

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.)

Please remember to mute or turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.y

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 Psalm 103: 1-2, 6-8, The Message

Leader: O my soul, bless God. From head to toe, I'll bless God's holy name!

People: O my soul, bless God, don't forget a single blessing! God makes everything come out right; God showed Moses how he went about his work, opened up his plans to all Israel.

Leader: God is sheer mercy and grace; not easily angered, he's rich in love.

ALL: LET US WORSHIP GOD!

\*HYMN #116 “The God of Abraham Praise” Leoni

PRAYER OF THE DAY (seated, unison) James Martineau, England, 19th cent. (alt.)

O eternal God, in whose appointment our life stands, and who committed our work to us: we commit our cares to you. We thank you that we are your children and that you have assured us that, while we are intent upon your will, you will heed our wants. Fill us with that compassion for others' troubles which comes from forgetfulness of our own; with the charity of those who know their own unworthiness; and with the glad hope of the children of eternity. And to you, the Beginning, and the End, Lord of the living, Refuge of the dying, be thanks and praise forever. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION “A Refuge amid Distraction” Hymnal #535

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

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THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Exodus 3:1-15 Bible p.49

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

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28 Bible p.894

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

\*HYMN #415 “Take Up Thy Cross” Germany

THE SERMON “Giving Away Diamonds” 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 Duet: “Bless the Lord, My Soul” Bless the Lord (Taize)

Mary Lou Kampert, harp Brian Bodt, baritone

\*Presentation: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Hymnal #94

\*Prayer of Dedication

AN INVITATION TO HEALING ANOINTING

You are invited to come forward to receive a healing anointing for yourself 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 practice from the earliest days of the Church 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 #500 (seated) “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” Morecambe

HYMN #526 (seated) “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” Converse

HYMN #670 (seated) “Go Forth for God” Geneva 124

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

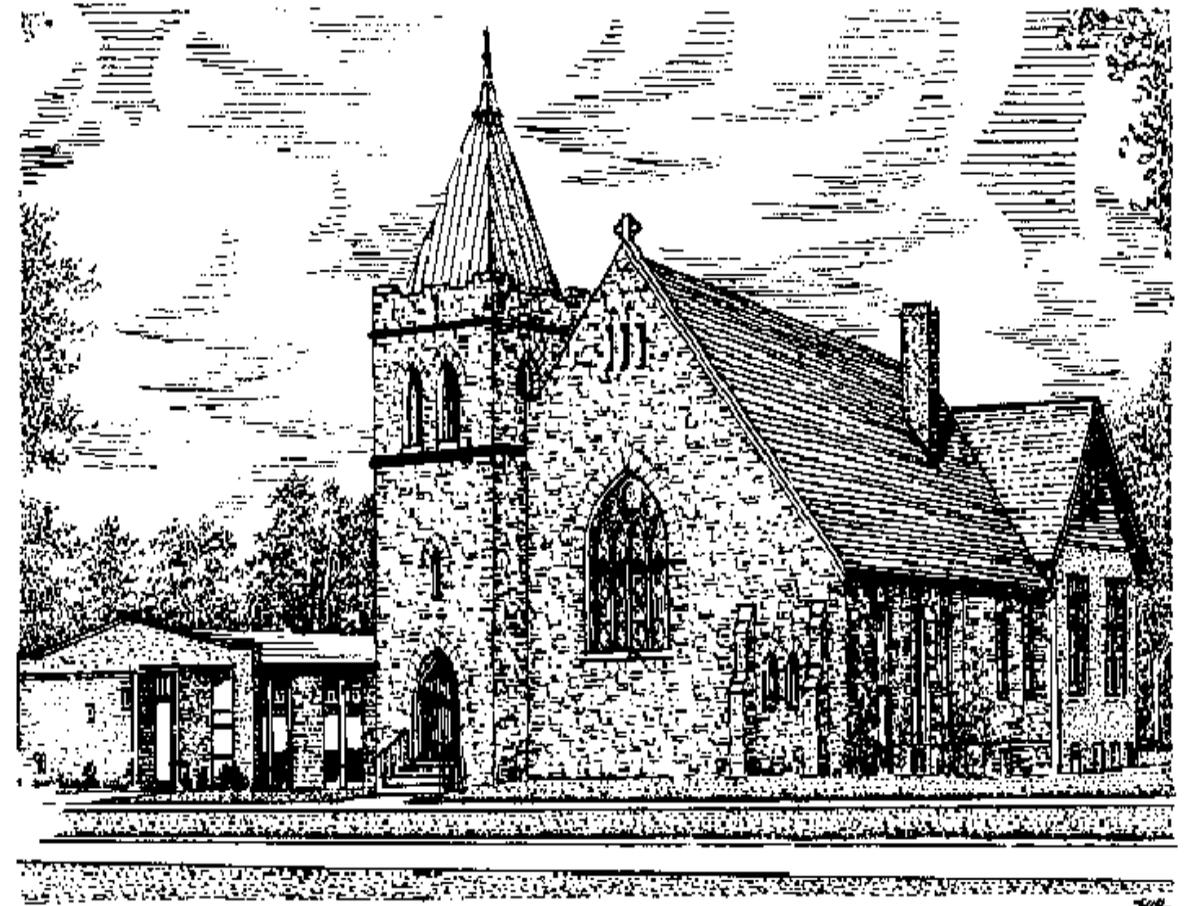
Hymnal #526

\*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 XII**

**August 31, 2014**

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, August 31</i>	<i>9:30 a.m. Worship– Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m. Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Leadership Day Design Team – Pastor’s Study</i>
<i>Monday, September 1</i>	<i>Labor Day – Church office is closed</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 2</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study-Pastor Hal</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 3</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study-Pastor Hal</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal</i>
<i>Thursday, September 4</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Pastors-Lay Leaders Meeting</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Missions Meeting</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting</i>
<i>Friday, September 5</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, September 6</i>	<i>2:00 p.m. to 6:00 am Sunday -Relay for Life at Foran High School</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 7</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Rally Day – Sunday School begins</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Worship/Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Ice Cream Social – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, September 8</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 9</i>	<i>6:30 p.m. UMW Potluck – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study-Pastor Hal</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Disciple 3 – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 10</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study-Pastor Hal</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal</i>
	<i>7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal</i>
<i>Thursday, September 11</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, September 12</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, September 13</i>	<i>8:30 a.m. Conference-Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m. Leadership Day Apart-Wesley Center</i>

*Grace Notes*

*August 31, 2014*

*Dear Mary Taylor Memorial community,*

*I was thinking about how excited I am at the prospect of September ministry when I remembered my July, 2012 “Beacon” article that was part of my introduction to this church. The recurring theme in that article was “I’m excited.”*

*Now I’m REALLY EXCITED! We approved last Sunday our handicapped-accessible renovation project for the Wesley Center by a church conference vote of 53 – 1. The public launch of the “Lift Us Up” campaign will be next Sunday. Our teachers and choirs are preparing this week for resuming their ministries that day. Disciple 3, an adult study on healing prayer, MYF, UMW, Club 80, Confirmation all “launch” within the next two weeks, along with our regular ministries. All of these are detailed in these notices.*

*St. Paul reminds us “Let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” (Galatians 6:9) This is one of those passages where I prefer the King James’ translation of the Bible, but Gene Peterson in The Message tunes it to modern ears: “So let’s not allow ourselves to get fatigued doing good. At the right time we will harvest a good crop if we don’t give up, or quit.”*

*Conferring recently with one of our leaders about summer’s 25% drop in attendance, they assured me this was typical and that our people were re-charging during the summer so that they would return energized in September. I trust so. I hope your summer allowed you that opportunity to re-charge for the exciting and faith-renewing opportunities this fall.*

*I’m REALLY EXCITED! I pray you, are, too!*

*Sincerely in Christ,*

*Pastor Brian*

**MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**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. 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** – John Henry

**Greeters** – Holly Firmender and Susan Pitre

**Liturgist** – Bob Lawrence

**Anointers** – Pastor Hal, Mary Lou Hastings, Priscilla James and Faye Zeiner

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** is Pastor Brian and Bob Lawrence.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are to the glory of God from one with a grateful heart.

**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 taken from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and the United Methodist Book of Worship (1992).

**SERMON COPIES** from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or [www.mtm-umc.org](http://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, 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.

### MISSION COMMITTEE

#### Boys and Girls Village Back-to-School Supply Collection

Please consider helping children by donating school supplies included on the list below. All items must be new.

**Boys and Girls Village will be collecting these backpack items for distribution at the end of August. Please look for the collection boxes in Dodd Hall.**



ELEMENTARY	Middle/High School
Book -- age appropriate	Book -- age appropriate
Small packets of tissues	Colorful spiral notebooks
Colored pencils	Colored pencils
Crayons	Pens
Drawing pad	Drawing pad
Erasers	Erasers
Glue sticks	Glue sticks
Journal	Journal
Markers (nonpermanent)	Markers (nonpermanent)
Notebooks, loose leaf paper	Notebooks, loose leaf paper
#2 pencils & sharpener	#2 pencils & sharpener
Ruler	Ruler
Blunt scissors	Small stapler & staples
Key Chain Toy	Red pen
Binder	Small stapler & staples
Tape	Tape
	Geometric stencils & compass
	File Folders, colorful

**Also needed on a regular basis are arts and craft supplies – listed below:**

- Washable markers
- Crayons
- Coloring pencils
- Beads and string
- Washable Tempera paint
- White and colored construction paper
- Elmer’s glue sticks
- Blunt tip scissors
- Sidewalk chalk
- Colored tissue paper
- Mod Podge
- Crayola Model Magic- colored and white
- Air Dry Clay
- Poster Board- white and colored
- Permanent Markers ( Sharpies)
- Colored and Patterned Duct Tape
- Blank Books (for decorating/making journals)
- Paperboard boxes ( for decorating memory boxes)



## OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

**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.

**WE RESUME REGULAR OFFICE HOURS** on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> : Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building will be locked. If you find this, please call the office (203.874.1982) or ring the bell on the Broad Street side of the Wesley Center. Thank you.

**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 & monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: Wet and dry cat food is desperately needed for seniors with pets. They are also requesting towels and blankets for the animals.** 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](mailto: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@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 AUGUST 24th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 147 (August 24, 144; Healing and Wholeness, August 25<sup>th</sup>: 3) Total Offering August 24: \$5,342.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,095.15; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups 8; Office volunteers: 2; Beacon volunteers 6; 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) or call (203.874.1982) with your attendance.

## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

**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!

**SUMMER PUNCH BOWL** follows sanctuary 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 the Downings.

**ALTAR FLOWER AND MISSION CROSS ORDERS** may be placed with 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 placed on the altar. Please see Beth or information in the back of the church on missions to support. Checks for either one payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

**BEDROOM AND BATH NEEDED IMMEDIATELY** (in-law or house-sharing desired) for a woman in her 30’s. If you have a place or know of possibilities, please contact Maryanne Meehan Jordan at 203.268.8850 (home) or 203.610.4936.

**FROM DOT LONG:** A heart-felt thank you from Dot for all the prayers and cards she’s received during her illness. She would especially like to thank Pastor Brian and Pastor Hal and Jane for their visits and prayers. She will be starting radiation treatments the week of September 1<sup>st</sup> at Bridgeport Hospital for the next 5 ½ weeks, 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday, and will need volunteers to drive her there. Please coordinate with Diana Cable at 203-878-9002 or [rcable1@optonline.net](mailto:rcable1@optonline.net) if you are available to help out during this time. Dot says: “Live and enjoy each day!” and to please continue to keep her in prayer.

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR MEETING SCHEDULE.**

## THIS WEEK

**THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED TOMORROW**, observing Labor Day. **THE OFFICE REOPENS ON TUESDAY**, September 2 at 9 a.m. We have now returned to **regular office hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**ADULT STUDY: SEPTEMBER'S Tuesday evening & Wednesday morning study group.** A five-week study on wellness, healing and prayer will start on September 2nd and 3rd in the Gunn Library. The 90 minute sessions will begin each Tuesday at 7 p.m. and Wednesday at 10 a.m., led by Rev. Hal Vink & Mary Lou Hastings. If you're interested, please speak to Mary Lou, Hal, or the church office.

The study book, **STRETCH OUT YOUR HAND** by Tilda Norberg & Robert Webber is available (\$12.00) from Pastor Hal. The study opens to us the basic understanding that healing prayer is more than getting well from an illness---it is part of a beautiful and dynamic process leading to the wholeness that God wants for us.

**RELAY FOR LIFE:** Mary Taylor has a long-standing tradition (this is our 12th year!) of participating in the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life event in Milford. This year's Relay kicks off at 2 pm Saturday September 6th at Foran High School and continues throughout the day and night, concluding at 6am on Sunday. The event raises funds for cancer education and research and supports those affected by cancer. For more information, see the August Beacon, page 4.

## 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. Sunday School is open to all ages with classes for our youngest toddlers all the way to adults. We'll have a welcome table outside the building with registration forms and information about some exciting new aspects of our program this year. Parents and students will have the opportunity for a "meet and greet" with teachers and classmates and their families. We will round out Rally Day with our traditional ice cream social and make your own sundae bar in Dodd Hall after worship. Come one, come all!

**WORSHIP RETURNS TO ITS REGULAR 10 A.M. TIME** with the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper and the Adult Choir will sing. We will have the public launch of our "Lift Us Up" capital campaign to fund handicapped accessible renovations to the Wesley Center. The message "*Let's Play Dress Up*" will be based on Romans 13:8-14. After worship an all-church ice-cream social will be hosted by the Sunday School for "Sunday School children of every age!" (Everyone!). "*Life is uncertain: eat dessert first!*"

## COMING SOON

**UNITED METHODIST WOMEN:** This September will have a "Two Fer!" Tuesday September 9 will have only one meeting at 6:30 p.m. This will be a pot luck in Dodd Hall. We realize some of our daytime members will not drive in the evenings, and rides will be provided for them. As always we welcome any woman of the church to join us.

"DISCIPLE 3" begins Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 7 – 9:15 p.m. This 32 week adult study will focus on the prophets of the Old Testament and the Letters of Paul. Completion of Disciple 1 (but not 2) is required. Last call! Please contact Don Hastings (203.877.4554).

**"GOING ON TO 'PAR'-FECTION GOLF OUTING** to benefit the Connecticut District United Methodist Mission Initiative: Thurs., Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m., Laurel View Country Club, 310 West Shepard Ave., Hamden. Details on flier at rear of church and on the bulletin boards.

**PLEASE SAVE THE DATE: LEADERSHIP DAY APART, Saturday, Sept. 13, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.** in the Wesley Center. Think you're not a leader? The definition of a leader is "someone who has followers." You need not chair a committee to attend and be enriched by this special time of enlightening, energizing and equipping us for ministry. Presenters include Pastors Brian and Hal, Tom Beyer and others. Breakfast and lunch provided. Register by calling the church office at 203.874.1982 or e-mailing [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net). Registration deadline: Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>.

**HOLD THE DATE: MYF KICK OFF POT LUCK, Sunday, Sept. 14** at Pastor Brian Bodt and Carol Galloway's home, 11 Prospect Road, Woodbridge. 4:30 carpool from church, 7 p.m. pick up at Prospect ROAD (not "Court"). Details in the Sept. "Beacon," page 7.

**HOLD THE DATE: CLUB 80 LUNCHEON, Tuesday, September 16, Noon,** in Dodd Hall to honor our octogenarians. Members and friends 80 years of age and older are invited to a light luncheon. Our entertainment will be cellist Thirzah Bendokas. If you need a ride it can be arranged. Please call Maryann Petremont at 203.877.0612 or the church office at 203.874.1982 **by Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** to let us know if you are coming and/or need a ride.

**CONFIRMATION BEGINS September 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.** in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. Letters were sent to youth known to be eligible on August 28<sup>th</sup>, echoing the details in the Sept. "Beacon," page 3. If you have not seen either of these communications please contact the church office for details. Parents or guardians expected at the first class.

**SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING:** Calling all Sunday School teachers, MYF leaders, UM ARMY volunteers, and other youth workers! Please join us for a one hour Safe Sanctuaries training class on either Sunday September 21st at 4:30pm or Wednesday September 24th at 7pm in the Education Building. Our Safe Sanctuary policy, most recently revised in August 2013, is a resolution adopted by the church to provide a caring and secure environment for children in all phases of church life. All new teachers and volunteers are required to attend one of these sessions. Contact Cathy Cono at [spikkio@optonline.net](mailto:spikkio@optonline.net) or C: 203-645-2362.