

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
168 South Broad Street Phone: 203.874.1982  
Milford, Connecticut 06460 FAX: 203.877.8973

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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

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Book of Worship, 1965, alt.

L: May those who love your salvation say continually, “Great is the Lord!”

P: *Yes, our heart is glad in God, because we trust in God’s holy name.*

L: Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

P: *We praise you, O God; we acknowledge you to be the Lord.*

\*HYMN #96

“Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above”

Amsterdam

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated*)

Ruth Duck, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

*O God, in mystery and silence you are present in our lives, bringing new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, growth out of difficulty. We thank you that you do not leave us alone but labor to make us whole. Help us to perceive your unseen hand in the unfolding of our lives, and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit, that we may know the joy you give your people. Amen.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Michael J. O’Donnell, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

*Almighty and all-loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ you have reconciled the world to yourself. Help us now to be reconciled with one another, that again we might dwell in the warmth of your love. Inspire us with your Holy Spirit to put aside the cloak of pride and put on Christ, that we might forgive and be forgiven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Bible p.1098

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

\*THE GOSPEL

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Bible p.951

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

\*HYMN #432

“Jesu, Jesu”

Chereponi

THE SERMON

“What Pleases God”

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 Solo:

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Baritone: Rev. Brian Bodt

\*Presentation:

“All Things Come of Thee”

Hymnal #588

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #557

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

Dennis

(*Let the ushers retire and the anointers come forward.*)

A RITUAL OF PRAYER AND HEALING ANOINTING

*Each last Sunday of the month, all are invited to receive prayer and optional healing anointing for oneself or on behalf of another. Please come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisles as we sing hymns 378, 381, 388 and 389. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak name and need to the anointer. This ancient Church practice of God’s love is 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.*

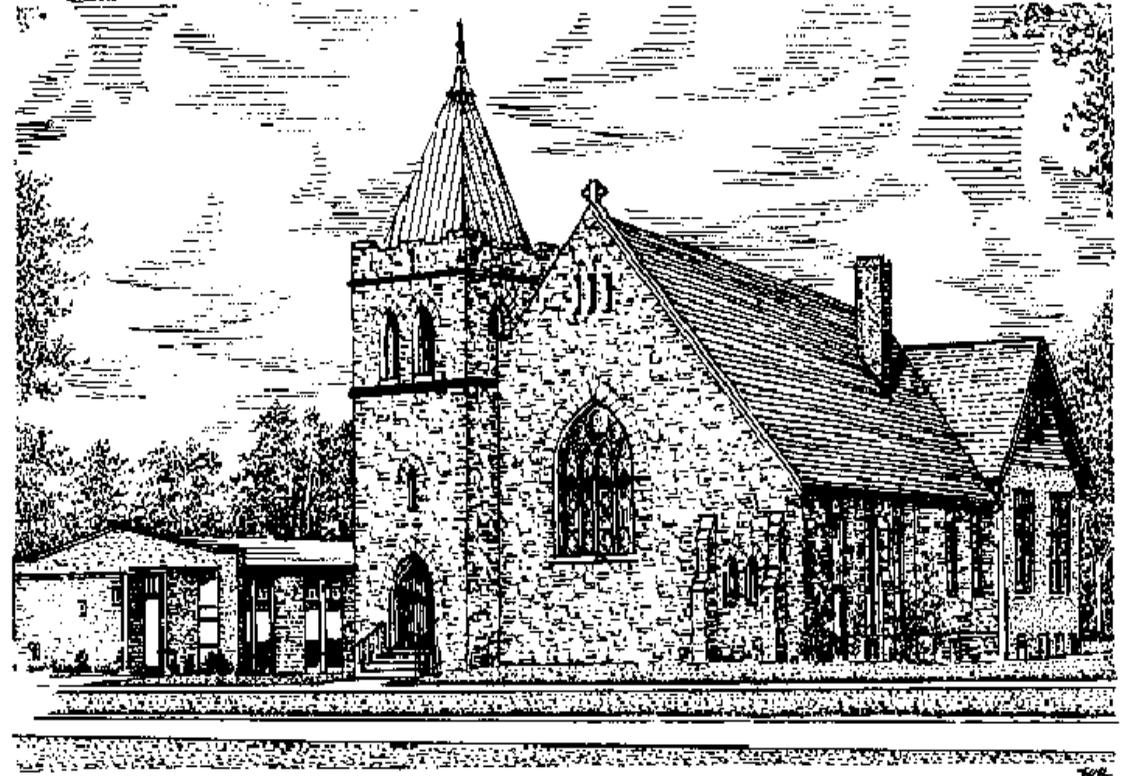
*In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.*

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

\*POSTLUDE

(*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 XV**

**August 28, 2016**

**MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973  
Website: [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org) [www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)  
E-mail: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 Outreach Pastor Danielle Levine  
Interim Child Care Coordinator Amanda Pitre Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi  
Theologian-in-Residence The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

*Grace Notes*  
*August 28, 2016*

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*The writer of Hebrews offers specific counsel (Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16) on how to live what Methodism’s founder, John Wesley, called “practical Christianity.” The structure of today’s message follows the General Rules. I’ll name them all in the sermon.*

*Last Sunday, the very productive totals from the August 20<sup>th</sup> Oyster Festival were announced. The Men’s Club, anchors and organizers of our church’s participation, made at least \$4,100, according to their treasurer, Bill Petremont. The final profit total awaits a few invoices to be paid. We praise all the men of the Men’s Club and the women who worked with them to achieve this fine outcome. The proceeds are used throughout the year in fellowship and hospitality events underwritten by the Men’s Club and offered to the church free of charge. Among them are the Thanksgiving Dinner, the Valentine’s dinner dance, the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and the Easter breakfast. The men also support various activities in the church, including but not limited to youth and scholarships.*

*“Trash and Treasures,” our seasonal thrift-shop, earned \$2,961. This represents a significant increase over their total of \$2,024 in 2015. We praise all the workers and donors. Leadership decided to share these proceeds equally between the Methodist Youth Fellowship and the Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.*

*On a separate note, our Flower Coordinator, Beth O’Brien notes that after next Sunday we have only one altar flower donation through mid-October. Open Sundays are Sept. 11, 18, 25 and Oct. 9 and 16. Contact Beth at 203.877.8668 or [bgobrien11@optonline.net](mailto:bgobrien11@optonline.net). See more details under the section “Our Life in Prayer, Ministry and Mission.”*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*  
*Pastor Brian Bodt*

~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, August 28</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer punch bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, August 29</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, August 30</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
<i>Thursday, September 1</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor’s study</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Missions Committee meeting – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Board of Trustees meeting – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Chapel, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 2</i>		<i>Office Closed – Summer Hours</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 4</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer punch bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, September 5</i>		<i>LABOR DAY – Church office closed</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<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>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>The Great Bible Experiment – Niebuhr Hall, Yale Divinity School, 409 Prospect Street, New Haven-Pastor Brian contact</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 8</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center 1<sup>st</sup> floor</i>
<i>Friday, September 9</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office volunteers – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, September 10</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness team meeting – Wesley Center</i>

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – Ethan Weed

**Greeters** – Don and Mary Lou Hastings

**Liturgist** – Tom Beyer

**Intercessor** – Pastor Hal Vink

**Healing Anointers** – Mary Lou Hastings, Priscilla James, Laura Perregaux and Mark Platt

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Reverend Bodt and Tom Beyer.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are given in honor of Carol Galloway, on the occasion of her birthday yesterday, by her husband, Pastor Brian Bodt.

**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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Brian Bodt:** [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). **Pastor Dani Levine:** 203.927.9077 or [Danielle.levine@mail.com](mailto: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 21st:**

Total worship attendance all services: 113; August 21st: 107; August 22nd, Healing & Wholeness: 6; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for August 21st: \$7,138.00; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$464.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$2,167.09; Engaged in Small Groups:74; "Christianity and World Religions" study-trip to Mosque: 15; "C&WR" class of Aug. 24: 15; MTMUMC Picnic: 33; "Beacon" volunteers: 8; 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

## TODAY

**SUMMER PUNCH BOWL** follows worship in the courtyard hosted by Pastor Brian and Carol Galloway. Next Sunday's hosts are the Cable family. Thanks to all our hosts!

**THE SEPTEMBER "BEACON"** (our monthly newsletter) was mailed last Wednesday. Extras may be found in the racks in the sanctuary.

**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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION FORMS**, which are included in the September "Beacon," are also in this "Grace Notes" as a convenience to our families. Please complete the form and bring it when registering your children on **Rally Day, September 11 at 9 a.m.**

**BLESSINGS FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH** returning to school, many of them tomorrow. Please keep them and their teachers, parents and bus drivers in prayer.

**MEETINGS THIS WEEK** include Church Council, Board of Trustees, and the Staff-Parish Relations and Missions committees. Please see the weekly calendar for times and locations.

## NEXT SUNDAY, September 4<sup>th</sup>

**This will be our last summer worship at 9:30 a.m.** We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Setting A). The message "Family Values" will be based on Luke 14:25-35.

## RALLY DAY IS IN TWO WEEKS!

**On September 11 we begin the new Sunday School year at 9 a.m.**, with classes from toddlers to adults. Come anytime between 9 and 9:30 a.m. for a meet and greet with classes dismissing at 9:45 a.m. **Worship moves to 10 a.m. Following worship**, the Sunday School hosts Fellowship Time with our **annual Ice Cream Social**. This date differs from the Sept. "Beacon" notice but is correct.



**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!

