

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.)

“This is what the kingdom of God is like.” (Mark 4, NRSV)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Morning Hymn” F. Binckes

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

INTROIT “Holy Ground”

*CALL TO WORSHIP *led by Ryan Lapadula, High School Class*

Leader: From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.

People: **Good things can come from something that seems so insignificant!**

Leader: The tiny yeast causes the whole loaf of bread to rise.

People: **We can be the people who bring hope and peace to God’s world.**

Leader: Let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.

All: **Let us thank God for the many ways he gives us to serve and grow His kingdom.
Amen!**

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #147 “All Things Bright and Beautiful” Royal Oak

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison) led by Elizabeth Repetsky, High School Class*
**Loving Creator, we thank you for the mustard seed and for the wonders of plants
and for how these things teach us about your love. Lord - plant your seed into our lives,
help us work it into our hearts that wonderful things may happen. We ask it in Jesus’
name. Amen.**

°°°
“Trees and Bees” *(to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me”)* Grades Pre-K through 2

Trees and Bees both big and small,
God’s the one who makes them all.
God makes them grow every day,
And cares for them in lots of ways.

REFRAIN: God makes things grow
God makes things grow
God makes things grow
Because He loves us so.

I am growing big and tall,
I’m bouncing up just like a ball.
God helps us grow every day,
And cares for us in lots of ways.
“Mustard Seed”

Grade 3-4 Class

“Keep Calm” Grade 5-6 Class

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

(Led by Cathy Cono, Sunday School Superintendent and Kelly O’Hara, Co-Lay Leader)

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.)

“Adam and Eve in the Garden” Grade 7-8 Class

*HYMN #92 “For the Beauty of the Earth” Dix

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: “Hymn of Promise” arr. J. Ferguson

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving *prayed by Cathy Cono*

THE HOLY SCRIPTURE Mark 4:26-34 Bible p.914

(Read by Sarah O’Brien, High School Class)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE “Sow What?” Leigh Bak, Co-Lay Leader

LITANY FOR TEACHER RECOGNITION

Pastor Brian Bodt, Cathy Cono, Sunday School Superintendent, Holly Firmender, Assistant Superintendent

Infant, Toddler and Pre-K: Wendy Hoffman, Paige Librandi, Nicole Ellerbeck

K - Grade 2: Susan Pitre, Nick Bettencourt, Amanda Pitre, Shannon Darak

Grades 3-4: Beth O’Brien, Shelly Lapadula

Grades 5-6: Debbie Leum, Bev Downing

Grades 7-8: Stacy Meszaros, Kathleen Bacon

High School: Paul Downing, David Bak

Adult Class: Lorraine Carr, David Carr, Dennis Brown

Superintendent: Cathy Cono **Assistant Superintendent:** Holly Firmender

Confirmation Class: Pastor Brian Bodt

Adult studies teachers: Rev. Bodt, Rev. Vink, Don Hastings, Leigh Bak, Kelly O’Hara

Adult studies substitutes: Sandy Morgan, Maria Macri, Bob Lawrence

Methodist Youth Fellowship Advisors: Dawn Bettencourt, Paul Downing, , Shelly Lapadula, Rachel

Merva, Stacy Meszaros, Alicia Meszaros, Catherine Meszaros, Sheryl Hollyday and Dawn Fino. We

also acknowledge the supportive involvement of Leigh Bak, Penny Seaman, and Kate Georgelos.

Health and Wellness Teachers: Carol Galloway, Sheryl Hollyday, Bill Katt.

Pastor: The people here assembled stood before you last September and publicly committed their program year to Christian spiritual formation through teaching. Having successfully completed their mission, I ask you now to release them with blessing.

Congregation: *Having pledged last fall to pray for, enable, encourage and love you in this ministry, we now give thanks to God for your faithful service and pray God's blessing for your faithfulness. Your mission is completed for another year.*

Pastor: Knowing that Christian spiritual formation is a life-long journey, we recognize that many of these educators will continue next September; and by faith affirm that God will raise up others who will join them in this vital ministry. For these, let us pray:

All: *Creating and Sustaining God, from Whom all learning and wisdom comes: bless, we pray, these saints who have labored faithfully in the vineyard of spiritual formation. Grant them a sense of accomplishment in all they have undertaken; and peace in its completion. May the summer season be for them, as for us all, a time of renewal from the race well run. Bring your Spirit upon us all, that those with the gift of teaching may lead us when the new program year begins. And bring your Spirit upon those who have not yet awakened to the teaching gift within them, that you will help them know their gift is desired by you for the completion of Christ's body, the Church. In all these things guide our steps in a deepening relationship with Jesus, our Savior and Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.*

*HYMN #583 "Sois la Semilla (You are the Seed)" Id y Enseñad

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #666

*Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.
In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom.*

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

*POSTLUDE "March in G" M. Miller

(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



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.*

PENTECOST III/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY

June 14, 2015

Grace Notes
June 14, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

“It takes a village to raise a child” is a saying no less true for having been, arguably, over-used.

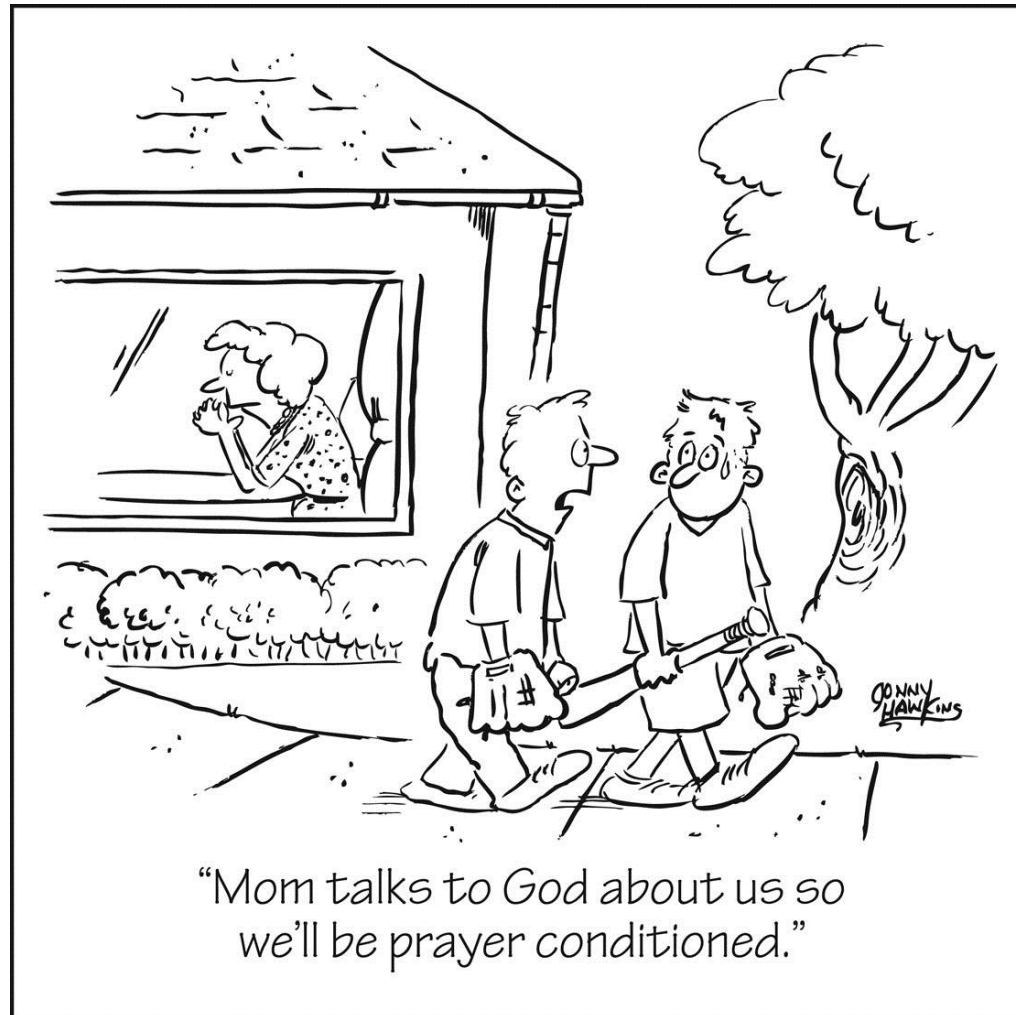
The privilege we have today is to see that part of the village we call MTMUMC that faithfully, week-in and week-out, teaches our children, youth and adult the basics of Christian faith. While parents are the primary teachers of Christian faith, the Church makes promises at baptism that clearly require the teaching ministry we uphold and that is presented this morning.

I hope you will take a moment to speak with these faithful servants in the Christian education ministry of our congregation.

As the Rev. John Wesley said, “Let us unite the two so long divided: knowledge and vital piety.”

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Brian



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
Lay Leaders Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak
Prayer Chain Stacy Meszaros
Administrative Assistant Mary Lou Kampert
Sexton Bruce Rumford
Child Care Coordinator Nicole Ellerbeck

Bishop The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Superintendent The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Pastor The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Pastoral Assistant The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – John Henry

Cross Bearer – Josh Carr

Liturgists – Ryan Lapadula
and Sunday School students listed

Greeters – Ann Sullivan and Diana Titus

Acolytes – Nate Carr and Olivia Kingston

Bible Bearer – Mary Repetsky

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Ryan Lapadula.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are in honor of our high school and college graduates, given by Ken Hawkins.

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, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992).

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~

Sunday, June 14

Christian Education Sunday

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship–Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall

11:30 a.m. Staff-Parish Relations – Gunn Library

12:30 p.m. Private party- Rachel Merva

12:30 p.m. Membership and Evangelism luncheon – off site

Monday, June 15

Beacon Information Due Today

7:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel

Tuesday, June 16

7:00 p.m. Stewardship meeting-Dr. Clayton Miller speaker – Gunn Library

Wednesday, June 17

9:00 a.m. Building Committee meeting – Egan Room

7:30 p.m. "Lift Us Up" Committee (to be confirmed)

Thursday, June 18

7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall alcove

Friday, June 19

10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers- Gunn Library

Saturday, June 20

8:00 a.m. Church-wide Workday – Dodd Hall – Rachel Merva contact

9:30 a.m. CT District Basic Lay Servant Ministry course-New Milford, CT

Sunday, June 21

Father's Day/Graduate Recognition

9:45 a.m. Informal Hymn Singing - Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship–Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall

11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings - Sanctuary

Monday, June 22

7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel

Wednesday, June 24

9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers – Gunn Library

Thursday, June 25

5:30 p.m. Community Dinner – Dodd Hall

6:30 p.m. Pastors/Lay Leaders meeting – Pastors study

7:30 p.m. "Lift Us Up" Committee - Gunn Library (tentative)

Friday, June 26

10:00 a.m. Office volunteers – Gunn Library

ADVANCE PLANNING AND “SAVE THE DATES”

SUMMER WORSHIP MOVES TO 9:30 A.M. ON SUNDAY, JUNE 28. We worship at that hour through Sunday, August 30. 10 a.m. worship resumes September 6th.

MILFORD OYSTER FESTIVAL will be Sunday, August 15th. Our Men’s Club typically serves food on the church campus and invites any who wish to assist them to do so. Contact Jim Repetsky at 203.874.8688.

OUTSIDE TENT WORSHIP will be Sunday, August 16th, 9:30 a.m. If you are new to Mary Taylor Memorial Church you will enjoy this special opportunity to worship outside in the courtyard under the tent!

OUR SUMMER CHURCH PICNIC will be Sunday, August 23rd at Rivercrest Farm (and home of Maria and Andy Macri). More to come in the July “Beacon.”

CONFIRMATION CLASS will be taught Tuesdays from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. beginning September 8th in the Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Unconfirmed youth entering the 8th grade or older are encouraged to attend.

DISCIPLE 1, a 34 week comprehensive study of the Bible, will be taught on Tuesday evenings, 7 – 9:15 p.m. High School Room, Wesley Center, 1st Floor, beginning in September by Sandy Morgan, Certified Lay Servant. If you are interested in knowing more, contact Sandy (sgmorgan@aol.com or 203.874.4374) or Don Hastings (nctmwash@aol.com or 203.877.4554).

“**REVIVAL: Faith as Wesley Lived It**” is a six-week study of the origins of Methodism. It will be taught by Pastor Brian September 8/9 – October 13/14 on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Brian if you would like to attend (brian.bodt@yahoo.com or 203.874.1982).

ISAIAH, JEREMIAH AND LAMENTATIONS is an eight-week Immersion Bible Study course of these prophets. It will be taught by Pastor Hal. We will divide the study around the holiday time from Thanksgiving through New Year’s, so there will be two four-week sessions: October 20/21 – November 17/18 (Isaiah) and January 5/6-26/27, 2016 (Jeremiah/Lamentations). These sessions will be Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Hal if you would like to attend (vinkhaljane@gmail.com or 203.878.8977).

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time host is the Worship Committee. Join us for fellowship and conversation. **SUMMER PUNCH BOWL** begins next Sunday. Please see the notice under “Next Sunday” to sign up to host.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON is today at 12:30 p.m., across the Green at Rainbow Gardens, 117 North Broad Street. See Michelle Craig this morning if you want to attend. If you can’t make today’s, the next will be in October.

DID YOU SUBMIT YOUR GRADUATION NEWS? Deadline is **TOMORROW** so that we can include it in the July “Beacon” and in next Sunday’s bulletin. Please submit the name of your 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. **We will recognize graduates next Sunday on Father’s Day.**

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

JULY “BEACON” DEADLINE is **TOMORROW**. Please submit to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or hard copy to the church office.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets this Thursday, June 18th, 7 p.m. in the Dodd Hall alcove. Reports are due to Paul Downing at paul.downing@snet.net by tomorrow. Action items are also due tomorrow to m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com or brian.bodt@yahoo.com. We have many action items this month including the adoption of the final version of our Long Range Plan and those items noted in a June 7th e-mail. Please make every effort to attend.

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.

“SPRING INTO SUMMER” WORK DAY

THE TRUSTEES HAVE ORGANIZED A WORK DAY FOR
THIS SATURDAY JUNE 20TH FROM 8AM – 12PM

TO DO LIGHT CLEANING, ORGANIZING AND DECLUTTERING.



Please bring window / furniture cleaner, dust rags, dust pan/broom, sponges and buckets if you can. Cleaning supplies will also be available on site.

When you arrive, please come to Dodd Hall to check in and you will be assigned to a work area. Water and snacks will be provided. Let’s make our church sparkle!!

Contact Rachel Merva for more information (rmerva@optonline.net / 203-641-5088).

NEXT SUNDAY

WORSHIP ON FATHER'S DAY, June 21 is at **10 a.m.** *This will be our last 10 a.m. worship until September.* Informal hymn singing precedes worship at 9:45 a.m. "David and Goliath" will be the message based on that famous story in I Samuel 17 (selected verses) with Mark 4:35-41. We will recognize graduates and graduates of Disciple 3 Bible Study and receive a report from the 213th Session of the New York Annual Conference from Members of Conference Pastor Brian Bodt, Rachel Merva and Kelly O'Hara. The Bak family will host Summer Punch Bowl. After worship blood pressure screenings will follow in the sanctuary.

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL begins *June 21st* and continues through September 6th. Instead of Fellowship time in Dodd Hall, we will move outside to the courtyard. If you or your family would like to host a summer punch bowl which entails bringing juice and a snack, see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Dodd Hall, or contact Michelle Craig at michellemtmumc@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY INVITATIONS

YOU'RE INVITED to become a **Lay Signer of the Covenant of Conscience.** Being a Lay Signer means you believe all God's children, regardless of sexual orientation, should be given the privilege and honor to be married in our sanctuary by our Pastor.

As you may know, Mary Taylor Memorial UMC is a Congregational Signer of the Covenant of Conscience. **HOWEVER**, our work is **NOT DONE!** One action that we all can take is to become a **LAY SIGNER** of the Covenant of Conscience.

To sign, please go to the MIND (Methodists In New Directions) Web site at <http://www.mindny.org/mind-initiatives/marriage-initiative/covenant-of-conscience/> and **click on the link "To add your name."**

Thank you ~ Eileen Doyle, Gay/Straight Alliance Co-chair

WE SEEK MUSICIANS TO OFFER SPECIAL MUSIC DURING THE SUMMER.

Our choirs are in recess in the summer, so we welcome special music. Contact Rick Riccardi (riccardir1@southernct.edu; 203.506.7270).

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS?

Contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien@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.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

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 June 7th:

Total worship attendance all services: 161; June 7th: 155; Healing and Wholeness, June 8th: 6; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for June 7: \$4,743.25; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$170.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,053.23; Engaged in Small Groups: 81 (Office Volunteers 1; "Trash and Treasures" workers: 19; UMW: 23; Sunday School: 38; 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.