

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 Broad Street

Phone: 203.874.1982

Milford, Connecticut 06460

FAX: 203.877.8973

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, July 6th

The Year of Our Lord 2014

and of the Independence of the United States of America the 238th

Order of Worship

9:30 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. *** Late arrivals will be seated.)

Please remember to mute or turn off all electronic devices.

THE BELL TOLLS – Welcoming us to worship God

PRELUDE Meditation on “My Country, ‘Tis of Thee” arr. E. Broughton

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Lev. 25:10, Ps. 33:12, Prov. 14:34, Deut. 8:10, Ps. 33:20

Leader: Proclaim liberty throughout the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.

People: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom He has chosen as His heritage.

Leader: Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

People: You shall bless the Lord your God for the good land He has given you.

All: Our soul waits for the Lord; He is our help and shield.

***HYMN #697**

“America”

America

ooo

THE COLLECT (seated, unison)

O God of all the nations, whose hand is gracious and whose spirit is merciful: stretch forth the hand of thy protection to guard our country that we, being devoted to thy service, may live the creeds we speak: one people out of many as a light to the nations, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (by the Pastor)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, forgive our shortcomings as individuals and as a nation. Purify our hearts to see and love the truth. Give wisdom to our counselors and steadfastness to our people. Bring us at last to that fair city of peace whose foundations are mercy and justice and whose builder and maker thou art; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

***THE GOSPEL** Matthew 11:16-19 and 25-30 Bible p.887

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

THE SERMON

“The Yoke’s on You”

Dr. Bodt

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 Solo

”The Battle Hymn of the Republic”

Traditional

*Presentation:

“The Doxology”

Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

***HYMN #400**

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Nettleton

***THE HOLY COMMUNION**

Hymnal p.9-10

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Hymnal #895

(The United Methodist Church observes an open table, including the use of grape juice and gluten-free bread. All are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. We will sing hymns #618, 620, 624, 628 during the distribution.)

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 #2158 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" rear cover*

***THE BENEDICTION**

**THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #696, verse 1*

*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain;
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.*

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

POSTLUDE Fantasia on "America the Beautiful" arr. by R. Koury

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, July 6

INDEPENDENCE SUNDAY/PENTECOST IV
9:30 a.m. *Worship/Holy Communion – Sanctuary*
10:30 a.m. *Summer Punch Bowl*

Mon., July 7

8:30 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
BRIDGEPORT BLUEFISH TICKET DEADLINE

Tuesday, July 8

7:00 p.m. *Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel*
11:30 a.m. *Laurel Steigler funeral service - Sanctuary*

Wednesday, July 9

8:30 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
10:00 a.m. *“Just Because I Am Old” study – The Chapel*

Thursday, July 10

7:00 p.m. *“Just Because I Am Old” study – Gunn Library*
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
Noon – *Spiritual Directors Meeting - Gunn Library*

Friday, July 11

8:30 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
6:00 p.m. *Summer Drop-In Play Date – Fowler Field*

Sunday, July 13

PENTECOST V
9:30 a.m. *Worship/Heery baptism – Sanctuary*
10:30 a.m. *Summer Punch Bowl*

Monday, July 14

8:30 a.m. – 12:05 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel*

Tuesday, July 15

BEACON INFORMATION DUE
8:30 – 10:30 a.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
7:00 p.m. *Finance Committee Meeting*

Wednesday, July 16

8:30 a.m. – 12:35 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*
10:00 a.m. *“Just Because I Am Old” study – The Chapel*
7:00 p.m. *“Just Because I Am Old” study – Gunn Library*

Thursday, July 17

8:30 a.m. – 12:35 p.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*

Friday, July 18

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*

Saturday, July 19

8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. *“Education First” – Wesley Center*

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.*

Grace Notes

July 6, 2014

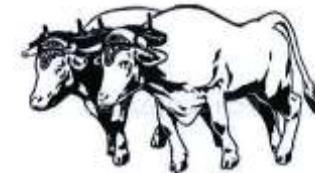
Dear Mary Taylor Memorial community,

Today’s message reflects on the “yoke” Jesus’ followers carry (Matthew 11:28-30) which is, he promises, “light.” Most of us, if we know anything about yokes that aren’t connected to eggs, know that yokes are heavy.

Most of us know about heavy yokes, metaphorically speaking. Obligations to employers, creditors and family are among the top three. Season with a few health-related issues and we’ve got ourselves in quite a stew (pun intended). Even happy milestones have their stress: college, marriage, childbirth, to name but a few.

Although it is not in today’s scripture, most of us are well aware of Jesus’ teaching “Love thy neighbor as thyself.” Most church folk are better on the former than the latter. With that, and advocacy for self-awareness in mind, I’ve enclosed a copy of a standard stress inventory, the Holmes and Rahe Stress Scale, in today’s bulletin. Take 5 minutes and see where you are as a way to begin a plan to de-stress and come to know that “easy yoke.”

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

Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Martin D. McLee

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 – Dave Doyle

Greeters – Barbara Macisco and

Liturgist – Bill Katt

Amber and Damien Shufelt

Communion Stewards: Brenda Pineau and Karen Keane

Communion Servers: Pastor Brian, Pastor Hal, Kelly O’Hara and Bill Katt

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP is Rev. Bodt at the Dodd Hall door and Bill Katt at the Narthex door.

THE MISSION CROSS TODAY is in honor of all our wonderful UMARMY volunteers who give their time so freely to help those in need, from Pastor Hal and Jane.

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

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 from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The Faith We Sing (2000). The Call to Worship, Collect and Unison Confession are edited by the pastor from material from The Book of Worship (1964).

SERMON COPIES from recent weeks are in the rear of the church at www.mtm-umc.org.

CHURCH INFORMATION is available in the racks in back of the church.

CHILD CARE: For children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. 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.

SUMMER “DROP IN PLAY DATES CONTINUE IN JULY. The June “Beacon” announced the dates below for our summer play date series for all children and families. Join us on any or all of these dates as we enjoy summer’s slower pace in the great outdoors. In case of poor weather, play dates will be cancelled via a communication on the Yahoo group. For questions, contact Cathy Cono at 203.645.2362 or spikkio@optonline.net:

Fri., July 11, 6 p.m. at Fowler Field (behind Milford Library, bring chairs for 7 pm concert)

Tuesday, Aug. 5, 4 p.m. at Silver Sands State Park, Milford (bring beach gear)

Sat., Aug. 23, 10 a.m. at Bodie’s Place boundless playground, 725 North Street, Milford.

Sunday, Sept. 21, 3 p.m. at Boothe Park Main playground, 5774 Main Street, Stratford.

OUTREACH PASTOR POSITION APPROVED: At its June 19th meeting the Church Council approved a 15-20 hour per week position to develop and implement plans in Christian education, youth ministry, evangelism and member care, and worship. In keeping with our employment policy, candidates may not be members of Mary Taylor Memorial Church. If you know potential candidates, invite them to contact Mary Lou Kampert (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) who will e-mail them the position posting. **Application deadline is July 28th**.

MTMUMC HAS TWO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS for students enrolled in a full time program of post high school studies: 1. Kelsey-Worley Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a college/university program and 2. Men’s Club “Jimmy” Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a trade/vocational program. For information and applications, refer to the church website at www.mtm-umc.org and select the “Scholarships” button. Committee Members are: Diana Cable, Chris Carveth, Greg D’Andrea, Wil Wright, Joan Zauner. Questions? Please contact Wil Wright at wwright7@fordham.edu or 203-877-5021.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION by Pastor Brian continues. The purpose of these visits is to continue to get to know our members and friends. 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.

INTERESTED IN “DISCIPLE 3?” This 32 week adult study will focus on the prophets of the Old Testament and the Letters of Paul, Tuesdays, 7 – 9:15 p.m. beginning Sept. 9. Anyone who has completed Disciple 1 may be in this class. Disciple 2 is not required. To register please contact the church office (203.874.1982) or Don Hastings (203.877.4554).

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY NOTICES



SUMMER BEACH PARTY

- When:** Sunday, July 20th following 9:30 a.m. worship
- What:** Two worship services that day: one at church, one at the Rotary Pavilion, both at 9:30 a.m. Picnic follows the worship at the pavilion.
If you want a chair at the beach for worship or the party, please bring it.
- Where:** Walnut Beach Rotary Pavilion, Broadway at Viscount Drive, Milford
 We have the shaded Rotary Pavilion for our use until 2 p.m.
 The party may continue on the beach! Don't forget sunscreen!
- Who:** Everyone invited. This is a child-friendly event.
 It's the beach, after all!
- How:** There will be food and games and music. Here's the deal:
- Food:** Everyone is asked to bring appetizer, salad or side dish to share: **anything needing refrigeration, please bring your own cooler.** Grilled hot dogs and burgers will be provided. Membership and Evangelism will bring desserts and water; and paper goods/cups/utensils. Those desiring non-alcoholic beverages other than water may bring them.
- Games:** Water and beach-based games - Sand castle contest
 Sea glass –themed treasure hunt - Sand maze
- Music:** We'll have a beach music jam session.
 Bring your favorite instrument!
 We'll have song sheets and lots of fun!



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!

CHECK OUT THE BELL! The **Myrtle Beach Church Bell** installation was completed in time for last Sunday's worship. The Myrtle Beach Community Church (Methodist) was a predecessor congregation that had its building razed by urban renewal and merged with Mary Taylor Memorial in 1969. The bell has traveled many miles since (including a long sojourn in Florida) before returning to us last year for refurbishing and installation. Thanks to **Sally Chapin** for her tireless vision for this project; to **Dennis and Judy Darak** and **Allen Berrien** (Trustee liaison) serving on the committee; **Jim Repetsky** who guided the final installation and **the Board of Trustees** for their support and siting guidance. Special thanks to **Suzio Concrete** who donated the concrete for this project. A formal dedication will be scheduled in the fall.

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL follows worship in the outside courtyard between the sanctuary and the Wesley Center, weather permitting. This is the same as our Fellowship Time but with cold beverages outside. Today's hosts are Leigh and David Bak.

HOSTS FOR SUMMER PUNCH BOWL ARE FILLING UP! Thanks to those who have responded. Open Sundays are July 20; August 3 and 17; and Sept. 7. Hosts bring a light snack and punch and set up in the courtyard between sanctuary and Wesley Center, weather permitting. To express interest please see or contact Michelle Craig: michellemtmumc@gmail.com or 203.877.4332.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR SUMMER DESIRED! If you are interested in providing special music any Sunday from now until September 7, please contact Rick Riccardi at 203.506.7270.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND MISSION CROSS ORDERS ARE NEEDED for July 13, and 20th. Flowers are \$20, payable to MTMUMC and mailed or given to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, 06460. A donation in lieu of altar flowers to support missions (UMCOR, UM Army and others – please see info. table in back of church for list) is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf placed on the altar. If you would like to place an order please contact Beth at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net to arrange a suitable date.

A TRIP TO THE BRIDGEPORT BLUEFISH (a minor league baseball team) will be **Saturday, Aug. 9, 6:05 p.m.** Tickets are \$15, of which \$6 benefits Habitat for Humanity of Coastal Fairfield County. If you are interested, speak with Kelly O'Hara or Marquise Reid, or contact Kelly at 203.283.4676 or yankee89@optonline.net. **DEADLINE IS TOMORROW, Mon., July 7th.**

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR MEETING SCHEDULE.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR LAUREL STEIGLER will be held this Tuesday, July 8th, 11:30 a.m. in our sanctuary. Interment follows at King's Highway Cemetery. Calling hours immediately before, 10 – 11 a.m., at Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 North Broad Street. Laurel was 95 and a favorite of our Visitation Team. For the obituary or to send condolences, please visit www.codywhitefuneralservice.com.

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS have begun and continue through August 31st. Church office hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon. - Thurs. Bulletin notice deadline remains noon each Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin. "Beacon" notices are still due by the 15th of each month for the following month's publication. Happy summer!

"EDUCATION FIRST" is a 501(c)3 non-profit home-stay educational program that is using good portion of our Wesley Center July 7-21 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Students arrived last Thursday and daily language and culture lessons with off-site activities begin tomorrow. This use has been approved by our Board of Trustees and works around existing 12-Step group commitments. Our MTMUMC point of contact is Missy Hackett. The students at our site will be Italian and French. Stop and say "Bonjourn!/Bonjour!"

ADULT STUDY ON JUST BECAUSE I AM OLD, the Rev. Jim Stinson's new book, begins Wednesday and will be held at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. (choose morning or evening session) until August 6. If interested contact the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982, ext. 10) or speak with Pastor Brian. The book, normally \$14, will be \$10. One of our members recently chimes "*This should be read by anyone over 25 years old!*"

THE NEXT SUMMER PLAY DATE is this Friday, July 11, 6 p.m. at Fowler Field. See details under "Additional Ministry Notices."

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST V "Night Vision" will be the message based on Psalm 119:105-112 and Romans 8:1-11. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism for Joseph Michael Heery, Jr., son of Joseph, Sr. and Shelley; and we will commission UMARMY high school volunteers headed to Eliot, Maine.

COMING SOON

ALL-CHURCH PICNIC AT WALNUT BEACH: On Sunday, July 20th, we will have an all-church picnic at the pavilion at Walnut Beach following morning worship. See the details on the dedicated page in today's notices. Please hold the date and plan to come have some "fun in the summer sun."

OUR NEXT COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH will be Wed.,

July 23rd, 2:30 – 5 p.m. Please contact Maryanne Meehan Jordan to assist: maryannej@charter.net or 203.610.4936 (cell) or 203.268.8850 (home). We prepare the meal for 100+ people. Golden Hill is about 20 minutes away, right off I-95.

MTMUMC COMMUNITY SUPPER: will be Thursday, July 24, any portion of 2 – 6:30 p.m. If you can help, please contact Debbie Dubien at 203.877.4959.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

OFFICE HOURS THROUGH AUGUST 31 are Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. If Wesley Center is locked, call Mary Lou at 203.874.1982 or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753).

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon each 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 desperately needed for seniors with pets. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

PLEASE NOTE: Should there be a medical or other emergency during the worship service, someone designated by the head usher will call #911. Do not call on your cell phone. Multiple calls may delay response. Thank you.

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@yahoo.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.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR JUNE 29:

Total worship attendance all services: 134 (June 29, 123; Healing and Wholeness, June 30: 11)
Total Offering June 29: \$6,583.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 87 (Office volunteers: 7; Community Supper 61; M&E 9; Caregivers 10) Total number persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) *Important! Small Groups – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or call (203.874.1982) with your attendance.