

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 “Christ Ist Erstanden” J.S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT “Take Our Bread”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

People: *God is our refuge and strength.*

Leader: Come to the table of the Lord.

People: *The resurrected Christ has prepared for us a feast of love.*

*HYMN #312 “Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise” Llanfair

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) “Sundays of Easter” Hymnal #321

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THE PSALTER Psalm 116 Hymnal p.837-8, R.1

*THE GOSPEL John 15: 1-8 Bible p.983

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

*HYMN #318 “Christ is Alive” Truro

THE SERMON “Twisted Truth” Pastor Hal Vink

HYMN #347 (*seated*) “Spirit Song” Spirit Song

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*Bob Lawrence-leader*) Hymnal p. 7

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND PARDON Hymnal p. 8

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.)

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory Anthem: “We Know That Christ Is Raised” arr. by H. Hopson

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

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Hymnal p. 9-11

(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. We will sing hymns #614, 617, 618 and 620, as needed, during the distribution.)

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 #664 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” The Ash Grove

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #666

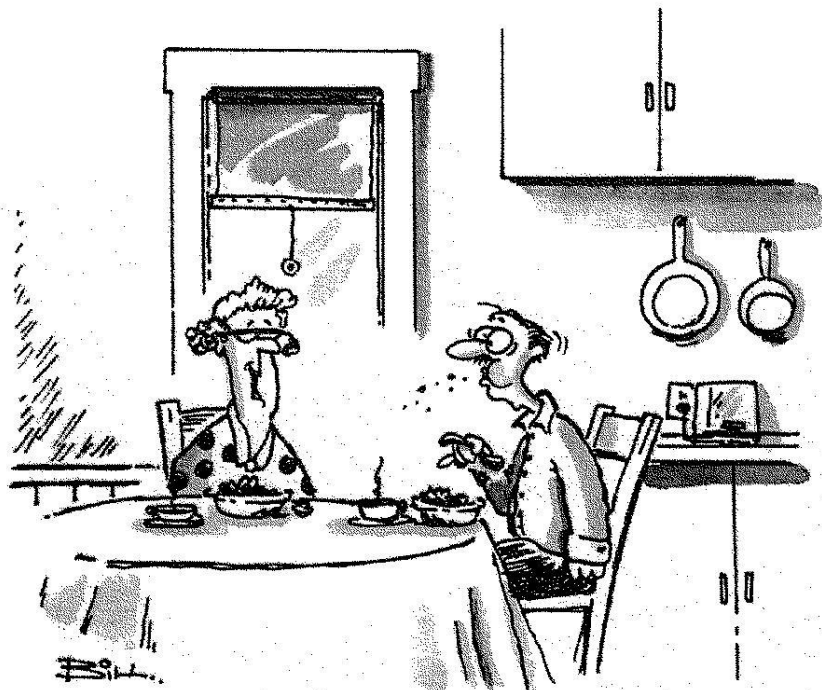
Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends. In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

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

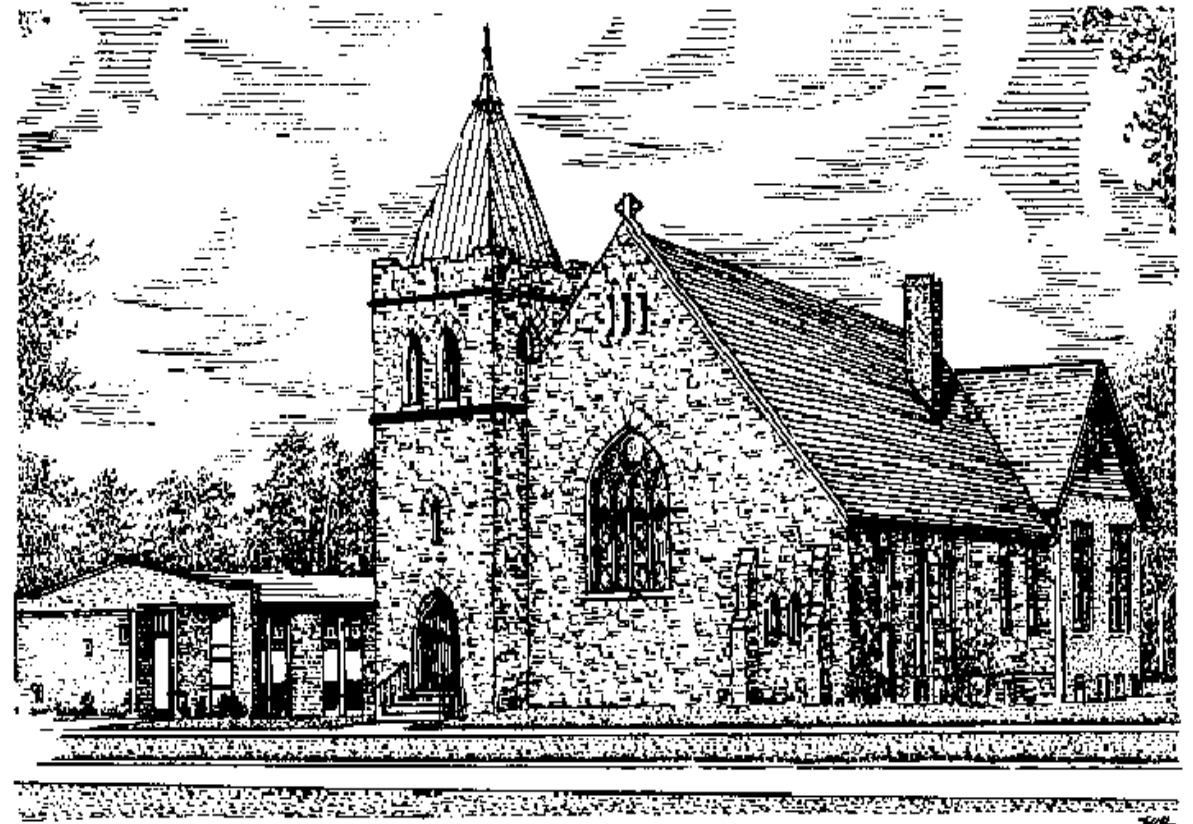
*POSTLUDE “The Strife Is O’er” W. Held

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

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



"I thought I'd surprise you with something different this morning...John the Baptist Oatmeal! I've wanted to make it for some time, but you wouldn't believe how hard it is to find locusts."



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.*

EASTER V
May 3, 2015

Grace Notes
May 3, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

What a glorious groundbreaking we had last Sunday! Thanks to all who made it such a successful day. God has indeed blessed us!

I appreciate Pastor Hal preaching and leading worship and Holy Communion today along with all those who are named in the program. Carol and I are enjoying time both at home and away. I will return to the office tomorrow.

Thanks to all who today wore their “Fair on the Green” T-shirts, whether orange or another color. The meeting follows worship in the Wesley Center. Take a moment in Fellowship Time to receive refreshment and come over to join this important planning session.

Please see the special notice on the rear cover of today’s bulletin on the Spring Adult Study Why: Making Sense of God’s Will. Sessions are Tuesdays at 7 p.m. beginning May 12 and Wednesdays at 10 a.m. beginning THIS WEDNESDAY. All the details are on the insert. I encourage you to attend.

May God continue to bless us in ways that empower us to live our creed “Our welcome knows no boundaries.”

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
Lay Leaders Kelly O’Hara & Leigh Bak
Prayer Chain Stacy Meszaros
Administrative Assistant Mary Lou Kampert
Sexton Bruce Rumford
Child Care Coordinator Nicole Ellerbeck

Bishop The Rev. Jane Allen Middleton
Superintendent The Rev. Kenneth Kieffer
Pastor The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt
Pastoral Assistant The Rev. Harold V.W. Vink
Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi



Parsons Gym, 70 West River Street

Thursday, May 7, 2015 8:00—10:00 a.m.

Did you know that the United Way of Milford has 22 partner agencies that work in our community? This network of services supports local businesses and other agencies by fostering a strong, stable community and workforce.

The Agency Fair brings all the partners under one roof — part education, part networking, part community building. All are invited to this free event — local businesses, city employees, residents and others.

“Coffee and” for all attendees.

Learn about vital services in Milford that make us UNITED MILFORD.



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Tanner Georgelos

Greeters – Pat Jaser and Ruth Starcher

Cross Bearer – Kayleigh Patterson

Acolytes – Julianna Patterson and Stefano Cono

Liturgist – Lydia Smith

Bible Bearer – Addyson Perregaux

Communion Stewards – Karen Keane and Karen Doherty

Communion Servers – Pastor Hal, Lydia Smith, Bob Lawrence and Kelly O’Hara.

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Hal and Lydia Smith.

A **MISSION CROSS** has been placed and a donation has been made to the “Lift Us Up” campaign by the Cono family in celebration of Mateo’s 9th birthday.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are to the Glory of God.

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 (1992).

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! **CHURCH INFORMATION** is available in the racks in back of the church. **SERMON COPIES** from previous Sundays are in the rear of the church or at www.mtm-umc.org.

SPRING ADULT STUDY BEGINS MAY 6th!

“WHY?”

This single word can be an inquiry for information, a challenge, or a cry of pain. It is also the title of our four-session spring adult study series Why: Making Sense of God’s Will. It addresses “Why Do the Innocent Suffer?,” “Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?,” “Why Can’t I See God’s Will for My Life?” and “Why God’s Love Prevails.”

This four-part series will be taught by Leigh Bak, M.S., R.N. on Tuesdays, May 12, 19, 26 and June 2 from 7 – 8:30 p.m.; and by Pastor Brian Bodt on Wednesdays, May 6, 20, 27 and June 3 from 10 – 11:30 a.m. Sessions will be held in the Gunn Library of the Wesley Center.

Participants will be invited to consider questions especially from the perspective of grief. “Grief” includes, but is not limited to, bereavement (the death of a loved one). Grief is also “loss,” so any loss can be grieved. Typical losses besides death include divorce, unemployment, the loss of residence, the loss of possessions, the loss of health. Even joyful times (for example, weddings or child birth) have loss embedded within them.

The study, which includes a video component, is written by the Rev. Adam Hamilton, the prolific pastor of the (United Methodist) Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas and a favorite study guide author in our congregation. It will be supplemented by Good Grief, a small pamphlet by Granger Westberg, the creator of Stephen Ministries.

You may register with Leigh Bak (leighb619@gmail.com / 203.215.0470) or Mary Lou Kampert (mtmumc@sbcglobal.net / 203.874.1982, ext. 10). Materials cost is \$12 and scholarship help is available.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, May 3</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School –Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship/Holy Communion –Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Fair on the Green meeting – 1st Floor, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Monday, May 4</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>New Members class – Pastor’s study, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 5</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Mother/Daughter Banquet – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Disciple 3-Wesley Center, 1st Floor</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 6</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School Teacher’s meeting- Sunday School office</i>
<i>Thursday, May 7</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Pastors/Lay Leaders meeting – Pastor’s study</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Missions meeting – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Board of Trustees meeting – Egan Room</i>
<i>Friday, May 8</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers - Gunn Library</i>
<i>Sunday, May 10</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>NO Sunday School today</i>
<i>Mother’s Day Sunday</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship–Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time– Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 11</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 12</i>	<i>12:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster – off site</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 13</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Bishop Middleton meets with District clergy-1st UMC, Shelton</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 14</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting-Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, May 15</i>		<i>BEACON Information Due Today</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Saturday, May 16</i>	<i>8:00 a.m.</i>	<i>CPR Class – Dodd Hall – Bill Katt</i>

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time host is the Gay/Straight Alliance. Join us for fellowship and conversation. Next week’s Fellowship Time hosts are the Trustees.

FAIR ON THE GREEN MEETING TODAY following church service. Grab your coffee and join the meeting in the Wesley Center, 1st floor. All are welcome.

TRASH AND TREASURES REMINDER: Trash and Treasures will be **open every Friday in May from 9 am to 2 pm.** June 1st is the last day they will accept donations.



Please check with Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952 before dropping off large items. Space and muscles are limited. **Please do not donate:** TV's, computers, old printers, mattresses, baby car seats and helmets of any kind, old computer books, obsolete editions of educational books. **No food items please!** Please place donations in the area where the cashiers sit during our sale. The other tables are only for items tested and priced for sale. **Thank you in advance for donating items that are clean and not in need of repair.**

FRIENDS OF APPALACHIA 2015 DENTAL SUPPLY DRIVE provides toothpaste, toothbrushes, dental floss to assist the dire need of improved oral hygiene for impoverished children in Central Appalachia. Please leave your donations in the FOA box in Dodd Hall. If you wish to make a monetary gift, please mark your check or envelope “FOA.”

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: We have some members who cannot get to our Sunday Services. We are looking for volunteers who can help out other parishioners by picking them up on the way to church. Please contact Michelle Craig at 203-877-4332 or michellemtmumc@gmail.com, or Don Hastings at 203-877-4554 nctmwash@aol.com, if you would like to volunteer.

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

SPECIAL OFFERING ALERT FROM BISHOP MIDDLETON

Dear NYAC Family, Saturday in Nepal we experienced a 45 second 7.8 magnitude earthquake with an epicenter half way between Pokhara and Kathmandu. The death toll has passed 5,000 with over 8,000 people reported to have suffered injuries from the earthquakes. As the continuing threats of aftershocks, injuries and destruction are known, surely we weep. I know you join with me in prayer for our sisters and brothers in that place. At this time the area is not prepared to receive emergency response teams. As you know, all donated funds will go to those in Nepal who are in need.

In Christ’s love, Bishop Jane Allen Middleton

WE WILL RECEIVE THIS OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY

THIS WEEK

A CLASS FOR PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS: The final class has been rescheduled for tomorrow, Monday, May 4 at 7 p.m. We meet in the Pastor's study, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. While it is too late to join this class, please express your interest to Pastor Brian (203.874.1982, ext. 11) or the church office (ext. 10) if you wish to know more about joining the church.

MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET on MAY 5th will be a Magic time at Mary Taylor! Please join us at 6:30 pm for a potluck dinner in Dodd Hall, (dessert provided) and be prepared to be amazed! James Lang, a magician from Trumbull, will be our guest that night. Remember that you don't need a mother or daughter with you to attend

UNITED WAY AGENCY FAIR – Parsons Gym, 70 West River Street, Thursday, May 7, 8:00. – 10:00 a.m. The United Way has 22 partner agencies that support local businesses and other agencies. The Agency Fair brings all partners under one roof. Learn about the vital services available in Milford at this free event. See back page of Grace Notes for details.

NEXT SUNDAY

EASTER VI/MOTHER'S DAY: The sermon "God Rule #1" will be based on Psalm 98 and John 15:9-17. We will receive new members and have a Mission Minute on the Health Kits prepared under the guidelines of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). Our Men's Club continues their tradition of flowers for the women present. We will have a special offering for Nepal relief through UMCOR.

COMING SOON

A TAIZE CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE will be held on Thursday, May 21, 8 p.m. in the sanctuary, following the Church Council meeting. This service format was offered at Noon during Lent, which excluded those who work outside the home during the day. The worship offers a quiet close to the end of the day in a 30-40 minute format. Please do come!

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 April 26th:

Total worship attendance all services: 178; Apr. 26: 171; Healing and Wholeness, Apr. 27th: 7; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for Apr. 26th: \$6,196.25; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$375.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 156 (Office Volunteers 6; "Trash and Treasures" workers: 6; Sunday School: 40; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 16 ; Confirmation 11; Disciple 3: 14; MTMUMC dinner: 48; Stewardship: 6). 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 /203.874.1982) with your attendance.