy. Brochures are in our church sanctuary or from the office and you may reach the Center at 203.877.7713.

One useful tool as noted in this article heading is a self-assessment for problem drinking. If you are worried for yourself, a friend or loved one about drinking too much, you can take a **free and anonymous self-screen** by going to

www.thecounselingcenters.org

On the upper left side of the home page click on **Self Screening**. This will take you to the Screening for Mental Health website which will invite you to complete a brief questionnaire about your alcohol consumption. After tabulating responses you will receive feedback about your drinking. Should your results raise concerns, you may contact the Center or either of the pastors for confidential conversation.

Please also find us on Facebook at Milford Pastoral Counseling Center
<https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=857954867599934>

p.m. If you can help, contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959.

NEXT SUNDAY

TRINITY SUNDAY: Isaiah 6:1-8 and Romans 8:12-18 are the basis of the message “Your Spiritual Genealogy.” We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism for Faith Ann Wilson, daughter of David and Kimberly; have a Stewardship Spotlight from Dennis Brown; and receive an invitation for individuals to sign the Covenant of Conscience by Olivia D’Andrea, Callie Merva and Sarah O’Brien. Healing anointing will be offered during the closing hymns. After worship, the Visitation Team meets in the Wesley Center and there will be a “Fair on the Green” seminar (see below).

FAIR ON THE GREEN MEETING: Sunday, May 31st 11:15 am, Wesley Center. There will be a short Fair on the Green meeting on how to identify counterfeit bills. Grab your coffee and come on over – 1st floor, Wesley Center.

COMING SOON

A BRIEF CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING will be held on Sunday, June 7 11:30 a.m. in the Chapel (Wesley Center, 2nd Floor). All youth entering 8th grade or older who have not been confirmed, along with at least one parent, are encouraged to attend. We will set a fall Confirmation meeting day and time in addition to doing a brief review of what Confirmation is and what it requires. If you plan to attend, please contact Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 10.

BASIC LAY SERVANT MINISTRY COURSE: June 6, June 20 and July 11 (all sessions required). See the article on page 11 in the June “Beacon.”

SAVE THE DATE: All-church clean-up day organized by the Board of Trustees, Sat., June 20th, from 8 am – Noon. See the page 5 article in the June “Beacon” or contact Rachel Merva at 203.641.5088 or rmerva@optonline.net.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

We will recognize all of our graduates in worship on Father’s Day, Sunday, June 21. If you have a graduate from any school in your household, please submit the name of the graduate, the school from which they are graduating, degree conferred (if any) and potential future plans to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or by calling Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 10 **no later than Monday, June 15th.**

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

HOME VISITATION by Pastor Brian is available to become better acquainted. Visits may also occur in his office. Weekday, evening and Sunday appointments are available. If you would like to arrange for one, please contact Mary Lou Kampert at 203.874.1982, ext. 10.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, please call the office (203.874.1982) or ring the Broad Street doorbell. Thank you.

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 & monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is still needed for seniors with pets, but the Animal Control is not allowed to take in peoples’ released pets. However, they do take care of kittens and will spay and neuter feral cats as has been the policy for years. They also request towels and blankets for the animals. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office 9 – Noon, Mon. – Thurs. **Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

“**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 May 17th:

Total worship attendance all services: 135; May 17th: 130; Healing and Wholeness, May 18th: 5; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for May 17th: \$4,804.00; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$721.33; UMCOR/Nepal: \$160.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 101 (Office Volunteers 3; “Trash and Treasures” workers: 16; Sunday School: 23; Bell Choir: 10; Adult Choir: 14; Confirmation: 12; Adult study Tues. 8/Wed. 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.

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*

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

**THE DAY OF PENTECOST
ALDERSGATE DAY
THE ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION
MAY 24, 2015**

**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 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God” arr. by M. Dickerson

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

INTROIT “El Shaddai” Bell Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Kaylee Sostilio

Leader: We gather with the zeal of those first followers on the Day of Pentecost.

People: ***Come, Holy Spirit!***

Leader: We gather with the experience of the Rev. John Wesley, whose “heart strangely warmed” experience founded the Methodist movement.

People: ***Come, Holy Spirit!***

Leader: We gather as *this* generation’s believers, witnessing to the power of God in our day.

People: ***Come, Holy Spirit!***

All: **COME, HOLY SPIRIT! FILL OUR HEARTS AND LIVES WITH POWER
AND CONVICTION TO WITNESS TO YOUR LOVE AT WORK IN THE WORLD
TODAY!**

*HYMN #57 “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” Azmon

°°°

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) “An Aldersgate Prayer” Kayleigh Patterson

O almighty God, who in a time of great need raised up your servants John and Charles Wesley, and by your Spirit inspired them to kindle a flame of sacred love which leaped and ran: grant that all those whose hearts have been warmed at these altar fires, being continually refreshed by your grace, may be so devoted to the increase of Scriptural holiness throughout the land, that in our day your will may be fully done on earth as it is in heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) based on John Wesley’s journal, John 5:39 and Psalm 30:5

Forgive us, Lord, when our search for a saving faith leaves us with coldness and strange indifference. Prod us again to “search the scriptures” for your persistent promise of forgiveness. Remove all sin from our lives; and when the Enemy whispers, “this cannot be faith, for where is your joy?”, teach us that “weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning.” Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

THE PSALTER Psalm 130 Hymnal p.848
(Led by Shannon Thompson)

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2:1-21 Bible p.992
(Read by Ethan Weed, Jonathan Kim and Scott Clark)

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

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,

including the special offering for Peace with Justice Sunday

(Please make checks payable to “MTMUMC” and we will send a single gift to the national church office.)

Offertory Anthem: “I’ll Fly Away” arr. by J. Raney

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #347 “Spirit Song” Spirit Song

THE SERMON “Your Sons and Daughters” Dr. Bodt

*HYMN #608 “This is the Spirit’s Entry Now” Azmon
(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

Scott Ryan Clark
Jonathan Yijeh Kim
Kayleigh Marie Patterson
Kaylee Alexa Sostilio
Shannon Kathleen Thompson
Ethan Edward Weed

Sponsor

Rich Perregaux
Leigh Bak
Lorraine Carr
Dawn Bettencourt
Rachel Merva
Susan O'Shea

*HYMN #539 "O Spirit of the Living God" Forest Green

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Amen" Hymnal #898

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

*POSTLUDE "We Are Marching in the Light of God" Bell Choir
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

THE ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION

is the ritual of re-affirmation of baptismal vows by youth who have reached the "age of consent," typically 13 years of age or older. It is also the ritual by which youth become full members of Christ's Church and of the United Methodist Church.

In preparation, our young people have been enrolled in a course of study since September, 2014. They have learned about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit; the history and doctrine of the Church; and the history and beliefs of the United Methodist Church. They have memorized the Apostles' Creed, Psalm 23, John 3:16-17, the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer. They have participated in at least one other aspect of church life; either Sunday School or Methodist Youth Fellowship. Many have served as altar servers and liturgists.

During the ritual, the confirmands proceed from the baptismal font—the origin of the ritual—to the kneeler where they will be confirmed. The confirmands wear a flower that is red, the color of the Holy Spirit. In addition to being presented with a confirmation certificate and their offering envelopes, they will receive an inscribed Bible at a later time.

The confirmands have been supported by their sponsors and, most significantly, their parents, guardians and immediate family. Please greet them all in Dodd Hall after worship where the Men's Club is providing a cake in their honor.