

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 “Abide With Me” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Place At The Table”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The world belongs to God.

People: The world and all its people.

Leader: How good and lovely it is to live together in unity!

People: Love and faith come together; justice and peace join hands.

Leader: Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise!

*HYMN #620 “One Bread, One Body”

OPENING PRAYER (*unison*)

Eternal God, we join with our siblings around the world in remembering Christ’s sacrifice for us. We give you thanks and praise for the opportunity to eat and drink together and for the life we share. In the abundance of your many gifts, grant us grace to fill one another’s lives with love. Redeem, restore, and remold us until we are made new. Transform our daily bread into the bread of life, and the cup that we drink into the cup of salvation. We pray in Jesus; name. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Led By Love, B, mod.*)

God has called us – not to a set of beliefs – but to a relationship of trust. We are drawn to the Spirit whose will for us is life at its fullest, attuned to all that is good and true. We are embraced by the gospel of peace. Let us confess now when we have looked elsewhere for our guidance and fulfillment outside of God’s grace.

UNISON PRAYER CONFESSION Adapted from a prayer of the Corrymeela Community in Northern Ireland.

God of compassion and mercy, we are your wounded and wounding children. We bring our wounded selves, our divided society, and our broken world, seeking your healing and transforming grace. It is easy for us to point the finger at others, yet we know that we all need your forgiveness. So, we lift into your presence today, not only the victims of conflicts, but also those we have called enemies. Break down the walls of hatred, distrust and bitterness and open a way for us to reach one another in truth and love. Enable us to build a

society where all can belong, to share our gifts in mutual respect, and to seek for the new future which you offer us; through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (*Rev. Mindi, rev-o-lution.org, mod*)

Leader: There is nothing that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. There is nothing we can do that will keep us from God. We are a forgiven people. The chains of guilt and shame have been broken and we are free – free to go and share the Good News!

People: Thanks be to God!

°°°

*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.*)

CHILDREN’S TIME Pastor Kristina

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Job 1:1, 2:1-10

1 There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil...

2 One day the heavenly beings^[a] came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan^[b] also came among them to present himself before the LORD. **2** The LORD said to Satan,^[c] “Where have you come from?” Satan^[d] answered the LORD, “From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.” **3** The LORD said to Satan,^[e] “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason.” **4** Then Satan^[f] answered the LORD, “Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives.^[g] **5** But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face.” **6** The LORD said to Satan,^[h] “Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life.”

7 So Satan^[i] went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. **8** Job^[j] took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

9 Then his wife said to him, “Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse^[k] God, and die.” **10** But he said to her, “You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Footnotes:

- a. Job 2:1 Heb sons of God
- b. c, d, e, f, h, I, Job 2:1 Or the Accuser; Heb ha-satan
- g. Job 2:4 Or All that the man has he will give for his life
- j. Job 2:8 Heb He
- k. Job 2:9 Heb Bless

STEWARDSHIP SCRIPTURE Ephesians 2:19-22

2 ¹⁹ So now you are no longer strangers and aliens. Rather, you are fellow citizens with God's people, and you belong to God's household. ²⁰ As God's household, you are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ The whole building is joined together in him, and it grows up into a temple that is dedicated to the Lord. ²² Christ is building you into a place where God lives through the Spirit.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

*HYMN #507

"Through It All"

THE SERMON

FAITH IN THE FACE OF CHALLENGES

Rev. Hansen

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: *Hear our prayer.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian)

(see insert)

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

The Lego Prayer

Corrine Macdonald

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem:

"Remember"

L. Story

*Presentation:

"The Doxology"

Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #630

"Become to Us the Living Bread"

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

(See Insert)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of glory, we give you thanks

for this feast of your goodness and grace.

Send us out to share the bread of life

with all – and all means all – who hunger for your love;

through Jesus Christ our living Lord. Amen.

*HYMN #431

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

*THE BENEDICTION

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

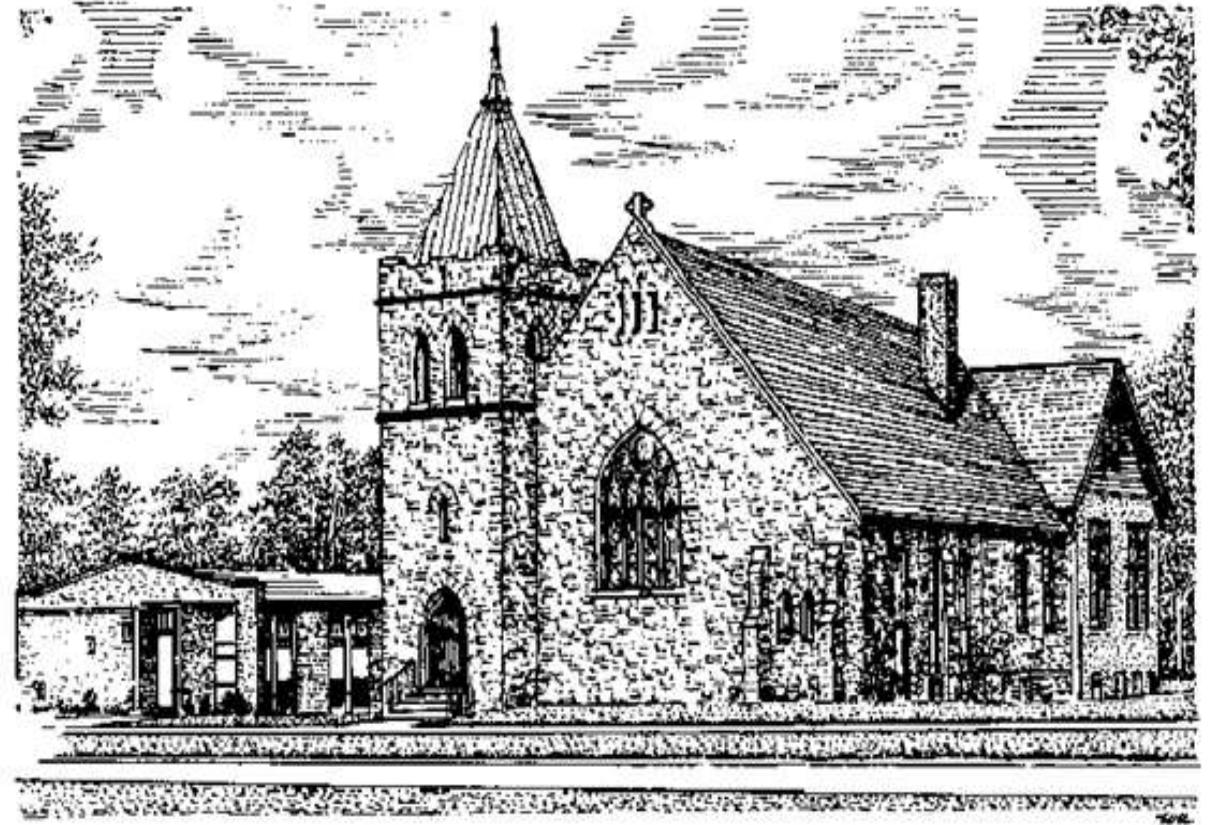
POSTLUDE

"Toccata"

M. Leclerc

(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

Nested Ghana Emmanuel U.M. Church: 2016-2018

*Whoever you are, wherever you are
on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

20th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 7, 2018

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973
 Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC
 E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Bickerton
Co-Lay Leader	Shelly Lapadula	Superintendent	The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester
Co-Lay Leader	Beth O'Brien	Pastor	The Rev. Kristina Hansen
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Outreach Pastor	Dani Levine
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Sexton	Andy Thomas	Pastor of Healing Ministries	The Rev. Cynthia Dodd
Child Care Coordinator	Laura A. Brennan	Theologian-in-Residence:	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
		Theologian-in-Residence:	The Rev. Dr. Judith F. Bennett

Grace Notes
 October 7, 2018

THE BOOK OF JOB POSES 2 QUESTIONS:

1. "Why do bad things happen to good people?"
2. "How do faithful people respond when bad things happen?"

Consider today how you have answered these questions in the past.

- Is God inviting you to a new understanding?
- Is God inviting you to a new faithful response?

We ask these questions of ourselves on Sunday, October 7, as we celebrate World Communion Sunday—a day when Christians around the world receive communion as an act of unity.

We ask these questions in the midst of much bad happening to good people on this earth: war, famine, disease, violence.



May we ask these questions with ears to hear a good word – a word of hope.

Blessings on the journey,

Rev. Kristina Hansen, Pastor

AT WORSHIP TODAY

7th Annual MILFORD 5K Trick or Trot Run/Walk

Saturday, October 27, 2018

To Benefit the Beth-El Center of Milford
 The Beth-El Center is a recognized leader in caring for and meeting the needs of the hungry and homeless and strives to prevent and end homelessness. It serves individuals and families by providing temporary shelter and feeds up to 75 persons daily in the soup kitchen. To learn more, visit www.bethelmilford.org.

Join us for a Worthy Cause

- Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. at Lisman Landing, Milford, CT
- Kids FUN RUN Begins at 8:45 a.m.
- Race Begins at 9:00 a.m.
- Wear your favorite Halloween costume, form a team
- Best costume prizes
- Breakfast after the race
- Music by the Elwoods
- Awards to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place male and female winners by age group
- Questions? Send an e-mail to info@milfordtrickortrot.com

Registration

\$27.00 pre-registration fee receives a race number and t-shirt. \$30.00 fee for same day registration.

Please make checks payable to "Milford Trick or Trot".

To register, please fill in the form below and mail to:
 Milford Trick or Trot
 P.O. Box 427
 Milford, CT 06460.

Or Register online at www.milfordtrickortrot.com.

All participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item as a donation to the Beth-El Center.

Sponsored by

HARLOW, ADAMS & FRIEDMAN, P.C.

SIKORSKY CREDIT UNION

7th Annual Milford Trick or Trot 5K Run/Walk - Registration Form

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Male Female Age: _____ Shirt Size: S M L XL XXL

Age on race day

Release: I know that participating in this fitness event is a potentially hazardous activity. I will not enter and compete unless I am medically able and properly trained. I assume all risks with participating in this event, including but not limited to falls, contact with other participants effects of the weather including high heat, humidity, traffic, and the conditions of the course. I legally waive and release any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against Beth-El and their representatives, successors, assigns and sponsors for any and all injuries suffered by me at this event. I also grant permission of photographs, video footage and other record of this event for legitimate purposes. I know that dogs, bicycles, and inline skates are not allowed on the course. Participants under the age of 18 require signature of parent or guardian. It is illegal to give your bib to anyone else. Only the registered person can use this bib. Transferring a bib will result in disqualification for both parties and will void all waiver language and insurance claims.

Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

MTot 2018

Head Usher: Stacey Riccardi **Greeters:** Virginia and Bob McNair
Liturgist: Barbara Ann Griggs **Bible Bearer:** Avery Shamansky
Cross Bearer: Marshall Firmender **Acolytes:** Julia Shamansky
Communion Stewards: Sandy Marren and Stacey Cronk
Communion Celebrants: Pastor Kristina Hansen, Pastor Dani Levine, Barbara Ann Griggs and Co-Lay Leader Shelly Lapadula.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Cathy Cono's birthday on October 8th.

A MISSION CROSS HAS BEEN PLACED and three donations have been made; to UMCOR in celebration of the life of John McNair given by his family; to UMCOR in celebration of 49 years of being married to my best friend, given by Judy Darak; and to UMARMY to the Glory of God, given by Edie Reichard.

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 the east (left) side aisle. **RESTROOMS** are in Dodd Hall (behind the altar). **PARENTS are respectfully urged to accompany their children** as required by our Safe Sanctuary policy. **PLEASE RE-ENTER** the sanctuary by the east side aisle.

TODAY'S LITURGY is based on Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), and The Faith We Sing (2000), and as noted in the bulletin.

ITEMS OF INTEREST



On October 13th and 14th, the 16th annual Harp Guitar Gathering will be meeting at MTMUMC. People from all over the US (as well as from Canada, Europe and sometimes Japan) gather once a year to play and learn more about this amazing instrument and to generally have a lot of fun! Last year's Gathering was in California and next year's will be in North Carolina – so see them while they are here! **There will be two public performances here in our sanctuary.**

The Concert is on Saturday night at 8 pm and will feature 6-8 players, each playing several tunes. **The Recital is on Sunday afternoon at 3 pm** and will feature more players, each playing 1 or 2 tunes.

Tickets are \$10 each and may be purchased in advance by seeing Nancy Bennett or call her at 203- 530-0176, or they can be purchased at the door. Hope to see you there!

What is the Harp Guitar Gathering's connection to Mary Taylor Memorial? Stephen Bennett, the founder of the Gathering, is son of Judy Bennett and husband of Nancy Bennett. He will be one of the performers. On Sunday morning, another harp guitarist, Muriel Anderson, will be with us during worship to offer some special music during the Offertory.



October 19-20, 2018 at Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

The Nutmeg Dulcimer Festival is held every October in southern Connecticut. We are a Friday-Saturday festival, with a full program of workshops for hammered and mountain dulcimer players of all levels. In addition, concerts both evenings are open to the general public; tickets are available at the door. **Friday night's concert is at 7:30 pm – Saturday's concert is at 7:00 pm.**

We believe that hammered dulcimers and mountain dulcimers are among the world's most wonderful musical instruments. They're fun to play, and fun to listen to. They belong in both folk music and popular music. Our mission is to bring dulcimers and dulcimer music into public awareness.

ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE is Sunday, November 4th. We will again remember the names of those dear to us at Mary Taylor Memorial Church who have died since the last All Saints (November 5, 2017). We will do our best to cull an accurate list of these names from our bulletins and funeral records, but welcome your help. Please email Mary Lou in the office at mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or 203-874-1982, ext. 110, the name of your loved one you wish to be remembered **not later than Wednesday, October 30th.**

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, October 7</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center-Family Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Java for the Journey – is invited to join Family Chapel today</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Community Supper meeting-Sanctuary-Deb Dubien contact</i>
	<i>2:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Youth Meeting – Youth Lounge 2-4pm</i>
<i>Monday, October 8</i>		<i>The Office is Closed in observance of Columbus Day</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership & Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, October 9</i>	<i>Noon</i>	<i>UMW noon gathering – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Pastor Kristina – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
<i>Wednesday, October 10</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Pastor Kristina – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Sound Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals – CANCELLED</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Sound System Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Thursday, October 11</i>	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Missions meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Prayer Shawl meeting – Wesley Center 1st floor</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, October 12</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, October 13</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Harp Guitar event – Wesley Center/Dodd Hall/Sanctuary</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>8:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Harp Guitar concert - Sanctuary</i>
<i>Sunday, October 14</i>	<i>8:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Java for the Journey (Adult Class with Coffee!) – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Second Sunday Soup Sale – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Gay Pride Flag Meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>3:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Harp Guitar Concert – Sanctuary- Nancy Bennett contact</i>
<i>Monday, October 15</i>		<i>Beacon Information is Due Today</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, October 16</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Pastor Kristina – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
<i>Wednesday, October 17</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Bible Study with Pastor Kristina – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.</i>	<i>Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, October 18</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Gay/Straight Alliance meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, October 19</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Nutmeg Dulcimer Concert – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Saturday, October 20</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group – Chapel</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Nutmeg Dulcimer Concert – Sanctuary</i>

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME IS HOSTED by Holly Firmender and Sue Pitre. Next week’s hosts are United Methodist Women A-M.



EQUAL EXCHANGE FAIR TRADE COFFEE, TEA AND CHOCOLATE ON SALE OCT. 7
The UMCOR Coffee Project is a collaboration between Equal Exchange and the United Methodist Committee on Relief to involve more Methodist communities in supporting small farmers around the world. For every pound of fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea, and foods Methodists purchase through the UMCOR Coffee Project, 15 cents per pound goes to UMCOR’s Small Farmer Fund.

Any profit that may be made from this sale will go to Missions. For additional information, contact Christine McGregor at 203-932-0792 or cjmcgregor50@hotmail.com.

COMMUNITY SUPPER MEETING TODAY 11:30 in the sanctuary. There will be a short meeting for all current volunteers. If you wish to join this ministry, please come and learn about how we serve the local community each month on the 4th Thursday. We will be discussing the upcoming month's dinner schedules, and planning for the Thanksgiving Day dinner. If you have questions, contact Debbie Dubien, 203-449-4601.

OUR GAY-STRAIGHT ALLIANCE (GSA), in its on-going work of education and advocacy, has produced a brochure designed to help educate our congregation on current terms used in discussion of sexual orientation and gender identity. The brochure is available in the spinner racks and from any GSA member wearing a rainbow-colored lanyard. These members also welcome conversation with you about this part of our ministry. Feel free to speak with them.

BEACON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We could use several more volunteers to help on a monthly basis with assembly and mailing of our monthly “Beacon” newsletter. We usually meet the 4th Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. to approximately 11:00 a.m. in Wesley Center.

Please let Mary Lou in the office know if you are interested in joining the team. Our next mailing is Wednesday, October 24th in the Egan room in Wesley Center.

USHERS NEEDED - Would you like to be a welcoming part of worship? Consider joining the ushers. (It is a way to make new friends too!) See or contact Stacey Riccardi at 203-415-5558 or stacey.riccardi@comcast.net.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

SERMON COPIES from this week are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

NEXT SUNDAY

October 14 PENTECOST 21

- Rev. Kristina Hansen will preach the sermon “WHAT ELSE, LORD?” based on Exodus 20:1-17, Mark 10:17-31.
- **Stewardship Campaign: “Connecting with God and Each Other”.** Week 2: A Celebration of Connection: Celebration of what Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church is today.

Sunday, October 14, at 11:30. We hope you will attend a **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** and be a part of the conversation to be held in Dodd Hall immediately after our time of fellowship. We will be exploring *how to best express our identity as a Reconciling Church* and *what is best for our church regarding the placement of the Gay Pride flag (or any flags) in our sanctuary.* Be sure to read the articles in the October Beacon, “On Reconciling Church & Flags in the Sanctuary: A New Season at Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church,” and “Called to Make History.” If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Darak, Shelly Lapadula, or Beth O’Brien. Hope to see you there!

TRES DIAS-This fall there are two weekends of Tres Dias of Fairfield County!

October 11-14 is the Men's Weekend. November 8-11 is the Women's Weekend.

Tres Dias is a full three-day (Thursday evening through Sunday afternoon) experience which includes worship, fellowship, music, and activities to help strengthen your relationship with your fellow Christians, the Church and Jesus Christ.

Over thirty members of Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church have attended these weekends in the past and many have served as leaders. If you are interested in more details, please contact Beth O'Brien, 203-877-8668 or bgobrien11@opronline.net.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Our Blood Drive scheduled for Saturday, November 10th has been CANCELLED. The Red Cross is extremely short handed and is in the process of training more phlebotomists. To find a blood drive near you, go to www.redcrossblood.org and put in your zip code. You will find dates, times and locations.

CHARGE CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING –Sunday, December 9th –4:00 p.m. at Monroe UMC. This is a must attend meeting for everyone who calls MTMUMC their church. This will be a cluster wide Charge Conference. Our district superintendent will be there to lead us. Details and directions to follow at a later date.

Charge Conference is our annual meeting which tells us where we’ve been this year and where we’re going next year. It also gives everyone an understanding of how people have served, how people have been involved and reminds us of the fun that we’ve had and the ministry that we have offered to our congregation, community and the world. See you there!

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

BULLETIN NOTICES are **due by noon Wednesday** for the weekly bulletin.

DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS. ***Beth O’Brien (203.877.8668 or bgobrien11@optonline.net)***. Flowers are \$20. Donations, in lieu of flowers, to support missions are honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf on the altar. Checks for both are payable to MTMUMC, mailed to Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460. **November 18 and December 2, 9, 23, 30 are open for altar flower orders.**

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. 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) with pastoral care needs and hospitalizations: **Pastor Kristina Hansen:** revkristina@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 111 or 203.895.3753 cell, or **Pastor Dani Levine:** dani.m.levine@gmail.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 115 or 203.927.9077 cell

“**FIX IT BOX**” is in Dodd Hall. See a need? Drop a completed form in the box.

WE HOST Alcoholics Anonymous, Gamblers Anonymous, Gam-Anon, and Recovery from Co-dependency (CODA) WEEKLY. Please call the church office at 203-874-1982 for the schedule or see it posted on the bulletin boards, our Yahoo Groups and on Facebook @mtmumc.

PLEASE NOTE: During a medical or other emergency the Head Usher or a designee will call #911. Please do not call or text #911 on your cell phone as multiple calls may delay response.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR September 30th

Total worship attendance all services: 111; Sept. 30: 105; Oct.1: Healing and Wholeness: 6; Total Offerings for Sept. 30: \$4,807.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 159; Sunday School: 28; Jesus Bible Study: 8; Methodist Bible Study: Tues.:12; Wed.:12; Community Supper: 67; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 21; Office Volunteers: 2; 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.

World Communion

COMMUNION

L: The Lord be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: Beloved, God has created you for faithful living.

(Break Bread)

The juice around the world will also be different. For many it will be wine, some will have juice, some will celebrate with water that had to be carried from a dirty well some miles away. Some will use individual cups, others fancy goblets, still others have been passing around whatever cup was in the home where they were meeting. Still, it represented the blood of the covenant in their place and in their communities, just as it does in ours.

(Pour Cup)

Let us pray, **Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, we thank you for this sacrament of communion shared with Christians around the world. Amen.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on these elements and on those who partake—that we may be your body, and the representation of your covenant in our lives and throughout the world. Amen.

Remember as you partake today that you are part of a great communion that extends around the world - a miracle and a blessing of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

The Lord's Prayer for World Communion

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
Thy kingdom come,

thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against
us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Spanish

Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo,
santificado sea tu nombre;
Venga a nosotros tu reino,

Portuguese

Hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como
en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,
Perdona nuestras ofensas,

Italian

Come noi li rimettiamo ai nostri
debitori.
E non ci indurre in tentazione,
Ma liberaci dal male.
And deliver us from evil.

ALL IN ENGLISH

For thine is the kingdom, and the power,

and the glory,
forever. Amen.

(Break Bread)

L: Join in songs of thanks and praise to our God.

P: We join with all who are here and throughout the world in praise.

It began last night – as you were going to bed – World Communion Sunday.

Asian Christians shared the bread and the wine. Churches in China met in secret so that they would not be arrested. Christians in the Middle East, some of whom have come to be Christians only by having dreams of Jesus, met under the watchful eye of the government as they celebrated the Eucharist. In Europe, Christians gathered in churches that used to be much fuller and celebrated the Lord's Supper. In Africa, the sacrament was celebrated in great numbers by a growing number of Christians, many of whom bare scars of persecution as they Commune together.

Those celebrating today include Presbyterians, Methodists, Catholics, Lutherans, Pentecostals, Baptists, thousands of other denominations, and even those without denominations.

Christ followers met both in public and in secret. Some met in freedom while others gathered under threat of persecution and death. Some take the sacrament today with organ music, others with simple singing, and still others in quiet so as not to be arrested.

In wealthy churches and in desperate poverty the sacrament is observed. In churches, homes, huts, and in God's creation this seal of the covenant was experienced. The bread is given to people that could overeat all day and to people who had no idea what they would eat or where they would get it today.

The one thing in common – **We all come to the same table of our Lord.**

In many different languages, by ordained clergy and volunteer pastors, something like these words of institution were given.

On the night He was betrayed Jesus took bread. And when he had given thanks and blessed it, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, **“This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup and gave it to His disciples, saying, **“This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Drink you all of it.”**

The bread broken around the world has been of many different types and colors. Some were created primarily from wheat, others from rice or other kinds of grain. Ours is gluten-free, dairy-free, soy-free, nut-free! Some will have bread left over. Some with very small pieces that could barely give every Christian there a morsel. Still, it represented the body of Christ broken, and sustained the body of Christ around the world today.

The juice around the world will also be different. For many it will be wine, some will have juice, some will celebrate with water that had to be carried from a dirty well some miles away. Some will use individual