

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 “God’s Time is Best” J.S. Bach

WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

INTROIT “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

*CALL TO WORSHIP *ministrymatters.com, mod*

Leader: What do you bring before the Lord this day?

People: We bring our hopes and our dreams to the Lord, today!

Leader: What do you seek?

People: We seek peace for our weary souls.

Leader: You will find it in this place, for this is the house of the Lord!

People: Open our hearts and our spirits, O Lord, to hear your words of comfort and peace.

*HYMN #428 “For the Healing of the Nations”

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

Lord, we have come to you this day bringing all that we have – our lives, our hopes and dreams, our fears and sorrows. We place these before you in faith and hope, knowing that no matter what has happened, you are with us and blessing us. Open our hearts to receive your words and your Spirit, that we may find healing and comfort. Open our lives to the wondrous possibilities for service and joy that you offer to us. Ease our minds and spirits that we may hear the words of encouragement and peace this day. Hear our prayers and our praise in Christ’s 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. Let us confess now when we have looked elsewhere for our guidance and fulfillment outside of God’s grace.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION (KDH)

Most gracious and merciful God, all that we have you have given us. Forgive us for our lack of gratitude. Forgive us for our lack of generosity and our failure to share when we have abundance. Free us from selfishness and open us to your generosity of heart and spirit that we might be your agents for the transformation of the world. In Christ’s 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.)

THE PSALTER Psalm 146:1-10 (See Insert)

*THE GOSPEL Mark 12:38-44 NRSV

12 ³⁸ As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, ³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! ⁴⁰ They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

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

THE SERMON Giving Our All Rev. Hansen



PRAYER FOR VETERAN’S DAY (see insert)

*HYMN #437 “This Is My Song”

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

Offertory Anthem: "I Then Shall Live" Gaither/Sibelius
(Lyrics are printed on the reverse side of the Grace Notes)

Presentation: "The Doxology" Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication *(See Insert)*

HYMN #431 "Let There Be Peace On Earth"

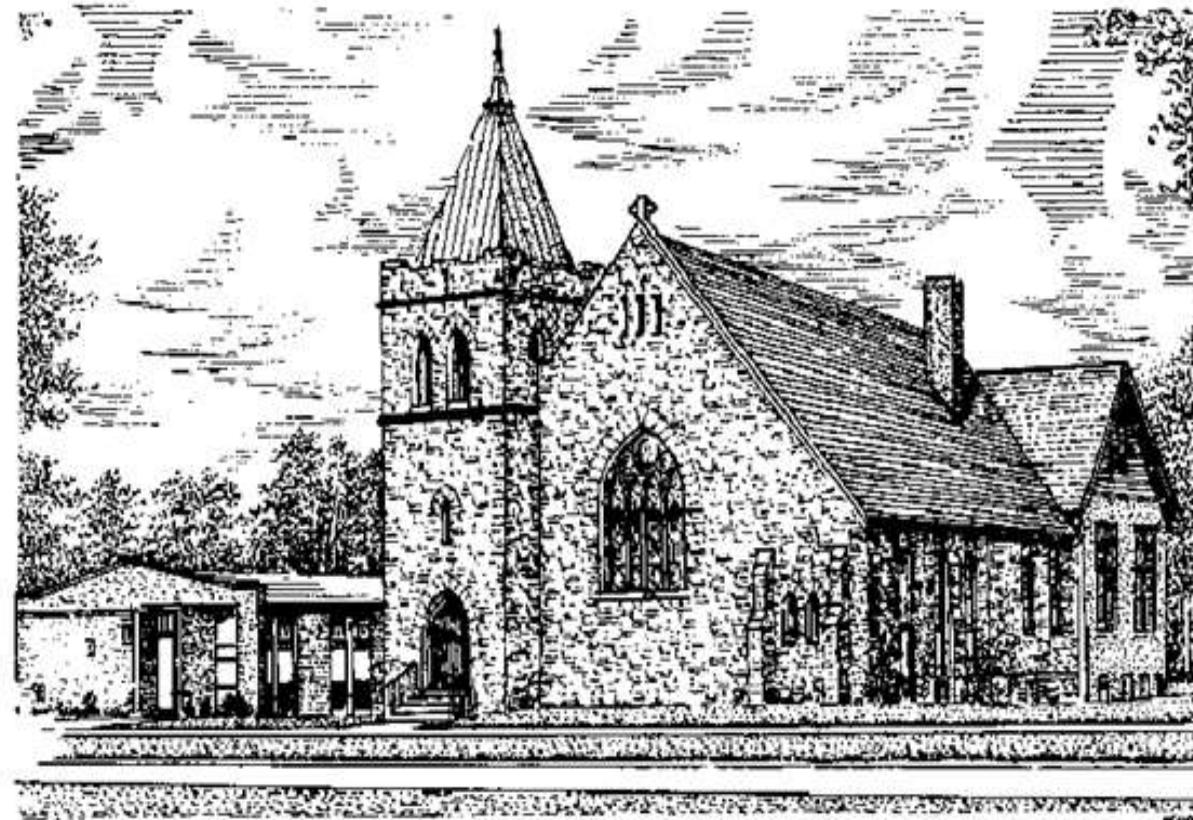
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace, eternally!
Let there be peace on earth, and *let it begin with me!*

THE BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE "Voluntary on 'Azmon'" R. Hughes
(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*

25th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 11, 2018

"I Then Shall Live"

Gaither/Sibelius

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive my brother;
The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too.
I know that fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I'll dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment;
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

Your Kingdom come around and through and in me;
Your pow'r and glory, let them shine through me.
You Hallowed Name, O may I bear with honor;
And may Your living Kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor;
And may You feed a hungry world through me.

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven.

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

November 11, 2018



This week we will be telling the story of the "Widow's Mite". In this story Jesus observes a poor widow giving her offering of two bronze mites – the smallest coins in Jewish currency.

It's really not much to talk about, is it?

When the daily wage was around 64 mites, two mites really didn't go that far. **Still, it was all that she had.**

So, when Jesus sees this, he praises her above all the riches that others have put in before her! "All of them have contributed out of their abundance;" he explained, "but she, out of her poverty, has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

This idea of giving "all she had" is a timely message for November 11, as we take a day in this country to remember our Veterans – men and women who were willing to give all that they had and some who gave the ultimate sacrifice in the pursuit of freedom.

How do you hear the message "all that she had"? What challenge does it present to you?

Blessings on the journey,

Rev. Kristina Hansen

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher: Dave Doyle

Greeters: Barbara Berglund and Mary Lou Hastings

Liturgist: Amanda Repetsky

Bible Bearer: Mark Petremont

Cross Bearer: Greg D'Andrea

Acolytes: Tom and Barbara Ann Griggs

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are to the Glory of God and in celebration of Life – Happy Birthday to Bev Downing from Paul and 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

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

We will be holding our Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2018 at 5:30 in Dodd Hall. Thanksgiving is not only about being thankful to God for our bountiful blessing, but it is also about giving service to those in our community and church family. **ALL** are welcome to come and join in for a time of fellowship and food as we give thanks together. We will be serving a traditional Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings. Also, the dinner offers a great opportunity to come together as a faith community.

Volunteers are needed in the following areas:

Desserts – baked goods needed

Set-up of tables – beginning at 3:30

Greeter – be at the door to Dodd Hall at 5:00

Serving the food – beginning at 5:15

Serving the drinks – beginning at 5:15

Clean-up – beginning at 6:30



Dinner items are provided by the Missions Committee. If you plan on attending the dinner or volunteering, please sign up with Debbie Dubien today during Fellowship Hour.

COLLEGE CONNECTIONS – Please see Beth O'Brien to share an address of a special student who may be studying hard in college or boarding school! Mary Taylor Memorial UMC loves ❤️ our students. We will send a fun care package on behalf of the church that they will love! Just in time for exams! **Please provide information to Beth no later than November 18th.** See Beth at church or contact her at 203-877-8668, bgobrien11@optonline.net.

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!

TRASH & TREASURES HELP WANTED:

Someone with a paper cutter to **cut cards for mounting jewelry.**

Someone to **mount the jewelry, on pre-cut cards**, at your own leisure.

A replacement for Dolly: Ideally, Dolly would like a trainee to shadow her for a year. Dolly will continue to serve on the T&T team but wants to cut back on her responsibilities. Please prayerfully consider taking over the leadership of the Trash and Treasures team. Please continue to **save donations** of clean, working household items and clothing throughout the fall and winter. We will accept new donations in March 2019.

TWO-WEEK CALENDAR AT MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL

<i>Sunday, November 11</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</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>
		▪ <i>2nd Sunday UMW Soup Sale – Dodd Hall</i>
		▪ <i>Bridgeport Rescue Mission Coat/Winter items Drive-Maryann Petremont contact</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Christmas Pageant Rehearsal and lunch</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Sound Committee meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	3:30 p.m.	<i>CT District UMW Event – Golden Hill UMC-Bridgeport</i>
<i>Monday, November 12</i>	6:00 p.m.	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 13</i>	Noon	<i>UMW Noon meeting – <u>Dodd Hall</u></i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
<i>Wednesday, Nov. 14</i>	5:00/6:40/7:45 p.m.	<i>Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, November 15</i>		<i>Beacon Information Due Today</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
<i>Friday, November 16</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, November 17</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group-Chapel</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>Morning Worship & Movement with Beth O’Brien-Dodd Hall</i>
	9:00 a.m.	<i>NYAC Laity Convocation –Tarrytown House Estate on the Hudson 49 E. Sunnyside Ln., Tarrytown, NY</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Thanksgiving Altar Decoration</i>
<hr/> <i>Sunday, November 18</i>	8:45 a.m.	<i>Sunday School Jamboree – Chapel</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>
		▪ <i>Blood pressure screenings-Sanctuary-Sheryl Hollyday, RN</i>
		▪ <i>Boys and Girls Village gift tags available today-see Maryann Petremont</i>
	11:30 a.m.	<i>Congregational Thanksgiving Luncheon sponsored by the Men’s Club</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>Quest youth meeting – Annual food drive distribution & dinner</i>
<i>Monday, November 19</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Healing and Wholeness Worship – Chapel</i>
	7:30 p.m.	<i>Worship Committee meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 20</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Bible Study with Don Hastings – Egan Room</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Ecumenical Thanksgiving service at St. Mary’s church (Gulf St.) Pastor Kristina will offer the sermon</i>
<i>Wednesday, Nov. 21</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
		<i>NO Choir Dinner/Bell & Adult Choir rehearsals today</i>
	6:00 p.m.	<i>Alcathon 6pm through 7pm Thursday Nov. 22-Wesley Center</i>
<i>Thursday November 22</i>		<i>Thanksgiving – the Office is closed today</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friday, November 23</i>		<i>The Office is closed today</i>
<i>Saturday, November 24</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Men’s Tres Dias reunion group-Chapel</i>

TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME IS HOSTED by the Visitation Committee. Next week the Men’s group will host our Thanksgiving Luncheon – all are welcome.

COAT DRIVE & WARM CLOTHING for Bridgeport Rescue Mission will be collected today. See Maryann Petremont for donations.

 **SECOND SUNDAY SOUP SALE today** - \$5.00 per pint. Baked goods are priced accordingly.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSAL after worship will take place in the sanctuary.

CONNECTICUT DISTRICT UNITED METHODIST WOMEN EVENT- Today Sunday, November 11th, 3:30pm at Golden Hill UMC, 210 Elm St. Bridgeport, CT. **UMW 150th Anniversary “Where Do We Go from Here?”**

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

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 for additional information at 203-877-8668, bgobrien11@optonline.net.

"THANKSGIVING ALTAR DECORATION: Helpers needed to decorate our beautiful Thanksgiving Altar on Saturday November 17th at 11a.m. Produce needs to be brought out of storage and arranged on the altar and throughout the Sanctuary. Can you help? Please contact Nancy Bennett at Nancy516@aol.com or Leigh Bak at LeighB619@gmail.com."

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST 26: Bible Sunday & Thanksgiving Sunday

Rev. Kristina Hansen will offer the message "AN ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE" based on Joel 2:21-27 and Matthew 6:25-33; 3rd Graders & 2018 Confirmants will receive Bibles during worship! After worship blood pressure screenings by Sheryl Hollyday, RN, will follow in the Sanctuary.

CONGREGATIONAL THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON, Sponsored by the Men's Club will be held on Sunday, November 18th 11:30 a.m. in Dodd Hall. Bring your favorite side dish or see insert for suggestions. All are welcome!

THANKSGIVING BAGS: non-perishable items should be dropped off during the week, but no later than Sunday, November 18th – the day of distribution. Please call Stacy Meszaros if you need help or additional information at 203-414-9235.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



BOYS & GIRLS VILLAGE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

It's almost that time of year! We are again sponsoring children from Boys and Girls Village this Christmas. **Starting November 18, gift tag selections will be available** - just in time for black Friday shopping! Sponsor a child by providing a gift of clothing, pajamas, or a wish list item. This is a fantastic idea for an alternative gift for those on your list that just have everything. Please stop by the Missions table during Fellowship Hour to make a selection from the available gift tags for one of the children. Let's brighten Christmas day for the children of Boys and Girls Village.



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

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be operating on an abbreviated schedule due to Thanksgiving. Please submit notices for the bulletin **NO LATER THAN Tuesday, November 20th at noon.**

PLEASE NOTE: BEACON Volunteers will meet on MONDAY, November 26th at 9:00 am in the Egan Room.

It's that time of year again. **YOUR FINANCE COMMITTEE WILL BE WORKING ON OUR 2019 BUDGET and we need your input. Work area and committee chairs, please submit your budget requests to Nancy Bennett** either by putting it in her church mailbox, via email to Nancy516@aol.com, mail to 26 High Street, Milford, CT 06460 or you can even easier, you can hand it to her in church! Thanks.

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 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 November 4th

Total worship attendance all services: 160; Nov.4th148; Nov.5th Healing and Wholeness:12
Total Offerings for Nov. 4th: \$8,651.20; Amount given to Charities and Benevolence: \$3,019.08;
Engaged in Small Groups: 117; Mindfulness Meditation: 10; Sunday School: 48; Adult Sunday School: 16; Quest: 6; Jesus Bible Study: 7; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir:17; Office Volunteers: 4;
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.

A Prayer for Our Veterans & Active Service Personnel

(Beliefnet.com & franciscanfriarstor.com adapted)

There are approximately 26 million veterans of the U.S. armed services. To honor their contributions and sacrifices, we pray for them this day:

John 15:13: Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

God of the strong and the weak, we express our gratitude to everyone who has served our country, whether in wartime or peacetime. We know that we have been guilty of taking the efforts of these men and women for granted, and Veterans Day reminds us to be more mindful of their sacrifices. Today we express our deep and heartfelt thanks to the veterans of this country and their families. We are unable to fully fathom the gift that their service has been for us, and how it has protected our lives of liberty and freedom. You alone know that and the cost that each Veteran bears to have given us this gift. Bless them this day and ease any painful memories from their minds and be with them all the days of their lives.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

O God, by whose mercy the faithful departed find rest, look kindly on your departed veterans who gave their lives in the service of their country. Grant that through the passion, death, and resurrection of your Son they may share in the joy of your heavenly kingdom and rejoice in you with your saints forever.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Almighty and eternal God, those who take refuge in you will be glad and forever will shout for joy. We pray also for the safety of our soldiers. Protect them as they discharge their duties. Protect them with the shield of your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise you for your loving care.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.

THE PSALTER: Psalm 146:1-10

(UMH#57)

**Refrain: O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise;
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³ Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth;

on that very day their plans perish.

⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them;

who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

Refrain: My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim;

To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

⁸ **the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.**

The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD watches over the strangers;

he upholds the orphan and the widow,

but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever,

your God, O Zion, for all generations.

Praise the LORD!

**Refrain: O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise;
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!**

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.