

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 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 all electronic devices to preserve the dignity of worship.)

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “Break Thou the Bread of Life” arr. by H. DeCou

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **P: And also with you.**

L: The risen Christ is with us. **P: Praise the Lord!**

*HYMN #638 “This Is the Feast of Victory” Festival Canticle

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY *(seated, unison)*

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee; and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Jeremiah 2:4-13 Bible p.685
Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

*THE GOSPEL Luke 14:1, 7-14 Bible p.951
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN 616 “Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast” Hursley

THE SERMON “Who’s Invited?” Dr. Bodt

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, **People: Hear our prayer.**

SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II Hymnal p.12

*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 “Until All Are Fed” *Stacey Riccardi, signer*
*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE II Hymnal p.13

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal #895

*THE COMMUNION

(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive or refrain from receiving. We use grape juice and gluten-free bread so all may come.

After the celebrants and ushers commune, the ushers will direct you forward to the serving stations.

Take the bread, dip in the cup, and eat. If you need to receive seated in your pew please notify an usher.)

*HYMNS DURING COMMUNION: # 347, 624, 632, 635

PRAYER FOR LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS *(unison)*

Gracious God, we remember the apostolic Church which sent representatives from the Lord’s table to those unable to be present. Bless and assist these lay visitors who continue this ministry. Nourish and strengthen those to whom this sacrament is brought, that they may know the comfort of your presence and the love of this community of faith. This we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #636 “Christian People, Raise Your Song” Ave Virgo Virginum

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus” Hymnal #349
*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace.*

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

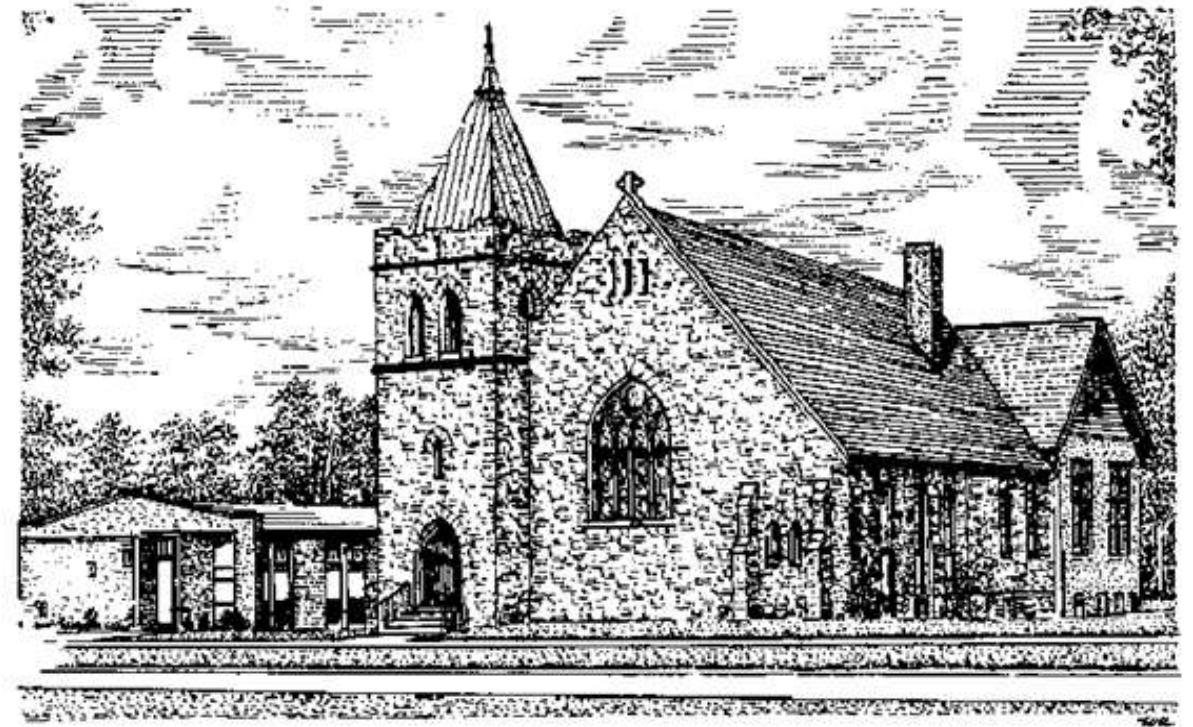
*POSTLUDE “March in G” G. Young
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS: Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

<i>Sunday, September 1</i>	PENTECOST XV 9:30 a.m. <i>Holy Communion – Sanctuary</i> 10:30 a.m. <i>Summer Punch Bowl - courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, September 2</i>	Labor Day Holiday – the church office is closed today. 7:00 p.m. <i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 3</i>	7:00 p.m. <i>Worship Committee – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 4</i>	6:30 p.m. <i>Bell Choir – Sanctuary</i> 7:45 p.m. <i>Adult Choir – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 5</i>	6:00 p.m. <i>Missions Committee – Gunn Library</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Pastors - Lay Leaders Meeting - Pastor's Study</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Board of Trustees – Egan Room</i>
<i>Saturday, September 7</i>	2 p.m. <i>Relay for Life begins</i>
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<i>Sunday, September 8</i>	PENTECOST XVI - RALLY DAY 7:00 a.m. <i>Relay for Life concludes</i> 9:00 a.m. <i>Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center</i> 10:00 a.m. <i>Worship – Sanctuary</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>Ice Cream Social hosted by the Sunday School</i>
<i>Monday, September 9</i>	7:00 p.m. <i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – The Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, September 10</i>	12:00 noon <i>Greater Bridgeport U.M. Cluster – Nichols UMC</i> 12:00 noon <i>UMW Meeting</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Disciple I Bible Study</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, September 11</i>	10:00 a.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i> 6:30 p.m. <i>Bell Choir – Sanctuary</i> 7:45 p.m. <i>Adult Choir – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, September 12</i>	7:00 p.m. <i>Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Gunn Library</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1843
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
THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
September 1, 2013

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S Milford Relay for Life is September 7th/8th. Team "Red Hot Mamas and Company" is accepting new members. To join the team or make a contribution, call Susan O'Shea at 203-494-5339, or email her at sueoshea@optonline.net or log on to www.relayforlife.org/milfordct. This year's theme is – Lights, Camera, Relay!

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST XVI — RALLY DAY! Sunday School resumes at 9 a.m. with registration and hospitality for students, parents and teachers. **Worship returns to its regular 10 a.m. time** and the Adult Choir returns. The message "You Oughta Warn People" will be based on Jeremiah 18:1-11 and Luke 14:25-33. 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!"

STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

ADULT BIBLE STUDY taught by Pastor Hal resume their sessions on Tuesday, Sept. 10 (7-8:30 p.m.) and Wed., Sept. 11 (10 – 11:30 a.m.) in the Gunn Library. This four-week study will run through Oct. 1-2 and focus on Second Peter, the three letters of John and Jude. Study guide is \$8. Those who studied in June and July with Pastor Brian already have this study book. Please sign up with Pastor Hal (203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@yahoo.com).

DISCIPLE 1 BIBLE STUDY starts September 10, 7 p.m. in the Wesley Center. If you have not registered consider doing so today! This 34 week course has been positively experienced by a number of our church members. The course meets Tuesdays from 7 – 9:15 p.m. and will conclude before Memorial Day, 2014. Please contact Pastor Brian brian.bodt@yahoo.com or 203.874.1982, ext. 11; or speak with Don Hastings.

CONFIRMATION will begin September 17 at 5:45 p.m. in the Wesley Center. A letter will be sent to known eligible youth prior to September 1 and notice posted in the September "Beacon." It will meet most Tuesdays from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. Youth eligible are entering 8th grade or older who have not yet been confirmed. See Pastor Brian for more details.

Grace Notes

September 1, 2013

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

Ah, weddings! If you've planned one you know some of the most taxing decisions are who gets invited and where they are seated. Heaven forbid that Aunt Brunhilde is seated next to her brother's child, whom she is sure is the prototype for the Prodigal Son.

Luckily, most weddings today assign seats and so are at little risk of the social impropriety Jesus speaks of in today's Gospel (Luke 14:1, 7-14 when, apparently, there was a bit of clamoring for the choicest seats. That said, just TRY to save a seat on the front row of your son or daughter's elementary school concert.

The question "Who's Invited?," today's sermon topic, is at once a no-brainer AND one of the hardest values for us to uphold as a faith community. Our historic Methodist commitment is that EVERYONE is welcome: at the Lord's table, in our churches, and here at Mary Taylor Memorial where we declare weekly on the cover of the liturgy "Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here."

Still, there is sometimes a subtle or even unconscious vetting that goes on among us based on the usual criterion: appearance and language first and the less visible things, like where we live and where we're from and what we do, later on. Jesus' command to throw a feast for those who can't pay you back is a challenge, but not insurmountable. Ask those who served at our Community Supper on the 22nd past; or who serve at Beth-el Center; or in countless other venues. Names on request.

Better still, labor and pray for the time that human distinctions do not distract us from seeing our neighbor as God sees them: as sinners redeemed and of inestimable worth. For its how God sees us, too.

Sincerely in Christ,
Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

E-mail: 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 Coordinators	Betty Laferriere and Nicole Ellerbeck		

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher –Nick Bettencourt

Greeters – Don and Mary Lou Hastings

Liturgist – Karyn Doherty

Communion Stewards – Karen Keane and Lorraine Thorpe

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP is Dr. Bodt at the Narthex door and Karyn Doherty at the Dodd Hall door.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are given for PopPop (Downing), Love, *Lillia*.

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. These prayers are included in our on-line prayer chain and Monday night Healing Service. Please also speak your concerns as invited during the prayer.

TODAY'S LITURGY is from Holy Scripture and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989).

SERMON NOTES (not a manuscript) from August 25 are available in the rear of the church and on-line: 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, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd Hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. *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 a parent or guardian.*

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 worship in the churchyard (weather permitting) or in Dodd Hall. Enjoy light summer refreshment hosted today by the Cono family. Next Sunday our Ice Cream Social will be hosted by the Sunday School.
- **UPCOMING OPEN ALTAR FLOWER DATES** include October 6, 13, & 27, November 17, and December 1, 8, 15 and 29. See Beth O'Brien today or contact her as listed under "Our Life in Prayer, Ministry and Mission."
- **NEED A NEW OR REPLACEMENT NAME TAG?** Please contact (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203.874.1982, ext. 10) with your request. **PLEASE KEEP NAME TAGS** on for Summer Punch Bowl and return them before leaving.
- **"FIX IT BOX"** is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.
- **SEE THE CALENDAR FOR THE WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.**
- **CHURCH SECURITY** must be foremost in our minds. If you are using the church or Wesley Center, **PLEASE REMEMBER TO LOCK UP WHEN YOU LEAVE.** Someone gained access to Dodd Hall through an unlocked door, and misused one of the restrooms. Let's keep our facilities clean and safe by remembering to lock up!

THIS WEEK

THE FALL SCHEDULE IS HEATING UP! Please read the "Beacon," our monthly newsletter, mailed this past Wednesday with extra copies in church today. Note the resumption of many committees and ministries. Where will YOU serve Christ this fall?

CHOIR REHEARSALS RESUME WEDNESDAY! Consider joining one of our choirs! Speak to Dr. Riccardi this morning or come this Wednesday! New musicians are welcome.

Bell Choir – 6:30 p.m. rehearsal in the sanctuary, for older youth and adults, rings about four times a year

Adult Choir – 7:45 p.m. rehearsal in Dodd Hall for older youth and adults, sings weekly at 10 a.m. worship

BULLETIN NOTICES FOR SEPTEMBER 8th are due by Noon on Wed., September 4th, hard copy to the church office or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

SAVE THE DATES

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP KICK-OFF: Sunday, Sept. 15, 5-7 p.m. at the Georgelos', 80 Pine Knob Terrace, Milford. All youth grades 7-12 welcomed!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MEETINGS

- First of the Fall: Tues., Sept. 10, Noon, Wesley Center. All women of the church welcome. Bring a sack lunch.
- **CLUB 80 LUNCHEON:** Tuesday, Sept. 17, Noon, Dodd Hall. Men 80 and older welcomed, too!
- **UNITED METHODIST WOMEN DOUBLEHEADER, Tuesday, October 8:** regular meeting at noon; meeting for women who work during the day, 7 p.m. Details from Joan Zauner at 203.283.5643 or jzauner@yahoo.com.

OTHER MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SERVE IN THE CHURCH? Interested in doing something for God? The Committee on Nominations and Leadership is currently meeting to prepare to staff our committees for 2013. Those nominated will stand for election at Church Conference on November 21st. If you'd like to know what some of the venues are in which to serve, please contact Pastor Brian (brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.895.3753) or any member of the committee: Chris Carveth (203-795-9015), Deb Dubien (203-877-4959), Susan O'Shea (203-874-5136), Laura Perregaux (203-283-5758), Brenda Pineau (203-783-9039), Edie Reichard (203-882-0683), Jim Repetsky (203-874-8688) and Bob Volgmuth (203-878-8190).

INTERESTED IN JOINING MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL CHURCH?

Preparation and reception of new members will be held the Sundays of October. New member orientation sessions will be held Sundays after worship, 11:30 – 1 p.m. on October 6, 13 and 20 in the Pastor Brian's study. New members will be received on Sunday, October 27.

Letters will be sent in early September to people we know, or believe we know, have interest in joining. If you do not receive such a letter by September 15, please call the church office (203.874.1982, ext. 10) or Pastor Brian (ext. 11) to indicate your interest in participating.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

REGULAR OFFICE HOURS resume this week: Tuesday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. We are closed tomorrow for Labor Day. If Wesley Center is locked, call Mary Lou at 203.874.1982 or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753).

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: Dog and cat food is **desperately needed for seniors with pets**. Please leave food items in the back of the church or take to the Milford Animal Shelter at Silver Sands State Park.

ALTAR FLOWERS ORDERS are taken at any time for Altar Flowers OR "In Lieu of Flowers" to support missions (UMCOR, UM Army and others – please see info. table in back of church for list). **A donation in lieu of altar flowers is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf placed on the altar.* Please contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net or Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: Pastor Brian (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@yahoo.com. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations.

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 25:

Total worship attendance all services:103 (Aug. 25: 97 Healing and Wholeness Aug. 26: 7; Total Offering: \$3,532; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$7; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 6 (Long Range Planning); Total number persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 79 (Wesley Village 5k, 5; March on Washington, 8; Community Supper, 66); **Important! Small Groups – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or call (203.874.1982) with your attendance.*

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.