

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

168 Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1843
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.*

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 2, 2012

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 “Wachet Auf” J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

(In order to keep our service time focused on the worship of God, please share only those items which are not already in the bulletin or on the flyer table. Thank you.)

INTROIT “People Look East”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 24:7, NRSV

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates!

People: *And be lifted up, O ancient doors!*

All: *That the King of glory may come in.*

*HYMN #211 (verses 1,2,6) “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH (seated) The Candle of Hope
The Cable and Bettencourt families

SUNG RESPONSE “Advent Song” The Faith We Sing, #2090, vs. 1

*Light the Advent candle, one: Now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

°°°

THE ADVENT COLLECT (seated, unison) Hymnal #201

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Jeremiah 33:14-16 Bible p.724

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

*THE GOSPEL Luke 21:25-36 Bible p.960

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

THE SERMON “Meaningful Stress in Advent” Dr. Bodt

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

HYMN #211 (verses 7, seated) “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

*O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

PRAYERS OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Leader: Lord, in Your mercy, People: **Hear our prayer.**

*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.)

EDUCATION MOMENT “The Adult Sunday School Class” Lorraine Carr

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “Come, Down, O Lord of Light” P. Liebergen

*Presentation: “In the Bleak Midwinter” Hymnal #221, vs. 4

*“What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart.”*

*THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION Adeste Fideles

L: The Lord be with you.

P: *And with you, God’s servant.*

L: O Come, let us lift our hearts unto the Lord.

P: *With hearts uplifted, thanks to God we render:
With joy we come before God, in gratefulness implore God,
With thankful hearts adore God, evermore!*

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (pastor) Greensleeves

*THE SANCTUS (unison) Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

*Holy, holy, holy Lord! God of hosts, by all adored!
Heaven and earth cannot contain all the glory of your name!
Hail, hosanna, God most high! Blest the one who now draws nigh*

***In the name of God the King! Hallelujahs glad we sing:
Hail, hosanna! Praises due be forever, Lord, to you!***

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION *(all seated, spoken by the pastor)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(unison)* It Came upon the Midnight Clear

***Our Father, Lord on heav'n's high throne most holy be your name.
Your kingdom come! Your will be done on earth - in heav'n the same.
Give us this day the food we need; forgiven may we be;
Into temptation do not lead: from evil set us free.***

***Yours is the kingdom, unto you in grateful love we bow,
And yours the pow'r; Lord, let us view your mighty presence now.
The glory yours; your praise be sung by angel hosts again
In ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue forevermore! Amen.***

*THE COMMUNION

*(The United Methodist Church observes an open table: all are welcome to receive
or refrain from receiving. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers.)*

PRAYER FOR LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS *(unison)*

***Gracious God, we remember the apostolic Church which sent representatives
from the Lord's table to those unable to be present. Bless and assist these lay visitors
who continue this ministry. Nourish and strengthen those to whom this sacrament is
brought, that they may know the comfort of your presence and the love of this
community of faith. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.***

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given
yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give
ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

*RESPONSORIAL BENEDICTION

Adeste Fideles

L: The Lord bless and keep you, look with love upon you.

Be gracious, and cause your face to shine with peace!

All: ***Glory to God, Son and Holy Spirit! The Savior close beside us,
God's love from harm to hide us, the Spirit's pow'r to guide us evermore!***

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

*POSTLUDE

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

R. Haan

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

~Calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

Sunday, December 2

The First Sunday in Advent

9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center

10 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

11 a.m. Christmas Pageant rehearsal – location TBA

4 p.m. Intergenerational Ring & Sing – church (see notice)

SUNDAY CONFIRMATION WILL JOIN RING AND SING

7 p.m. Service of Healing & Wholeness – Dodd Hall

Monday, December 3

Tuesday, December 4

6 p.m. Confirmation – Wesley Center

7 p.m. Disciple 2 – Wesley Center

7 p.m. Advent Study – Wesley Center

Wed., December 5

10 a.m. Advent Study – Wesley Center

5 – 5:45 p.m. Praisemakers Choir practice – Dodd Hall

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir – Dodd Hall

7:45 p.m. Adult Choir – Dodd Hall

Thursday, December 6

6 pm. Missions Committee – Gunn Library, Wesley Center

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

Friday, December 7

6 p.m. Nutter – Peel wedding rehearsal – Sanctuary

Saturday, December 8

3:30 p.m. – Nutter – Peel Wedding – Sanctuary

5 p.m. – MYF “Road to Bethlehem” trip to Cheshire, CT

Sunday, December 9

The Second Sunday in Advent

9 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center

10 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary

4 p.m. Confirmation – Wesley Center

5 p.m. Adult Fellowship Christmas party – Dodd Hall

7 p.m. Service of Healing & Wholeness – Dodd Hall

Monday, December 10

Tuesday, December 11

6 p.m. Confirmation Class – Wesley Center

7 p.m. Disciple II – Wesley Center

7 p.m. Advent Study – Wesley Center

Wed., December 12

10 a.m. Advent Study – Wesley Center

5 – 5:45 p.m. Praisemakers Choir practice – Dodd Hall

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir – Dodd Hall

7:45 p.m. Adult Choir – Dodd Hall

Thursday, December 13

7 p.m. Church Council – Dodd Hall alcove

Saturday, December 15

5 p.m. Christmas pageant and dinner - church

Grace Notes
December 2, 2012

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial family,

Advent is here! This season offers hope. Choose carefully that to which you say “Yes!” Crowding out the riches of scripture and prayer will surely leave us spiritually famished long before Christmas arrives.

To that end, consider Lorraine Carr’s invitation this morning to adult study on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. Or, Pastor Hal’s study on Tuesdays at 7 and Wednesdays at 10, particularly focused on Advent. All of these meet in Wesley Center.

Today we renew a prior practice at Mary Taylor Memorial with lay visitors taking Communion to those unable to be with us. Don and Mary Lou Hastings, Priscilla James, Bruce Long, Ken Wilhelm and Joan Zauner expand the ministry of the pastors by taking the consecrated elements from this service to home-bound members and friends. If you would like to be part of this team, please speak with either of the pastors.

At 4 p.m. today I hope you will join our multi-generational “Ring and Sing” as we bring carols to our homebound members and friends. I look forward to seeing you if you can be present. Not a singer? See Leigh Bak if you are willing to help drive and let us sing to you, too!

In anticipation of His coming,

Pastor Brian

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

E-mail: mtmumc@sbcglobal.net

Ministers	All the People of God	Bishop	The Rev. Dr. Martin D. McLee
Lay Leaders	Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Child Care Coordinator	Betty Laferriere	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Administrative Assistant	Suzanne Miko	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Sexton	Bruce Rumford		

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher (December) – David Doyle

Liturgist – Christine Volgmuth

Greeters – Pastor Brian Bodt and Carol Galloway

Cross Bearer – Jamie Georgelos

Acolytes – Michael White and Aaliyah Gonsalves

Bible Bearer – Abigail Gonsalves

Communion stewards – Dawn Bettencourt and Deb Dubien

TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Betsey Wright's parents, Robert and June Logozzo.

WELCOME VISITORS! We pray you experience God's presence among us. Please introduce yourself to the pastor or greeters.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR follows worship in Dodd Hall, hosted today by the Finance Committee. Next Sunday's hosts are the Missions Committee.

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

OFFERING PRAYER CONCERNS: Please use the "Blue Sheets" to share your prayer concerns. You will find them in the attendance pads at the end of each pew or may obtain one from an usher. The ushers collect these during the opening hymn and our Lay Leaders speak them during the Prayer of Intercession and Petition. If you offer intentions on behalf of others, please be sure you have their permission to share their information. Prayers offered via the Blue Sheets are included in our on-line prayer chain and at our Monday night Healing Service. You may also speak your concerns as invited during the prayer.

CHILD CARE: *For children 5 and under is provided in Wesley Center, building next door to sanctuary – OR – the service may be heard in Dodd Hall, if you wish to use it for restless children during service. 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 these children. Our Safe Sanctuary policy requires that children leaving the sanctuary must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.*

INFORMATION: All informational sheets are available in the back of the church.

SERMON COPIES: November 25th is available, in print in the Narthex and on the web at www.mtm-umc.org.



Adult Fellowship Christmas Party

& YANKEE SWAP



WHO: Mary Taylor Adults & Guests

WHAT: Bring a \$10 wrapped gift for our Yankee Swap



plus an appetizer (Last name beginning with A-K)

or dessert (last name beginning with L - Z)

Beverages will be provided

WHEN: Sunday, December 9, 2012 at 5:00 PM

WHERE: Dodd Hall, Mary Taylor Memorial UMC

WHY: For Fun & Fellowship – We promise you will learn something about your fellow guests that you never knew before!



“PREPARING THE WAY,” a four week Advent study, began last week but it’s not too late to join. Sessions are Tuesday (7 – 8:30 p.m.) and Wednesday (10 – 11:30 a.m.) in the Wesley Center. The class will be taught by Rev. Vink. Come!

ADVENT DAILY DEVOTIONALS should arrive this week. If you would like one, speak with Pastor Brian or Sue Miko through the church office.

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBER RESPONSES for Chairman Dennis Darak to the District Superintendent’s annual survey are due **now. No Dec. 20 meeting** unless the matter is urgent. Our next meeting is Thurs., Jan. 17, 2013.

CHURCH COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS (Council approval needed by committees) are due to Shelly Lapadula (203.874.4466) or Pastor Brian (brian.bodt@yahoo.com) **this Thurs., December 6th.** Our next meeting is Thurs., Dec. 13, 7 p.m., Dodd Hall alcove.

THE MYF GOES ON THE “ROAD TO BETHLEHEM this Saurday, December 8th leaving the church at 5 p.m. This event is a “living nativity” event in Cheshire, CT. Permission slips a must! After our trip, we’ll return to the Merva’s house for cocoa and cookies. Please bring a \$10 donation towards the purchase of gifts for the children and youth of Boys’ and Girl’s Village. For more info, see Rachel Merva or Leigh Bak.

PICTORAL DIRECTORY: Thanks to the 80 families and volunteers who participated in our photo sessions! Any who were not photographed can **still participate by submitting an existing photo by Saturday, December 15.** Please place the photo, **which will not be returned,** in an envelope with names, address, phone number as you’d like them to read in the directory. **Or,** have a photo taken by our MTMUMC photographers after worship this month on a date to be confirmed. See Cathy Cono (203.645.2362 or spikio@optonline.net to submit a photo or sign up to have one taken.

CONFIRMATION CLASS REPLIES ARE NEEDED to Pastor’s Nov. 25 e-mail. The two responses needed are (1) have you and your mentor had your first meeting and (2) which Confirmation date do you prefer/require: May 12 or 19, 2013? As of last Thursday only 6 of 19 students have replied. Please reply to Pastor Brian at brian.bodt@yahoo.com.

NEXT SUNDAY

- **WORSHIP** on the second Sunday in Advent will highlight “preparation” as the Advent wreath is lit by Ty and Tina Gage. The Chrismon tree will be up and Deb Dubien will offer a mission minute on Community Supper. The sermon “Taking Out the Trash” will be based on Malachi 3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6.

- **ADULT FELLOWSHIP CHRISTMAS PARTY, Sunday, December 9, 5 p.m. in Dodd Hall.** All Mary Taylor Memorial adults and guests welcomed. Bring a \$10 wrapped gift for our Yankee swap plus an appetizer (last name beginning A-K) or dessert (last name beginning L-Z). Beverages provided. See flier in this issue.
- **THE UPPER ROOM DEVOTIONAL GUIDE** ordered through Don Hastings will be available for distribution next Sunday. Please see him. If you did not order one, he will have a very few extras on a first-come, first-served basis.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS MAGNETS: Membership and Evangelism has “Keep Christ in Christmas” car magnets for \$5.00 each. Makes a great stocking stuffer, teacher gift, or gift to the person who has everything! See Cathy Cono.

OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND DINNER will again be held on **Saturday, December 15, 5 p.m.** at the church. Sunday School Superintendent Sylvia Elliott (203.877.7567; elliottb2@mac.com) is coordinating this event. **Contact Sylvia this morning if you have children that you would like to have participate in the pageant,**

OUR “EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY” CAMPAIGN for the 2013 Mary Taylor Memorial budget is still underway. Your estimate of giving makes a difference! You may return it to the church office or the Sunday offering. **Results will be announced on Sunday, Dec. 16.** Please respond!

“THE BEACON” DEADLINE for January, 2013 is **Saturday, December 15th.** Please consider now your programs January activities to meet this deadline. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA order deadline Mon., Dec. 17. See enclosed form.

BEREAVEMENT COUNSELING is available from Carol Gantter for anyone dealing with a past or present death. Carol can be reached at 203.283.4271 or 845.239.2007

NOV. 15 CHURCH CONFERENCE REPORT BOOKLETS are in the rear of the church. Please contact Pastor Brian directly with corrections or to report the supply gone.

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.

ATTENTION MYRTLE/WALNUT BEACH MEMBERS! *“I am writing a piece about urban renewal, especially those of you who were merged with MTMUMC in 1969.*

If you have a story, memory or any pictures, please contact me. Thank you.” Elizabeth B. Wright, wil3betsey@sbcglobal.net or 203.877.5021

OFFICE SCHEDULE: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m., Mon. – Fri. If Wesley Center is locked, call Sue Miko (203.874.1982) or Pastor Brian (203.895.3753). **BULLETIN NOTICES** are due by Noon Wednesday, hard copy or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: Pastor Brian is typically in the office Mon.-Thurs. from 9am to Noon (203.874.1982, ext. 11) and by appointment there or elsewhere at other times. E-mail is brian.bodt@yahoo.com and church cell at 203.895.3753. **Use Pastor Brian’s cell if timely or an emergency.** Pastor Hal can be reached at vinkhaljane@yahoo.com and at 203.878.8977. Please let us know any time someone needs pastoral care, especially those who are hospitalized. Multiple calls are better than none at all. Most are aware that hospitals no longer provide this information directly to the clergy due to HIPPA privacy laws.

ALTAR FLOWERS ORDERS: Flower orders are always taken for Altar Flowers OR “In Lieu of Flowers” which is an additional opportunity for giving to United Methodist Church Missions (UMCOR or UArmy and many others – please see info. table in back of church for list) and may be ordered at any time during the course of the year. **When a donation is made in lieu of altar flowers, the cross with a miniature mission scarf will be displayed on the altar in place of flowers.* Please contact Beth O’Brien at 203.877.8668 or by email at bgobrien11@optonline.net or mail: Beth O’Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, Milford, CT 06460.

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT: November 25: Total Worship Attendance all services: 165 (155 plus 10 H&W); Total Offering: \$2,802; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$00.00; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups:31; Total number persons received on profession of faith: 3; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions:0 **Important! Small Groups – please email the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or call (203.874.1982) the number of persons that met.*

PLEASE KEEP NAME TAGS on during Fellowship Hour and return them before leaving.

WESLEY CENTER ACCESS: All 12-Step, Support Group & Meetings are able to use the upstairs and downstairs of Wesley Center. Contact Paul Downing at 203.876.8540 or Bill Petremont at 203.415.9982 for further information.

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 are unnecessary and may delay response. Thank you.

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

- **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT ORGANIZES TODAY!** See Sylvia Elliott for the location to organize and rehearse. A second rehearsal is next Sunday; the pageant and dinner are 5 p.m. on Sat., Dec. 15.
- **INTERGENERATIONAL RING AND SING** leaves the church at **4 p.m.**, bound for the United Methodist Homes of Connecticut (Shelton) and the Milford Health and Rehabilitation Center. All welcome to sing the carols we love so dearly. We conclude at Leigh and David Bak’s home, 15 Seaside Court, for refreshments. Need more information? Contact them THIS MORNING!
- **LIVING CRECHE SIGN UPS BEGIN:** Consider participating in the Living Creche on December 24th (5-7 p.m.) and, if enough volunteer, Dec. 23rd (5-7 p.m.). The Creche outside the church is comprised of people representing angels, Mary & Joseph, the Magi and shepherds. Participants change every ½ hour. Please pray about this and sign up ASAP so we know who will serve and how many nights we can have this event. Sign up sheets are in Dodd Hall; or contact Laura Perregaux at misslmp2@yahoo.com.
- **ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG/ORDER FORMS** are available through December 16. Over the years your giving through this catalog has supported health and human service programs, evangelism efforts, disaster relief, programs to end hunger, senior housing, women’s causes, youth programs and countless others. Many members and friends look forward to this catalog as a way to express their faith and keep Christ in their Christmas season. See Deb Dubien for a catalog.
- **LITURGY TODAY** comes from Holy Scripture, The United Methodist Hymnal (1989), and The Faith We Sing (2000). The sung communion is adapted from an original by “Creative Communications for the Parish.”
- **SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS.**

THIS WEEK

PRAISEMAKERS CHORISTERS SOUGHT: Children in grades 1-5 are encouraged to join our Wednesday, 5 p.m. rehearsals with a plan to sing at 5 p.m. on Christmas. See Dr. Rick Riccardi or Leigh Bak. Adult and Bell Choirs schedule in the calendar. Interested? Speak with Dr. Riccardi: 203.392.5232 or riccardir1@southernct.edu.

