

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 “Chorale Fughetta on ‘St. Anne’” G. Martin

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “Give Thanks”

*CALL TO WORSHIP *ministrymatters.com, mod*

Leader: God, we know you are with us. From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

People: God is with us now!

Leader: You have showered your love upon all generations, since the beginning of time.
From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

People: God is with us today!

Leader: Guide us now through this time of worship, and into the week ahead. From
everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

People: God is with us always!

*HYMN #2236 “Gather Us In” *(See Insert)*

OPENING PRAYER *(unison) ministrymatters.com, mod*

Lord, we remember the many ways in which you have helped and saved us, from generation to generation. Be with us this day as we listen for your word for us in our time. Touch our hearts with you healing mercy. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Gathered By Love, C, mod.)*

We bring our flawed lives to God, not so much to be made perfect, but to be whole. Let us confess our sins to God, trusting the One who builds joy from our despair.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, holy and eternal, you are unchanging and yet you always surprise us. We have known you forever, and yet you are always new to us. Your love is as old as time and as fresh as the morning dew. Your patience is unending and your faithfulness to us unmatched. You know our hearts – the times we have loved and the times we have merely tolerated one another. You know our minds – the times we have truly focused on you and times when we have used our intelligence for selfish purposes. You know our stories – the times we have followed you and the times we have gone astray. Forgive us and set us free to live lives marked by your grace. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News! We are forgiven people! We are free and empowered to love
God and to love others! **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.)*

CELEBRATION OF OUR PASTORS Edie Reichard

THE PSALTER Psalm 90 *(See Insert)*

STEWARDSHIP SCRIPTURE 2 Corinthians 8:1-5 CEB

8 Brothers and sisters, we want to let you know about the grace of God that was given to the churches of Macedonia. ²While they were being tested by many problems, their extra amount of happiness and their extreme poverty resulted in a surplus of rich generosity. ³I assure you that they gave what they could afford and even more than they could afford, and they did it voluntarily. ⁴They urgently begged us for the privilege of sharing in this service for the saints. ⁵They even exceeded our expectations, because they gave themselves to the Lord first and to us, consistent with God’s will.

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

*THE GOSPEL NRSV

34 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, ²all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, ³the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. ⁴The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” ⁵Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. ⁶He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. ⁷Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. ⁸The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended.

⁹Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD had commanded Moses.

¹⁰Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. ¹¹He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, ¹²and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

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

HYMN #117 “O God, Our Help In Ages Past”

THE SERMON

Whose Future Is It?

Rev. Hansen

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in your Mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*Litany of Commitment

(See Insert)

Offertory Anthem:

“The Power of Your Love”

arr. by D. Marsh

Presentation:

“The Doxology”

Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

(See Insert)

HYMN #399

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

(Let the anointers come forward during the hymn.)

A RITUAL OF PRAYER AND HEALING ANOINTING

*On the last Sunday of each month all are invited to come forward to receive prayer and optional healing anointing **for oneself or on behalf of another**. Please come by the center aisle and return by the side aisles. Stand or kneel (as able) at the Communion rail and speak name and need to the anointer. This ancient Church practice expresses God's love as a mysterious, caring expression of Christ's promise “I will be with you always.” Please remain in prayer until all have returned to their seats.*

THE BENEDICTION

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

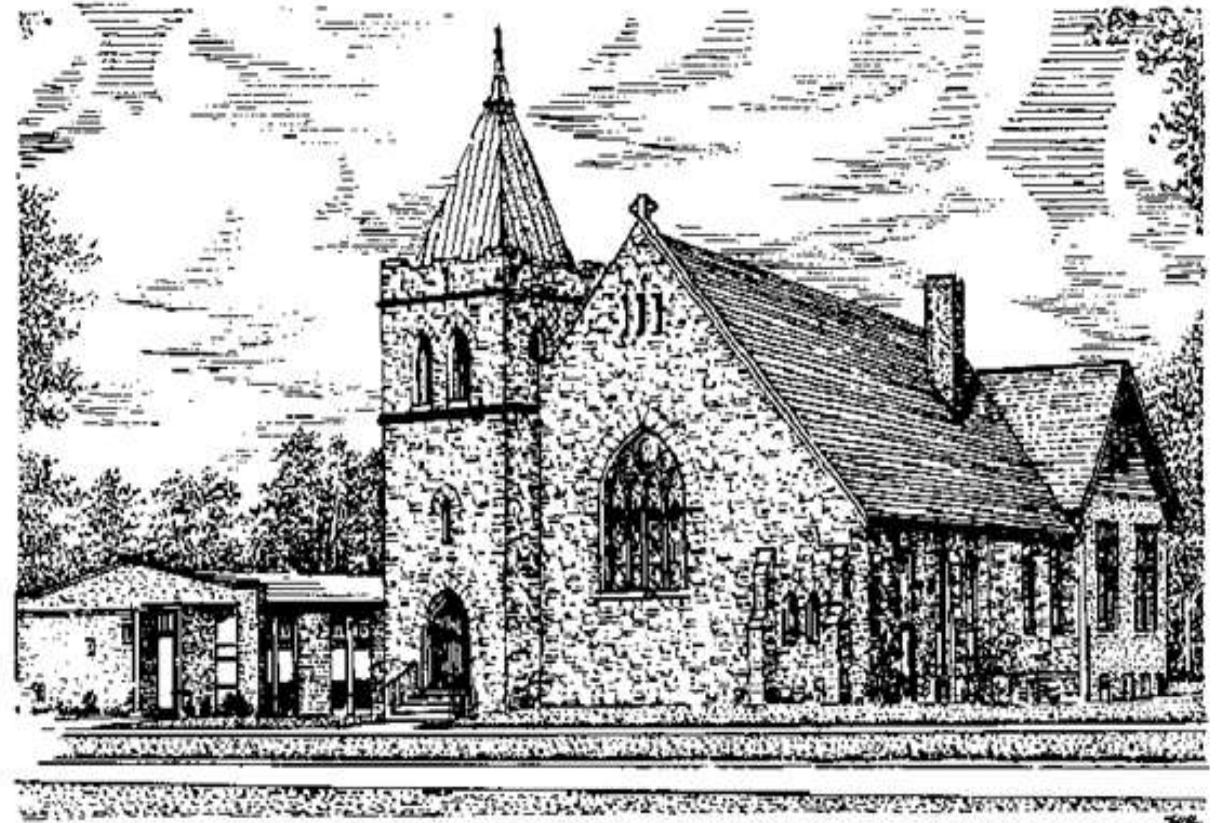
POSTLUDE

“Toccata on ‘St. Anne’”

G. Young

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

THE WORSHIP HAS 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*

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 28, 2018

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982 Fax: 203.877.8973

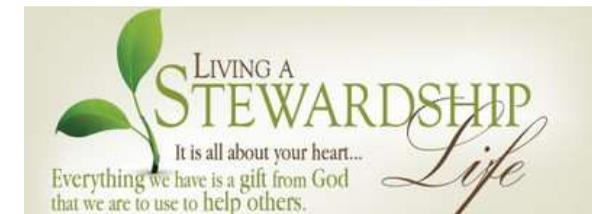
Website: www.mtm-umc.org www.facebook.com/MTMUMC

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 28, 2018



Welcome to Commitment Sunday! This is the Sunday that you will make your commitment to Mary Taylor Memorial UMC as the culmination of this year's **Stewardship Campaign: "Connecting with God and Each Other"**. I have personally enjoyed the creativity that your Stewardship & Finance Committees have put into their weekly worship offerings to help us make these connections; haven't you?!

They encouraged us to pray for each other as we celebrate our connection with one another. They reminded us of our part in "God's Household" – "Christ's Body" both here at MTMUMC and beyond our walls. Last week they asked us to reflect on our "Family Income" as if it was a cake – YUM! – and then prompted us to consider how we are slicing it up. They asked us,

"As you think of your 'cake' of family income, what connection does it have to God and to helping others?"

I personally love this question! Perhaps it's the first time I've asked in in terms of "cake", but I truly find it a meaningful and important question for me and my family each year. I hope you have found it equally compelling. To me, its implications go much further than a Stewardship *Month*; it makes me consider how I am living a Stewardship *Life*. With each year that I go deeper, I experience more blessing! I invite you to continue to reflect deeply on how you are blessed to be a blessing. I promise you, you won't be disappointed!

Blessings on the journey,

HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Frightening statistics reveal that Halloween is the deadliest night of the year for child pedestrians. The following are some safety tips.

- 1] Don't let young children trick or treat alone.
- 2] Plan out the route and go over safety precautions
- 3] See and be seen and have children wear costumes that don't obstruct their vision. Attach reflective tape on them if none comes with the costume.
- 4] Carry a flashlight
- 5] If driving your children make sure seat belts are on between stops. An accident can happen in a split second.

Halloween parties have become popular so follow simple guidelines.

- 1] Don't drink and drive.
- 2] Avoid neighborhood shortcuts where children are likely out trick or treating.
- 3] Slow down so you have more time to react if a child should run out in front of a vehicle.

Here's to a safe and fun holiday much beloved by children.

Submitted by:

Brenda Pineau R.N.



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Stacey Riccardi **Greeters:** Helene and Jerry Dellert
Liturgist: Bev Downing **Bible Bearer:** Dolly Bonisch
Cross Bearer: Frank Bonisch **Acolytes:** Shelly Lapadula and Nancy Bennett
Intercessor: Rev. Dodd
Healing Anointers: The anointing team

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Pastor Appreciation Sunday.

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 during 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.

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

ITEMS OF INTEREST

DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY this Saturday, October 27th

The safe disposal of unused and unwanted pharmaceutical drugs is a serious issue.. Keeping prescription drugs away from our precious environment and out the hands of others they were not intended for is a real concern.

Saturday, October 27th is National Drug Take-Back Day and once again, Milford will be taking part in this important effort. **The Milford Police Department** will set up a safe collection box for residents' use at the **Milford Senior Center on 9 Jepson Drive from 10:00am to 2:00pm.** You do not even have to step out of your car; just pull up and drop off in the Senior Center parking lot. What could be easier (and safer)?

*Note – if you cannot attend this Take-Back Day, the Milford Police Department has a drop off box in their lobby (430 Boston Post Road) that you can access 24 hours a day (year round).

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.**

A REQUIEM FOR ALL OUR DEPARTED will be offered by St. Peter's Episcopal Church on All Saints Sunday, Nov. 4, at five o'clock. The Service is offered to the entire Milford & Orange communities without charge, regardless of religious belief or associations. All are welcome, particularly those who have lost a loved one, whether recently or in the past. The Service is quiet and meditative, largely sung by the Choir, and is intended to provide comfort and strength to anyone struggling with grief or loss. St. Peter's is located at 71 River Street, Milford. There is ample parking on both sides of the street. For more information, please visit our website at www.stpetersmilford.org.

PRAYER BEAD MINISTRY WORKSHOP Saturday, November 10, 2018

10:00a.m. -12:00p.m. at First United Methodist Church, Shelton.

Please join us as we learn about prayer beads in different faith traditions and create prayer bead chaplets for those who need to feel the comfort of God's love. This workshop is open to anyone who is 12 years old and up. Handicapped accessible. Refreshments provided. A free will offering will be accepted.

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, October 28</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</i>
<i>Pastor Appreciation</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Java for the Journey (Adult Class with Coffee!) – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship- Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Caring Ministry meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Monday, October 29</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, October 30</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
<i>Wednesday, Oct. 31</i>	5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.	<i>Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, November 1</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Missions Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Board of Trustees Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, November 2</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, November 3</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Rise Against Hunger food packaging – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Sunday, November 4</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</i>
<i>All Saints Day</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School – Wesley Center-Chapel Service</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Java for the Journey (Adult Class with Coffee!) – Wesley Center</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship- Sanctuary</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Teacher’s meeting-Sunday School office</i>
	2:00 p.m.	<i>Youth meeting – youth lounge – “Rake ‘n Run”</i>
	2:00 p.m.	<i>Hastings - Private party – Egan room</i>
	5:00 p.m.	<i>St. Peter’s Church choir offering-“A Requiem For All Our Departed” 71 River St. Milford (no charge)</i>
<i>Monday, November 5</i>	6:30 p.m.	<i>Pastors Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor’s study</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 6</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Nominating Committee meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 7</i>	2:30 p.m.	<i>Golden Hill Community Supper</i>
	5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.	<i>Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, November 8</i>		<i>Women’s Tres Dias weekend – Beth O’Brien contact</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, November 9</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, November 10</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group-Chapel</i>



TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME IS HOSTED by the Stewardship and Finance committees who will host our “Connection Celebration”. Next week’s hosts will be Membership and Evangelism.

PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY is **TODAY October 28th**. Please join us for Worship and Fellowship as we honor Pastors Kristina Hansen, Dani Levine, Hal Vink, Judy Bennett and Cynthia Dodd.

DERBY GHANA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH invites the congregation of Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church to their Commemorative Service on Sunday, October 28th from 4-6pm. Their new church is located at 17 5th St. Derby, CT.

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.

UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE - An order for the 2019 Upper Room Discipline will be made in mid-November. If you are interested in purchasing a copy, please contact Don Hastings at 203-877-4554 or nctmwash@aol.com. The cost is \$10.00 for the regular or large print.

The Upper Room Discipline is a daily devotional based on the lectionary, which is the basis of most sermons on Sunday mornings. During the past few years many members of Mary Taylor have begun reading the Discipline as a way to increase their knowledge of the Bible. The lectionary is a 3-year cycle of scripture readings which cover nearly all the parts of the Bible, **The Upper Room devotional booklets** that are on the table in the back of the sanctuary **are not the same as the Upper Room Discipline.**

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR for regular meetings and activities.

THIS WEEK

"FIRST FRIDAY MEDITATION GROUP" **Friday, November 2, in Dodd Hall, 6:30-8:00pm.** The **first Friday of each month**, Paul Downing will facilitate an Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation. All are welcome, regardless of your experience, or lack of experience, with meditation. No RSVP required. For questions or more information, contact Paul @ 203-676-5582.



“RISE AGAINST HUNGER” (formerly “Stop Hunger Now”) **SIGN UPS ARE NOW OPEN** by registering at <http://events.stophungernow.org/MTMUMC>. **The event is Sat., Nov. 3rd, 9 a.m.** If you cannot register on-line, Lorraine Carr (carrtrain@yahoo.com; 203.931.0516) or Maryann Petremont (mapetremont@yahoo.com;

203.415.0544) will assist. There is no need to donate. Missions has provided the donation.

NEXT SUNDAY

November 4 PENTECOST 24: All Saints Sunday All Saints Sunday: Remembering *Our* Saints

- 9-9:45am: Children's Chapel Service
- Rev. Kristina Hansen will offer the message "THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS" based on Isaiah 25:6-9, Psalm 90:1-6, 12, and John 11:32-44.
- SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS' MEETING after worship (Sunday School Office)
- 5pm at St. Peter's Episcopal: "A Requiem For All Our Departed".

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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.

WOMEN'S TIME OF WORSHIP, CONNECTION, AND MOVEMENT on Saturday, November 17th in Dodd Hall 9:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. will be led by Beth O'Brien and Sue Paulsen. Hebrews 12:28: "Let us be thankful, and so worship God." Contact Beth to register or for additional information at 203-877-8668, bgobrien11@opronline.net.

SALLY CHAPIN MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held in the Sanctuary on Monday, November 19th at 11:00 a.m.

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. The Rev. Dr. Alpher Sylvester, 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. **December 2, 9, and 23 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 October 21st

Total worship attendance all services: 149; Oct.21: 134; Oct.22: Healing and Wholeness: 12; Wednesday Prayer Time: 3; Total Offerings for Oct. 21: \$4,614.80; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$4,913.34; Engaged in Small Groups: 108; Sunday School: 31; Quest: 8; Jesus Bible Study: 8; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 18; UMW: 22; Beacon Volunteers: 10; 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.

Litany of Commitment

From: Liturgy/Link, Submitted by Rev. Elsa Peters, The United Churches of Olympia, WA.

(Invite the congregation to stand.)

PASTOR: Gracious God, you have made a world for us and given us incomparable gifts: air and water, family and friends, your steadfast love and forgiveness, and your son Jesus the Christ. For all the gifts and wonders you have bestowed on us.

ALL: We thank you and worship you with renewed gratitude.

PASTOR: O God, you created us to love one another as Christ has loved us. We are concerned about all your children, those who live near us, and those who live far away. We are eager to participate in the work of the whole church and to further the ministry and service of this congregation.

ALL: We are called to be your stewards. We thoughtfully shoulder our personal share of responsibility, and we pledge to witness to the good news of Christ with our hearts and hands and voices.

PASTOR: O God, we are confident in your love and care for us.

ALL: We gladly give back to our Gracious God our whole lives, our time, our talents, and our financial resources.

Stewardship Sunday Prayer of Dedication

From Liturgy/Link Submitted by Sarah E. Weaver (C) 2011 (mod)

ALL:

We dedicate our *gifts* to you, O God.

Help us to use them to glorify you; to be vessels of your work in this world.

We dedicate our *pledges* to you, O God.

Guide our leaders as they prepare us financially for the upcoming year.

**Use us, O God, to do your work in this world. Use us in your service
Encourage us to see that we are all ministers called into the Body of Christ.**

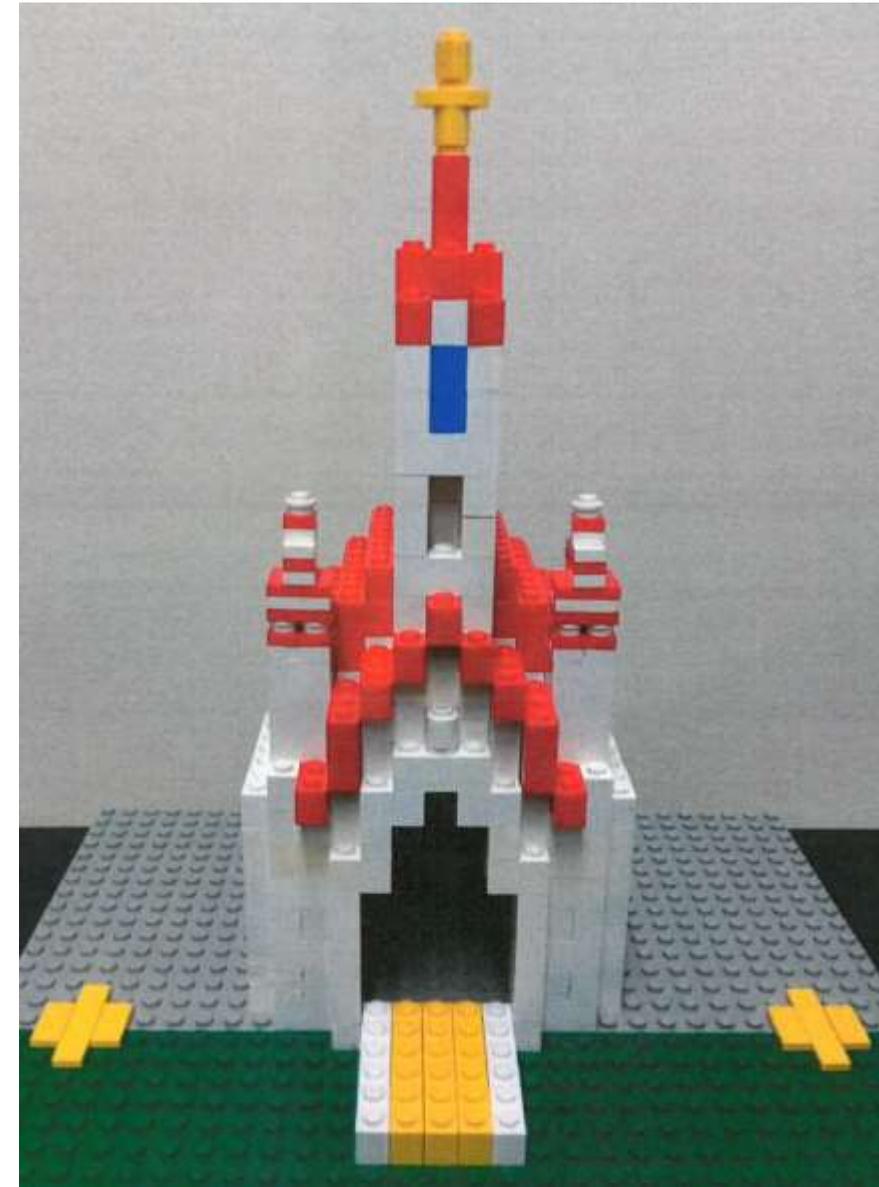
We pray over these gifts, blessing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN: GATHER US IN

PSALTER: PSALM 90

LITANY OF COMMITMENT & COMMUNITY PRAYER OF DEDICATION



PSALTER

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

(UMH#103)

**R: Immortal, invisible, God only wise;
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes**

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³ You turn us back to dust, and say,
"Turn back, you mortals."

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday when it is past,
or like a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep them away; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning;

⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

**R: We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish, but naught changeth the;**

¹³ Turn, O LORD! How long?

Have compassion on your servants!

¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

¹⁵ Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us,
and as many years as we have seen evil.

¹⁶ Let your work be manifest to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.

¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,
**and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!**

**R: To all, life thou givest, to both great and small
In all life thou livest, the true life of all!**