

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 0646

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.*

EASTER VI FESTIVAL OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME MOTHER'S DAY May 10, 2015

Order of Worship 10:00 a.m.

(* Those who are able may stand. °°° Late arrivals will be seated.)
Please remember to mute or turn off cell phones and other electronic devices.

THE BELL TOLLS – *Welcoming us to worship God*

PRELUDE “An Easter Prayer” H. Macklin

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

INTROIT “He Who Began A Good Work In You”

*CALL TO WORSHIP Isaiah 66:13, 49:19, Proverbs 16:3-4a, edited

Leader: Says the Lord: “I will comfort you as a mother comforts her child.”

People: Rejoice when God brings comfort and restoration as of old.

Leader: I am about to do a new thing; do you not perceive it?

People: Yes! Let us commit our work to the Lord.

ALL: *The Lord has made everything for its purpose. Alleluia!*

*HYMN #139 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Lobe den Herren

THE COLLECT (*seated, unison*)

O God, whose nature and name is Love: grant us heads and hearts united in the will to love, that we may fulfill your command so to do, bringing hope to the loveless and

joy to your heart; this we pray through the One who is Love Incarnate, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus, we confess at times there is strife in our families. Even our best intentions go awry. We remember how, following your heavenly Father, you brought worry to your earthly mother and father. Yet your love never wavered.

Help us to let go of the times of failure and hurt, and to claim anew your love that forgives sins and grants us a new start. This we pray in your holy name. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE PSALTER Psalm 98 Hymnal p.818, Resp.1

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*THE GOSPEL John 15:9-17 Bible p.983
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #111 “How Can We Name a Love” Terra Beata

THE SERMON “God Rule #1” Dr. Bodt

*OUR MISSION STATEMENT (*unison*)

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church is a community growing in God's grace and love. We are committed to following Christ's teaching and example by heeding his call to feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, preach the good news, teach our children and youth, and visit the sick, homebound and imprisoned. We recognize and celebrate the diversity of God's creation and God's gifts. As disciples of our Lord, we publicly acknowledge, welcome and support people of all races, genders, sexual orientations and gender identities, ages, nationalities, ethnicities, abilities and socio-economic situations. Our welcome knows no boundaries. Called by the Holy Spirit to share a ministry that reflects God's love and justice, we embrace and honor all who participate in the ministries and leadership of our church.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Hymnal p.33-35 and 38

New members and their [sponsors] are

Dianne Carroll [Dawn Bettencourt], **Edward Carroll** [Bob Lawrence],
Maria (“Rose”) Nogueira [Michelle Craig] and **Leigha Wallace** [Betty Collins.]

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.)

MISSION MINUTE "U.M.C.O.R. Health Kits" Maryann Petremont

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS, *including the special offering for earthquake relief in Nepal*

(Please make your check payable to "Mary Taylor Memorial UM Church" and we will send a single check to the U.M. Committee on Relief.)

Offertory Anthem: "O How Amiable" R. Vaughn Williams

*Presentation: "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal #94

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #98 "To God be the Glory" To God be the Glory

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE Hymnal #557

***Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

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

*POSTLUDE Toccata on "Lobe Den Herren" G. Young
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated).

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



*Grace Notes
May 10, 2015*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Mother's Day began in May, 1907 at the Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. A Methodist laywoman, Anna Jarvis, organized a special service to honor her mother who had died on May 9, 1905.

By 1908 Anna Jarvis advocated that all mothers be so honored. By 1912, the Methodist Episcopal Church recognized the day and raised it to the national agenda. In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May "Mother's Day." We thank the Men's Club for honoring both occasions with flowers for all the women present.

Mother's Day reminds us of the advocacy of women in the Church throughout the ages and in the United Methodist Church. The national United Methodist Women have spearheaded our awareness of urgent needs.

We give thanks on this Mother's Day for our mothers, alive in the Church Militant and in the Church Triumphant, and for their remembrance this day.

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



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Tanner Georgelos

Greeters – Becky and Bob Virgalla

Cross Bearer – Scott Clark

Acolytes – Amanda Repetsky and Shannon Thompson

Liturgist – Barbara Griggs

Bible Bearer – Paige Perregaux

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Barbara Griggs.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are in memory of my husband George Zauner, whose 90th birthday would have been May 5th, given by his wife Joan.

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 BEGAN 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 10</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>NO Sunday School today</i>
<i>Mother's Day Sunday</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship-Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time- Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 11</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 12</i>	12:00 p.m.	<i>Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster – off site</i>
	5:30 p.m.	<i>Confirmation-Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 13</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Bishop Middleton meets with District clergy-1st UMC, Shelton</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 14</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting-Gunn Library</i>
	7:00 p.m.	<i>Prayer Shawl Ministry – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, May 15</i>		<i>Wesley Center closed for electrical work, 7 am – 4 pm, to be reopened in time for the evening 12-step meeting</i>
		<i>BEACON Information Due Today</i>
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<i>Sunday, May 17</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Sunday School</i>
	9:45 a.m.	<i>Informal Hymn singing-Sanctuary</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>Worship-Sanctuary</i>
	11:00 a.m.	<i>Fellowship Time- Dodd Hall</i>
	11:15 a.m.	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings-Sanctuary</i>
	12:00 p.m.	<i>UMARMY Tool Training-Dodd Hall-Bob Volgmuth</i>
	4:00 p.m.	<i>MYF T.V. Game Night – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 18</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 19</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 20</i>	9:00 a.m.	<i>Building Committee meeting (as needed) – Egan Room</i>
	10:00 a.m.	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
	6:30 p.m.	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 21</i>	7:00 p.m.	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall Alcove</i>
	8:00 p.m.	<i>Taize Worship - Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, May 22</i>	10:00 a.m.	<i>Office Volunteers – Wesley Center - Gunn Library</i>



ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship in Dodd Hall (behind the sanctuary). Fellowship Time hosts are the Trustees. Join us for fellowship and conversation. Next week's Fellowship Time hosts are Staff Parish Relations.

TRASH AND TREASURES REMINDER: Trash and Treasures will be open every Friday in May from 9 am to 2 pm. **Early shoppers are welcome and encouraged!** **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:** hangers, 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.**

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: WORDS 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 TODAY

THIS WEEK

SPRING ADULT STUDY “WHY?” continues. 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. See details inside rear cover. Tuesday night sessions start this Tuesday, May 12th. Wednesday session resumes May 20th.

THE WESLEY CENTER WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY during the day to accommodate the re-wiring of the main electrical panel. The work will be completed in time for power to be restored for the Friday evening 12-Step meeting.

NEXT SUNDAY

ASCENSION SUNDAY - Informal hymn singing precedes worship at 9:45 a.m. The message “Whatever Comes Down Must Go Up” is based on Ephesians 1:15-23; Acts 1:1-11 and Luke 24:44-53. We will commission our Eliot, Maine cohort of UMARMY volunteers departing on May 31 (Our Wethersfield cohort will be commissioned July 12). After worship, UMARMY tool training will be held (see notice below) and free blood pressure screenings will be offered in the Sanctuary.

UMARMY TOOL AND SAFETY TRAINING ON MAY 17 AT NOON IN DODD HALL. This training, taught by Bob Volgmuth and Stacy Meszaros, is required for all U.M. ARMY attendees. A light lunch will be served at 11:30. Please RSVP to Stacy Meszaros at stacymesz@gmail.com or 203-414-9235.

COMING SOON

A TAIZE CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE will be held on Thursday, May 21st, 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 May 3rd:

Total worship attendance all services: 164; May 3rd: 157; Healing and Wholeness, May 4th: 7; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for May 3rd: \$5,381.25; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$2,930.00; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$2,505.21; Engaged in Small Groups: 160 (Office Volunteers 3; “Trash and Treasures” workers: 13; Sunday School: 25; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 17 ; Confirmation 8; Adult Bible Study Wednesday: 15; UMW mother/daughter dinner: 70). 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 or 203.874.1982) with your attendance.