

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982  
FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship  
10:00 a.m.

(\* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Prayer” D. Ferman

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Blessed Be Your Name”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Jann C. Weaver, U.S.A., 20<sup>th</sup> Cent.

Leader: Sing praises to God, O you saints, and give thanks to God’s holy name!

**People:** *We exalt you, O God, for you have restored us to life!*

Leader: We may cry through the night, but your joy comes with the morning.

**People:** *You hear us, O God, and you are gracious in our distress.*

Leader: You turn our mourning into dancing!

**People:** *Our souls cannot be silent!*

**All:** *O God, our Savior, we give thanks to you for ever!*

\*HYMN #155 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name” Diadem

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) Mechthild of Magdeburg, Germany, 13<sup>th</sup> Cent.

*O burning Mountain, O chosen Sun,  
O perfect Moon, O fathomless Well,  
O unattainable Height, O Clearness beyond measure,  
O Wisdom without end, O Mercy without limit,  
O Strength beyond resistance, O Crown beyond all majesty,  
The humblest thing you created sings your praise. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Jewish Prayer for Forgiveness, U.S.A., 20<sup>th</sup> Cent.

*Holy and awesome God, we stand in your presence filled with regret for our many sins and failings. Though there is greatness in us, and a deep longing for goodness, we have often denied our better selves and refused to hear your voice calling us to rise to the full height of our humanity. For there is weakness in us, as well as strength. At times we choose to walk in darkness, our vision obscured. We do not care to look within, and we are unwilling to look beyond at those who need our help. O God, we are too weak to walk unaided. Be with us as a strong and wise friend, and teach us to walk by the light of your truth. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

°°°

THE FIRST HEBREW SCRIPTURE Exodus 14:19-31 Bible p. 60

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE PSALTER Psalm 150 (*General Response*) Hymnal #862

THE SECOND HEBREW SCRIPTURE Exodus 15:1-11, 20-21 Bible p. 60

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

\*HYMN #2216 “When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise” rear cover

THE SERMON “A Most Beautiful Song” Pastor Levine

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles’ Creed” Hymnal #881

\*GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #70

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

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 Anthem: “Sing Unto the Lord” C. Yannerella  
*(The Adult Choir)*

\*Presentation: “Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow” Hymnal #94

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*HYMN #156 “I Love to Tell the Story” Hankey

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Amen, Amen” Hymnal #898

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

\*POSTLUDE “Toccata on ‘Diadem’” L. Smith

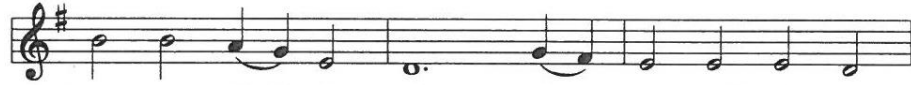
*(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)*

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

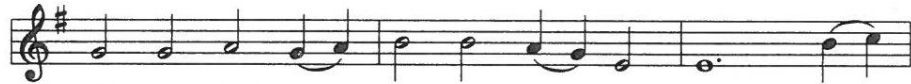
## When We Are Called to Sing Your Praise 2216



1. When we are called to sing your praise with  
 2. When we are called to sing your praise and  
 3. When we are called to sing your praise and



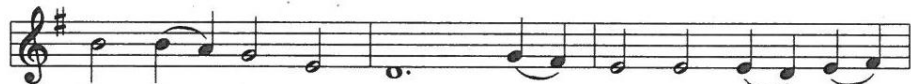
hearts so filled with pain that we would rath - er  
 can - not find our voice, be - cause our los - ses  
 life a - head looks grim, still give us faith and



sit and weep or stand up to com - plain, re -  
 leave us now no rea - son to re - jice, re -  
 hope e - nough to break forth in a hymn, a



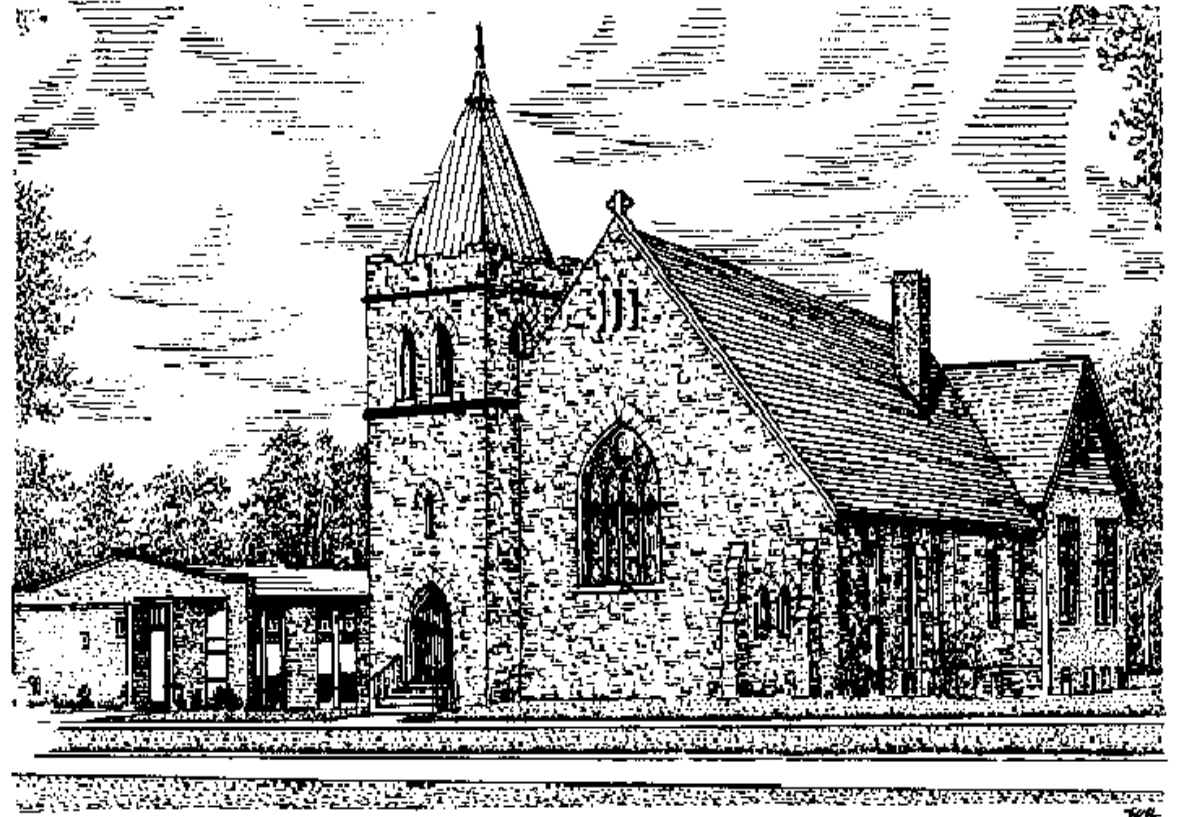
mind us, God, you un - der - stand the  
 mind us, God, that you ac - cept our  
 thank - ful hymn, great God of Love, that



bur - dens that we bear; you, too, have walked the  
 sad la - ments in prayer; you, too, have walked the  
 you are ev - ery - where; you walk the shad - owed



shad - owed way and known our deep de - spair.  
 shad - owed way and known our deep de - spair.  
 way with us and keep us in your care.



## 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 XV**

**September 17, 2017**

## STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and November 7 and 14, 7 – 8:15 p.m.

Wednesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 24 and Nov. 1, 8 and 15, 10 – 11:15 a.m.

Our seasonal fall Bible study will be on the Gospel of Mark. This study is especially designed for students who are newer to, or inexperienced in, Bible study. We will use the Immersion Bible study series guide for Mark. I will be the teacher. We will meet Tuesdays from 7 – 8:15 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 – 11:15 a.m. on the dates noted above. Participants will choose Tuesdays or Wednesdays but may alternate if needed.

Why this study? Offering this study for those less familiar or comfortable with Bible study is a fine compliment to our “Disciple 4” study, led by Don Hastings, for those with more Bible study experience. It makes the Bible accessible to newer learners.

Why Mark? For three reasons: it is the **oldest** Gospel, it is the **shortest** Gospel, and it is **the Gospel we will read in worship** in the new liturgical year that begins on Dec. 3. Students will leave with an understanding of the Gospel that can be applied to daily life, as well as prepare them to experience Mark in worship by being familiar with it in study.

If you desire to register, please contact Mary Lou Kampert at the church office at 203.874.1982 or [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) **Please give her your name, preferred telephone number and e-mail address (if available) when you register.** We will notify you as soon as books arrive and provide a schedule of readings.

If you have questions that you desire answered before you register, please reach me at my contacts below. I look forward to this time of study and spiritual growth.

**Pastor Brian Bodt**  
[brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com)  
203.895.3753

## 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. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Lay Leaders	Shelly Lapadula & Beth O'Brien	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. 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*

*September 17, 2017*

*Beloved Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,*

*I feel so privileged to be able to bring you today's message. This summer, as you have heard from some of Pastor Brian's sermons, has been one of building. Some of your congregational leaders and staff have been busy at work all summer to tweak, plan, and rebuild programming for this year that is engaging and relevant to building up disciples of Jesus Christ in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

*Some changes have already been noticed by the change in structure to the Sunday School (2.0) Program and the intentionality the adult Youth leaders have shown in removing “MYF” from our vocabulary, adopting “Youth Group” as the nomenclature.*

*There are even more conversations happening about how to reach those who are either “unchurched” or “church drop-outs.” What is it that we can do to be relevant and able to answer their questions in a way that shows them who Christ is in the world, today? How do we show the world that we are not what they assume us to be, based on those who represent us, as followers of Christ, through the media? We live in a world where there is pain, despair, and hopelessness all around us. It is an opportunity to share the healing, joyous, hope-filled message with the world, witnessing to the incredible power of Jesus Christ in our lives and communities.*

*Listen closely to this morning's INTROIT, “Every blessing you pour out, I'll turn back to praise. When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say, Blessed be the name of the Lord.” It is A Most Beautiful Song!*

*Sincerely yours in Christ,*

*Outreach Pastor Dani Levine*

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher:** Ethan Weed

**Liturgist:** Michelle Connor

**Greeters:** Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs

**Cross Bearer** – Marshall Firmender

**Bible Bearer** – Mary Repetsky

**Acolytes** – Carolyn Hollyday and Amanda Repetsky

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in memory of Joanne Platt's brother, Steve Smith and a thank you Lord our Father for blooming these beautiful flowers for us to enjoy. May all of you have a beautiful day. God bless everyone, Justine and Barronlee.

**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, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship (1992).

**SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org).

*Thursday, September 28*

*5:30 p.m.*

*MTMUMC Community Supper – Dodd Hall*

*6:45 p.m.*

*Taize Worship – Sanctuary*

*7:00 p.m.*

*MTMUMC Foundation meeting – Wesley Center*

*7:30 p.m.*

*Worship Committee meeting – Wesley Center*

*Friday, September 29*

*10:00 a.m.*

*Office Volunteers – Gunn Library*

*Saturday, September 30*

*9:30 a.m.*

*Safe Sanctuary training – K2 Classroom, Wesley Center*



Bishop Bickerton and the members of the Extended Cabinet of the New York Annual Conference laying hands on Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester as he is installed as the new District Superintendent of the Connecticut District last Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Nichols UMC, Trumbull, CT. (Photo by Joanne Utley, NYAC Communications and Editor of the *Vision*)



~TWO WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL~

<i>Sunday, September 17</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m. Informal hymn singing - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m. Blood pressure screening – Sanctuary – Dianne Carroll, RN</i>
	<i>2:00 p.m. Accompaniment training-Unitarian Society, Hamden</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Monday, September 18</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing &amp; Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. United Methodist Women – preparation for Club 80 Luncheon – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 19</i>	<i>12:00 p.m. United Methodist Women Club 80 Luncheon – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Wesley Center, Egan room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Disciple 4 class - Wesley Center, Egan room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Staff-Parish Relations Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Job Search Support Group – St. Mary’s church 70 Gulf St.</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 20</i>	<i>6:30 p.m. Nominating Committee – Pastor’s study</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m. Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 21</i>	<i>10 am – Noon District U.M. Clergy – First UMC, Meriden (pastor)</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
<i>Friday, September 22</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Sunday, September 24</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m. Altar Server Training – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m. Visitation Ministry – Dodd Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor</i>
	<i>3:30 p.m. Ghana Emmanuel UMC Worship – Chapel</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m. Youth Group Kick-off Picnic - Bettencourt’s home, 144 Timber Trail, Milford</i>
<i>Monday, September 25</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Historical Society meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6 – 7:30 pm Safe Sanctuary training – K2 Classroom, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Healing &amp; Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 26</i>	<i>5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Wesley Center, Egan room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Disciple 4 class - Wesley Center, Egan room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Gay-Straight Alliance – Wesley Center, Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 27</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers – Wesley Center, Egan room</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Taize Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>6:40/7:45 p.m. Bell Choir/Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>

TODAY

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** is hosted by Staff-Parish Relations Committee. Next Sunday’s host is the Men’s Club.

**ACCOMPANIMENT TRAINING** is offered today from 2-5 p.m. at The Unitarian Society of New Haven (700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT 06517). This training offers 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](mailto:cjmcgregor50@hotmail.com) or 203-932-0792.

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.**

THIS WEEK

**PASTOR BRIAN** returns to the office Tuesday, Sept. 19. In a pastoral emergency, which includes hospitalizations, please contact Edie Reichard, Staff-Parish Relations Chair, at 203.650.5733.

**CLUB 80 LUNCHEON** will be held on Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> in Dodd Hall.

**FRI., SEPT. 22, 6 p.m. , FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH** 28 North Street, Milford, Lower Fellowship Hall, will show the movie *Hidden Figures*, about a team of female African-American mathematicians who served a vital role in NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. All are welcomed to enjoy this great movie. Light refreshments will be served.

NEXT SUNDAY, September 24

The message, “Going God’s Way?” will be based on Exodus 16:2-15 and Matthew 20:1-16. Prayer and healing anointing will be offered during the closing hymns. The Visitation Ministry team will meet after worship. At 4 p.m. the Youth Group will have their kick-off picnic at the Bettencourt’s home, 144 Timber Trail, Milford (see details in this issue).

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: Initial organizing events will take place after worship on two consecutive Sundays this fall: September 24 and October 1.** We invite ALL (both new and returning servers) who would like to help lead worship in these important roles to join us on one of these Sundays. Each meeting will include important information for youth and their parents regarding online scheduling and training sessions, and afterwards, we will share in a celebratory luncheon.

**It is helpful to know how many are coming to we can plan for food and materials.** Please let us know, if at all possible, your plan to attend by contacting Sheryl Hollyday ([doulee@aol.com](mailto:doulee@aol.com) or 203-874-7325) or Barbara Repetsky ([babsbayr@aol.com](mailto:babsbayr@aol.com) or 203-931-4363).

## 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. **Flower donations now needed for October 8, 15 and 29.**

**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](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 September 10th:**

Total worship attendance all services: 205; Sept. 10: 166; GEUMC: 27; Sept. 11: Healing and Wholeness worship: 12; Total Offerings for Sept. 10th: \$7,737.35; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence \$3,568.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 66. Bell Choir: 7; Adult Choir: 14; Office Volunteers: 3; Disciple 4: 14; Membership and Evangelism: 7; Youth Leaders: 4; UMW meeting: 17. 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.

## SEPTEMBER MINISTRY DATES AND EVENTS

*(Page reference is the September “Beacon”)*

“**CLUB 80**” LUNCHEON, SEPT. 19, Noon in Dodd Hall

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.

SAFE SANCTUARY TRAINING – SEPT. 25, 6:00 p.m., and Sept. 30, 9:30 a.m. - K2 Classroom Wesley Center.

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

MTMUMC COMMUNITY SUPPER: Thurs., Sept. 28, 2-6:30 p.m. (p. 18)

### SAVE THE DATE

**SAT., SEPT 30, 10 a.m., CONFERENCE CENTER OPEN HOUSE**, 20 Soundview Avenue, White Plains, NY. Our church was one of congregations who helped fund the renovation of the Conference Center. You are invited to join our leaders for a special time of recognition. The open house continues until 4 p.m. **To carpool or for more information**, contact Pastor Dani Levine (203.927.9077; [danielle.levine@mail.com](mailto:danielle.levine@mail.com)) or Member of Conference Kelly O'Hara (203.913.2969; [yankee89@optonline.net](mailto:yankee89@optonline.net)).

### IMMIGRATION INVITATION

If you wish to learn more about immigration issues in our area and how you can support undocumented immigrants, please give me your email address and I will put you on a mailing list.

Opportunities might include informational meetings, prayer vigils, etc. I sometimes get last minute notices and this will facilitate getting the information out to those interested. I will not share your information with anyone else. **Christine McGregor** [cjmccgregor50@hotmail.com](mailto:cjmccgregor50@hotmail.com).