

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982  
FAX: 203.877.8973

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.

**THANKSGIVING SUNDAY**  
**THE REIGN OF CHRIST, THE LAST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**November 23, 2014**

**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 “We Gather Together” arr. by G. Sewell

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES  
*(Please keep our focus on the worship of God by sharing those items not published elsewhere.)*

INTROIT “Give Thanks”

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 65, vss 9-13, paraphrased

Leader: O God, visit the earth, ask her to join the dance!

People: ***Drench the plowed fields with rainfall as earth produces blossoms and fruit.***

Leader: You crown the year with goodness and your paths drip with fatness.

People: ***The hills rejoice; the abundant valleys shout and sing for joy!***

**ALL: LET US WORSHIP AND PRAISE GOD FOR ALL GOD’S MERCIES!**

\*HYMN #694 “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come” St. George’s Windsor

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT *(unison)*

***Almighty God, by whose appointments the seasons come and go, by whose word earth yields its increase and by whose hand we receive blessings: grant that your benevolence will inspire us to live from an attitude of gratitude for all you have done for us, most especially in giving us the gift of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.***

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

***Lord, we confess that we have been blessed abundantly in things but are impoverished in spirit. Too often we look upon what we lack rather than what we have. Too often we look with envy at our neighbor, never aware that our neighbor is looking in envy at us. Grant that our desire to draw close to you is infused with a fresh spirit of gratitude for all your mercies. We pray this in the name of the one who has guaranteed your mercy and our salvation, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

A CELEBRATION OF OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

*Introduction of our members: Vi Burke, Jo Caruso, Millicent Craig, Debbie Dubien,  
Vicky LaBonte, Callie Merva, Fran Merva, Phoebe Repetsky,  
Susan Reynolds, Christen West, Joan Zauner and Faye Zeiner*

*A word of history and invitation – Joan Zauner*

*A special recognition for Josephine Caruso – Joan Zauner and Pastor Brian*

*Unison Prayer of Celebration: God of hope and healing, we celebrate all these whose skill of hand and dedication of heart reach out with healing love through our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Bless each one in their mission to provide a tangible reminder of the warmth and tenderness of your love. Enfold them and all whose lives they touch through prayer shawls with your divine love which enfolds us in all circumstances. All this we ask in the name of the One who, at his birth, was “wrapped in a blanket and laid...in a manger,” Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

THE PSALTER Psalm 100 Hymnal p.821, resp. 1

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46 Bible p.904

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

\*HYMN #131 “We Gather Together” Kremser

THE SERMON “Mid-Terms or Finals?” Dr. Bodt

\*THE APOSTLES’ CREED Hymnal #881

\*THE GLORIA PATRI Hymnal #70

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 with the *U.M. Student Day* offering

Offertory: “Thanks be to God Forever” arr. by H. Hopson

\*Presentation: “Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow” Hymnal #94

*“Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below;  
Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose  
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!”*

\*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*Eternal God, we ask your blessings on these gifts: of tithes and offerings for the  
ministry of the church; of food for people in need; of song that hearts may be lifted in  
praise. Bless all who give time, talent and treasure for the up-building of your Kingdom.  
Help us to live from a profound sense of gratitude for all you have done for us, most  
especially in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we  
pray. Amen.*

\*HYMN #102 “Now Thank We All Our God” Nun Danket

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #84

*Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord. Thank you, Lord. I just want to thank you, Lord.*

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

\*POSTLUDE “Now Thank We All Our God” S. Karg-Elert

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

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

**OUR PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

*A brief history*

Janet Bristow and Victoria Galo, graduates of the Hartford (CT) Seminary, began this ministry as a way of reaching out to women in need as well as celebration.

Shawls have been made for centuries. They enfold, comfort, warm, hug and beautify – symbolic of a loving, mothering God.

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry at Mary Taylor Memorial Church began in 2007. Since then we have made 655 prayer shawls! Most of them have gone to friends or family of our members, but some have been donated to a hospice in Orange and hospitals in Bridgeport and New Haven.

We do most of our knitting and crocheting at home, but we meet the second Thursday of each month in our Wesley Center (1<sup>st</sup> floor) for renewal and sharing. We welcome new members at all times. If you need help learning we will be glad to assist you.

Joan Zauner (203.283.5643)

## DECEMBER DATES TO SAVE!

December is a busy month, including ministry at Mary Taylor Memorial Church. Especially for our newcomers but, indeed, for all, please note **these special events** in addition to weekly worship. **Page numbers below** correspond to notices in the **December** "Beacon," mailed this past Wednesday and available in the sanctuary. The "Beacon" tells you who to see and how to participate! Come on!

**DECORATE THE CHRISMON TREE:** Thurs., Dec. 4, 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary (p. 14).

**MYF:** Making candied apples in Dodd Hall Thurs., Dec. 4, 7 – 9 p.m. (p.13)

**COOKIE WALK:** Saturday, Dec. 6, 9:30 a.m. in Dodd Hall (p. 9).

**ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Sunday, Dec. 7, 5 p.m. in Dodd Hall (p. 8).

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:** Sat., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 5 p.m. in the sanctuary (pp. 13 [MYF] & 15).

**INTERGENERATIONAL CHURCH CHRISTMAS CAROLING:** Sunday, Dec. 14, 4 p.m., traveling to Milford Health and Rehabilitation and Seacrest Nursing Homes. (p. 6)

**SOUP AND SANDWICH LUNCHEON:** Sunday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, after worship. (p. 5)

**LIVING CRECHE:** Mon., Dec. 22 and Tues., Dec. 23, 6-8 p.m. and Wed., Christmas Eve, 6 – 7 p.m., outside the sanctuary (p. 14).

### FROM OUR ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS LEADER

*Greetings! The Mary Taylor Memorial Adult Sunday School Class (not really a "class" – more of a "get together") meets every Sunday from 9 – 9:45 a.m. in the Lounge, on the second Floor of the Wesley Center (the educational building next to the sanctuary).*

*Drop in and visit with us – we'd love to get to know you. Our group follows a reading lesson; however, we sometimes veer off topic by discussing what is going on with us, our world, or any subject that pops into our minds. There is no homework!*

*Bring a cup of coffee with you after you drop off the kids to their Sunday School class. You don't have to have kids to attend, either! There is the perfect time to unwind – no judgment – feel free to just listen. Worship happens, as Jesus said, "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them" (Matthew 18:20).*

*If you'd like to know more, my contacts are below. Hope to see you soon!*

Lorraine Carr  
203.931.0516  
[carrain@yahoo.com](mailto:carrain@yahoo.com)

## Grace Notes

### Thanksgiving Sunday

November 23, 2014

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

*There are four clergy in town. The walled town is under siege from hostile armies. One clergy leaves. You bury the other two, along with 40-50 people a day from famine and pestilence: some 4,480 in all. Then your wife dies. Finally, you can only bury the dead in trenches without services, they are dying so fast.*

*The town? Eilenburg, Germany. The pastor? Martin Rinkart. The year? 1637, in the midst of the Thirty Years' War (1618-48). Yet during this great horror, Pastor Rinkart wrote:*

*Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

*"Now Thank We All Our God," U.M. Hymnal #102*

*Genuine thanksgiving is more about inward stance than outward circumstance. Our stance is to be open to God who has done "wondrous things."*

*My prayer for myself (and perhaps you need this prayer, too?) is continued openness to God. Happy Thanksgiving!*

*Sincerely in Christ,*

*Pastor Brian*

### MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Website: [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org)

[www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)

E-mail: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)

Ministers	All the People of God	Interim Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Ernest S. Lyght
Lay Leaders	Kelly O'Hara & Leigh Bak	Bishop-elect	The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Sexton	Bruce Rumford	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

**AT WORSHIP TODAY**

**Head Usher** – Dave Doyle

**Acolytes** – Kayleigh Patterson and Shannon Thompson

**Liturgist** – Paul Downing

**Greeters** – The Thompson Family

**Cross Bearer** – Scott Clark

**Bible Bearer** – Mateo Cono

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Pastor Brian and Paul Downing.

**THE THANKSGIVING ALTAR AND SANCTUARY WINDOWS** were decorated by Worship Chair Priscilla James, Sexton Bruce Rumford, Pastor Brian Bodt and Carol Galloway. The produce used was **donated from Jones Family Farms** in Shelton.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in loving memory of Myrtle Hawkins given by Ken and Elaine Hawkins; and in honor of Bev and Jim Pierpont's 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on November 27<sup>th</sup> given by their family.

**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 Book of Hymns (1964) and The United Methodist Hymnal (1989). The Call to Worship is a paraphrase of Psalm 65 using the King James and New Revised Standard translations of the Bible and "The Message" paraphrase. The unison prayers of confession, celebration of the Prayer Shawl Ministry and offertory dedication were written by the pastor.

**SERMON COPIES** from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or [www.mtm-umc.org](http://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.

*Sunday, November 23*

*The Reign of Christ Sunday*

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

*10:00 a.m. Worship/Prayer Shawl Ministry celebration - Sanctuary*

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

*Boys and Girls Village Gift Tags are available today*

*11:30a.m. Men's Club Congregational Thanksgiving Dinner-Dodd Hall*

*4:00 p.m. MYF-Sorting Food Drive Items-Dodd Hall*

*9:00 a.m. Milford Blood Drive-Sanctuary and Dodd Hall*

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

*NO Confirmation Class or Disciple 3 this week*

*7:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism Meeting- Egan Room, Wesley Ctr.*

*7:00 p.m. The Gospel of Luke Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*

*10:00 a.m. The Gospel of Luke Study - Gunn Library, Wesley Center*

*10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Egan Room, Wesley Center*

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

*6:00 p.m. Community Choir Rehearsal-1<sup>st</sup> UCC, 34 W. River St. Milford*

*7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship -1<sup>st</sup> UCC, 34 W. River St. Milford*

*Thanksgiving Day – Read Psalm 65 – Church Office closed*

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

*Church office closed*

*Monday, November 24*

*Tuesday, November 25*

*Wednesday, November 26*

*Thursday, November 27*

*Friday, November 28*

*Sunday, November 30*

*ADVENT I*

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

*10:00 a.m. Worship and Healing Anointing - Sanctuary*

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

*Noon – 3 p.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship Lunch and Christmas treat making event – Dodd Hall*

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

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

*7:00 p.m. Disciple 3 – Wesley Center*

*5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall*

*6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall*

*6:00 p.m. Pastors' – Lay Leaders' meeting – Pastor's study*

*6:30 p.m. Missions Committee – Gunn Library, Wesley Center*

*6:30 p.m. Chrismon Tree Decorating – Sanctuary*

*7:00 p.m. MYF Treat-Making – Dodd Hall*

*7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees – Egan Room, Wesley Center*

*Friday, December 5*

*10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers - Wesley Center*

*10:00 a.m. United Methodist Women Cookie Walk prep – Dodd Hall*

*4:00 p.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship sale at JFK holiday treat sale*

*Saturday, December 6*

*9:30 a.m. Cookie Walk – Dodd Hall – all welcome*

**HOUSE-TO-HOUSE VISITATION** by Pastor Brian is always available. 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 needed for seniors with pets. They also request 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](mailto: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](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com). Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 NOVEMBER 16th :**

Total worship attendance all services: 217 (November 16, 212; Healing and Wholeness, November 17: 5) Total Offering (minus “Lift Us Up) for November 16: \$6,363.85; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts: \$418.33. Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$750; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 134 (Office Volunteers 8; Prayer Shawl Ministry: 6; Missions Pie and Coat Drive Distribution [Nov. 15]: 7; Sunday School: 49; Disciple 3, 11: Adult Bible Study-Tuesday: 6; Adult Bible Study-Wednesday: 10; Confirmation: 9; Praisemakers: 2; Bell Choir: 8; Adult Choir: 18). 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](mailto: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!

**FELLOWSHIP TIME TODAY** is the **ALL-CHURCH THANKSGIVING DINNER** hosted by the Men’s Club after worship in Dodd Hall. All welcome. Thanks, Men’s Club! Next Sunday’s Fellowship Time host is the Finance Committee.

**PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE TODAY** in the rear of the sanctuary:

- Church Conference booklets from last Sunday’s conference
- October Church Council minutes
- December “Beacon” (mailed last Wednesday)

**OUR “EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY” 2015 finance campaign** welcomes your gift if you were unable to be with us last Sunday. “Estimate of Giving” cards are available in the pews and from the ushers. Please read the Heart Cards displayed in the sanctuary and Dodd Hall. Campaign results will be announced on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>.

**THANKSGIVING DAY COMMUNITY SUPPER SIGN-UPS CONTINUE** in Dodd Hall after worship. The traditional supper with all the fixings will be held Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm in Dodd Hall. All are welcome. **If you plan to attend** please contact Laura Perregaux ([misslmp@yahoo.com/203.520.8183](mailto:misslmp@yahoo.com/203.520.8183)) or Debbie Dubien ([debrad246@yahoo.com/203.877.4959](mailto:debrad246@yahoo.com/203.877.4959)) or see them today in Dodd Hall to sign up so that there is an accurate count. You may also contribute to the dinner with food or service to help make this outreach happen. Many thanks!

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO RESERVE A 2015 UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE**, a daily devotional guide based on the weekly lectionary scriptures (the ones we use in worship). If you read the guide you prepare for Sunday worship. The cost is \$10 and scholarship help is provided. **Please see Don Hastings**, call him at 203.877.4554 or e-mail him at [nctmwash@aol.com](mailto:nctmwash@aol.com).

**BOYS AND GIRLS VILLAGE GIFT TAGS** available today. Gifts are given to the local children at this Milford ministry. See Maryann Petremont at the table in Dodd Hall.

**METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP** will meet at church at 4:00 p.m. today to sort all the Thanksgiving food donations for local families in need, AIDS Project New Haven and Christian Community Action. Then we will head to APNH and CCA to deliver the bounty of food that has been donated. We will finish at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided by the Adult Team Leaders. Sunday, November 30 – Come join the fun in Dodd Hall from **12 p.m. – 3 p.m.** for our annual holiday treat making event! Lunch provided.

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.**

## THIS WEEK

**MILFORD BLOOD BANK BLOOD DRIVE tomorrow**, in the MTMUMC Sanctuary and Dodd Hall, from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** will be closed on Thanksgiving Day and Friday, Nov. 28. The **early deadline** for bulletin notices is Tuesday, Nov. 25 at Noon. Please also note that Mary Lou Kampert is on vacation through Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Thank you to Eileen Doyle for covering, and all who contribute for their timely submissions.

**COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT this Wednesday, November 26th, 2:30 – 5 p.m.** Please let Maryanne Jordan know if you can help: [maryannej@charter.net](mailto:maryannej@charter.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 THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, Wednesday, Nov. 26, 7 p.m.** at First United Church of Christ, 34 West River Street, Milford. The Rev. Meg Williams, Music Director at Stratford United Methodist Church, will lead the **community choir which will rehearse at 6 p.m.** The Rev. Cynthia Knapp, priest-in-charge at St. Peter's Episcopal Church, will preach. Pastor Brian will be present and read the Psalm. **The offering will benefit Milford's Fuel Assistance Fund and a collection of canned and boxed foods will benefit the Beth-El Center.**

**THANKSGIVING DAY COMMUNITY SUPPER: Thursday, November 27, 5:30 pm in Dodd Hall.** All are welcome. It will be a traditional dinner with all the fixings. If you plan to attend, please see Laura Perregaux or Debbie Dubien to sign up so that there is an accurate count. Also, there will be a list for contributing food items to the dinner and areas where you can provide help to serve this outreach mission.

## NEXT SUNDAY

**WORSHIP THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT, November 30<sup>th</sup>**, begins the Christian year. The Advent wreath will be lit by the Merva family. The message "*The Little Christmas Music Ball*" will be based on I Corinthians 1:3-9 and Mark 13:24-37. We will have a recognition of World AIDS Day (Dec. 1). Healing anointing will be offered during the closing hymns.

**SOUP SALE** after worship in Dodd Hall. Soup made by our great MTMUMC chefs. Proceeds benefit missions sponsored by the United Methodist Women.

## ON-GOING MINISTRIES

**"I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS"** helps provide a happy Christmas for residents of Wesley Village at the United Methodist Homes of Connecticut in Shelton. See the article on page 5 in the December "Beacon." To help, see Joan Zauner or call her at 203.283.5643.

**THE "LIFT US UP!" CAPITAL CAMPAIGN** for handicapped accessible renovations to the Wesley Center resumes tomorrow. **If you have not yet pledged please watch for a mailing the first week of December.** We are at 65% of our \$400,000 goal. We welcome individuals or organizations wanting to converse about the campaign. Please contact co-chairs Tom Beyer (203.525.2265; tom.beyer@cort.com) or Rachel Merva (203.641.5088; rmerva@optonline.net).

**ALTAR FLOWER OR MISSION CROSS ORDERS** may be placed with Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or [bgobrien11@optonline.net](mailto: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. **ORDERS are needed for December 21 and 28<sup>th</sup>. Thanks for contacting Beth!**

**ACOLYTES, CROSS BEARERS AND BIBLE BEARERS WANTED!** Our children and youth make a positive contribution to our worship. See or contact Noel Fino: 203.877.3005.

**NEED HELP WITH YARD WORK** - help around the house – snow shoveling? Joe Hotaling is available. Contact him at 203-676-3410 or [JHotaling1@comcast.net](mailto:JHotaling1@comcast.net).