

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*

INFORMAL HYMN SINGING (9:45 am)

PRELUDE “Prayer” K. Yalof

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

INTROIT “He Is Exalted”

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Risen with Christ, let us seek the realities of the Spirit.

People: *Our life is hidden with Christ in God.*

Leader: He who descended is now ascended above the heavens to complete all things.

People: *When Christ, our Life, appears, we shall appear with him in glory! Alleluia!*

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) “The Ascension” Hymnal #323

Everliving God, your eternal Christ once dwelt on earth, confined by time and space. Give us faith to discern in every time and place the presence among us of him who is head over all things and fills all, even Jesus Christ our ascended Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

O King of glory, you exalted your only Son with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Yet often we act as if his ascension means we are alone, comfortless, bereft. We act in ways that oppose his victory. We vainly think it all depends on us. Forgive us for lack of faith, rebellion and pride. Help us release these sins to you to make room for your healing and redemption, in the name of your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°
THE EPISTLE Ephesians 1:15-23 Bible p.1064
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 1:1-11 Bible p.991
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN

*HYMN #325 “Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus” In babilone

*THE GOSPEL Luke 24:44-53 Bible p.965
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

THE SERMON ”Whatever Comes Down Must Go Up” Dr. Bodt

COMMISSIONING OF “UM ARMY” VOLUNTEERS

Pastor: All who take the name of Christ are called into ministries of love and service by Christ’s example. *Laura Perregaux, Adam Perregaux, Paul Downing, Rachel Borden, Emily Bak, Hayley Lapadula and Kaylyn Bettencourt* will leave May 31st to work with United Methodist Action Reach-out Mission by Youth (UMARMY). As they prepare for this departure, we pray God’s blessings on them and those they serve.

BLESSING (*prayed by all*) *O God, we ask you to bestow your Spirit on these ambassadors of this church in ministry with the people of Eliot, Maine, where this UMARMY cohort will serve. As we dedicate them to service in the name of Jesus Christ, we ask that this prayer unite us with them in their work and that you may richly bless their labor; in the name of the carpenter’s son from Galilee, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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: “Alleluia! Christ Has Triumphed” C. Mueller

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #327 “Crown Him with Many Crowns” Diademata

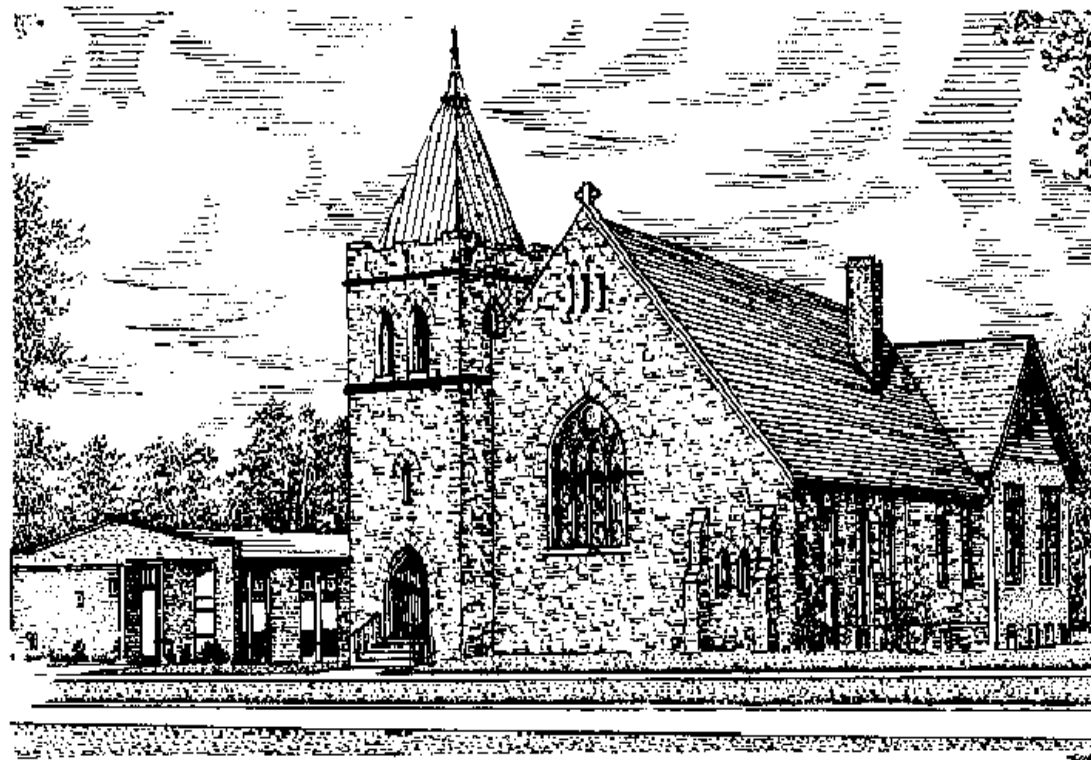
*THE BENEDICTION

*THE BENEDICTION RESPONSE “Shalom to You” 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 Voluntary on “Diademata” H. Haan
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.



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.*

ASCENSION SUNDAY

May 17, 2015

*Grace Notes
May 17, 2015*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

“Wait.” It’s not my favorite word. You, too?

But “wait” is what Jesus asks us to do in today’s readings. In essence he says “Wait. Something wonderful is about to happen.”

That is because “to wait” in Bible usage is an active verb. “To wait” is to look forward, to anticipate, to believe “the best is yet to be.”

So Jesus ascended. The disciples waited. And Pentecost came. With it came the new beginning led by the Holy Spirit.

God is no less faithful today. So we wait. Knowing “the best is yet to be.”

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 – Tanner Georgelos

Greeters – Liz Dillon and Dawn Tremills

Cross Bearer – Amanda Repetsky

Acolytes – Ethan and Devon Weed

Liturgist – Maryanne Meehan Jordan

Bible Bearer – Mary Repetsky

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Pastor Brian and Maryanne Meehan Jordan.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS this week are in celebration of our first Wedding Anniversary, next Sunday May 24th and in thanks for the many blessings we've received. Barbara Ann and Tom Griggs.

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). The Prayer of Confession was written by the Pastor.

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.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, May 17</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m.</i>	<i>Informal Hymn singing-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Fellowship Time-Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m.</i>	<i>Blood Pressure Screenings-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m.</i>	<i>UMARMY Tool Training-Dodd Hall-Bob Volgmuth</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m.</i>	<i>MYF T.V. Game Night – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Monday, May 18</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 19</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 20</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>BEACON Volunteers – Egan Room</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting (as needed) – Grace Room</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>Thursday, May 21</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall Alcove</i>
	<i>8:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Taize Worship - Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, May 22</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers – Wesley Center - Gunn Library</i>
<i>Sunday, May 24</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Sunday School</i>
<i>Pentecost/Confirmation</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 25</i>		<i>The Church Office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, May 26</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Wednesday, May 27</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>“WHY?” Adult Bible Study – Wesley Center – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Golden Hill Community Dinner- Bridgeport</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Bell Choir/ 7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Thursday, May 28th</i>	<i>5:30 p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Nominating Committee – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Worship Committee – if needed</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, May 29th</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

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

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS follow worship in the sanctuary, conducted by a member of our Health and Wellness team.

UMARMY TOOL AND SAFETY TRAINING ON TODAY 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.



Trash & Treasures Sale

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.

THIS WEEK

CHURCH COUNCIL meets Thursday, May 21, 7 – 8 p.m. in the Dodd Hall alcove. Please submit **reports** to Paul Downing (paul.downing@snet.net) and **agenda items** to Shelly Lapadula (m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com) by tomorrow, Monday, May 18.

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!



MILFORD PASTORAL COUNSELING CENTER

*A faith-based center for healing
wholeness and reconciliation.*

AN AID TO ADDRESSING PROBLEM DRINKING

Our congregation is a founding member of the Milford Pastoral Counseling Center, located in the Pilgrim Building of First United Church of Christ (Congregational), 34 West Main Street. Joan Zauner is Board Vice-President and Dr. Bodt is a member of the Board.

The Center offers counseling using the best professional psychotherapeutic practices in the context of faith and, specifically, Christian faith. Both staff therapists—the Rev. Dr. John Sandel and the Rev. Dr. Alice deV. Perry—are ordained Christian clergy. Brochures are in our church sanctuary or from the office and you may reach the Center at 203.877.7713.

One useful tool as noted in this article heading is a self-assessment for problem drinking. If you are worried for yourself, a friend or loved one about drinking too much, you can take a **free and anonymous self-screen** by going to

www.thecounselingcenters.org

On the upper left side of the home page click on **Self Screening**. This will take you to the Screening for Mental Health website which will invite you to complete a brief questionnaire about your alcohol consumption. After tabulating responses you will receive feedback about your drinking. Should your results raise concerns, you may contact the Center or either of the pastors for confidential conversation.

Please also find us on Facebook at Milford Pastoral Counseling Center
<https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=857954867599934>

NEXT SUNDAY

THE DAY OF PENTECOST/CONFIRMATION/ALDERSGATE: Acts 2:1-21 is the story of the first Pentecost and the basis of the message “Your Sons and Daughters.” **Everyone is invited to wear something red**, the color associated with the Holy Spirit that came upon the disciples. This is also Aldersgate Day, named after the street in London where the Rev. John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, experienced his conversion on May 24, 1738. We will receive a special offering for “Peace with Justice Sunday,” one of six United Methodist special offerings. **Please make checks payable to “MTMUMC” and we will submit a single check to the national church for this offering.**

COMING SOON

NEXT COMMUNITY SUPPER AT GOLDEN HILL CHURCH, BRIDGEPORT:

Wednesday, May 27th, 2:30 – 5 p.m. We prepare the meal, led by Maryanne Meehan Jordan and Bob Jordan. We need 6 – 8 people and anyone 13 or in the 7th grade or older may serve. It helps if we have a few younger, stronger people to lift pots and pans, but all are welcomed and will be put to good service. Please let Maryanne know if you can help this month: mjbmj@att.net, 203.610.4936 (cell) or 203.268.8850 (home). Golden Hill Church is about 20 minutes away: I-95 to Exit 27A to Exit 2 off the Route 8/25 connector.

COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC: We are recruiting help now for **Thursday, May 28th, any portion of 2 – 6:30 p.m.** If you can help, contact Deb Dubien at 203.877.4959.

FAIR ON THE GREEN MEETING: **Sunday, May 31st 11:15 am,** Wesley Center. There will be a short Fair on the Green meeting on how to identify counterfeit bills. Grab your coffee and come on over – 1st floor, Wesley Center.

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 10h:

Total worship attendance all services: 177; May 10th: 172; Healing and Wholeness, May 11th: 5; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for May 10th: \$8475.23; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$613.33; UMCOR/Nepal: \$1,474.33; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$20.00; Engaged in Small Groups: 51 (Office Volunteers 3; “Trash and Treasures” workers: 12; NO Sunday School; Bell Choir: 9; Adult Choir: 18; Confirmation 8; Total persons received on profession of faith: 4; 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.