

**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.*

**EPIPHANY SUNDAY**

**January 3, 2016**

**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 “The First Noel” W. Held

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

INTROIT “Sing We Now of Christmas”

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: The baby born in Bethlehem is a light for all people.

People: *Gentiles shall come to thy light and kings to the brightness of thy rising.*

All: *Let us worship Christ, whose star still leads wise seekers!*

\*CAROL #254 “We Three Kings” Kings of Orient

PRAYER OF THE DAY *(seated, unison)* “Epiphany” Hymnal #255

°°°

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Isaiah 60:1-6 Bible p.724

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

\*THE GOSPEL Matthew 2:1-12 Bible p.877

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

THE SERMON “I’m Watching the Sunrise” Dr. Bodt



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.*

\*HYMN #250 "Once in Royal David's City" Irby

\*THE BENEDICTION

\*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Carol #242, vs. 3

*Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;  
Love to God and neighbor, love for plea and gift and sign.*

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

\*POSTLUDE "March of the Kings" G. Young  
*(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).*

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

***THE WESLEY COVENANT SERVICE***

HYMN #606 (*seated*) "Come, Let Us Use the Grace Divine" Kingsfold

PROCLAMATION (*by the leader*)

Brothers and sisters in Christ, the Christian life is redeemed from sin and consecrated to God. Through baptism, we have entered this life and have been admitted into the new covenant of which Jesus Christ is the Mediator. He sealed it with his own blood, that it might last forever.

On the one side, God promises to give us new life in Christ, the Source and Perfecter of our faith. On the other side, we are pledged to live no more for ourselves but only for Jesus Christ, who loved us and gave himself for us.

From time to time we renew our covenant with God, especially when we reaffirm the Baptismal Covenant and gather at the Lord's table. Today, however, we meet, as the generations before us have met, to renew the covenant that binds us to God. Let us make this covenant of God our own.

INVITATION (*responsive*)

L: Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable; others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

***All: Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.***

L: Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

***All: Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.***

L: Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent; Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing.

Confirm this by a holy covenant. To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant; in searching your hearts whether you have already

freely given your life to Christ. Consider what your sins are. Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you, after having carefully considered them, are willing to choose them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters; see that you do not lie to God.

Second, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength, so you can keep your promise. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray:

#### COVENANT PRAYER

**All: O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I bow before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

L: God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**All: I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, covenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.**

L: Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

**All: Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant, to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

L: God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

**All: Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him. O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**

L: Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**All: I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

L: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**All: I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

L: The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**All: O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father. Glory be to you, O God the Son, who have loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit, who by your almighty power has turned my heart from sin to God.**

**O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
You are invited to sign your covenant.

#### \*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

Offertory Anthem: "A Covenant Prayer" A. Pote

\*Presentation: "The First Noel" Carol #245, vs. 5

*Then entered in those Wise Men three, full reverently upon the knee,  
And offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

\*A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE III Hymnal p.15

*(Music for sung responses is Setting A, pages 17-18 in the Hymnal.)*

THE LORD'S PRAYER Hymnal #895

#### \*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.)*

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, January 3</i>	<b>EPIPHANY SUNDAY</b> 9:00 a.m. <i>Sunday School – Wesley Center</i> 10:00 a.m. <i>Worship/Covenant Service/Holy Communion - Sanctuary</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i> 4:00 p.m. <i>Methodist Youth Fellowship Holiday Party – Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, January 4</i>	5:30 p.m. <i>Men’s Club 2016 Planning Meeting-Dodd Hall</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, January 5</i>	5:45 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Pastor Hal - Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, January 6</i>	10:00 a.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Pastor Hal - Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i> 2:30 p.m. <i>Golden Hill Community Supper - Bridgeport</i> <i>No Praisemakers, Bell Choir or Adult Choir rehearsal this week</i> 6:30 p.m. <i>Adult Choir gathering at the Bennett’s</i>
<i>Thursday, January 7</i>	5:00 p.m. <i>Pastors-Lay Leaders meeting – Wesley Center</i> 6:00 p.m. <i>Crismon Tree take down – Sanctuary</i> 6:30 p.m. <i>Missions Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Board of Trustees meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, January 8</i>	10:00 a.m. <i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, January 9</i>	11:00 a.m. <i>Human Trafficking talk (free)-1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church, 28 North St. Milford</i>

---

<i>Sunday, January 10</i>	<b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b> 9:00 a.m. <i>Sunday School - Worship in Chapel</i> 10:00 a.m. <i>Worship - Sanctuary</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i> 11:00 a.m. <i>United Methodist Women Second Sunday Soup Sale</i> 11:30 a.m. <i>“Come Mountain Climbing” Leadership Seminar and Light lunch – Dodd Hall</i> 4 – 6 p.m. <i>Methodist Youth Fellowship – Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, January 11</i>	6:00 p.m. <i>Membership and Evangelism Committee – Gunn Library</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, January 12</i>	5:45 p.m. <i>Confirmation Class – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Pastor Hal - Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, January 13</i>	10:00 a.m. <i>Adult Bible Study – Pastor Hal - Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i> 5:30 p.m. <i>Praisemakers Choir rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i> 6:30 p.m. <i>Bell Choir/7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, January 14</i>	7:00 p.m. <i>Staff-Parish Relations Committee – Gunn Library</i> 7:00 p.m. <i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor</i>
<i>Friday, January 15</i>	<b>FEBRUARY “BEACON” DEADLINE</b> 10:00 a.m. <i>Office Volunteers – Gunn Library – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, January 16</i>	8:00 a.m. <i>Volunteer Work Day – church grounds</i> <i>Contact Rachel Merva to enlist: 203.641.5088</i>

**MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Telephone: 203.874.1982**

**Fax: 203.877.8973**

**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	Bishop	The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Lay Leaders	Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak	Superintendent	The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Prayer Chain	Stacy Meszaros	Pastor	The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Administrative Assistant	Mary Lou Kampert	Pastoral Assistant	The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Sexton	Bruce Rumford	Outreach Pastor	Rachel Duncan
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

***Grace Notes***  
***January 3, 2016***

***Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,***

***The Wesley Covenant Service is the core of today’s worship. It was developed over many years by the Rev. John Wesley, M.A., founder of the Methodist movement in 18<sup>th</sup> century England. The Wesley Covenant service was influenced by, and based on, the late 17<sup>th</sup> century writing of Richard Alleine, a Puritan.***

***Today’s service melds Wesley’s 1780 version of his covenant service with Holy Communion. Paraphrasing David Lowes Watson from the “Disciple” Bible Study series, “We covenant to be bound with God in a time of strength so that in a time of weakness we cannot be unbound.” We confirm our resolve in the Covenant by signing it and by receiving the Holy Communion, Jesus’ sacrificial and redemptive covenant with us.***

***The language of the service is serious but not solemn. Being a disciple of Christ is no small matter and not for the faint of heart. As we begin a new year in challenging times, this historic service reminds us of the depth and breadth of our promises to God, and God’s to us.***

***May you find it, as Mr. Wesley wrote in his journal, “as usual, a time of remarkable blessing.” (October, 1765)***

***Sincerely yours in Christ,***

***Pastor Brian Bodt***

## AT WORSHIP TODAY

**Head Usher** – Nick Bettencourt

**Greeters** – Barbara Berglund and Joyce Haig

**Liturgist** – Cathy Liontas

**Acolytes** – Amanda Repetsky

**Bible Bearer** – Zoe Browne

**Cross Bearer** – Lillia Downing

**Communion stewards:** Mary Lou Hastings and Dawn Bettencourt

**Communion celebrants:** Pastors Brian and Hal; Kelly O'Hara and Cathy Liontas.

**GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP** are Rev. Bodt and Cathy Liontas.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** today are in celebration of a peaceful and happy New Year.

**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

**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.

**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 United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The United Methodist Book of Worship ( 2000).

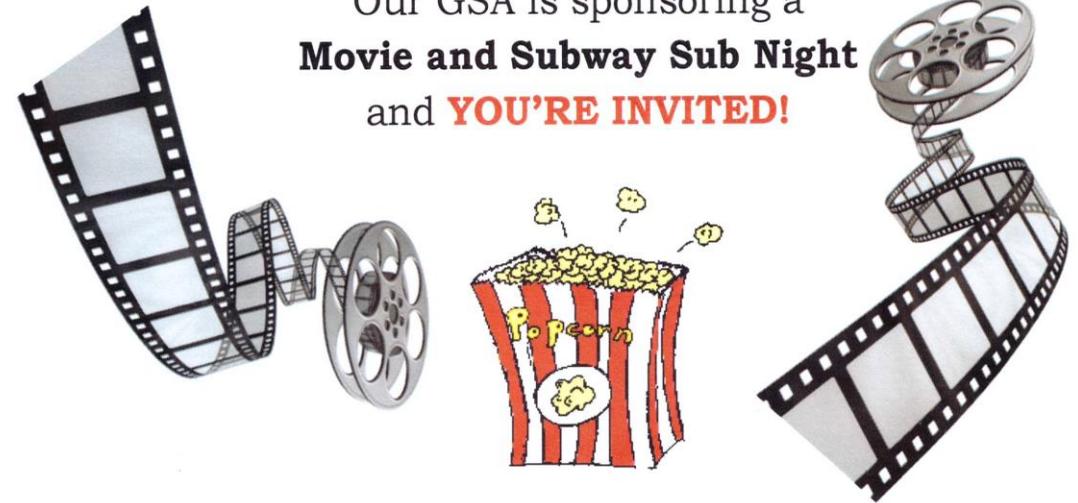
**WELCOME VISITORS!** May you experience God's presence today. Please complete a red visitor's card (in the pew racks) and wear the "Visitor" name tag to help us greet you. Our Ambassadors will look for you! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is in the rear of the church.

**SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org).

**TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS**, contact 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 on the altar. Checks for either are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

# MOVIE & SUB NIGHT

Our GSA is sponsoring a  
**Movie and Subway Sub Night**  
and **YOU'RE INVITED!**



**DATE: Friday, January 29, 2016**

**PLACE: Dodd Hall**

**TIME: 6:00 - ???**

**We will begin by watching the movie as we munch on popcorn, have an intermission so that we can eat dinner, watch the remainder of the movie and finish with dessert and a discussion.**

Our MYF Middle and High School Students along with members of the high school GSA/Diversity Clubs from Foran, Law and Platt Tech are also invited. The movie has not been determined yet, but it will have a theme that will illustrate appreciation and respect for ALL God's Children.

**HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US! STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS...**

## VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR December 27th:

Total worship attendance all services: 516; December 27th: 110; Christmas Eve, 5 p.m.: 191; Christmas Eve, 11 p.m. 205; December 28<sup>th</sup>: 10; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for Christmas Eve: \$4,010.83; December 27th: \$3,766.00; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$1,060.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,130.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 12 - (Office Volunteers, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> totals: 12; No Sunday School or Confirmation class; Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> NO Choir rehearsals: Christmas recess. 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](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.

## ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary) hosted today by the Daneault and Fino families and next Sunday by the Gay Straight Alliance.

**ADULT STUDY WITH PASTOR HAL** on the books of Jeremiah and Lamentations begins **January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. Attend this four week course **either** Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30 p.m. **or** Wednesday mornings from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor. **Register with Pastor Hal today** or at 203.878.8977 or [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com).

**2016 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available for pick up in the rear of the sanctuary.

**METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP HOLIDAY PARTY** is this afternoon, 4 – 6 p.m. in the MYF Lounge (Wesley Center, 1<sup>st</sup> floor). Great food (please bring a dish to share), games and "Yankee Swap" (bring a gift valued at \$10 or less). Bring a friend!

**SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.**

## THIS WEEK

**THE CHURCH OFFICE** resumes regular hours this week: Mon. – Fri., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

**THE MEN'S CLUB** will hold a **2016 Planning Meeting on Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall.** All men are invited. Dinner will be provided. Please see/call Jim Repetsky for additional information at 203-530-4557.

**THANKS TO ALL GOLDEN HILL COMMUNITY SUPPER VOLUNTEERS!** We can always use more, preparing on alternating first Wednesdays from 2:30 – 5 p.m. Our next date is **this Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>**. Contact Maryanne Meehan Jordan (203.268.8850 or [maryannej@charter.net](mailto:maryannej@charter.net).)

**HELP UNDECORATE THE CHRISMON TREE: this Thursday, Jan. 7, 6 p.m.** in the sanctuary. If you can let us know ahead that you'll be with us, please contact Priscilla James at 203.874.2742 or [pcjames60@gmail.com](mailto:pcjames60@gmail.com)

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING: A MODERN FORM OF SLAVERY** is a seminar offered **this Saturday, Jan. 9, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.** hosted by our neighbors at First Baptist Church of Milford, 28 North Street (lower fellowship hall). Free and open to all with light refreshments.



## NEXT SUNDAY

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** – As we enter the new year and install our 2016 church officers, our worship invites us to explore pathways to God and mountain top experiences. Our preacher will be Bonnie Marden, Lay Head of the General Conference delegation from the New England Conference offering the message “Peak Perspective” based on Psalm 121:1-8 and Luke 3:15-17 and 21-22. **After worship**, all are invited to a light lunch and the seminar “Come Mountain Climbing with Us.” Bonnie will guide us in an exploration of our call to be builders of God’s kingdom on earth and leaders in our community as we explore more deeply the gifts God has blessed us with both as individuals and as a faith community. Our United Methodist Women will also have their “**Second Sunday Soup Sale**” to benefit their mission work.

**LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION:** Come Mountain Climbing with Us! Complimentary lunch and Leadership Program *next Sunday, January 10*, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in Dodd Hall as we peak our readiness for God’s call! To register for this creative and fun approach to our *Long Range Plan*, contact the church office 203.874.1982, ext. 10 or [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net).

**METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP** will meet *next Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, 4 – 6 p.m.* in the Youth Lounge.

## OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

**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 and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS:** "Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets. Also wet and dry dog food 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. The Youth Fellowship brings these items to Animal Control each week. 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.

**CONTACTING THE PASTORS:** Please inform a pastor or the church office (203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations:

**Pastor Brian Bodt** can be reached at [brian.bodt@yahoo.com](mailto:brian.bodt@yahoo.com); 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753. He is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. Appointments scheduled in advance are always the best way to get his full attention.

**Pastor Hal Vink** can be reached at 203.878.8977 or [vinkhaljane@gmail.com](mailto:vinkhaljane@gmail.com).

**Pastor Rachel Duncan** can be reached at 203.874.1982 or [rachel.e.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.e.duncan@gmail.com).

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

**BETH-EL SHELTER COLLECTION:** In January we support the Beth-el Shelter with **paper goods, kitchen and other supplies.** Our ongoing commitment supports the shelter work in providing a safe and warm shelter for those less fortunate. Please help to provide these items:

**Kitchen and Paper Supplies:** Paper towels, hot/cold cups (6oz or 8oz), 8oz bowls, tall kitchen garbage bags (13 gal), paper placemats, paper napkins, food storage bags (gallon, sandwich and snack sizes), plastic wrap, heavy duty aluminum foil, toilet paper, facial tissue and large heavy duty garbage bags (55 gallon).

**Cleaning Supplies:** Anti-bacterial household cleaners such as; Lysol/Pine-Sol & bleach (gallon), kitchen wipes, glass cleaner, dish detergent, dishwasher detergent, scouring pads and sponges.

**Other items:** Hand soap, feminine hygiene products, band aids, gauze, medical tape, Vinyl powder-free gloves (s, m, l, no latex) and hand sanitizer. **There is a collection box in Dodd Hall for the month of January.**

**INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICES:** In case of inclement winter weather on Sundays, Pastor Brian will consult with church leaders as needed and agree on plans for worship, Sunday School, and other planned activities. **Weather-related closings will be posted on church voice mail, Yahoo e-mail group, and WTNH (Channel 8).**

**WINTER WORK DAY:** The Trustees have organized a volunteer work day for **Saturday January 16th from 8AM – 12PM** to do light cleaning, organizing and decluttering. Please bring window / furniture cleaner, dust rags, dust pan/broom, sponges and buckets if you can. Cleaning supplies will also be available on site. When you arrive, please come to Dodd Hall to check in and you will be assigned to a work area. Water and snacks will be provided. Thank you for your support! Contact Rachel Merva for more information ([rmerva@optonline.net](mailto:rmerva@optonline.net) / 203-641-5088).

**CORRECTION TO THE “BEACON” CALENDAR:** The next United Methodist Women meeting is a pot-luck on Monday, January 25 at 5:30 p.m. There is NO meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup>.