

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.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Prelude in B Minor” D. Paxton

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather this day from a week filled with needs and demands.

People: *We come to find rest and renewal for our spirits.*

Leader: Open your minds and hearts to receive the word of God.

People: *We come to worship in God’s presence, free from the noise and busyness of the world.*

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made,

People: *Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

UNISON PRAYER (*seated*)

Patient Lord, we schedule our lives down to the very second. We crowd in as much activity as we can and then wonder why we are so stressed out and tired. We are afraid to miss out on anything. When it comes time to be with others, we spend our time worrying about details rather than enjoying time together. Forgive us when we get caught up in the details and miss the opportunity to sit at your feet, learning, listening, growing in the faith. Help us to place ourselves in your care. Slow us down, just a bit, so that we can see the wonders you have placed before us and truly enjoy and share the blessings you have given to us. Amen.

AN INVITATION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT Hymnal #335

HYMNAL #334 (*seated*) “Sweet, Sweet Spirit” Sweet, Sweet Spirit
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THE PSALTER Psalm 124 Hymnal p.846

THE EPISTLE Romans 12:1-8 Bible p. 1033
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN #400 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Nettleton

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20 Bible p. 893
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE SERMON “Who Do You Stand Next To?” Laura Perregaux, Certified Lay Speaker

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. People: *And also with you.*

(*Greet one another with signs of Christ’s peace.*)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Solo: “His Eye Is on the Sparrow”
(*The Rev. Harold V. W. Vink, soloist*)

*Presentation: “Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #520 “Nobody Know the Trouble I See” Dubois

A RITUAL OF PRAYER AND HEALING ANOINTING

On the last Sunday of each month all are invited to come forward to receive prayer and optional healing anointing for oneself or on behalf of another. Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles as we sing hymns #328, 521, 528, 467 and 462. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak name and need to the anointer. This ancient Church practice expresses God’s love as a mysterious, caring expression of Christ’s promise “I will be with you always.” Please remain in prayer until all have returned to their seats.

*HYMN #529 “How Firm a Foundation” Foundation

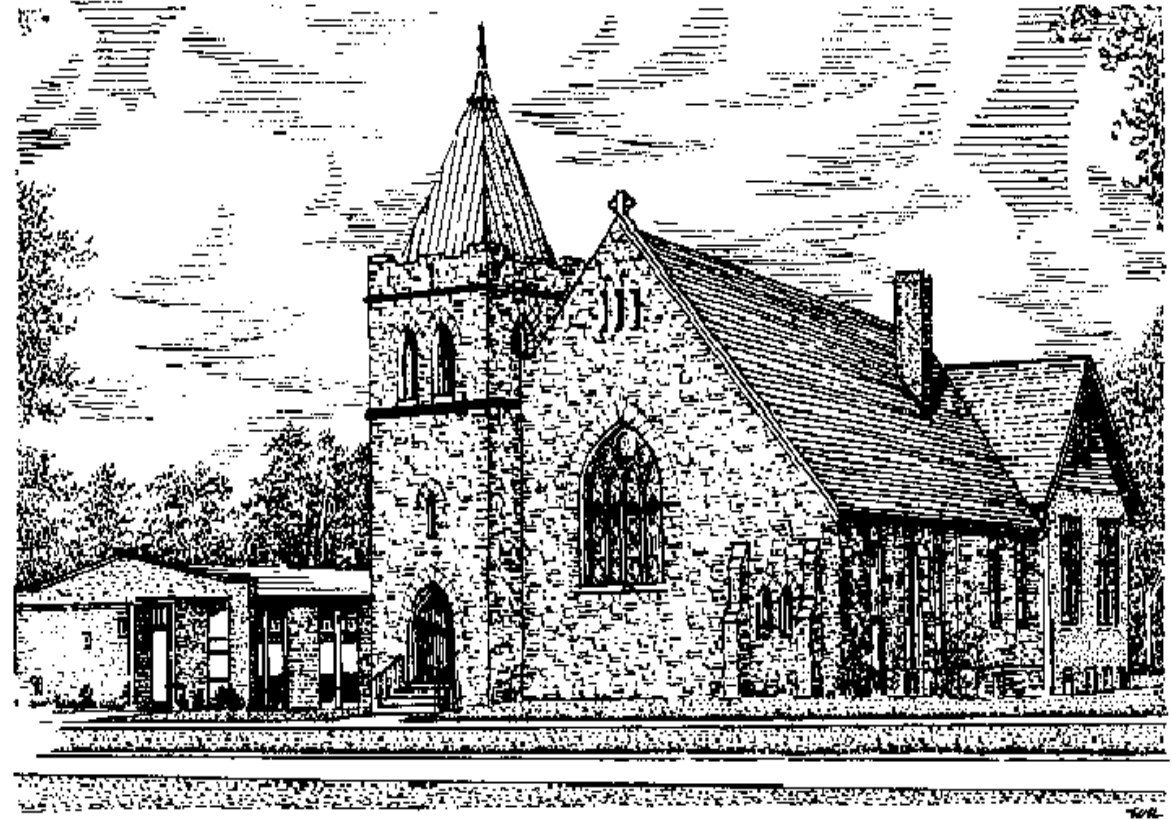
*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shalom to You” 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, Christ be your shalom.*”

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

*POSTLUDE “Dialogue” G. Martin
(*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

Nesting Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016

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

PENTECOST XII

August 27, 2017

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. Alpher Sylvester
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
August 27, 2017

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

We are on the cusp of fall activity, so today's prayers, prepared by our preacher, Laura Perregaux, remind us that activity is not necessarily commensurate with the spiritual life. We are pleased that Laura, a member of MTMUMC known to many and a Certified Lay Speaker, is preaching today. I'm in the pews today with my wife Carol on her birthday.

We continue to seek adults willing to work with children and youth in either a Christian Education or youth group (grades 6-12) context. If you feel God's stirring you to consider this ministry, please speak with me or Cathy Cono, Holly Firmender or the youth advisors (Dawn Bettencourt, Shelly Lapadula and Paul Downing). Don't worry if you don't have their contacts: we'll get you together!

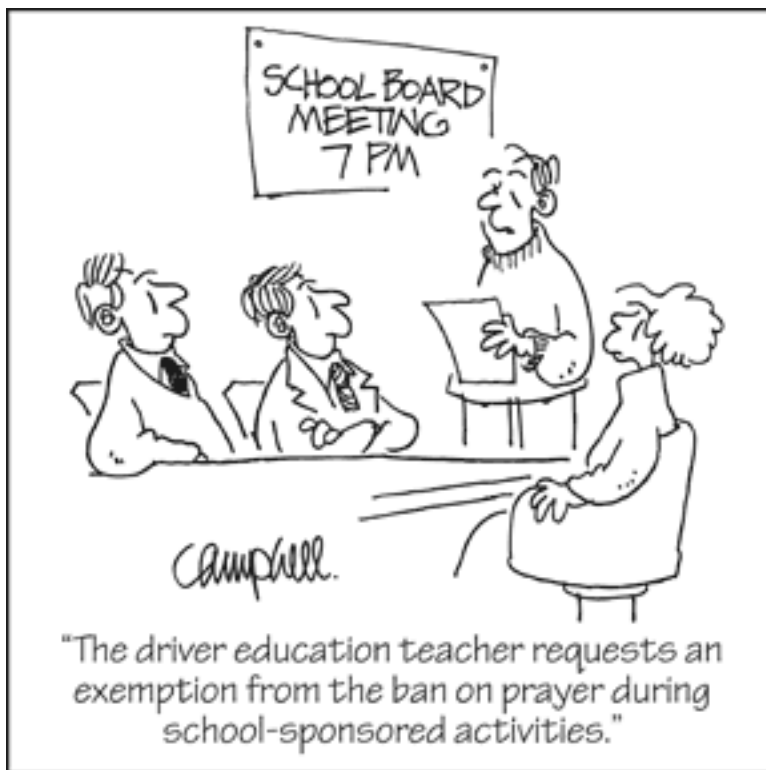
Pastor Dani Levine is enjoying a well-deserved Sunday off and will return next week. As always, we thank Pastor Hal Vink for his leadership in healing ministries and for the team that serves today in our once-a-month liturgy of prayer and healing anointing. Those servant-leaders are listed under "At Worship Today." Please also remember we have weekly "Healing and Wholeness Worship, all year long, on Mondays at 7 p.m. in the Chapel on the 2nd floor of the Wesley Center (the handicapped accessible building next to our sanctuary).

Thanks to our Trustees for the repair of the chancel arch (above the organ pipes) that was completed between Aug. 11 and today. "How lovely is thy dwelling place, O Lord of hosts."

May God Almighty continue to richly bless us as we seek to bless the world Christ came to save.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Shannon Thompson **Liturgist:** Marcia Winter

Greeters: Mary Lou and Don Hastings

Intercessor: Mary Lou Hastings

Healing anointers: Pastor Hal Vink (coordinator), Priscilla James, Laura Perregaux, Mark Platt and Steve Wasko

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in honor of my lovely bride Carol Galloway as we celebrate her birthday today, given by her loving husband, Pastor Brian Bodt; and in celebration of Rick's new job at Rider University, given by Stacey, Jason, Jennifer, Aiden, Madison and parental angels.

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.



~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, August 27</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, August 28</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Thursday, August 31</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library (closed Friday)</i>
<i>Saturday, September 2</i>	<i>2:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Daniel Bodt and Melisa Cagar wedding – Golden Hill UM Church, 210 Elm St. Bridgeport, CT- All Welcome</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 3</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Ghana Emmanuel UMC Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, September 4</i>		<i>The Office is closed in observance of Labor Day</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing & Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 6</i>	<i>2:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Golden Hill Community Supper-Bridgeport</i>
	<i>6:40 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir Rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Choir Rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 7</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Missions Committee meeting - Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Board of Trustees meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 8</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>

Celebrate the Appointment of Connecticut District Superintendent Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester



Join fellow Connecticut District clergy and laity as we welcome the Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester celebrate his appointment as our District Superintendent and welcome him and his family into our district.

WHEN: Sunday, September 10, 2017, beginning at 4 p.m.

WHERE: Nichols UMC
35 Shelton Road
Trumbull, CT 06611

If you are interested in attending the celebration, please contact Pastor Dani Levine, (203) 927-9077 or danielle.levine@mail.com

**PLEASE LET PASTOR DANI KNOW, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,
IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND**

TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL TODAY is hosted by Kim Gerlando and Joanne Platt. Next Sunday's hosts are Lisa Gloates and Holly Firmender.

COPIES OF THE SEPTEMBER "BEACON," our monthly newsletter mailed this past Wednesday, are available in the rear of the church.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

CAROL AND I CORDIALLY INVITE THE CONGREGATION to the wedding of my son, Daniel, to Melisa Cagar *this Saturday, Sept. 2nd, 2:30 p.m.* at Golden Hill United Methodist Church, 210 Elm Street, Bridgeport. I am deeply honored to be the celebrant.

Pastor Brian

NEXT SUNDAY, September 3

This is our last summer worship at 9:30 a.m. We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Setting A). The message "Here We Go Again" will be based on Exodus 3:1-15, Romans 12:9-21 and Matthew 16:21-28. Our preacher will be the Rev. Dr. Judith Bennett, Theologian-in-Residence at Mary Taylor Memorial Church.

SAVE THE DATE



SEPTEMBER 16TH RELAY FOR LIFE: Mary Taylor has a long-standing tradition (this is our 15th year!) of participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event in Milford. **This year's Relay kicks off at 1pm on Saturday September 16th at Jonathan Law High School and continues until 11pm.** The event raises funds for cancer education and research and supports those affected by cancer. Please consider attending the Relay or making a

donation. For further information, visit the Relay website at www.relayforlife.org and searching for Milford.

On Sunday, September 17 from 2-5 p.m. at The Unitarian Society of New Haven (700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT 06517), there will be another accompaniment training. This training will also offer some of the lessons those in our network have learned over the past 6 months in accompanying undocumented immigrants facing the possibility of deportation.

For more information contact Christine McGregor at cjmcgregor50@hotmail.com or 203-932-0792.

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. **Flower donations now needed for September 24th and Sundays thereafter.**

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 and 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. **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or Danielle.levine@mail.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 20th:

Total worship attendance all services: 177; Aug.20th: 138; GEUMC: 31; Aug.21st: Healing and Wholeness worship: 8; Total Offerings for Aug. 20th: \$4,139.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$2,386.67; Engaged in Small Groups: 23. Trash & Treasures: 11; “Beacon” volunteers: 9; 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.

SEPTEMBER MINISTRY DATES AND EVENTS

(Page reference is the September “Beacon”)

LABOR DAY, SEPT. 4 – office closed (p. 3)

GOLDEN HILL COMMUNITY SUPPER, SEPT. 6, 2:30 – 5 p.m. (p. 18)

CHOIRS RESUME, SEPT. 6, 6:40 p.m. (Bell) and 7:45 p.m. (Adult) (p. 4)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE, SEPT. 6, 6:30 p.m., Pastor’s study

RALLY DAY, SEPT. 10: Sunday School begins at 9 a.m., Worship returns to 10 a.m. , “Donor Tree” dedication, Ice Cream Social (pages 2, 4, 10-12)

CELEBRATION OF OUR NEW DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT APPOINTMENT, SEPT. 10, 4 p.m., Nichols UM Church, 35 Shelton Road, Trumbull (p. 8)

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY MEETINGS RESUME, SEPT. 14, 7 p.m., Wesley Center (p. 10)

“CLUB 80” LUNCHEON, SEPT. 19, Noon

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS, SEPT. 19 (p. 3)

CHURCH COUNCIL, SEPT. 21, 7 p.m. (p. 3)

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING, SEPT. 24 AND OCTOBER 1 (choose one of two dates at family convenience), after worship (p. 7)

ANNUAL YOUTH KICK-OFF, SEPT. 24, 4 – 6:30 p.m. (p. 5) All youth grades 6-12 invited to attend and bring a friend.

TAIZE WORSHIP RESUMES: Wed, Sept. 27, noon; Thurs., Sept. 28, 6:45 p.m. (p. 17)