



# The BEACON

*Mary Lou Kampert  
Beacon Editor*



*Mary Taylor Memorial  
United Methodist Church*



*The Reverend Dr. Roy Grubbs, Pastor  
Pastor Adeline Hazzard, Caring/Youth Minister  
The Reverend Harold Vink, Theologian in Residence*

**DECEMBER 2023**

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on your  
spiritual journey, you are welcome here!*

203.874.1982 Telephone  
203.877.8973 Fax

e-mail: [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net)  
Website: [www.mtm-umc.org](http://www.mtm-umc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/MTMUMC](http://www.facebook.com/MTMUMC)



## HIDDEN ANGELS

In art class some children were working with plasticine. Plasticine is a clay-like substance that can be used over and over again because it doesn't harden. A girl had made a very nice model of a creature with wings. "See, an angel!" she exclaimed as she held up the figure for all to see. Then she quickly molded the angel back into a ball and asked everyone, "Ok, now what's this?" Nobody could answer, except to say, "A ball?"



"Nope," said the girl. "It's a hiding angel."

Over these past few years, we have come to appreciate the presence of angels hiding among us; angels disguised as firefighters and emergency personnel, health care workers and ambassadors of good will; angels who have joined the existing legions of others who for years have been feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, caring for the sick and in countless other ways have reached out to those in need with love and care and bread.

If the truth be told, some of those angels are inside of us just waiting to be released. All sorts of angels: angels who help those in trouble, angels who comfort those in distress, angels who speak words of truth in difficult situations, angels who make a difference in the world.

So, if you really want to see an angel at Christmastime or any time, you should look very closely at yourself and at others near to you. Angels are there when people are kind to each other and encourage one another, when they are angry at injustice and risk speaking up to right wrongs, when they try hard to love each other and struggle to forgive. Angels are there when people write songs or sing them, when they hug and dance and play in courage and faith, when in the midst of even difficult times like these, they hold fast to hope and do crazy, wonderful, simple things against all odds, just for the joy of it.

When that happens, when hiding angels are unleashed, the One born that night, who so wondrously links heaven and earth, smiles. And the angel inside each of us is given another reason to fly.

Here's hoping the angel inside of you meets up with some other angels this Christmas, giving the world a better picture of our smiling Savior and your life a fuller measure of His love.

Happy Flying,  
*Pastor Roy*



## Schedule of Upcoming Key Events



### ADVENT SCHEDULE:

- Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Advent I – “Hope” Lighting of the Advent Wreath begins; Communion
- Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – Advent II – “Peace”; Baptism
- Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> – Advent III – “Joy”; Christmas Pageant; Christmas Caroling (4:30pm)
- Thursday, December 21 Blue Christmas Service—7:00 pm
- Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Advent IV – “Love” Special Message and Music



### CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

- Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Eve Services (5pm Family & 11pm Candlelight)
- Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> – UM ARMY Service – Wesley Covenant Prayer; Communion

### EPIPHANY SCHEDULE:

- Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> – Epiphany; Come and worship the Newborn King! Holy Communion
- Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> – Baptism of the Lord; Remembering our Baptism
- Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup> – Human Relations Day
- Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – Answering that Call; Installation of Church Leaders



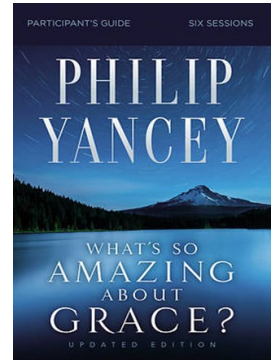


**9:00 a.m. SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER & BOOK STUDY**  
Led by Kerline Poulard in the Wesley Center Library  
A new 6 week book study October 29 – December 3

“What’s So Amazing About Grace” is a testament to the power of God's grace and as a rallying cry to the Christian church to see the acting out of grace as its single most important contribution to the world.

In this study, you'll discover:

- The extent of God's love and what it means for us.
- Why the church seems to have lost the gift of grace-giving and why the world apart from the church can't offer it at all.
- What it would look like for us to truly understand, receive, and give the gift that God gives so generously to us.



Yancey offers compelling and true portraits of grace's life-changing power. He searches for its presence in his own life and in the church. He asks how Christians today can contend graciously with moral issues that threaten all they hold dear. And he challenges each of us to become living answers to a world that desperately wants to know, "what's so amazing about grace?"



**10:00 a.m. TUESDAY MORNING PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY**  
Led by Pastor Roy in the Wesley Center Library

Pastor Roy will facilitate a study on the Gospel of John. This is one of the most powerful books ever written, sharing with us that Jesus is indeed God. All the signs and wonders, the “I Am” sayings, the encounters Jesus had with the people he met...what a tremendous gift!

EVERYONE IS INVITED to this study. So, come and join us for a time of sharing, reflection, and prayer at 10:00am, followed by our study. We will meet in the Library in Wesley Center. What a wonderful way to learn more about our faith and how to love one another. I look forward to seeing you! Pastor Roy

**7:00 p.m. TUESDAY EVENING SCRIPTURE STUDY**  
Led by Nathan Williams via Zoom starting September 12th.

Dial into Zoom each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for an exploration of the week’s lectionary scripture readings. Join Nathan Williams and special guest Rev. Karen Eiler for a deep dive into the history, text, and context of the week’s readings as we find connections between the scriptures and our lives. Everyone is invited.



## Calling all Bakers and Baker Supporters!!!



It's that time of year again!!! The United Women in Faith will host the **annual Cookie Walk<sup>1</sup> on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9AM.** We need bakers to contribute cookies of all shapes and sizes. If you want to buddy up with a fellow baker in the church, we will pair you up.

If you don't bake but would like to donate money or ingredients for your favorite cookie recipe, we will find you a ghost baker!!! If you are a savvy shopper and can grab ingredients for the team, we will send you with a list!!! There's something for everyone!!

If you want to get started early, we have freezers at church to store your fabulous cookie creations (freeze starting DEC. 12<sup>th</sup>). Please reach out to Sheryl Hollyday (203-376-6658) or Rachel Merva (text or call 203-641-5088), this year's cookie walk co-captains for further information or to let us know how you would like to help! The cookie walk is one of our Mary Taylor holiday traditions and provides mission support to several organizations at a critical time of year. Thank you for your support!



The Cookie Walk event invites guests to purchase an empty container (different sizes depending on how many cookies you want to buy) then you walk around the cookie tables and have your box filled by a church volunteer with the cookies you select. All cookies are homemade by our fabulous Mary Taylor bakers and are labeled for your reference.

A trimming station will be available if you'd like to have festive ribbon to tie around the box. Refreshments will be served, and other snacks and holiday décor are available for purchase.

After visiting the cookie walk, visit **Laura's Treasure Trove** downstairs. We feature new and gently used items including Christmas décor. We will be open from 9 a.m.—noon.





## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

*Submitted by Chris McGregor*

*“The organized unit of United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.”*

All women of the church are invited to join United Women in Faith. Here at MTMUMC, we meet on the second Tuesday of each month. We alternate noon and evening meetings to try to accommodate different schedules for the women of this church. Please come to whatever time works for you.

**SECOND SUNDAY SOUP SALE— Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** in Dodd Hall after service. Soup containers are \$5.

We had a special program on Saturday, Nov. 11 as we reflected on **gun violence**. Everyone who attended was moved by testimony from Becky Virgalla and our guest Tara Donnelly. We were joined by Swords into Plowshare who donated a cultivator made from a recycled shotgun to be used in our community garden. During the Wage Peace event that was held in New Haven this fall they also gave us a trowel. We painted 38 hearts with Hearts of Hope to be sent to people experiencing grief or trauma. Thank you to Lisa Gloates who provided our music.

**CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK—** Saturday, Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 a.m. Rachel Merva and Sheryl Holiday will once again be chairing this popular event. Come and choose from a wonderful selection of homemade treats.

Our annual **CHRISTMAS PARTY—** Tuesday Dec. 12 at 6:15. This will be a potluck dinner. Dessert will be provided. **We welcome all women** of the church regardless of whether you are a member of UWF or regularly attend our meetings. There will be entertainment and a sing-a-long. We will also be having a gift swap. This was a favorite of Deb Dubien and in her spirit, we will continue this fun activity:

### CHRISTMAS SOCK EXCHANGE

Fill one of your Holiday Socks  
With an Assortment of Small Treats  
Bring Your Socks to Trade  
And We'll All Have Cozy Feet



Each person brings a new pair of holiday socks. Fill one of the socks with goodies and tie with a bow. Bring the other one loose. Socks will be exchanged “Yankee-Swap Style” – unopened! Spend only **up to \$10.00** – no more. Think themes, - warm hands, movies, tea, coffee, warm feet, candies, small games, etc.... use your imagination.

**The schedule for the coming year:** December 12, 6:15p.m. Christmas Party; January 9, noon; February 13, noon; March 12 7p.m.; April 9, noon; May 14 6:15 p.m. Mother-Daughter Dinner; June 11, noon.

Christine McGregor [Cjmcgregor50@hotmail.com](mailto:Cjmcgregor50@hotmail.com) please send me your email address if you would like to be added to my email list and are not already receiving my updates.



### PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



By Joan Zauner

*“When there are no words, a prayer shawl speaks volumes.”*  
Janet Bristow, co-founder of the prayer shawl ministry.

#### PRAYER SHAWLS ARE AVAILABLE—

Our main goal is to keep supplying Prayer Shawls for our members to have available at all times. Maybe for a severe illness, loss of a loved one, or maybe an attack of depression. We have done that for all our years. Our shawls have travelled to many of our states, and also overseas! They are ready whenever there is a need.

Our next meeting is December 14th at 7:00 p.m. in Wesley Center.

We always welcome new members of our group and will help you get started. Please consider joining us. Call Joan Zauner at 203-283-5643 for additional information.

Prayer shawls are always available after church on Sundays, see Joan Zauner, Phoebe Repetsky or Sue Reynolds, or during the week through the church office. 203-874-1982.



### PARISH HEALTH AND WELLNESS Submitted by Linda Sheehan



#### IT’S TIME TO CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS!

Please help Parish Health and Wellness and our Monthly Community Supper to support our neighbors who have less.

Please donate new or gently used men’s and women’s shoes (no high heels, please) and coats and jackets.

There will be a donation bin available in Dodd hall for distribution at the December Community supper.

Thanks for your help!



### INCLEMENT WEATHER NOTICES



In case of inclement weather on Sundays during the winter, Pastor Roy will consult with church leaders as needed and agree on plans for worship, Sunday School, and other planned activities.

Weather-related closings will be posted on the church voice mail, Yahoo e-mail group, and WTNH (Channel 8).



## “CROSS” TRAINING SUNDAY SCHOOL

Submitted by Gina Grubbs

Hi Friends! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and/or friends! “Cross” Training has been going strong! In October we learned about The Lord’s Prayer, in November we learned about Elizabeth and Zechariah as we prepare for December. And here we are! December we will be hearing the story of the birth of Jesus. It is a story that never gets old! I hope you come and join us!



We will be having a Christmas Pageant this year. December 17<sup>th</sup> is the day! It will be a spontaneous event during the church service but will be lots of fun! This year we are looking for adults as well as children so please let me know if you or your child will be participating no later than December 10<sup>th</sup>.

Stay tuned for more information coming out about our Family Caroling, Cookies, and Cocoa. We will be visiting our friends who cannot make it to church on Sundays and bringing them Christmas Cheer! No singing experience necessary, just JOY in your heart.

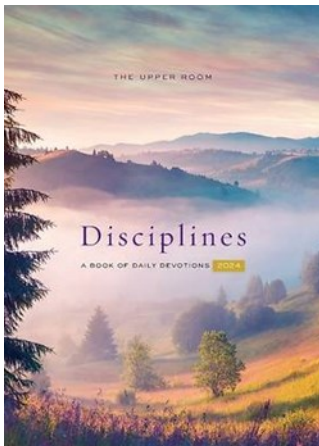


There are a lot of Christmas activities coming up, some planned, and some surprises and we hope to see you there!

Please reach out to Gina at [ginamariegrubbs@gmail.com](mailto:ginamariegrubbs@gmail.com) with ideas, questions, or to volunteer!

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## UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE



The orders taken for the 2024 Upper Room Discipline have come in. The Discipline is a daily devotional based upon the lectionary. Church services at Mary Taylor can be based upon the lectionary readings. If you read the Discipline you could be preparing for the Sunday message each week.

The cost is \$10 for the regular or large print.

Note: The bi-monthly Upper Room Daily Readings found in the back of the Church are NOT the Upper Room Discipline. That publication is not based on the lectionary.

See Don after church or call him at 203-885-3948 to pick up your order.

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## MISSIONS

Submitted by Rachel Merva

### Collecting Presents all Month Long

We will be collecting stocking stuffer and other \$10 or less items all month long to make 50 presents to distribute at our December Community Supper on the 28th! We will have a wrapping party on **Wed., Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at church** to divvy everything up and get these presents wrapped, so if you are free that night to help, please come on down! Spread a little (late month) holiday joy and let our community supper participants know we care about them! Look for the large Christmas Box in Dodd Hall to drop off your donations. (Wrapping paper and bow donations would also be appreciated!)

### December Community Supper

The week between Christmas and New Year's is a time when many people travel or have family gatherings or post-holiday plans. Others may feel exhausted from all the festivities earlier in the month and plan to use that week as quiet downtime to unplug. If you are in town and wondering what to do for dinner on Thurs., the 28<sup>th</sup>, or you haven't had a chance to come before, please think about joining us this month. We serve dinner from 5:30-6:30PM. Come and be in fellowship with our neighbors!

If you'd like to help with any part of the supper, please stay tuned for the sign up which will be posted online shortly or call the Church Office to let them know when you'd like to help.

**Boys & Girls Village Holiday Toy Drive:** The following is a message from Boys & Girls Village re: holiday gifts. As a reminder, Boys & Girls Village, on Wheeler's Farm Rd in Milford serves some of CT's most at-risk children, many who have experienced trauma, neglect, family instability, or mental illness:

*The holiday season is almost here, and at Boys & Girls Village, we are gearing up to bring joy to the over 800 children we serve. We are excited to announce the launch of BGV's Holiday Toy Drive 2023, and we would love for you to be a part of this wonderful cause. Here are some ways you can help us:*

- *Visit our online registry: We've made it simple for you to browse and select gifts that will make these children's wishes come true. Please visit the gift registry to see their wishes. Gifts range in price from \$5 - \$40 and include toys, family games, apparel, and gift cards. Go to the registry link here: <https://www.myregistry.com/organization/bgv-toy-drive-2023-milford-ct/3955572>*

Continued on next page





## MISSIONS—Continued

- *Spread the word: Share this information with your friends, family, and colleagues. The more people who know, the more wishes we can grant.*

The registry will close on Sat., December 9<sup>th</sup> so please do your shopping early!

If you have any questions, please contact Maryann Petremont [mapretremont@yahoo.com](mailto:mapretremont@yahoo.com) or 203-877-0612. If you wish to contribute money for Missions to purchase gifts, please send a check to MTMUMC with the memo: “Boys Girls Village Xmas”.

*Special personal note from Rachel Merva, Missions Chair: As many of you may know, the Christmas wish list at BGV had a special place in the heart of Deb Dubien, one of our prior Missions chairs who passed away earlier this year. In years past, the BGV would provide Deb with gift tags that had a child’s name and a wish list item. Deb put these gift tags on a tree in Dodd Hall and parishioners would take a tag and shop for these children. Deb would deliver all the gifts to BGV in mid-December, even shopping for any leftover gift tags that hadn’t been taken.*

*One of my most special Christmas memories came from my son when he was a teenager and secretly picked a gift tag off the tree, shopped for the gift, and brought it back to church to put with the other donations. After church he came up to me and took the present out of the bag with a big smile and told me what he’d done. My eyes filled with tears of joy, and I hugged him and thanked him for thinking of the children at BGV. While some traditions change, the memory of Deb’s love of this organization and her leadership with that gift tag tree each Christmas will always remain with me and my family.*



Eileen Potkay Murphy and

Marie Marczak

Donated over 300 pairs of socks,  
Collected at Mary Taylor Memorial,  
to the elderly residents  
in the Civita Care Center on  
Orange Avenue in Milford.



## PRIME TIMERS

Submitted by Helene Dellert



Our mission is to enhance the spiritual and social lives of adults (55 and older) through fun and fellowship.

**SATURDAY – DECEMBER 30 – 12 NOON TO 2 PM –  
NEW YEAR'S EVE LUNCHEON (One Day Early)**

**Come celebrate 2023 and welcome 2024!**

**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED BY PRIME TIMERS!**

### COMING in 2024...

**PRIME TIMERS ARE GOING TO THE DOWNTOWN CABARET IN BRIDGEPORT TO SEE...**

**ONE HOT NIGHT – A TRIBUTE TO NEIL DIAMOND**

(Sweet Caroline, Solitary Man, Kentucky Woman...)

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON – APRIL 6, 2024 - 3:30 PM SHOW**

**By purchasing 30 tickets, the cost per ticket will be \$39.00. (That's a \$10.00 savings!)**

**It is a BYO Beverages, Appetizers and Desserts format.**

**WE NEED TO PURCHASE THESE TICKETS NOW TO GUARANTEE OUR SEATS!**

**Please call Helene at 203-878-8801 to reserve your ticket.**



**3 Day Tour—May 14-16, 2024 A Biblical Show in Amish Country**  
**"DANIEL" is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the Bible's most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres, in Lancaster, PA.**

See the flyer on the next page.



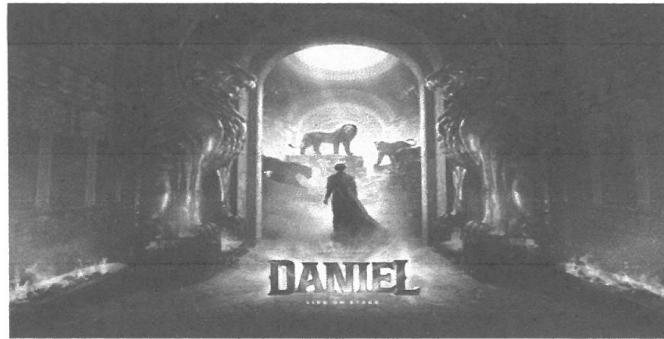


The Prime Timers at Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church present a Biblical Show in Amish Country!

# “DANIEL” is coming to Lancaster, PA

From the fiery furnace to the infamous den of lions, “DANIEL” is a spectacular theatrical experience for the whole family. Witness one of the Bible’s most hope-filled stories as it comes to life in this brand-new original stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres!

## 3 Day Tour - May 14-16, 2024



### Package Includes:

- Roundtrip Deluxe Motor Coach
- 2 Nights at the lovely EDEN RESORT
- 2 Breakfast Buffets at the Hotel
- Longwood Gardens Admission
- Dinner Show with Joey Vincent at Resort
- Dinner in an actual Amish Home
- “DANIEL” at the Sight & Sound Theater
- RESERVED Great Orchestra Seats
- Guided Amish Country Farmland Tour
- Pretzel & Root Beer Stand visit
- Hershey Chocolate World
- Kitchen Kettle Village
- Baggage Handling & All Taxes
- Driver’s Gratuity



# \$575 pp

Double Occupancy

Triple \$545 Single \$735

Trip Cancellation Protection

Only \$49 per person

**\$100 deposit due at Sign Up**

Payment Due: 3/15/24



Dinner in an Amish Home



For Reservations call  
**Helene Dellert**  
**(203) 878-8801**



**Bus Departs 7:30 am**  
*Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church Parking Lot  
Milford, CT*  
*Returns at approx. 7:30pm*





# U.M. ARMY NORTHEAST YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS CAMP IS BACK!!!

DECEMBER 26-31, 2023

MARY TAYLOR MEMORIAL UMC, MILFORD, CT  
HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & UP ARE WELCOME!

Register your group at [umarmy.org](https://www.umarmy.org)  
Attending by yourself? Register at:  
[https://www.umarmy.net/Registration/  
Single/Northeast/umarmy.org](https://www.umarmy.net/Registration/Single/Northeast/umarmy.org)





**DRAGONFLY MINISTRIES**

Dragonfly Ministries is part of the Caregiving Ministry program for Mary Taylor Memorial UMC. This ministry is an individual healing service which would provide a combination of music, prayer, anointing and laying on of hands, and communion.

The individuals that are considered for this ministry are the homebound, hospice patient, hospital patient, pre and post-surgical patient, and or someone facing a difficult time in their life and need the presence of the God who loves, the Jesus who heals and the Holy Spirit who reveals the love and healing.

Mark Platt and a small group of church folk would come to provide a sacred place for love and healing.



If you would like a Dragonfly Service for yourself or recommend one for a loved one, call Adeline Hazzard 203-732-4450

Or call the church office 203-874-1982 to make arrangements for this ministry.

**TRANSPORTATION AND CAREGIVER GUIDELINES**

The Caregiving ministry of the Mary Taylor Memorial UMC provides transportation to members and others to worship on Sunday Mornings and other worship opportunities. Transport to other church events such as Community Dinners or committee meetings. This ministry is available for Medical Appointments as well.



If you or a loved one needs a ride call Adeline Hazzard at the

Church 203-874-1982 or

Cell 203-736-4450

We ask that you give Adeline as much time as possible 24 hours is most helpful, of course if there needs to be an immediate need, we will do our best with God's help to serve our members.

**"I'd Rather be Coloring"  
Come Join us!  
Thursday December 28, 2023  
3-5pm**  
Note the change, the fourth Thursday.  
**Supplies provided in the Library  
Hot & Cold Beverages**

**Youth Activities  
for the month of December:  
Creating Christmas Craft items  
for our shut-ins.  
Caroling to our shut-ins with  
the craft items.**





## Notice to our Congregation



### It's time to think about a Christmas Gift for our Staff

As in previous years, your Staff/Parish Relations Committee will be collecting monetary Christmas gifts for our staff.

If you wish to contribute, you can do so by cash or check. Present your gift to any member of the SPRC. Checks should be made out to Mary Taylor Memorial UMC, with "staff Christmas gift" on the notation line. Cash should be placed in an envelope with your name and "staff Christmas gift" on it.

The members of the SPRC are: Shelly Lapadula, Leigh Bak, Laura Perregaux, Marcia Winter, Jerry Dellert, Ty Gage, Lisa Sobolewski, and Jackie Paton.

We will be collecting your gifts until Sunday, December 10th. At this joyous and giving time of the year, we thank you.

Shelly Lapadula SPRC Chairperson

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



**WE WILL BE DECORATING THE SANCTUARY WITH POINSETTIAS AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR CHRISTMAS.**

The cost will be \$15 and you may make your check out to the Mary Taylor Flower Fund.

**Mail your check and this form to the church office.**

**NOTE THE FIRM DEADLINE!**

**The FIRM deadline for ordering plants is WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13th.**

**Please print legibly.**

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

# of plants: \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount \_\_\_\_\_

**The plants may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve.**

Please remember our church members who are confined to their homes or hospitals and gift them with your poinsettia on Christmas day or later.



# Laura's Treasure Trove



Thank you to everyone who helped make our October 1/2 Price Sale a success.

We will begin accepting donations sometime in February or early March 2024 (date to be announced.)

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Jewelry can be donated at any time all year.  
(Costume, fine jewelry, even broken silver and gold.)

Please call Bev Downing at 203-676-5581  
or Jane Ayers at 203-494-2415  
to make arrangements.

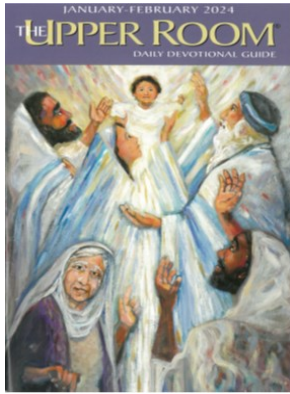
## **\* IMPORTANT CHANGE IN DONATION POLICY \***

Due to a noticeable decline in clothing and shoe sales, we are trying something different for 2024.

We will NOT be accepting the following items:  
Clothing • Shoes • Belts • Scarves

*Looking forward to next season!*

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**JANUARY/FEBRUARY UPPER ROOM is available.**

**Copies are in the Sanctuary, or call the office at 203-874-1982 and I will drop one in the mail for you, or you may stop by and pick one up.**

**DID YOU CHANGE YOUR PHONE NUMBER OR YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS ?? PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW SO WE CAN UPDATE OUR DATA BASE. 203.874.1982 THANKS!**



**ANIMAL SHELTER DONATIONS:**

Wet and dry cat food and wet dog food is needed for seniors with pets and for the canine facility. Towels and blankets are 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, or drop them by the office during the 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.

**PARISH HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

**Will administer Blood Pressure Screenings on the 3rd Sunday of each month In the Sanctuary after service.**



**Thanks to our blood pressure team:**

**Leigh Bak, Adeline Hazzard, Sheryl Hollyday, and Nancy Sengstacken**



**FROM THE STAFF~**

**Pastor Roy  
Pastor Adeline  
Rick  
Mary Lou  
&  
Andy**







**ALTAR FLOWERS AND MISSION CROSS ORDERS  
are welcomed anytime.**



Flowers are \$20, payable to MTMUMC and mailed or given to Mary Lou Kampert at the church office. A donation in lieu of altar flowers is honored with a cross and miniature mission scarf placed on the altar. If you would like to place an order please contact Mary Lou at 203-874-1982 or [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) to arrange a suitable date.



**A REMINDER ABOUT CARE BY THE PASTOR....**

**CONTACT THE PASTOR—  
for pastoral care needs, or if you just want to talk!  
Reach out for yourself, or tell them that someone you know needs a call.**

You can contact our pastor through the church office at 203.874.1982, [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net), or directly to Pastor Roy at 914.330.1789



**OFFICE HOURS  
Monday—Friday  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



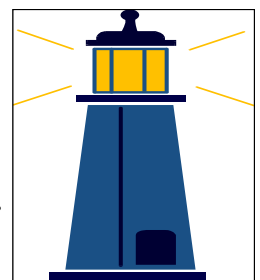
**COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22 at 5:30 P.M.**

If you can help, contact Rachel Merva at 203-641-5088



**JANUARY BEACON DEADLINE IS  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH.**

Please submit materials on or before this date to [mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net) or a hard copy to the church office.





### WE'D LIKE TO WISH YOU A HAPPY BIRTHDAY....



...but we can't if we don't have it in our database.

It is always possible that these special dates were previously provided us. If so, you have our apology for any oversight and our request to please try again. And whenever your special day is, may God who has blessed you with this milestone smile on you and your celebration.



Sincerely,

Mary Lou Kampert ([mtmumc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mtmumc@sbcglobal.net); 203.874.1982, ext. 110)



### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



**MTM CLUB 80 MEMBERS**—are listed below in **bold**.

If your birthday is not listed and should be, or if there are other birthdays needing changing, please call the Office at 203-874-1982. Thank you!

- 6th Gregory D'Andrea
- 7th Heidi Shamansky  
Steven Clark  
**Carole Sattler**
- 8th Shari Murzyn
- 9th Julia Rodriguez  
Christine McGregor
- 10th William Pitre
- 13th Amber Shufelt
- 15th Joshua Nunes
- 17th Paul Daneault  
Edmund Pineau
- 18th Joshua Paton  
Tim Pitts
- 19th Beverly Lebel  
Alexia Poloski
- 20th Eric Georgelos  
Craig Thompson



- 20th Jerry Dellert
- 21st **Frances Merva**  
Paul Downing
- 22nd Ashley Kozlowski
- 24th Gianni Cono  
Daniel Levine
- 25th Noel Fino  
**Carol Alex**
- 26th Emily Hulak
- 27th **Laura Loesch**
- 29th Betty Daneault  
Kathleen Georgelos  
Tara Volgmuth  
Becky Virgalla
- 30th Sandra Morgan
- 31st Laura Holloway  
Richard Riccardi  
Gail Hulak





DECEMBER 2023

Sun 26	Mon 27	Tue 28	Wed 29	Thu 30	Fri 1	Sat 2
10:00 AM Worship Service	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM Adult Choir rehearsal	6:00 PM Prime Timers Craft-Eileen Doyle		9:00 AM Cookie Walk-Dodd Hall 9:00 AM Lauras Treasure Trove-open today 12:30 PM Sanctuary Decorating 6:00 PM Footsteps in the Sand-meeting & Polluck - Dodd Hall
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Church Council meeting - Sanctuary	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel 7:15 PM Missions meeting - Library	10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM Adult Choir rehearsal			
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10:00 AM Worship Service	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 6:15 PM United Women in Faith-Christmas Party-Dodd Hall 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM Adult Choir rehearsal	7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry-Library		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Christmas Caroling - TBD 10:00 AM Worship Service	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM Adult Choir rehearsal	3:00 PM Coloring - Dodd Hall 7:00 PM Blue Christmas service		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10:00 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight service	Christmas - the office is closed 6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	Christmas Holiday - the office is closed 8:00 AM U M ARMY Camp 10:00 AM NO Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	8:00 AM U M ARMY Camp 9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM NO Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM NO Adult Choir rehearsal	8:00 AM U M ARMY Camp 5:30 PM Community Supper - Dodd Hall	8:00 AM U M ARMY Camp	12:00 PM Prime Timers Luncheon
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
8:00 AM U M ARMY Camp 10:00 AM Worship Service	New Year's Day - the office is closed 6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer & Bible Study-Library 7:00 PM Scripture Study via Zoom	9:00 AM Happy Feet Walking Group - MT Parking lot 6:40 PM Bells rehearsal-Dodd Hall 7:45 PM Adult Choir rehearsal	7:00 PM Trustees meeting - Dodd Hall		

# The BEACON

Mary Taylor Memorial United Methodist Church  
168-176 South Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460-4728

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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**DECEMBER 2023**