

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 “What A Friend We Have in Jesus” arr.by D. Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP Traditional Cherokee Nation Prayer

L: May the warm winds of heaven blow softly on our house.

P: May the Great Spirit bless all who enter here.

*HYMN #2150 “Lord, Be Glorified” rear cover

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) Bishop D.T. Niles, Methodist Church of Sri Lanka

O God, the Parent of our Lord Jesus Christ and our Parent: you are to us both Father and Mother. We who are your children draw around your lotus feet to worship you. Your compassion is as the fragrance of the lotus. Though you are enthroned in the heavens, we may draw nigh to you, for your feet stand upon the earth where we humans dwell. We see your compassion in Jesus. Teach us that we belong to you and that you alone belong to us. And you are enough. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Michael J. O'Donnell, USA, 20th 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

°°°
THE EPISTLE James 1:17-27 Bible p.1110

Reader: The word of the Lord. People: ***Thanks be to God.***

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*THE GOSPEL Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Bible p.917

(Common English Bible translation)

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

*HYMN #402 “Lord, I Want to be a Christian” I Want to be a Christian

THE SERMON “Contaminants” 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 “He Walks With Me” arr. by D. Stephenson

Tina Gage, soloist

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

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #444 “O Young and Fearless Prophet” Blairgowrie

A RITUAL OF PRAYER AND HEALING ANOINTING

*On the last Sunday of the 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. 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. HYMNS (*seated, as needed*) #186, 357, 140 and 521*

*HYMN #565 “Father, We Thank You” Rendez a Dieu

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Lead Me, Lord” Hymnal #473

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

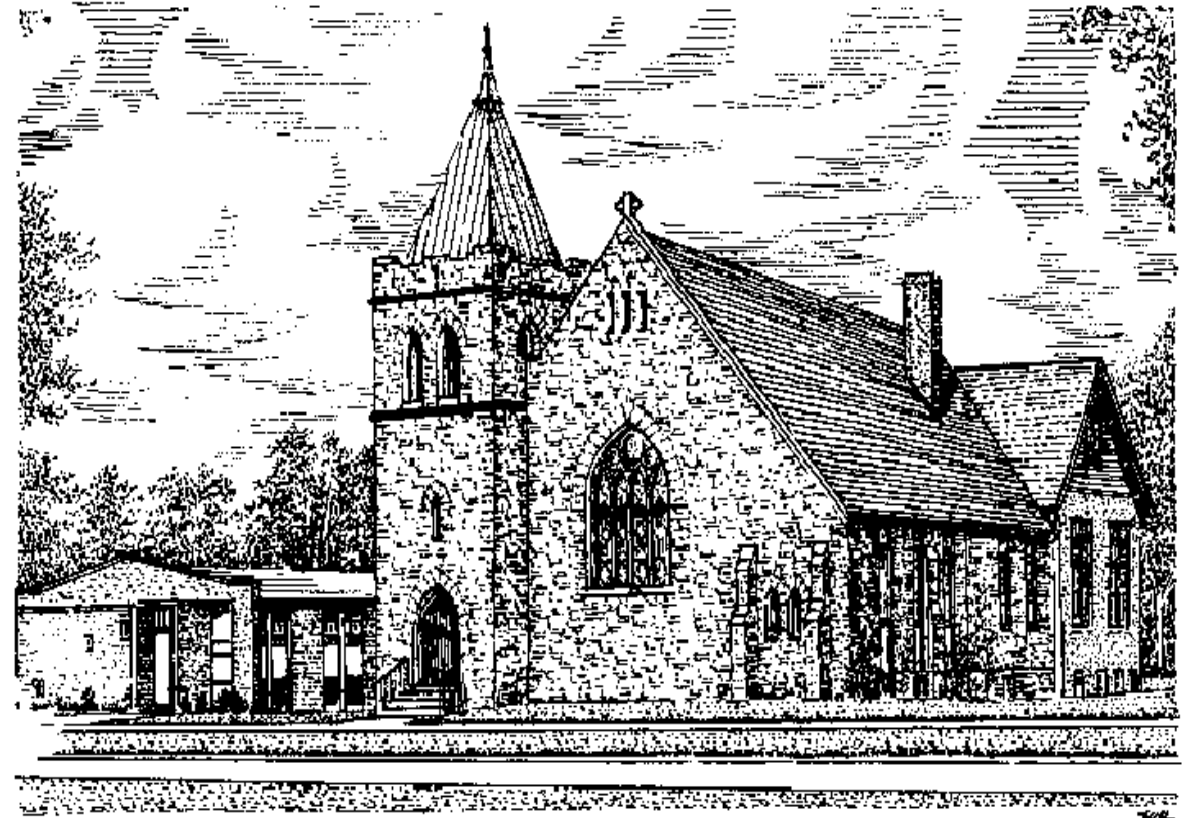
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

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

*POSTLUDE Toccata on “The God of Abraham Praise” arr. by G. Young

(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 30, 2015

	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	Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck	

Grace Notes
August 30, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

You always have to be good.

On vacation I had a root canal go bad and was referred to Dr. Bruce Cha, a Hamden endodontist. I filled out the customary “new patient” form, which included my profession as “clergy” and my place of employment as “Mary Taylor Memorial UM Church.”

When Dr. Cha met me he noted those specifics and said, “Did you know my father?” I thought for a minute and said, “Yes, I believe I did. He was the first Superintendent of the Eastern Seaboard Provisional Korean Mission Conference in the 1980’s.” Dr. Cha smiled and we chatted about Methodism and the challenges of being church today. I asked him where he currently attended and he said “The University Chapel at Yale.” (Don’t worry: I have since invited him to worship with us.)

Later, as I was leaving the office I said, “Dr. Cha, I believe I remember your father’s first name. Wasn’t it ‘Poong Ro?’ And wasn’t he the pastor of the Mid-Hudson Korean United Methodist Church before being a Superintendent?” Dr. Cha smiled a bigger smile.

We never know who we will meet and who is watching how we live our faith. Despite the immensity of a planet with 7 billion people, we are still a small place. Maybe you don’t HAVE to be good, but it certainly doesn’t hurt. Especially if we want others—in the words of the motto of the Epworth League, predecessor to the Methodist Youth Fellowship—“ to know Christ and make him known.”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982

Fax: 203.877.8973

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Stacey Riccardi

Greeters – The Repetsky family

Liturgist – Eileen Doyle

Healing Anointers – Pastor Hal Vink, Priscilla James, Bob Lawrence, Mark Platt and Barbara Ann Griggs

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Rev. Bodt and Eileen Doyle.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in memory of my father, William Nedbal, Jr., on the 30th anniversary of his death, given by Meg Dennis.

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.



ADDITIONAL MINISTRY INVITATIONS

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.

AVAILABLE DATES: October 11 and 18.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED to take our animal food donations to the Silver Sands Shelter at Silver Sands State Park. Please contact Lexie Winkleman at 203-876-7593 for details. **THANK YOU LEXIE** for your dedication and service to seniors with pets. All donations to the animal shelter are available to seniors with pets at no charge. If you and your pet are in need, please help yourself to the available donations.

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.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS NEEDED: Mercy Learning Center located at 637 Park Ave. in Bridgeport is seeking volunteers to teach English Language Learners as well as reading and math in its one-on-one or small group tutoring program. Tutors meet with their students at the Center twice weekly for two hours each session. A one day training session is provided for all new tutors; teaching experience is not necessary. Upcoming training sessions will take place on Tuesday, August 25th, Wednesday September 2nd and Friday September 11th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. (Lunch will be provided). For more information or to register please contact Lynn Gabriel or Sandra Santy at 203-332-6699.



FIRST UMC OF SHELTON presents Pennsylvania Dutch Tour with Biblical Show "JOSEPH" September 29 to October 1, 2015. Flyers are on the table in the rear of the sanctuary if you would like to sign up for this fun trip.

WESLEY CENTER RIBBON CUTTING and celebration will be Saturday, October 3, 4-6 p.m. and a formal litany of dedication at 10 a.m. worship on Sunday, October 4.

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL follows worship in the Courtyard – weather permitting. **Today's hosts** are the Downing family. **Next Sunday's hosts** will be the Sunday School with their annual ice cream social. All are invited.

CALLING HOURS FOR CONNIE MICKS, mother of Bev Downing, are today only from 1 – 5 p.m. at Cody-White Funeral Home, 107 Broad Street, Milford. Connie entered eternal life last Tuesday. Prayers and scriptures will be offered at 4 p.m. by Pastor Brian at the funeral home.

AUGUST "BEACON" (our monthly newsletter) was mailed last Wednesday. Extras in the Narthex. Due to our computer crash last Tuesday, electronic copies were not sent nor posted to the web. We hope still to post but please pick up a copy if you normally receive it electronically.

OFFICE COMPUTER CRASH: At this writing our main computer drive is being restored. If you have sent information or inquiries to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net and have not received a reply, please contact Mary Lou Kampert by telephone at 203.874.1982. Thank you.

FREE BOOKS IN TRASH AND TREASURE: Our team will be packing up all of our books shortly. Before this happens, please help yourselves to any books, no charge. If you have a special place you would like to donate to, you are very welcome to take them there! Take some books. Make our load lighter!

THIS WEEK

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS RESUME TOMORROW: Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

GOLDEN HILL COMMUNITY SUPPER is this Wednesday, Sept. 2, 2-5 p.m. at Golden Hill UM Church, 210 Elm Street, Bridgeport. Our role is to prepare the meal for serving. If you can assist, please contact Maryanne Jordan at 203.268.8850 or maryannej@charter.net.

CHOIR REHEARSALS begin Wednesday in Dodd Hall: Bell Choir at 6:30 p.m., Adult Choir at 7:45 p.m. "Praisemakers" (grades 1-5) coming soon. New singers welcome!

COMMITTEES RESUME MEETING IN SEPTEMBER! This week's meetings include Missions at 6:30 p.m. and Trustees at 7 p.m., both on Thursday, September 3. **SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR LOCATIONS AND THE MEETING SCHEDULE.**

TWO ADULT STUDIES BEGIN IN SEPTEMBER: "Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It," a six week study on the origins of Methodism, begins **September 15/16** on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library. Register with Mary Lou Kampert (203.874.1982, ext. 10; mtmumc@sbcglobal.net). **Covenant Bible Study** is a 24 week study broken into three 8-week sessions beginning **September 29**, meeting Tuesday evenings, 7 – 9:15 p.m., High School Room, Wesley Center, 1st Floor. Class is limited to 12. Speak with Sandy Morgan (203.874.4274) or Holly Firmender (203.878.6257) or register with Mary Lou Kampert (contacts above).

NEXT SUNDAY

RALLY DAY! Sunday School for all ages resumes at 9 a.m. Our Ambassadors will greet you as we welcome children, adults and staff back to structured spiritual formation. **Worship returns to its regular 10 a.m. time** and the Adult Choir will sing. The message “*Playing Favorites*” will be based on Psalm 125, James 2:1-17 and Mark 7:24-37. After worship an all-church ice-cream social will be hosted by the Sunday School for everyone. We will also have our first new members class held in the pastor’s study (Wesley Center, 2nd Floor).

THE FIRST NEW MEMBERS CLASS will be held at 11:45 a.m. in the pastor’s study. If you are interested in learning more about membership at our church, please attend. You need not be committed to joining to attend these sessions, which will be held Sept. 6, 13 and 20th at 11:45 a.m. with reception of new members on Sunday, September 27th. If you are interested in attending, please let Pastor Brian know.

COMING SOON

“FAIR ON THE GREEN” FOLLOW-UP MEETING: Sunday, September 13th 11:15 a.m. following worship in the Wesley Center, 1st Floor. Bring thoughts of needs, what went right/wrong, changes we could make. Everyone welcome! See you there! **Edie Reichard**

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

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 and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is still needed for seniors with pets: please leave these in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park. Animal Control will not take peoples’ released pets but will spay and neuter feral cats. They also request towels and blankets for the animals. If you and your pet are in need, please help yourself to the available donations.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: **Pastor Brian** (brian.bodt@yahoo.com: 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753) is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. Appointments scheduled in advance are always the best way to get his full attention. **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 August 23rd:

Total worship attendance all services: 164; August 23rd: 159; Healing and Wholeness, August 24th: 5; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for August 23rd: \$4,770.00; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$1,133.33; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$1,936.21; Engaged in Small Groups: 13; (Office Volunteers 13; 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.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, August 30</i>	<i>9:30 a.m. Worship—Sanctuary – Last worship on the 9:30 a.m. schedule 10:30 a.m. Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard 1-5 p.m. Calling hours for Connie Micks at Cody-White Funeral Home</i>
<i>Monday, August 31</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 2</i>	<i>2-5 p.m. Golden Hill Community Supper – Bridgeport 6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 3</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor’s study 6:30 p.m. Missions Committee meeting – Wesley Center 7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 4</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, September 5</i>	<i>Milford Relay for Life</i>
<i>Sunday, September 6</i>	<i>Rally Day Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center 10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary 11:15 a.m. Ice Cream Social – Courtyard 11:45 a.m. New Member Class – Pastor’s study – Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
<i>Monday, September 7</i>	<i>The church office is closed in observance of Labor Day 7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 8</i>	<i>6:30 p.m. UMW Potluck Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 9</i>	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 10</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Gunn Library 7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – 1st floor Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, September 11</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, September 12</i>	<i>Milford Relay for Life</i>