

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Whoever you are, wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.

168 Broad Street

Phone: 203.874.1982

Milford, Connecticut 06460

FAX: 203.877.8973

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 “Prayer and Meditation” Boellmann

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP I John 4:7, 11

Leader: Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God;

People: Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

All: BELOVED, SINCE GOD LOVES US SO MUCH, WE ALSO OUGHT TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER. LET US WORSHIP GOD.

*HYMN #467 “Trust and Obey” Trust and Obey

THE COLLECT (seated, in unison)

O God, whose love is beyond our wildest imagining: unleash our gratitude for your love through our acts of loving kindness, that the salvation won in Jesus may live fully in us; through the same Savior, Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have promised forgiveness to all who, with hearty repentance and true faith, turn to you. Grant that what we confess with lips we embrace with our hearts so that, cleansed by you, we may find love perfected in us. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

°°°

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES Micah 6: 6-8 Bible p.850

ESPECIALLY FOR THE CHILDREN Dr. Bodt

HYMN #441 (seated) “What Does the Lord Require?” Sharpthorne

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: “I Want To Live So God Can Use Me” (Adult Choir-Lisa Gloates, guitar)

*Presentation: “The Doxology” Hymnal #95

*Prayer of Dedication

*HYMN #405 “Seek Ye First” Seek Ye

*THE GOSPEL Matthew 6: 19-21 Bible p.882
Leader: The Gospel of the Lord. People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON “Where Is Your Treasure?” Dr. Clayton Miller

A MUSICAL RESPONSE AND MOMENT OF COMMITMENT

During the musical response all are invited to commit your life and gifts to the ministry of Jesus Christ through this church in 2016. Please bring your commitment card. All who desire are invited to remain at the rail in silent prayer for this church, the United Methodist Church, and that Christ’s love may be revealed in us.

*HYMN #399 “Take My Life and Let it Be Consecrated” Messiah

*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 “Jesu Joy of Man’s Desiring” J.S. Bach
(During the postlude you may leave following the pastor or remain seated.)

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

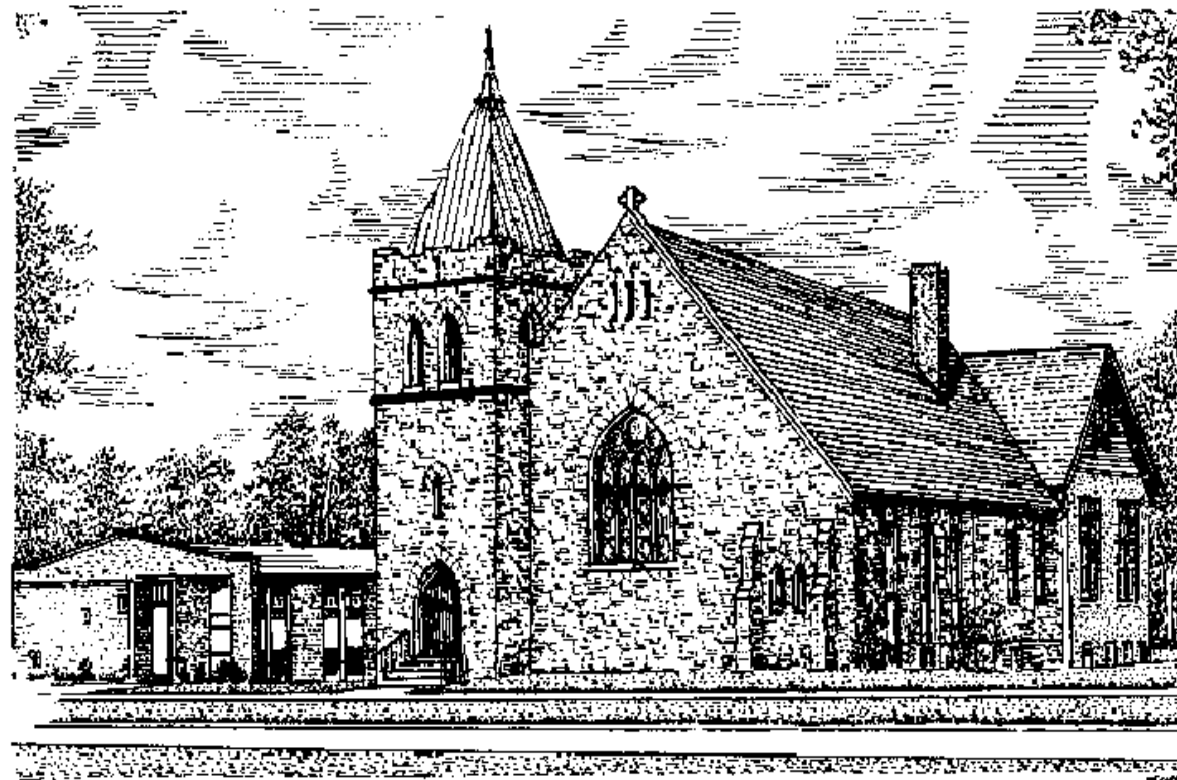
AMONG OUR STAFF TODAY

TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER is the Rev. Dr. Clayton Z. Miller. Dr. Miller maintains an active retirement ministry as a New Consecration Sunday leader, the trainer and coordinator of clergy working with churches in pastoral transition, and as a mentor to young clergy. He served from 1993-2001 as the New York Conference Council Director after serving two churches: Union UMC, East Northport, NY (1959-1977) and Asbury-Crestwood UMC, Yonkers, NY (1977-1993), where he mentored Pastor Brian Bodt who served as his associate pastor (1977-1981).

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES Dr. Rick Riccardi is away on vacation and will return this week.

OUR GUEST ORGANIST TODAY is **Mark Kasmin**, a native of Milford living in Colebrook, CT since 2005. He holds Bachelor and Master Degrees from Hartt College of Music, University of Hartford in Liturgical Music and Music Education. Mark taught in the Simsbury and Milford public schools and then became Minister of Music at St. Pius X R.C. church in Fairfield. He has served many churches in CT and is a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, (a national honorary musical fraternity) and a member of the Greater Hartford chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). Mark is a past Dean of the Bridgeport chapter AGO. He is now retired while substituting at various churches throughout CT.

OUTREACH PASTOR RACHEL DUNCAN is in Florida today at the interment of her grandmother Fay White who died on October 28th. Please keep Pastor Rachel and her family in your prayers.



Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church

First Methodist Church in Milford: 1836

Current building dedicated: 1893

Merged with Myrtle Beach Community Church: 1969

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on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here.*

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

PENTECOST XXIV

November 8, 2015

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Telephone: 203.874.1982

Fax: 203.877.8973

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
Outreach Pastor Rachel Duncan
Music Director Dr. Richard L. Riccardi

Grace Notes

November 8, 2015

Dear Mary Taylor Memorial Church community,

Sometimes ministries just “happen” and we don’t know how or why.

That’s the way it’s been for me with our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. It happens like clockwork and I am suddenly surprised when it is here. Our church has done this for many years.

As this year’s food drive approached, others were also surprised by the relentless advance of the calendar, so newcomers will be hearing about this effort for the first time today. The good news is that the Sunday School has decorated bags, the bags have a list of what is needed on them, and we ask you to “do what you can” to help us serve our neighbors in need. If you can’t fill a bag, please bring in what you can. The food goes to individual families with identified needs; Christian Community Action (CCA) in New Haven; and the AIDS Project New Haven (APNH).

Nick B., in a conversation with Stacy Meszaros, said that in his 15 years at APNH he has never seen their food pantry shelves so sparsely stocked. For many people the recession has not ended.

I am conscious that “donor fatigue” is real. So is hunger. Let’s respond!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Pastor Brian



AT WORSHIP TODAY

Head Usher – Ethan Weed

Liturgist – Allen Berrien

Bible Bearer – Addyson Perregaux

Greeters – Premila and Hector Arnold

Acolytes – Stefano and Mateo Cono

Cross Bearer – Ryan Lapadula

GREETING YOU AFTER WORSHIP are Rev. Bodt and Allen Berrien.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS today are from Joan Zauner in memory of her son David; and given by a friend in celebration of Bev Downing's birthday on November 11th.

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 based on 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.

~Two week calendar at Mary Taylor Memorial~

<i>Sunday, November 8</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m. Celebration Luncheon, Grassy Hill Country Club, 441 Clark Lane, Orange (all welcome; no Fellowship Time today)</i>
	<i>4:00 p.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship – meet in Youth Lounge</i>
<i>Monday, November 9</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
	<i>8:00 p.m. "Implications of Long Range Plan" design team – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 10</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. United Methodist Women meeting & cookie can wrap-Wesley Center</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Greater Bridgeport UM Cluster (off site)</i>
	<i>5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Isaiah Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 11</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Isaiah Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Ctr.</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. New Member's Class – Pastor's Study 2nd floor Wesley Center</i>
<i>Thursday, November 12</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Staff Parish Relations Committee meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry – 1st floor Wesley Center</i>
<i>Friday, November 13</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library Wesley Center</i>
<i>Saturday, November 14</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Healing and Wholeness Worship Team meeting – Gunn Library</i>
<i>Sunday, November 15</i>	<i>DUE TODAY: Beacon Information, Winter coat/warm apparel items and Wesley Village Christmas Gifts</i>
	<i>9:00 a.m. Sunday School – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>9:45 a.m. Informal hymn singing-Sanctuary</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Worship – Sanctuary</i>
	<i>11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Screenings – Sanctuary- Carol Galloway M.S, P.T.</i>
	<i>11:15 a.m. Soup and Baked Goods sale – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m. Sunday School Teachers meeting – Sunday School office</i>
	<i>11:30 a.m. Tech Communications Focus Group – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Monday, November 16</i>	<i>6:00 p.m. Historical Society meeting – Dodd Hall – Marcia Winter</i>
	<i>6:00 p.m. Membership and Evangelism meeting – Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Service of Healing and Wholeness – Chapel</i>
<i>Tuesday, November 17</i>	<i>5:45 p.m. Confirmation Class – Egan room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. Isaiah Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
<i>Wednesday, November 18</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. Beacon Volunteers – Egan Room, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>10:00 a.m. Isaiah Bible Study – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>
	<i>12:00 p.m. Taize Worship - Sanctuary</i>
	<i>6:30 p.m. Bell Choir/7:45 p.m. Adult Choir rehearsals – Dodd Hall</i>
	<i>7:00 p.m. New Members Class – Pastor's study, Wesley Center 2nd floor</i>
<i>Thursday, November 19</i>	<i>7:00 p.m. Church Council meeting – Dodd Hall alcove</i>
	<i>8:30 p.m. Taize Worship – Sanctuary</i>
<i>Friday, November 20</i>	<i>10:00 a.m. Office Volunteers – Gunn Library, Wesley Center</i>

OUR LIFE IN PRAYER, MINISTRY AND MISSION

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 and monetary donations in the Beth-El envelope.

ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS: "Wet and dry cat food is needed for seniors with pets. Also wet and dry dog food for the canine facility. Towels and blankets are not currently needed. Animal Control will not take peoples' released pets but will spay and neuter feral cats. Please leave your donations in the designated basket in the back of the Sanctuary. The Youth Fellowship brings these items to Animal Control each week. Bless you for caring for God's children with fur." If you and your animals are in need, please help yourself to the available donations.

CONTACTING THE PASTORS: Please inform a pastor or the church office (203.874.1982, mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) of pastoral care needs and hospitalizations:

Pastor Brian Bodt can be reached at brian.bodt@yahoo.com; 203.874.1982, ext. 11 or 203.895.3753. He is typically in office **10 am – 1 p.m.**, Mon. – Thurs. Appointments scheduled in advance are always the best way to get his full attention.

Pastor Hal Vink can be reached at 203.878.8977 or vinkhaljane@gmail.com.

Pastor Rachel Duncan can be reached at 203.874.1982 or rachel.e.duncan@gmail.com.

“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 November 1st:

Total worship attendance all services: 207; November 1st: 200; Healing and Wholeness, November 2nd: 7; Total Offerings (minus “Lift Us Up) for November 1st: \$8,267.25; “Lift Us Up” Capital Campaign gifts \$1,323.33; Amount given to Charities and Benevolences: \$1,340.95; Engaged in Small Groups: 109; (Office Volunteers: 3; Sunday School: 46; Confirmation: Cancelled; Isaiah Bible Study: Tues: 10, Wed:12; No rehearsal for Bell Choir or Adult Choir) “Trick or Trot” benefit for Beth-El: 7; UMW Potluck: 31; 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.

ACTIVITIES AND INFORMATION TODAY

OUR “CELEBRATION LUNCHEON” to conclude our New Consecration Sunday program is at the Grassy Hill Country Club, 441 Clark Lane (off Grassy Hill Road), Orange. All are invited to this complimentary luncheon. **There is no Fellowship Time today.** It resumes next Sunday.

METHODIST YOUTH FELLOWSHIP meets from 4-6 p.m. in the Youth Lounge in the Wesley Center with the program “Do you want a piece of me?” based on Mark 12:38-44. All youth grades 7-12 are invited to MYF.

OUR FALL WINTER COAT AND WARM APPAREL DRIVE CONTINUES! Please save gently used coats, sweaters, gloves, hats, scarves and winter boots in all sizes for infant, children, women and men and **leave them in the boxes in the rear of Dodd Hall** from now until Nov. 15. These gifts will be directed to folks in need through the Bridgeport Rescue Mission.

THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER SIGN-UPS continue during Fellowship Time. You can volunteer to serve, cook or donate. The dinner is Thanksgiving Day at 5:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall and open to all. For more information, see Deb Dubien (203.877.4959).

CHRISTMAS AT WESLEY VILLAGE: The residents of Wesley Village dream of Christmas just like we do. Small gifts are all they ask for. Last year Mary Taylor responded as we always do—willingly and joyfully. We have been asked to do that again this year. You will see lists of items requested on pages 12 and 13 in the November Beacon, for residents of Wesley Heights or Bishop Wicke Health Center. **Anything you wish to donate will be greatly appreciated. Questions? Ask Joan Zauner at 203-283-5643. Please do not wrap your gifts, just put them in the bin in Dodd hall by November 15th. Thank you.**

“**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD” SHOEBOXES** express God’s love in a tangible way to needy children around the world. We have participated in this program for a number of years. The flier in today’s bulletin describes what things are to be included in the shoebox. To sponsor a shoebox, please see or contact Cathy Cono (spikkio@optonline.net or 203.645.2362). **Shoeboxes are due to be returned on or before Sunday, November 22nd.**

SEE THE WEEKLY CALENDAR FOR MEETING LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE.

NEXT SUNDAY

BIBLE SUNDAY. Informal hymn singing begins at 9:45 a.m. The message “How Do You Live Your Dash?” will be based on Hebrews 10:11-14; 19-25 and Mark 13:1-8. Bibles will be presented to third graders and last spring’s Confirmation class. After worship, blood pressure screenings will be given in the sanctuary by Carol Galloway, M.S., P.T.

A SOUP SALE hosted by the United Methodist Women will be held during Fellowship Time. Assorted soups at \$5.00 per pint plus baked goods will benefit the mission projects of UMW. If you’d like to make soup or baked goods, please contact Sue O’Shea (203-874-5136 or sueoshea@optonline.net).

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 16th

TAIZE WORSHIP returns on Wednesday, November 18, noon and also on Thursday, November 19, 8:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This monthly contemplative service lasts about 30 minutes and brings peace to one's day.

MORE TIMELY NEWS

REMINDER FROM NANCY BENNETT: BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2016 ARE DUE.

Please submit your budget requests for 2016 to her by email at nancy516@aol.com. Leave them in her church mailbox or give them to her in church. Thank you.

UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE: Don Hastings is concluding reservations for The Upper Room Disciplines, 2016. The order will be placed in **early November**. Copies (regular and large print) are \$10 and may be reserved with Don at 203-877-4554 or nctmwash@aol.com. The Upper Room Disciplines is a daily devotional based on the lectionary, the basis of most sermons on Sunday mornings and is **different** from "The Upper Room" devotional booklets.

A WORSHIP SURVEY was mailed to your home on Friday, October 9th. Please take ten minutes to complete it and return it to the church office in person or by mail (168 S. Broad Street, Milford, 06460) or give it to an usher on Sunday. The purpose of the survey is to determine possible interest for additional worship offerings in accord with our Long Range Plan adopted last June. Thank you in advance for sharing your thoughts with us.

ADDITIONAL MINISTRY INVITATIONS

FELLOWSHIP TIME REMINDER: the first Sunday of the month will now be hosted by a family, couple or group of church friends rather than a committee of the church. Our hope is to involve others besides committee members in this ministry of hospitality. **The first open Sunday is December 6.** A "How to Host Fellowship Time" guide is available and others will help you. It's easy-peasy. To volunteer, sign up in the kitchen in Dodd Hall or call Mary Lou in the church office (203.874.1982, ext. 10)

TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS OR A MISSION CROSS, contact 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 are payable to MTMUMC and mailed to Beth O'Brien, 7 Breakneck Court, 06460.

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.

A FALL YOUTH CONCERT will be presented at the Milford Arts Center, 40 Railroad Avenue South, Milford, on Sunday, November 22 at 3 p.m. Among the performers will be Ryan Rattley, a junior at Amity High School and one of Pastor Brian and Carol's sons. The concert is sponsored by the Orange Arts and Culture Council. Tickets are \$15, Members of OACC \$10. Call 203.397.8915 for tickets or purchase at the door. Proceeds to benefit the Amity Creative Theatre trip to the 2016 Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland.

CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT TO BENEFIT "LIFT US UP"

As announced last Thursday by e-mail, 100 special Christmas ornaments are now available for sale to benefit the "Lift Us Up" campaign. This initiative was approved earlier this year as part of our fund-raising for the handicapped accessible renovations to the Wesley Center. The fund-raising will not be completed until the pledge campaign concludes at the end of 2016.

The ornaments are \$12 each, cash or check payable to "MTMUMC" with the memo "ornament." You may purchase them **today** at the Celebration Luncheon; during Fellowship Time beginning **next Sunday**; and during the week, Mon.-Fri., 9 am – 2 pm at the church office.

The obverse is below. The reverse has a reverse image of the church with the inscription "180 years in Milford, 250 years in America," and "2016," the respective anniversary dates of Methodism in 2016. If demand exceeds supply we will do a re-order.

