

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

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 cell phones and other electronic devices.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 19:1a, 4b-6

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God;

People: *In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.*

Leader: The rising of the sun is from the end of the heavens

People: *and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.*

ALL: SO WE WORSHIP YOU, O GOD, AUTHOR OF ALL CREATION, WHOSE SUN DANCES AT DAWN AND WHO GIVES US THE SON-RISE, JESUS CHRIST.

*HYMN #261

“Lord of the Dance”

Shaker tune, 19th cent.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(seated, unison)*

Walter Rauschenbusch, USA, 20th cent., alt.

O God of all times and places, we pray for your Church, which is set today amid the perplexities of a changing order, and face to face with new tasks. Baptize her afresh in the life-giving spirit of Jesus. Bestow upon her a great responsiveness to duty, a swifter compassion with suffering, and an utter loyalty to your will. Help her to proclaim boldly the coming of your kingdom.

Put upon her lips the ancient gospel of her Lord. Fill her with the prophets scorn of tyranny and with a Christ-like tenderness for the heavy-laden and down-trodden. Bid her cease from seeking her own life, lest she lose it. Make her valiant to give up her life to humanity that, like her crucified Lord, she may mount by the path of the cross to a higher glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

Lord, we are burdened. We are burdened and yet we often grasp those burdens tightly. Help us to let go of all that hinders us from following you. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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THE PSALTER

Psalm 71:1-6

Hymnal p.794

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*THE GOSPEL

Luke 13:10-17

Bible p.950

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #662

“Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

St. Michael

THE SERMON

“Bent Out of Shape”

Dr. Bodt

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

Offertory:

“Sing of the Lord’s Goodness”

Tenors and Basses

*Presentation:

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #593

“Here I Am, Lord”

Here I Am, Lord

(Signer: Stacey Riccardi)

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Hymnal #261, chorus

Dance, then, wherever you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

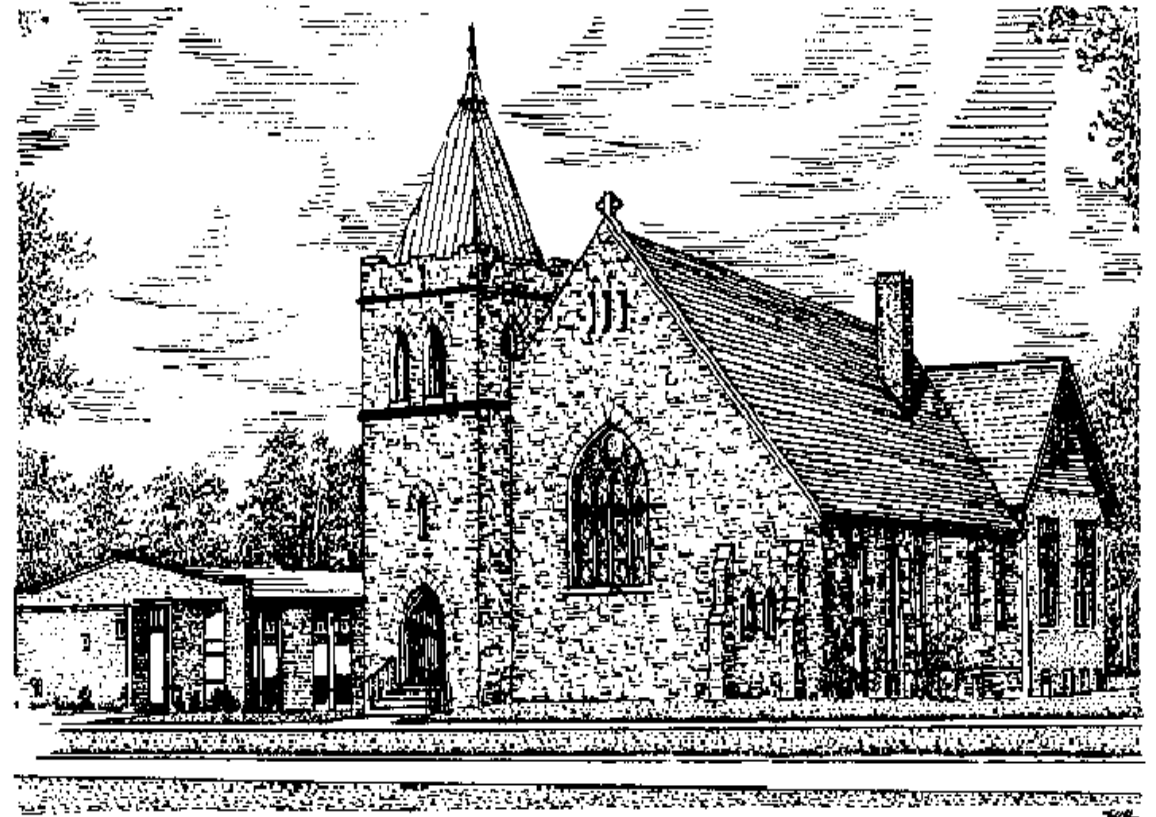
And I’ll lead you all wherever you may be, and I’ll lead you all in the dance, said he.

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

*POSTLUDE

(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 XIV

August 21, 2016

~THREE WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, August 21</i>	9:30 a.m.	<i>Worship– Courtyard under the tent</i>
	10:45a.m.	<i>Blood Pressure screenings – Sanctuary</i>
	2:00 p.m.	<i>Summer Picnic at Rivercrest Farm</i>
<i>Wednesday, August 24</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>BEACON Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, August 25</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>MTMUMC Community Supper</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Stewardship meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, August 26</i>		<i>Office Closed – Summer Hours</i>
<i>Saturday, August 27</i>	9:30 a.m.	<i>UMW Planning meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	2:00 p.m.	<i>Private Event – Boy Scout Troup 196 Eagle Scout Ceremony – Dodd Hall</i>
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<i>Sunday, August 28</i>	9:30 a.m.	<i>Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	10:30 a.m.	<i>Summer punch bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, August 29</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, August 30</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Church Council – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
<i>Thursday, September 1</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC service – Chapel (3:30-7:30 p.m.)</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor’s study</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Missions Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Board of Trustees meeting – Egan Room</i>
<i>Friday, September 2</i>		<i>Office Closed – Summer Hours</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 4</i>	9:30 a.m.	<i>Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	10:30 a.m.	<i>Summer punch bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, September 5</i>		<i>LABOR DAY – Church office closed</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 6</i>		<i>REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME</i>
		<i>Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 7</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>The Great Bible Experiment – Niebuhr Hall, Yale Divinity School, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven-Pastor Brian contact</i>
	7:45 p.m.	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 8</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
<i>Friday, September 9</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office volunteers – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, September 10</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness team meeting – Wesley Center</i>

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. 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	Theologian-in-Residence	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett
Interim Child Care Coordinator	Amanda Pitre	Outreach Pastor	Danielle Levine
		Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

*Grace Notes
August 21, 2016*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Today we publicly welcome Danielle Levine as our new Outreach Pastor. Danielle spent yesterday with us at the Oyster Festival in a “soft launch” and today she joins us for worship and the picnic at the Macri’s home at Rivercrest Farm. We will plan a ceremonial welcome in early September. Danielle will be with us each Sunday and at other times totaling 15 hours a week. She is also a student at Gateway Community College.

My time away was pleasant, traveling to my wife Carol’s family in Montreal for several days and to Maryland and Pennsylvania this past week, based at my dad’s home in Havre de Grace, Maryland. To the many who have prayed for and inquired about my father, thank you! He is doing well.

Please do join us for today’s church picnic at Maria and Andy Macri’s home at Rivercrest Farm. This annual event is always a pleasure with great food and music. Come!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian Bodt

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Ethan Weed

Greeters – Brenda and Ed Pineau

Liturgist – Ken Hawkins

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Reverend Bodt and Ken Hawkins.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are in celebration of our daughter Ashley's 30th birthday, given by Joanne and Mark Platt.

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. **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.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992).

WELCOME VISITORS! May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the rear of the church.

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

COMING IN SEPTEMBER!

"The Great Bible Experiment" is an initiative by the Massachusetts Bible Society in which our church has been invited to participate. I have accepted the invitation and hope you will join in. It is based on surveys conducted by the American Bible Society and the Barna Group (a highly respected survey organization) that determined that four cities in the Northeast are the least "Bible-minded" in America: New Haven, Albany, NY, Providence, RI and Boston.

The "Experiment" has three components. First, "town-hall" style meetings will be held in each of these cities. The New Haven meeting is Wednesday, September 7, 7 pm at Yale Divinity School. I invite you to attend with me. Register at www.massbible.org/experiment where you may also view a 4 minute video about this program. If you are not web-savvy, let me know and I will register you. We will also arrange carpooling (please let Mary Lou in the church office know if you'd like a ride: 203.874.1982).

Second, I will teach the first of three units of material prepared for this Experiment. What is the Bible? is an introductory study to the Bible by the Rev. Anne Robertson. I have reviewed these materials and am highly impressed by them. They are excellent for the person who says or thinks "I really don't know much about the Bible and don't want to be embarrassed by attending a class with others who do." Even so, there is also material in the study that would be informative even for those who have taken Disciple Bible Study or some other in-depth study of the scriptures. This study will follow our typical Tuesday at 7 p.m./Wednesday at 10 a.m. format (students typically chose one or the other). The six session study will run Sept. 20-21 and 27-28 and resume Oct. 11-12 through Nov. 1-2. Please register through the church office.

Third, this study will be advertised by the Massachusetts Bible Society so that others in our community who may not belong to our church may attend. What a wonderful welcome to newer people to be immersed in scripture!

May God be glorified through our study of the Bible and our commitment to holy living.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Brian

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are due by noon Wednesday for the following Sunday bulletin.

TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS, contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@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.

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. Also wet and dry dog food 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 brings 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.

"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 August 14th:

Total worship attendance all services: 205; August 14th: 93; August 15th, Healing & Wholeness: 8; August 10th: Bob Lawrence's funeral: 104; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for August 14th: \$6,280.00; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$544.34; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$164.82; Engaged in Small Groups: 21; "Christianity and World Religions" study: cancelled; UMW funeral reception: 18; Office Volunteers: 3; 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

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL follows worship in the courtyard hosted by Susan Pitre and Lisa Gloates. Next Sunday's Summer Punch Bowl hosts are Pastor Brian and Carol Galloway. Thanks to all our hosts!

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS follow worship in the Sanctuary taken by Leigh Bak, R.N.

CHURCH POTLUCK PICNIC AT RIVERCREST FARM – TODAY!, 2-6 pm, 534 Oronoque Road, Milford. See details next page.

CHURCH DIRECTORIES are available by calling the church office (203.874.1982). While previously been available in the literature racks, an astute parishioner observed this might be a little too public in this age of identity theft and child exploitation. They are now removed.

NAME TAGS MAY ALSO BE ORDERED through the church office.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

LYDIA SMITH will once again head worship at the District Superintendent Training at the United Methodist Retreat Center in Lake Junaluska, North Carolina, August 20-26th. Please keep all those working and attending the event in your prayers.

NEXT SUNDAY, August 28

PENTECOST XV: The message "What pleases God" will be based on Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 and Luke 14:1 and 7-14. Healing anointing will be offered during the closing hymns.

Sunday, August 21st
2pm—6pm
CHURCH POTLUCK PICNIC AT RIVERCREST FARM
(the home of Maria and Andy Macri).

Bring your own chairand a dish to share Beverages and paper goods will be provided.

Attendees bring their main dish or meat for the grill, a dish to share, and a lawn chair. You won't want to miss this wonderful evening of summer fun and fellowship with your church family.

For those who've not yet visited River Crest Farm, you'll be treated to all the excitement and good old fashioned fun of a real working farm including chickens, ducks, goats, peacocks, donkey, and even a cow! The farm is located at 534 Oronoque Road in Milford.

Their phone number is (203) 876-9786.

See their website at <http://rivercrestfarm.com/> for more information.



TRASH AND TREASURES (T&T) IS HIBERNATING!

After cleaning up the basement and recycling some of our treasures, the T&T team is taking a long, much needed rest.

DONATIONS FOR THE 2017 FAIR ON THE GREEN
WILL BE ACCEPTED STARTING WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8.

Until that time, why not choose one or two items each week, set them aside in small manageable cartons and wait in wild anticipation for T&T's opening donation day in March.

The T&T team would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and purchases this year. We could not have reached our goals without you!

