

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 “Voluntary on ‘Rathbun’” D. Wood

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

(Please keep our focus on the worship of God by sharing those items not published elsewhere.)

INTROIT “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 30:15

Leader: In returning and rest you shall be saved;

People: *In quietness and in trust shall be your strength.*

All: *Let us worship God.*

*HYMN #504 “The Old Rugged Cross” The Old Rugged Cross

PRAYER OF THE DAY “Lent” Hymnal #268

O God our deliverer, you led your people of old through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Henry van Dyke, USA, 20th cent., alt.

O Lord our God, teach us temperance and self-control that we may live in the Spirit and be mindful of all that Jesus endured and sacrificed for our sakes, and how he was made perfect through sufferings. We confess our faults which bring suffering anew to Christ’s Body, the Church. Help us so to keep the fast you have chosen, that we may loose the bonds of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free; through the grace of Christ Jesus our crucified and risen Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°
THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Exodus 20:1-17 rear cover

EPISTLE READING I Corinthians 1:18-25 Bible p.1038

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

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #2120 “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” rear cover of Grace Notes

*THE GOSPEL John 2:13-22 Bible p.967

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

THE SERMON “The Foolishness of Faith” 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

Offertory Anthem: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus” L. Larson

*Presentation: “Bless Thou the Gifts” Hymnal #587

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #295 “In the Cross of Christ I Glory” Rathbun

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Lead Me, Lord” Hymnal #473

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness; make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

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

POSTLUDE “Come, Ye Sinners” arr. B. Jones

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

THE COMMANDMENTS

I

And God spoke all these words, saying;

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

"You shall have no other gods before me.

"You shall not make yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep thy law.

"You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates; for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it."

Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep thy law.

"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the Lord your God gives you.

"You shall not kill.

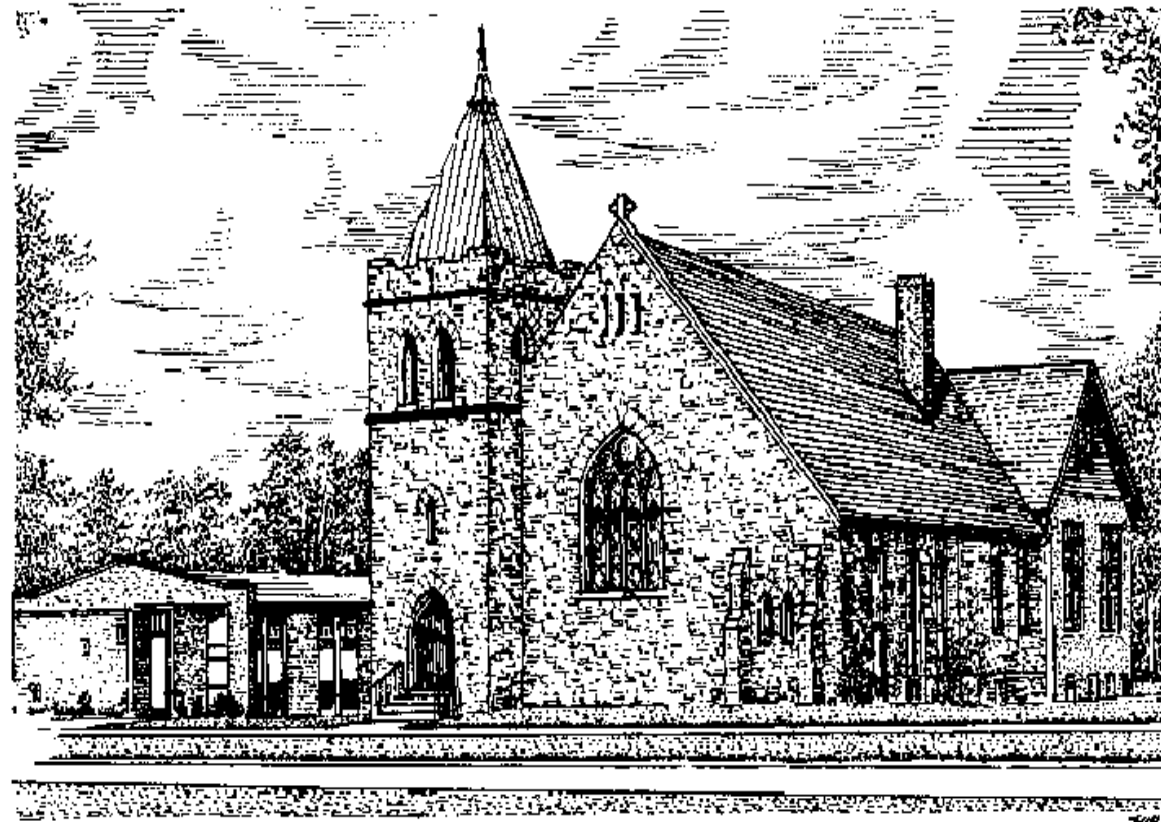
"You shall not commit adultery.

"You shall not steal.

"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's."

Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

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.*

LENT III
March 8, 2015

2120 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Refrain

Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle-ness, blow through the
 wil - der-ness call - ing and free; Spir -
 it, Spir - it of rest - less-ness, stir me from plac - id-ness,
Fine
 Wind, Wind on the sea.

1. You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the
2. You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the
3. You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a
4. You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient

deep, then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
 sand, and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
 hill, then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
 schemes, from the bon - dage of sor - row the
 val - leys of sleep; and o - ver the e - ons you
 law and a land; and when they were blind - ed with their
 whole world was still; and down in the cit - y you
 cap - tives dream dreams, our wom - en see vi - sions, our
 called to each thing; wake from your slum -
 i - dols and lies, then you spoke through your proph -
 called once a - gain, when you blew through your peo -
 men clear their eyes, with bold new de - ci -

D.C.

bers and rise on your wings.
 ets to o - pen their eyes.
 ple on the rush of the wind.
 sions your peo-ple a - rise.

Grace Notes
 March 8, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Today our Mission and Ministry Fair follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). This coincides with our Fellowship Time, which offers a light snack of food and beverage to enhance a time of conversation. Please make a special effort to come today.

Invited missions include Friends of Appalachia, Mountains of Hope for Haiti, The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport, the Bridgeport Rescue Mission, Bridges (Milford), Boys and Girls Village (Milford), Christian Community Action (New Haven), Milford Fuel Assistance, UMARMY (national), "Imagine No Malaria" (U.M. Committee on Relief, international) and Simply Smiles (South Dakota and Mexico).

This year we have also added our church's "ministry" to our Fair. At this writing, confirmed ministry groups include the Board of Trustees, Staff-Parish Relations Committee, Fair on the Green, Worship, Sunday School, Men's Club, United Methodist Women, Stewardship, Gay-Straight Alliance, Parish Health and Wellness, Membership and Evangelism, Methodist Youth Fellowship and Golden Hill Community Dinners.

Please speak with any or all of these representatives to learn more about their mission and ministry. We are blessed to be a vital and active community of service through both "in reach" and "outreach." See what others are doing on behalf of all of us, to the glory of God.

Sincerely in Christ,

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. 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	Music Director	Dr. Richard L. Riccardi
Child Care Coordinator	Nicole Ellerbeck		

AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Kelly O’Hara

Greeters – Nita Prior and Diana Titus

Acolytes – Shannon Thompson and Kaylee Sostilio

Cross Bearer – Kayleigh Patterson

Liturgist – Elizabeth Wright

Bible Bearer – Carolyn Hollyday

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Elizabeth Wright.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are in celebration of Barbara Ann Griggs’ birthday today, given by her husband Tom.

A MISSIONS CROSS has been placed and a donation made to “Mountains of Hope for Haiti”, given by Leigh Bak.

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 Methodist Hymnal (1964), The United Methodist Hymnal (1989) and The Faith We Sing (2000).

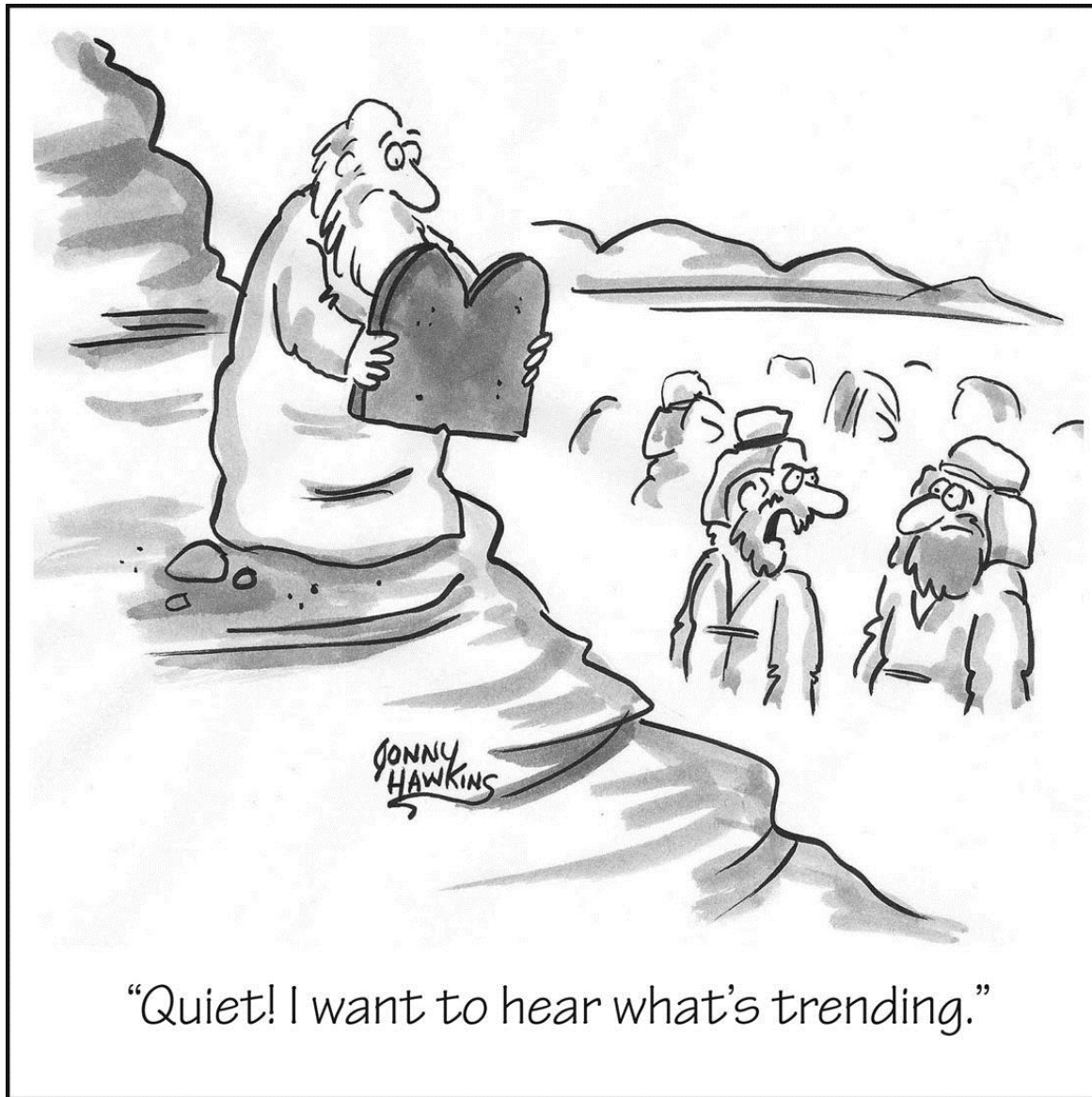
SERMON COPIES from recent weeks are in the rear of the church or www.mtm-umc.org.

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.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, March 8</i>	<i>8:30/9 a.m. Lenten Fasting Covenant Groups – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. LENT III Worship –Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time /Missions and Ministry Fair – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Parish Health and Wellness meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. MYF – Easter treat preparation – Dodd Hall (lunch provided)</i>
<i>Monday, March 9</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 10</i>	<i>12:00 p.m. Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster (off site)</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. UMW Meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m. Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Disciple 3-Wesley Center, 1st Floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 11</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Lenten Taize Service – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, March 12</i>	<i>6:30 p.m. Missions Committee – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Board of Trustees – Egan Room</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, March 13</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Saturday, March 14</i>	<i>7:15 a.m. Confirmation Trip to New York City</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m. Corned beef and cabbage dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
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<i>Sunday, March 15</i>	<i>8:30/9 a.m. Lenten Fasting Covenant Groups – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School for all ages – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m. Informal Hymn singing-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. LENT IV Worship/Friends and Family Day–Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time/Light Lunch – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>1:00 p.m. Private Party – Kelly O’Hara</i>
<i>Monday, March 16</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, March 17</i>	<i>5:30 p.m. Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Disciple 3-Wesley Center, 1st Floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, March 18</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Milford Clergy Association – Trinity Lutheran</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Lenten Taize Service – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m. Praisemakers rehearsal – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, March 19</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting-Dodd Hall Alcove</i>
<i>Friday, March 20</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>



“Quiet! I want to hear what’s trending.”

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 follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time host is the Methodist Youth Fellowship. Join us for fellowship and conversation. Next week’s Fellowship Time host is the Education Committee.

OUR MISSIONS AND MINISTRY FAIR also follows worship in Dodd Hall. Please visit the tables of the missions we support to learn more about their vital work. Please also visit the ministry tables presented by the various committees and fellowship groups at our church. It is exciting to see what God can do through us by using our time and talents.

EASTER TREAT PREPARATION by the Methodist Youth Fellowship will run from Noon – 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Proceeds from the sale of the treats will benefit the “Lift Us Up” capital renovation campaign for Wesley Center. Let Shelly Lapadula (203.874.4466; m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com) know you are attending.

EASTER FLOWERS MAY BE ORDERED on the enclosed form for Easter Sunday. The cost is \$10 each for an Easter lily, tulips, or daffodils. **FIRM deadline is Sunday, March 22nd.**

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT we offer Taizé (pronounced TAY-zay) worship in the sanctuary at noon. This contemplative worship has distinctive music and significant time for silent and spoken prayer. **Services are typically 45 minutes and continue until April 1.**

CONFIRMATION TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY is this Saturday, March 14 at 7:15 a.m. in the Wesley Center. The itinerary was previously distributed. We will be home by 5:15 p.m. **Permission slips and money due to Pastor Brian this Tuesday, March 10, at class.**

MARCH 14th CPR CLASS CANCELLED: it will be rescheduled in the spring.

CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER, hosted by the Men’s Club is Saturday, March 14th at 5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. **Reservations are needed.** See Jim Repetsky after church or call him at 203-874-8688. Donations will be accepted for the “Lift Us Up” fund.

MILFORD HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: If you can make a weekly minimum commitment of two to four hours, please contact the Volunteer Services Department at 203.876.4062 to learn about the variety of ways to volunteer or to register for the next orientation session on Wednesday, March 11, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in Auditorium A.

ST. MARY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP offers a New Day 10 week program beginning March 12, 2015; 1-3 p.m. in St. Mary's Church Hall, 70 Gulf St., Milford. Anyone coping with the loss of a loved one whether recent or years ago is welcome. For more information or to register call Margaret at 203-874-2376. A \$10 fee is required.

NEXT SUNDAY

LENT IV/LAETARE/"FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY"/GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY and the "ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING": Worship begins with informal hymn singing at 9:45 a.m. The message "The Gospel in a Minute" will be based on Numbers 21:4-9 and John 3:14-21. We encourage everyone to invite friends and family to join them in worship. Who would you like to invite to worship with you from among your friends and family? We will recognize Girl Scouts from our own church and any from neighboring congregations. Our special offering supports the One Great Hour of Sharing. Blood pressure screenings will be offered after worship in the sanctuary.

LOVELY EASTER ITEMS will be sold by **Trash and Treasure** in Dodd Hall after the church service on March 15 and 22. Our very low prices and high quality of merchandise won't last long so shop even before you have your coffee!!

APRIL "BEACON" DEADLINE is next Sunday, March 15, articles to hard copy to the church office or to mtmumc@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for submitting on time.

COMING SOON

GOLDEN HILL COMMUNITY SUPPER NEEDS YOU: we prepare the food (others serve and clean up) alternate fourth Wednesdays from 2:30 – 5 p.m. at Golden Hill U.M. Church, 210 Elm St., Bridgeport. Our next date is Wed., March 25. Can you help? Please contact Maryanne Meehan Jordan at 203.268.8850 or maryannej@charter.net.

LAURALTON HALL invites all 7th grade girls to **spend a day as a shadow student** March 16 through May 1. For details please call the Admissions Office at 203.877.2786, ext. 144.

ON-GOING MINISTRIES

ALTAR FLOWER OR MISSION CROSS ORDERS may be placed with Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or 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 one payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

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.

LITURGISTS WANTED: Serving as a liturgist is a different way to worship on Sunday – needed are former liturgists and first time liturgists, confirmands, young adults, and long-time members. All that is required is love of God. Contact Priscilla James at 203-874-2742.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

HOME VISITATION by Pastor Brian is available to become better acquainted. 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 still needed for seniors with pets, but the Animal Control is not allowed to take in peoples' released pets. However, they do take care of kittens and will spay and neuter feral cats as has been the policy for years. 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: 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. Please inform them or the office (203.874.1982, 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: 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

VITAL CONGREGATION WEEKLY REPORT FOR March 1st:

Total worship attendance all services: 188 (Mar. 1st: 167; Healing and Wholeness, Mar. 2nd: 7; Taize worship, Mar. 4th: 14; Total Offering (minus "Lift Us Up) for Feb. 25/Mar. 1: \$9,294.33; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts: (see next week). Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$50.00; Total Number Persons Engaged in Small Groups: 163 (Office Volunteers 3; Sunday School: 48; Fasting Covenant Groups: 8 [8:30 am] and 4 [9 am]; Confirmation, Disciple 3 and Adult Bible Study, Tuesday session: *cancelled*; Adult Bible Study Wed.: 13; Community Dinner: 54; Trash & Treasures: 4; Praisemakers: 4; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 16). Total persons received on profession of faith: 0; Total Persons involved in local, national, and international missions: 0.) *Important! Small Groups – please contact the church office (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net / 203.874.1982) with your attendance.