

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

168 South Broad Street
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Phone: 203.874.1982
FAX: 203.877.8973

Order of Worship

July 19, 2015 9:30 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 “Beneath His Sheltering Wings” Walter R. Clarke

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather together to hear a story of faith, love and hope and of a trust founded in the Word and the promises and the ways of our Lord Jesus.

People: *We gather together to remember God's Word and gifts as we continue our journey with Jesus, our Savior.*

Leader: As we continue our walk with our Savior, let our entire being be filled with faith, hope and love for all children of God that we may trustfully be with them both in times of weeping and in times of laughter.

ALL: *In our worship of God, in our worship of our Savior Jesus and in the presence of the Holy Spirit, we celebrate the story of our faith, our hope, our love and our commitment to be Disciples of Jesus for all God's children - in all time - in all sad and happy times. Trusting Jesus and in the presence of the Holy Spirit we say together - Amen*

*HYMN #508 “Faith, While Trees Are Still in Blossom” For the Bread

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) "Hear Our Prayer" (Adapted)

O Lord, you sent Jesus among us to teach us of love and hope. You send us out to be with our sisters and brothers to expand that love and hope and to include faith and trust in you and in your message. Lord, we ask that you give us the courage to move forward in our journey such that every step we take will reflect your love for us and that our faith, hope, love and trust in you may be shown to all we meet. Amen

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION The Book of Worship 1992 (adapted)

God of grace and glory, we thank you that you do not judge us by our imperfect actions but rather by our willingness to live by faith in you. Please help us as individuals and as sisters and brothers together to trust you and to follow where you lead that, in Christ, your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

000

PSALM 23 Liturgist - from The King James Version (*no response*)

THE EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 Bible p.1047
Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: *Thanks be to God.*

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN - Led by Cathy Cono

*THE GOSPEL Mark 12:28-31 Bible p.924
Reader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

*HYMN #368 “My Hope Is Built” The Solid Rock

THE SERMON

“The Dog Ate My Bible - “A Story of Faith, Hope, Love - and Trust” Bob Lawrence, Lay Servant

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 Harp and Soloist “For All the Saints” The Faith We Sing
Mary Lou Kampert, harp Rachel Merva, soloist

*Presentation: “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #408 “The Gift of Love” Gift of Love

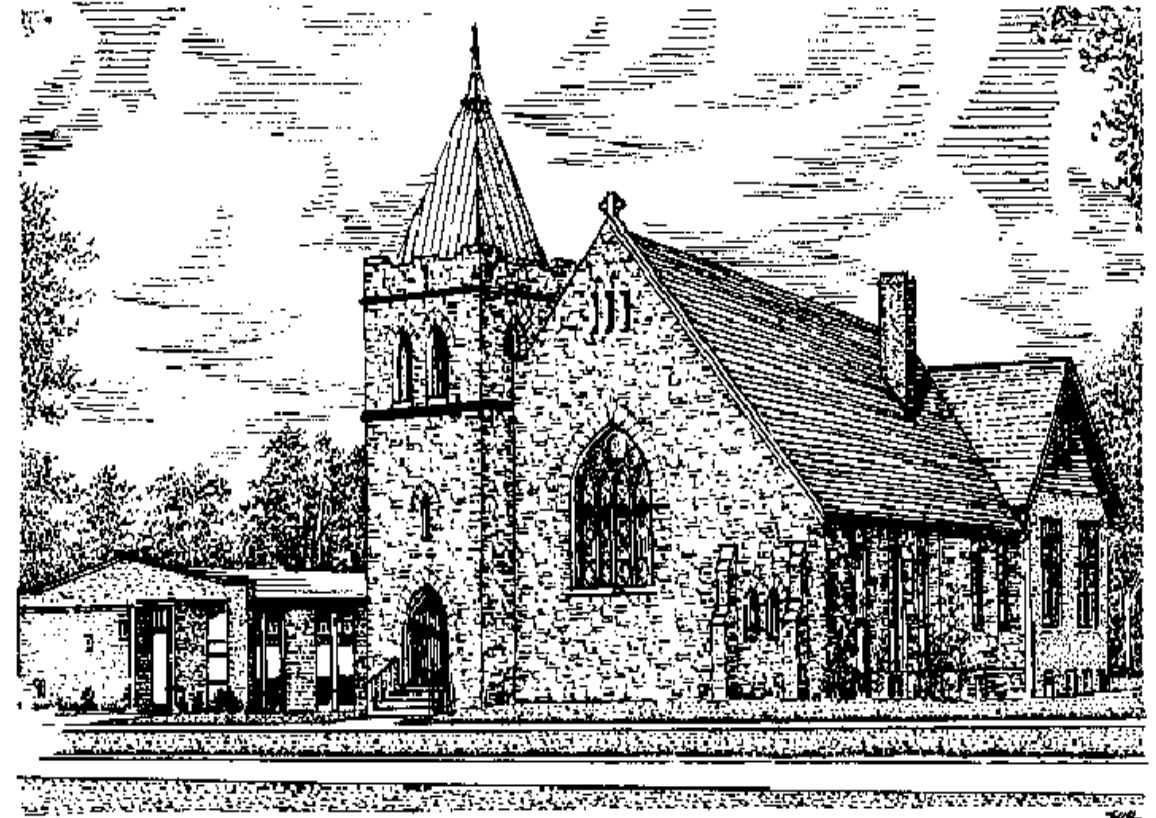
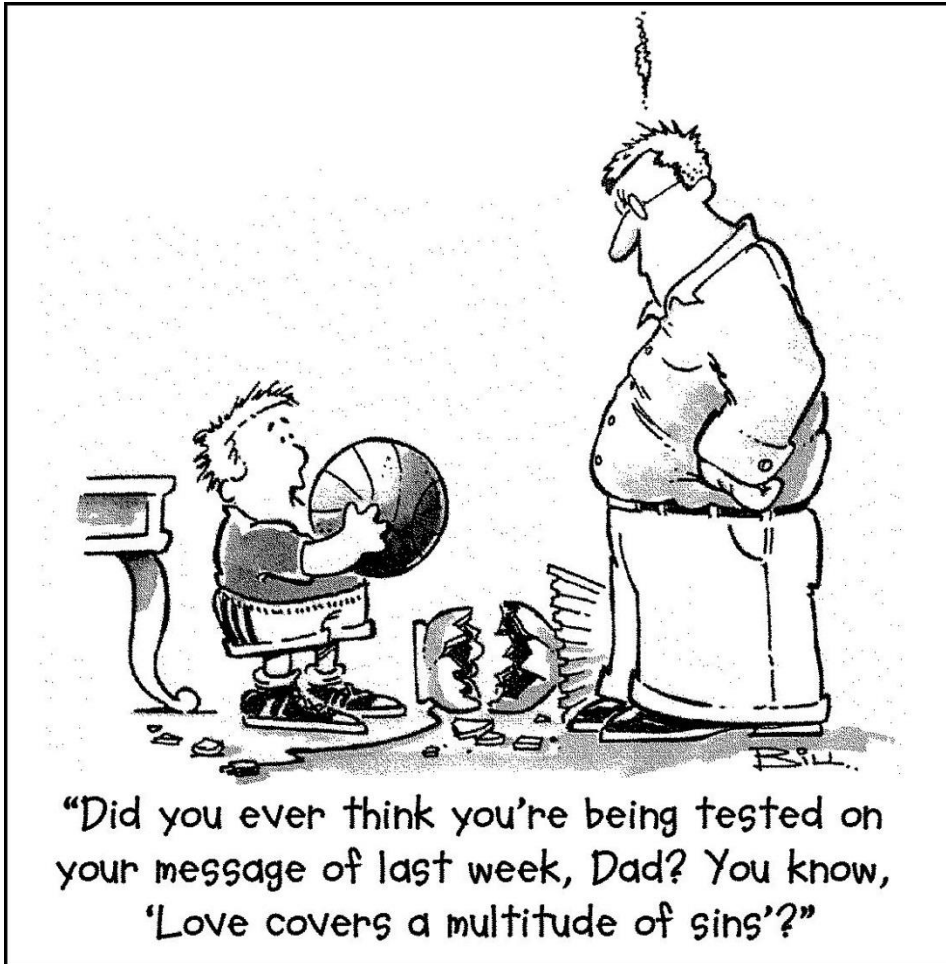
*THE BENEDICTION

*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 “Exultation” Roger C. Wilson
(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.*

PENTECOST VIII

July 19, 2015

*Grace Notes
July 19, 2015*

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Bob Lawrence, Certified Lay Servant, is our preacher today. For some years, Bob was a Licensed Local Pastor serving in Lakeville, CT. Some of his sermon today shares his journey and how it brought him to us. We are blessed to have his involvement on the Worship Committee; organizing our monthly Taize worship (starting Sept. 17) and newly-elected as chair of our Technology Committee. Please thank Bob for his service today.

Our guest organist is Isabel Trudeau, a member of Golden Hill United Methodist Church in Bridgeport. Isabel is a retired Trumbull Public School teacher and lives with her husband Don. She has served in many offices at Golden Hill. We welcome her to our organ console for Dr. Riccardi, traveling today. Please extend a cordial welcome to her.

I have the privilege of preaching today at First Baptist Church of Stratford. I have known this congregation for 20 years; first as a colleague congregation in The Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport and then in relation to First Baptist as CCGB's chief executive officer. Their pastor, the Rev. Dr. William B. Sutton, III, is an outstanding pastoral leader, now in his 17th year at First Baptist. I am preaching on Romans 12, a message entitled "The Kaleidoscope Christian," at their annual Multi-Cultural Celebration. I return to Mary Taylor Memorial's pulpit next Sunday.

It is summer and, like many of you, our staff takes time away and travels. Let us keep one another in prayer for traveling mercies and for the blessings of God wherever we are.

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 – Dave Doyle
Liturgist – Don Hastings

Greeters – Holly Firmender and Sue Pitre

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Bob Lawrence and Don Hastings.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are in memory of Betty and Vivian, and in honor of Gayle.

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.

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.

~Three week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, July 19</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, July 20</i>	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Shelly Lapadula bulletin board meeting – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>District Parish Development Committee – Cheshire UMC</i> <i>(Pastor Brian, Rachel Merva, Nancy Bennett)</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 22</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Beacon Volunteers – Gunn Library</i>
	<i>7:30 p.m.</i>	<i>“Lift Us Up” Committee – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Thursday, July 23</i>	<i>5:30p.m.</i>	<i>MTMUMC Community Dinner – Dodd Hall</i>
<i>Friday, July 24</i>		<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>
<i>Saturday, July 25</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Hang Out –Milford Fine Arts Council –38th Annual Sand Sculpture Competition at Walnut Beach – Cathy Cono contact</i>
		<i>11 am – 1 pm MTM Healing Ministry in Review – Wesley Center</i> <i>(see detailed notice in this issue)</i>
<i>Sunday, July 26</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-- Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
<i>Monday, July 27</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Wednesday, July 29</i>	<i>9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Building Committee meeting – Egan Room</i>
<i>Thursday, July 30</i>	<i>10:00a.m.</i>	<i>Office Volunteers</i>
<i>Friday, July 31</i>		<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>
<i>Sunday, August 2</i>	<i>9:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Worship-Holy Communion - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Summer Punch Bowl – Courtyard</i>
	<i>10:30 a.m.</i>	<i>Boys & Girls Village School Supply Drive through August 9th</i>
<i>Monday, August 3</i>	<i>7:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Thursday, August 6</i>	<i>10:00 a.m.</i>	<i>Office volunteers-Gunn Library</i>
<i>Friday, August 7</i>		<i>The Church Office is closed – summer hours</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m.</i>	<i>Summer Hang Out – Rumrunners Pop & Rock concert (7pm) at Fowler Field (behind Milford library)</i>

ADVANCE PLANNING AND “SAVE THE DATES”

MILFORD OYSTER FESTIVAL will be Saturday, August 15th. Our Men’s Club typically serves food on the church campus and invites any who wish to assist them to do so. **Contact Jim Repetsky at 203.874.8688.**

OUTSIDE TENT WORSHIP will be Sunday, August 16th, 9:30 a.m. If you are new to Mary Taylor Memorial Church you will enjoy this special opportunity to worship outside in the courtyard under the tent!

OUR SUMMER CHURCH PICNIC will be Sunday, August 23rd at Rivercrest Farm (and home of Maria and Andy Macri). More to come in the August “Beacon.”

CONFIRMATION CLASS will be taught Tuesdays from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. beginning September 15th in the Egan Room, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Unconfirmed youth entering the 8th grade or older are encouraged to attend.

“**COVENANT**”, a 24 week comprehensive study of the Bible, will be taught on Tuesday evenings, 7 – 9:15 p.m. High School Room, Wesley Center, 1st Floor, beginning in September by Sandy Morgan, Certified Lay Servant, and Holly Firmender. If you are interested in knowing more, contact Sandy (sgmorgan@aol.com or 203.874.4374) or Don Hastings (nctmwash@aol.com or 203.877.4554).

“**REVIVAL: Faith as Wesley Lived It**” is a six-week study of the origins of Methodism. It will be taught by Pastor Brian September 15/16 – October 20/21 on Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Brian if you would like to attend (brian.bodt@yahoo.com or 203.874.1982).

ISAIAH, JEREMIAH AND LAMENTATIONS is an eight-week Immersion Bible Study course of these prophets. It will be taught by Pastor Hal. We will divide the study around the holiday time from Thanksgiving through New Year’s, so there will be two four-week sessions: October 27/28 – November 17/18 (Isaiah) and January 5/6-26/27, 2016 (Jeremiah/Lamentations). These sessions will be Tuesday evenings from 7 – 8:30 p.m. and Wednesday mornings from 10 – 11:30 a.m. in the Gunn Library, Wesley Center, 2nd Floor. Please contact Pastor Hal if you would like to attend (vinkhaljane@gmail.com or 203.878.8977).

WE SEEK MUSICIANS TO OFFER SPECIAL MUSIC DURING THE SUMMER.

Our choirs are in recess in the summer, so we welcome special music. Contact Rick Riccardi (riccardir1@southernct.edu; 203.506.7270).

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR OUR WEEKLY MEETING SCHEDULE.

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

SUMMER PUNCH BOWL continues through September 6th, following worship, in the Courtyard - weather permitting. Today’s hosts are the Meszaros and Lapadula families. If you or your family would like to host a summer punch bowl which entails bringing juice and a snack, see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in Dodd Hall, or contact Michelle Craig at michellemtmumc@gmail.com.

AVAILABLE TO TAKE: copies of the 2015-18 Long Range Plan and the 2015-16 Program Calendar, available in the rear of the church.

THIS WEEK

MTM HEALING MINISTRY IN REVIEW: *this Sat., July 25, 11 am to 1 pm in Wesley Center.* (Bring lunch if you wish.)

- ◆ **WHO’S INVITED?** Anyone interested in how Christian Healing goes on in our church.
- ◆ **WHAT’S HAPPENING?** Briefly review how Christian Healing goes on in MTMUMC (last Sunday anointing & Monday pm Healing and Wholeness Services).
- ◆ **ANY SUGGESTIONS?** New changes for consideration; what might God be leading us to develop?
- ◆ **INTERESTED?** Tell Pastor Vink (vinkhaljane@gmail.com or 203-878-8977) or Mary Lou Hastings (203-877-4554).

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.

BETH-EL CENTER – needs your donations! As a volunteer at the Beth -El Center, who packs “Meals To Go” lunches to give out at 5pm daily, we have run out of bottles of water to give out with the meals. It’s especially important to have water available for people in this heat. Please consider dropping off a case or two of bottled water to help those who are in need and dependent on the center for their meals. Donations are most appreciated!! Thank you. Mary Lou Kampert, Administrative Assistant, Mary Taylor.

NEXT SUNDAY

PENTECOST IX: The message “Power Grab” will be based on II Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21 and John 6:1-21. Healing anointing will be offered during the closing hymns.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY INVITATIONS

TRASH AND TREASURES UPDATE: Frank Bonisch wants to thank everyone who generously donated lumber. At the present time, no more wood is needed. Trash and Treasures is accepting donations up to August 11 for the Oyster Festival. Please note we are only accepting winter clothing. Put them near or on the cashier tables. We are experiencing growing pains along with less storage space so please check with Dolly Bonisch, 203-783-9952 before dropping off large items. **Please do not donate: hangers, summer clothing, TV's, computers, old printers, mattresses, baby car seats or helmets of any kind, ski boots, old computer books, obsolete editions of educational books or books in disrepair. Thank you in advance for donating items that are clean and not in need of repair. PLEASE DO NOT DONATE FOOD OR BEVERAGE ITEMS.**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS?

Contact Beth O'Brien at 203.877.8668 or bgobrien@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. **AVAILABLE DATES: August 9, 16, 23, 30 and September 6 and 13. If you would like to donate, please contact Beth.**

YOU'RE INVITED to become a **Lay Signer of the Covenant of Conscience**. Being a Lay Signer means you believe all God's children, regardless of sexual orientation, should be given the privilege and honor to be married in our sanctuary by our Pastor.

As you may know, Mary Taylor Memorial UMC is a Congregational Signer of the Covenant of Conscience. HOWEVER, our work is NOT DONE! One action that we all can take is to become a LAY SIGNER of the Covenant of Conscience. To sign, please go to <http://www.mindny.org/mind-initiatives/marriage-initiative/covenant-of-conscience/> and click on the link "To add your name."

Thank you ~ Eileen Doyle, Gay/Straight Alliance Co-chair

MTMUMC HAS TWO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS for students enrolled in a full time program of post high school studies: 1. Kelsey-Worley Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a college/university program and 2. Men's Club "Jimmy" Scholarship Fund for students enrolled in a trade/vocational program. For information and applications, refer to the church website at www.mtm-umc.org and select the "Scholarships" button. Committee Members are: Diana Cable, Chris Carveth, Greg D'Andrea, Wil Wright, and Joan Zauner. Questions? Please contact Wil Wright at 203-877-5021.

FIRST UMC OF SHELTON presents Pennsylvania Dutch Tour with Biblical Show "JOSEPH" **September 29 to October 1, 2015**. Flyers are on the table in the rear of the sanctuary if you would like to sign up for this fun trip.

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS are **Mon. – Thurs., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.** **The office is closed on Fridays until September.** Please note that when only one staff person is in the Wesley Center during office hours the building is locked. If you find this, thank you for calling the office (203.874.1982) or ringing the Broad Street doorbell.

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 July 12th:

Total worship attendance all services: 167; July 12th: 161; Healing and Wholeness, July 13th: 6; Total Offerings (minus "Lift Us Up) for July 12th: \$7,330.00; "Lift Us Up" Capital Campaign gifts \$718.33; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$0; Engaged in Small Groups: 11; (Office Volunteers 3; Trash & Treasures: 8; 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.