

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.*

THE DAY OF PENTECOST THE ORDER FOR CONFIRMATION June 4, 2017

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 “Prelude and Fugue in C Major” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

REPORT FROM THE “FAIR ON THE GREEN 2017” The Virgallas

INTROIT “Shout to the Lord” Bell and Adult Choirs

*CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from a prayer by Don Saliers
(Led by Bryan Thompson)

Leader: God of wind, word, and fire, we bless your name this day.

People: *Thank you for the gifts of light and strength by the Holy Spirit.*

Leader: Accept us with our gifts to be living praise to your love.

People: *Let us be witnesses to these things throughout all the earth!*

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

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (seated, unison) Led by Dean Cruz

God of grace, you sent the promised gift of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and the women, upon Mary the mother of Jesus and upon his brothers. Fill your church with power, kindle flaming hearts within us, and cause us to proclaim your mighty works in every tongue, that all may call on you and be saved; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of passion and power, we confess that at times our passions and lust for power resist your Holy Spirit and its gifts of love, kindness and peace. Send again your Spirit into our hearts, to rule and direct us by your holy will. When we err, grant us humility to make amends, for your Name’s sake; through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 2:1-21 Bible p.992

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

*THE GOSPEL John 7:37-39 Bible p.974

(Read by Chris Leum)

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

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

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

*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: “This I Pray” H. Sorenson

(The Adult Choir Stacey Cronk, Soloist)

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #334 “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” Sweet, Sweet Spirit

THE SERMON “Christians are Crack(ed) Pots” Dr. Bodt

*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

Dean Angelo Guzman Cruz
Daniel Jeffrey Gloates
Christopher Jason Leum
Bryan Edward Thompson

Sponsor

Paul Downing
Craig Thompson
Dennis Darak
Rich Perregaux

A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE (Setting A)

Hymnal p.17

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal #895

*THE COMMUNION

The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. We use gluten-free bread and grape juice. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. and kneel or stand at the rail. During the distribution we will sing hymns #314, 273, 707 and 322.

PRAYER FOR LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS *(unison)*

Gracious God, we remember the apostolic Church which sent representatives from the Lord's table to those unable to be present. Bless and assist these lay visitors who continue this ministry. Nourish and strengthen those to whom this sacrament is brought, that they may know the comfort of your presence and the love of this community of faith. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #540 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" St. Thomas

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE "Amen" Hymnal #898

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

POSTLUDE "I'll Fly Away" Bell Choir
(Please remain seated during the postlude.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

- Sunday, June 4**
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center
 10:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion– Sanctuary
 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time-Dodd Hall
 11:30 a.m. New members class – Pastor's study, Wesley Ctr.
 3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel
 4:00 p.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship – Youth Lounge
- Monday, June 5**
 7:00 p.m. Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel
- Wed. – Sat., June 7-10**
 New York Annual Conference, Hempstead, NY
- Thursday, June 8**
 6:30 p.m. Mission Committee meeting – Wesley Center
 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center 1st floor
 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustee meeting – Wesley Center
- Friday, June 9**
 10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library
- Saturday, June 10**
 9:00 a.m. Men's Reunion Group – Chapel
-
- Sunday, June 11**
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center
 Peace with Justice
 10:00 a.m. Worship– Sanctuary
 Sunday
 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time-Dodd Hall
 11:30 a.m. New members class – Pastor's study, Wesley Ctr.
 12:00 p.m. Milford's "Pirate Day" 12-5pm
 3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC worship-Chapel
- Monday, June 12**
 6:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center
 7:00 p.m. Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel
- Thursday, June 15**
 BEACON INFORMATION DUE TODAY
 7:00 p.m. Gay-Straight Alliance – Gunn Library, Wesley Ct
- Friday, June 16**
 10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers
- Saturday, June 17**
 9:00 a.m. Men's Reunion Group – Chapel
 9:30 a.m. UM ARMY Pre-site day, Wethersfield – see Pastor Dani
 9:30 a.m. Days for Girls sewing day – Dodd Hall
 Shelly Lapadula contact

AT WORSHIP TODAY

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. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	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	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

June 4, 2017

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

It is a joy to celebrate the Order for Confirmation today. This ritual is a 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.

The four youth confirmed today have been enrolled in a course of study since last September. 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. Many have served as altar servers and liturgists.

During the ritual, the confirmands proceed from the Communion rail to the kneeler where they will be confirmed. The confirmands wear a red flower, 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 has provided a cake in their honor.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian Bodt

Head Usher: Dennis Darak

Cross Bearer: Olivia Kingston

Bible Bearer: Julia Shamansky

Communion stewards: Debbie Dubien and Sandy Marren

Communion celebrants: Pastors Bodt, Vink and Levine; and Beth O'Brien

Liturgists: 2017 Confirmands

Greeters: Sandy Marren and Diana Titus

Acolytes: Ryan and Sean Kingston

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in celebration of Olivia D'Andrea's high school graduation and ongoing education at Clemson University, given with love from Beth.

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 either the side aisle to your left or by the rear (Broad Street) doors. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar) and can be accessed either way. **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the Broad Street doors if weather and mobility allows.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

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

FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY is hosted in Dodd Hall by Sandy Morgan, Holly Firmender and friends. Next Sunday's hosts will be Membership and Evangelism.

THE SECOND OF THE NEW MEMBER PREPARATORY SESSIONS continues **TODAY, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm**, in the Pastor's study, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. The last required preparatory session will be June 11th. New members will be received on Father's Day, June 18. You may attend the sessions to learn more without a commitment to join.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP meets today, 4 p.m. in the Youth Lounge, Wesley Center. The main discussion will be how to direct our Heifer International mission money.

GRADUATE RECOGNITION FORMS are in today's program and due tomorrow, Monday, June 5th. Please return them to the church office to have your graduate recognized next Sunday.

COPIES OF THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS are in the rear of the church:

- **JUNE "BEACON,"** our monthly newsletter
- **THE MTMUMC 2017-18 CHURCH PROGRAM CALENDAR**
- **THE MAY 18TH CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES**

HAND-SANITIZERS are in the Dodd Hall window wells on the east (Wesley Center) and west (People's Bank) sides; and in the sanctuary along the north (Broad Street) wall.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

PASTORS ON CALL THIS WEEK may be reached by contacting **Edie Reichard, Staff-Parish Relations Chair**, at 203.650.5733 or ereichard@juno.com. **Pastor Bodt** leaves this afternoon for his father's 94th birthday and then goes directly to Annual Conference. **Pastor Levine** leaves Tuesday to help set up Annual Conference. Both return for worship next Sunday.

NEW YORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE meets Wednesday – Saturday, June 7-10 at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York. Members of Conference from Mary Taylor Memorial Church are Pastor Brian Bodt, Kelly O'Hara and Sandy Morgan. Pastor Dani Levine is a member of Conference representing her home church, Faith UMC, North Haven. Please keep the members of Conference and their deliberations in your prayers.

NEXT SUNDAY, June 11th

TRINITY/ CHRISTIAN EDUCATION/PEACE W/ JUSTICE SUNDAY. We celebrate Christian Education Sunday with a multimedia presentation by our youth coordinated by Pastor Dani, recognition of our Christian educators, and the message "You didn't join the Navy; you joined the Pirates" by Cathy Cono. The scriptures will be Luke 9:57-62 and Luke 14:25-27 (the cost of discipleship) and Matthew 28:16-20 (the commissioning of the disciples). We will also recognize our graduates and have a "Mission Moment" from a representative from the Bridgeport Rescue Mission (see the Missions article in this issue). We will also receive a special offering for "Peace with Justice Sunday." After worship the final new member preparatory class will be held in the pastor's study. Also after worship, the "File of Life" cards will be available and members of the Parish Health and Wellness team on-site to assist you in completing them (see below).

"**FILE OF LIFE**" cards will be available, with guidance to complete them, after worship on Sunday, June 11. These brief medical summaries are posted in your home in a conspicuous place with vital information should emergency medical care be needed. See page 14 in the June "Beacon" for the full write-up.

FOOD DRIVE NEXT SUNDAY will benefit "*The Great ThanksGiving Project*" of the Bridgeport Rescue Mission. **Please bring cans of cut green beans.** A representative will be here that day to give a Mission Moment and we'd like to give them 250 cans for this effort.

MILFORD'S PIRATES DAY CELEBRATION runs Noon – 5 p.m. next Sunday. This is our 2nd year doing in this fun and wildly successful outreach (1,500 visitors last year!). Can you offer an hour to help welcome our neighbors? Contact Holly Firmender (203.530.2621; holly.firmender@gmail.com) or Susan Pitre (203.435.7031; soupytrus@yahoo.com)

UPCOMING MINISTRIES

MILFORD HOSPITAL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS: morning, afternoon and evening shifts available, generally 3-4 hours. An orientation and information session will be held on Tuesday, June 13th, 9 am – Noon at the hospital, Auditorium B. For more information or to register, please call 203.876.4062.

HOST HOMES ARE NEEDED FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 22nd after the Charles Wesley Singers concert. 50 high school youth and 10 adults offer an inspirational evening of traditional and contemporary music and congregational singing. The choir will stay in our homes before resuming their New England tour. If you can host a youth or adult, please contact Michelle Connor at m.connor357@gmail.com.

The evening that we are hosting the concert here in our sanctuary, also happens to be the night of our regularly scheduled Community Dinner. That means we'll be in charge of feeding a lot of hungry folks that night before the concert. Jim Repetsky has volunteered to take care of the "main dish" for our meal and he's decided on burgers and hotdogs, a picnic type

menu. I'm coordinating all of the side dishes and desserts for that night. If you would be willing to provide a potato salad, a tossed salad, a pasta salad, a bean salad, side dish or a dessert, please contact me at home at (203) 874-6434, on my cell at (203) 530-0176 or via email at Nancy516@aol.com. We're hoping that if your schedule allows that you will join us for this meal as well before attending the concert so that's a lot of mouths to feed. Thanks in advance for everything you do!

*Nancy Bennett, Co-Chair,
Worship Committee*

SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC is now being scheduled. Our Adult Choir rests from the last Sunday in June until the second Sunday in September. If you have a musical talent you'd like to share on summer Sunday, please e-mail Rick Riccardi at riccardir1@southernct.edu or call him at 203.562.6508.

SAVE THE DATES

JULY "BEACON" DEADLINE: Thursday, June 15th, articles submitted hard copy to the church office or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

UMARMY PRE-SITE DAY, Saturday, June 17th, 9 am – 1 pm. at Wethersfield UM Church, 150 Prospect Street, Wethersfield. For more information contact Pastor Dani at danielle.levine@mail.com.

2018 CONFIRMATION PLANNING MEETING: Tuesday, June 20, 5:30 – 6:15 p.m. in the Chapel, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Interested youth entering grade 8 in the fall, and at least one parent or guardian, as asked to attend this brief but important meeting to set the fall class time and review the expectations for Confirmation. The date of Confirmation will be Mother's Day, Ascension Sunday, May 13, 2018.

BROWNSTONE OUTDOOR WATER PARK TRIP for the Methodist Youth Fellowship will be Sunday, June 25, after worship. \$15 per youth (50% subsidized by MYF). See Shelly Lapadula: 203-874-4466 or m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com.

AND MORE!

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY: three Tuesday evenings, July 18 and 25 and August 1, 7-8:30 p.m. in the Gunn Library. The study will be on the book The Prayer Chest and will be led by Eileen Doyle. Contact Eileen at ddoyle51@aol.com or 203.710.5842 to register and obtain a copy of the book. Ask her or see page 6 in the June "Beacon" for more details.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS UPDATE: Restoration is proceeding on a slower delivery schedule due to the difficulty of color matching damaged glass. We now hope for an early September return date. If you have any questions about the windows restoration project, please contact Chris Paton, Trustee President, and project manager at 203-874-9390.