

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 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

“Rock of Ages”

D. Hegarty

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT

“Freely, Freely”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Exodus 15:2, 18 (ed.)

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my might, and he has become my salvation;

People: *this is my God to whom belongs glory and praise!*

ALL: *The Lord will reign forever and ever.*

*HYMN #2169

“God, How Can We Forgive”

rear cover

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(unison)*

Almighty God, your scripture declares that “this is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.” As we worship you this morning, help us to keep our focus on you, leaving behind whatever distractions that keep us from loving and praising you. Help us to keep our eye on Jesus, the cross, and the depth of his redeeming love toward us. In so doing, may our lives as well as our lips be formed to sing your praise. Amen.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE *(seated)*

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.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We’re sorry, Lord. Not the “oops” kind of sorry when we bump a neighbor in the check-out line. But deep-down sorry: the kind of regret that wakes us up at night because we know we messed up. Maybe not today. But some day—past, present or future—we’re sorry, Lord. So help us to be sorry enough to quit, with your help, whatever it is that we did wrong, or failed to do right. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Genesis 50:15-21

Bible p.47

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #170

“O How I Love Jesus”

O How I Love Jesus

*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21-35

Bible p.896

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON

“What Does It Take to Forgive?”

Dr. Bodt

HYMN #390 *(seated)*

“Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive”

Detroit

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:

“Make Me A Channel of Your Peace”

arr. by J. Holstein

*Presentation:

“All Things Come of Thee, O Lord”

Hymnal #588

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #368

“My Hope is Built”

The Solid Rock

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Hymnal #389

*God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name, I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name,
And in Jesus’ name I come to you, to share his love as he told me to.
He said, “Freely, freely you have received, freely, freely give.
Go in my name, and because you believe, other will know that I live.”*

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

*POSTLUDE

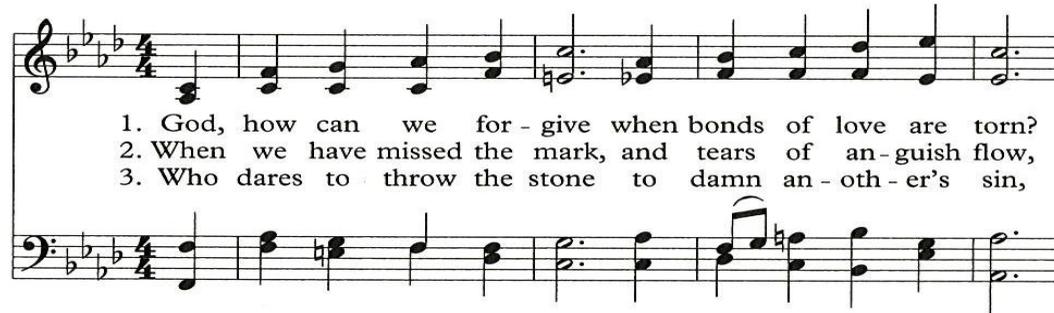
“Ayre”

J. Clarke

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

2169 God, How Can We Forgive



1. God, how can we for - give when bonds of love are torn?
 2. When we have missed the mark, and tears of an - guish flow,
 3. Who dares to throw the stone to damn an - oth - er's sin,



How can we rise and start a - new, our trust re - born?
 how can you still re - lease our guilt, the debt we owe?
 when you, while know - ing all our past, for - give a - gain?



When hu - man lov - ing fails and ev - ery hope is gone,
 The o - cean depth of grace sur - pass - es all our needs.
 No more we play the judge, for by your grace we live.

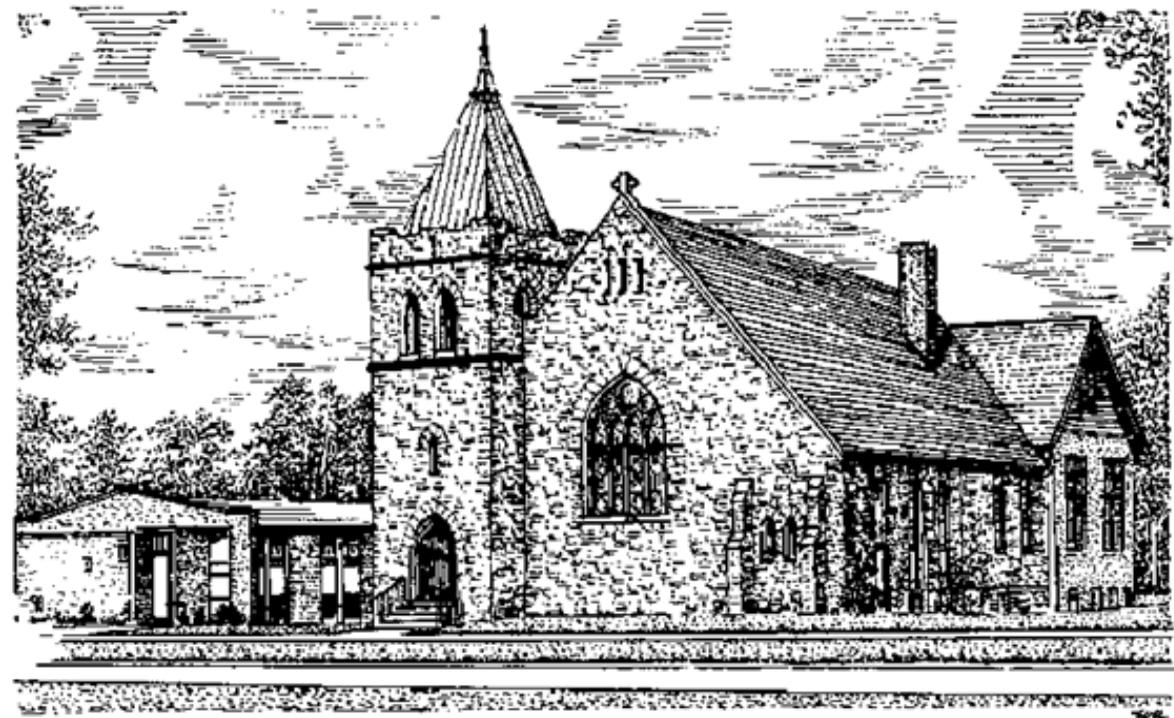


your love gives strength be - yond our own to face the dawn.
 A priest who shares our hu - man pain, Christ in - ter - cedes.
 As you, O God, for - give our sin, may we for - give.

WORDS: Ruth Duck (Matt. 6:12-15; 18:21-35; John 8:2-11)

MUSIC: Hebrew melody, *Sacred Harmony*; harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, alt.

Words © 1996 The Pilgrim Press

LEONI
66.84 D

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
September 14, 2014

Grace Notes
September 14, 2014



Dear Mary Taylor Memorial community,

I know the Church is a community of people with "clay feet:" that is, we are not perfect, and the gap between our ideals and our practice is sometimes excruciating.

That said, I also think the Church is unique among institutions in that it is a place where we admit our imperfections. We grant to one another the grace that God, in Jesus Christ, grants to us. Or, putting it in slang, we give one another some "slack."

None of this is to imply that we sacrifice high expectations of ourselves or that God ceases to have high expectations of us. It is simply to say that with high expectations comes the risk of high disappointment. Yet few of us would choose the opposite, reflected in the jaundiced lament: "Have low expectations and you'll never be disappointed."

I love to tell the story of my interview (April, 2012) before my appointment as your pastor. Our Superintendent said some complimentary things about me and my ministry but cautioned, "However, there are no guarantees." Later in the conversation I said, "I want to respectfully disagree with one thing our Superintendent said. If you agree with our Bishop that I am to be appointed here, I CAN guarantee one thing." I paused, concluding, "I guarantee that if I am appointed here you will not have a perfect pastor." I wish I could say differently but I have kept my guarantee!

So, let us clay-footed people, pastors and laity, continue to grow in grace and in the practice of giving and receiving the forgiveness of Christ.

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

Interim Bishop

The Rev. Dr. Neil Irons

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 – Stacey Riccardi

Greeters – Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs

Acolytes – Julianna Patterson and Amanda Repetsky

Bible Bearer – Stefano Cono

Cross Bearer - Kayleigh Patterson

Liturgist – Ryan Lapadula

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP is Pastor Brian and Ryan Lapadula.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in celebration of Faye Zeiner's birthday today, and Reverend Hal Vink's birthday tomorrow.

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 Faith We Sing (2000). The Prayer of the Day and Unison Prayer of Confession were written by the Pastor.

SERMON COPIES from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or 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.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, September 14

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center

10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Dodd Hall

*4:30 p.m. MYF kick-off carpool departs for Pastor's home
11 Prospect Road, Woodbridge*

Monday, September 15

BEACON Information Due

7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel

7:00p.m. UMW-Dodd Hall Club 80 prep

12:00 p.m. UMW Club 80 Luncheon – Dodd Hall

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan Room, Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Disciple 3-Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library

7:00 p.m. Extravagant Generosity meeting –Pastor's study

Wednesday, September 17

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall

7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall

Thursday, September 18

6:30 p.m. MTMUMC Foundation Meeting – Gunn Library

7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall Alcove

Friday, September 19

10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library

Sunday, September 21

9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center

9:45 a.m. Informal Hymn singing-Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

10:45a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings - Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Dodd Hall

3:00 p.m. Summer Play Date-Boothe Park, Stratford

7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel

Monday, September 22

Tuesday, September 23

5:30 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan Room, Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Disciple 3 – Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study – Library, Wesley Center

7:00 p.m. Nominating Committee – Pastor's study

Wednesday, September 24

9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers- Egan Room, Wesley Center

10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Library, Wesley Center

5:30 p.m. Golden Hill Community Supper-Bridgeport

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall

7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall

Thursday, September 25

5:30 p.m. MTMUMC Community Supper-Dodd Hall

7:00 p.m. Worship Committee meeting-Gunn Library

7:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism meeting – Egan Room

Friday, September 26

10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers-Gunn Library

6:00 p.m. Historical Society meeting – Dodd Hall

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.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, please call the office (203.874.1982) or ring the Broad Street doorbell. 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.

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@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: 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.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 7th:

Total worship attendance all services: 159 (September 7, 153 Healing and Wholeness, September 8th: 6) Total Offering September 7: \$12,201.00; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts: \$7,050.00.00. Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups 79; Office Volunteers: 4; Disciple 3, 14; Adult Bible Study-Tuesday 5; Adult Bible Study-Wednesday 11; UMW 20; Adult Choir, 16; Bell Choir, 9; 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) 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!

THE "LIFT US UP!" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN continues discussions and visitations with our church family throughout the month of Sept. A table in Dodd Hall after church today has pledge cards and additional reading material for your review. Maryanne Petremont, Missy Hackett and Ann Loesch will be on hand to answer any questions you may have. If you are not available after church, please contact Tom Beyer (203.525.2265; tom.beyer@cort.com) or Rachel Merva (203.641.5088; rmerva@optonline.net) if you'd like to receive a pledge card and/or additional presentation materials. Thanks!

MYF KICK OFF POT LUCK, TODAY 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”). See any MYF leader for more details.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

COMMUNICATION DEADLINES FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15:

October Beacon articles: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or hard copy to the church office

Church Council reports: paul.downing@snet.net

Church Council agenda items: m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com or 203.874.4466 OR brian.bodt@yahoo.com or 203.874.1982, ext. 11

BISHOP MCLEE FUNERAL: Resident Bishop of the New York Annual Conference Bishop McLee died last Saturday, September 6. The funeral service will be held Monday, September 15 at 11:00 am at the Riverside Church in Manhattan (490 Riverside Dr., New York, NY). Viewing will be from 8:30 am until 10:30 am at the Riverside Church. We are deeply grateful for his spiritual leadership. Your prayers for his family, churches, and the members of the New York Annual Conference will be greatly appreciated. Bus service is available for \$20 at 7:30 a.m. from First UMC, 188 Rocky Rest Rd., Shelton. Reserve by emailing to ctdistrict@nyac-umc.com.

CLUB 80 LUNCHEON, this Tuesday, Sept. 16, Noon, in Dodd Hall. 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 to let us know if you are coming and/or need a ride.

CONFIRMATION BEGINS this Tuesday, Sept. 16th, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Letters were sent August 28th and Sept. 2nd echoing the details in the Sept. “Beacon,” page 3. If you have not seen these communications please contact the church office for details. Parents or guardians expected at the first class.

NEXT SUNDAY

WORSHIP: “*God’s Mountainous Grace*” is the message based on Exodus 16:2-15 and Matthew 20:1-16. We resume informal hymn singing on the third Sunday of the month beginning at 9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. Sunday School teachers will be dedicated during the morning worship. A Stewardship Spotlight is planned. Following worship blood pressure screenings will be held in the sanctuary, and “Fair on the Green “ meets in Wesley Center.

FAIR ON THE GREEN Committee Chairs will be meeting for an end of year wrap up following service on September 21, 2014 (11:15 a.m.). Grab a bite to eat and join us downstairs in Wesley Center. We will discuss how things went and changes we would like to see for 2015. See you all there!! Questions? Contact Edie Reichard at 203-882-0683 or ereichard@juno.com.

LAST “DROP-IN” PLAYDATE: next Sun., Sept. 21, 3 p.m. at Boothe Park Main Playground, 5774 Main Street, Stratford. See Cathy Cono (203.645.2362) or Liz Kingsley (203.247.3465) for details or more information.

SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING: 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 4:30 p.m. or Wednesday September 24th at 7 p.m. 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 or C: 203-645-2362.

MINISTRIES IN PROCESS

COLLEGE CONNECTION is back again. If you have a student in College and would like them to receive a personal note and a little something from Mary Taylor please contact Michelle Craig with their name and address. Michelle can be reached at 203-877-4332 or michellemtmumc@gmail.com. Deadline is October 12, 2014.

ALTAR FLOWER AND MISSION CROSS ORDERS may be placed with Beth O’Brien at 203.877.8668 or 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.

COMING SOON

NEXT COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT: Wednesday, September 24th, 2:30 – 5 p.m. We prepare the meal, led by Maryanne Meehan Jordan and Bob Jordan. We need 6 – 8 people and anyone 13 or in the 7th grade or older may serve. It helps if we have a few younger, stronger people to lift pots and pans, but all are welcomed and will be put to good service. Please let Maryanne know if you can help this month: mjbmj@att.net, 203.610.4936 (cell) or 203.268.8850 (home). Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector.

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC: We are recruiting help now for the next supper, Thursday, September 25, any portion of 2 – 6:30 p.m. If you can help, contact Deb Dubien at (203-877-4959).

MYF SEPTEMBER NEWS: Sunday September 28, 4-6 p.m.: We will hold our annual “Mission Possible” event in Dodd Hall; we will discuss MYF activities and mission projects for the year. Contact person for this event is Kate; 203-878-5388 (kite1220@sbcglobal.net). If you are new to MYF or your e-mail address has changed, please send an e-mail to kite1220@sbcglobal.net to make sure you get on our e-mail list!!

MISSIONS FALL FUNDRAISER will begin soon. This year the Mission Committee will again sell **Lyman Orchard pies**. Orders will be taken beginning September 28 through October 19 with delivery just in time for Thanksgiving on November 15. Let us help you save time with your baking for the holidays and supporting the Mission projects of this church.

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 5, 12 and 19 in the Pastor Brian’s study. New members will be received on Sunday, October 26.

Letters were sent in mid- September to people we know, or believe we know, have interest in joining. If you have not received such a letter by the time you read this and desire to join the church, please call the church office (203.874.1982, ext. 10) or Pastor Brian (ext. 11) to indicate your interest in participating.

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.

