



*Mary Lou Kampert
Beacon Editor*



The BEACON

*Mary Taylor Memorial
United Methodist Church*



*The Reverend Dr. Roy Grubbs, Pastor
Pastor Adeline Hazzard, Caring/Youth Minister*

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

DECEMBER 2025

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203.877.8973 Fax

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Website: www.mtm-umc.org
www.facebook.com/MTMUMC



December 2025 Newsletter – Pastor's Column

Happy New Year! No; my calendar is not a page off. Did you know that Advent not only marks the beginning of a new liturgical season, it also marks the beginning of a new church year? During this time, we prepare for the coming of Christ into our lives, into the world, in a new way. Advent is a season of “expectant waiting.”

In this case, “waiting” does not necessarily mean doing nothing until something happens. On the contrary, “expectant waiting” is much more active. It means doing those things that help prepare our hearts for the hope, peace, joy, and love that God intends for us through Christ. Advent is a time to clear away the distractions as we anticipate, as we expect the Light of Christ to shine in us and through us. Once the Light comes, we can “see,” and journey down the road with Jesus.

For me, this is a time of reflection as we transition to a new year. I think back to all that God has blessed us with over these past months. I am very thankful for the improvements we have made to our church building and the parsonage. But I am most thankful for the spiritual deepening that is taking place in our congregation and for Christ's message of hope and peace reaching out into our community. I give thanks for the love that pours forth from our church family, for our growing mission programs in the community and the world, and for our mission trips where we served and grow together. I am thankful for all the new people in our church and the ways they are already making an impact in our ministry. I am also thankful for our Adult Education classes, for the gift of music so prevalent in this church, and for the Spirit touching us in worship in very special ways. I am thankful for so many gifted leaders who give so much of themselves for Christ; for our children and youth who bring so much excitement and energy to our church; for all those who worship and serve here at MTMUMC, growing together as the One Body of Christ.

Continued on next page



From the Pastor ~ Continued

As we transition from a season of “Thanks” to this special season of “expectant waiting,” I can only wonder what this new year will bring for all of us. I look forward in anticipation to see what Christ will do in us and through us this year. I pray that God helps us to ready our hearts and our lives to joyfully receive Jesus into our lives in a new way.

From our United Methodist Hymnal, #196, Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus
Come thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the Earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal spirit, rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.

Peace,
Pastor Roy

SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP THEMES

- Nov 30 – Advent I: Hope
- Dec 7 – Advent II: Peace; Holy Communion
- Dec 14 – Advent III: Joy
- Dec 18— Blue Christmas (at 7:00 p.m.)
- Dec 21 – Advent IV: Love

CHRISTMAS

- Dec 24 – 5pm Family Service; Holy Communion
11pm Candlelight Service; Holy Communion
- Dec 28 – Christmas II





7:00 p.m. **THURSDAY** EVENING SCRIPTURE STUDY

Led by Nathan Williams via Zoom

Dial into Zoom each Thursday at 7:00 p.m. for an exploration of the week's **lectionary** scripture readings. Join Nathan Williams 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.

10:00 a.m. **FRIDAY** MORNING PRAYER & BIBLE STUDY

Led by Pastor Roy in the Wesley Center Library—

The study will explore I & II Samuel. All are Welcome!



UNITED IN MISSION -U.M.ARMY Mission Weeks

We are very busy getting ready for our 2026 camp season. Our first camp will be a Pop-Up on Martin Luther King Weekend, January 16th – 18th. Camp will begin on Friday evening at 5pm and will go until Sunday evening. This is a local camp so local people can go home to shower and sleep. If sleeping accommodations are needed please speak to Gina Grubbs 914-330-2599 or Laura Perregaux 203-520-8183. Please visit our website umarmy.org for more information.

We are also having camps this summer in Milford CT., Scranton PA and Centerport NY.

Dates for those camps are as follows:

Mary Taylor Memorial Milford CT Mixed Age July 5-11

Centerport UMC Centerport NY Mixed Age July 12-18

Elm Park UMC Scranton PA Mixed Age July 19-25

Registration is now open for these camps. Mary Taylor Youth and Adults will be attending Centerport NY the week of July 12th but if that week does not work for you, you can attend either one of the other weeks.

Any questions please contact Laura Perregaux 203-520-8183. Cost for camps are 150.00 per person for the Pop-Ups and 350.00 for week long camps. We do have scholarships available. Each individual is responsible for the deposit of 75.00.



**9:00 a.m. SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER & BOOK STUDY**

Led by Kerline Poulard in the Wesley Center Library

All are welcome!

6:00 p.m. MONDAY EVENING PRAYER CIRCLE

Led by Nathan Williams & Holly Firmender

In the Wesley Center Chapel

Every Monday at 6:00 p.m. in the Wesley Center Chapel, Mary Taylor Memorial UMC members gather to share stories of how God is moving in their lives and lift up the prayer concerns of our entire church community. It's a sacred time spent in fellowship but not necessarily a somber time – in fact, we spend much of our time together rejoicing in each other's "praise reports." Praise Reports put us in mind of the many ways our lives are blessed each week, and how blessings can surprise us, emerging from all directions! From a special interaction while standing in line at Scratch Bakery, to the joys of reconnecting with family and loved ones, an inspirational Footsteps meeting, or a special moment recalled from the Sunday Service – we celebrate and give praise to God for gifts big and small.

Of course, we also lift up the Prayers of the People when we gather. Each week, an email request for prayer concerns goes out to the entire church, asking for prayer concerns that people can share from their hearts. My prayer co-leader (and our fantastic church lay leader), Holly Firmender, gathers these together for us to share prayerfully. If you don't receive the weekly email request for prayers please call the office at 203-874-1982 so we can email you one. All of us gathered in the chapel will lift up your prayers and ask for God's blessing. The technical term for what we are doing is "intercessory prayer," but all that really means is that we are praying on behalf of others. It's an age-old tradition that dates back to the very earliest days of the church.

If you're looking for a peaceful, joyful time in intimate fellowship with the Lord, we warmly invite you to take a break from your busy schedule and join us next week! It's a beautiful opportunity to connect with your church community, share your joys and concerns, and deepen your relationship with God. We look forward to seeing you there! To learn more, please contact any regular leader: Nathan Williams 504-957-5571, or Holly Firmender 203-530-2621 .





United
Women
In Faith

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Submitted by Christine 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, September through June. 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 will take place on **Dec. 14th in Dodd Hall after the service.** Soup containers are \$5. Our November sale raised \$345! Thank you to all soup makers and soup lovers.

United Women in Faith Christmas Cookie Walk will be held on **Saturday, Dec. 6th at 9A.M.** Rachel Merva and Sheryl Hollyday will once again be chairing this popular event. Come and choose from a wonderful selection of homemade treats. All proceeds from the sale of cookies support the Missions of UWF focusing on women and children.

Our annual **Christmas Party** will be held on **Tuesday Dec. 9th at 6:00.** This year, as we are unable to have it in Dodd Hall, **Leigh Bak has graciously offered to have the party at her house.** Rather than a pot luck dinner, we will be having appetizers/finger foods and desserts.

From Leigh:

Join with other United Women in Faith as we celebrate the BEST GIFT EVER: our Savior, the Christ Child! **Our Christmas Party will be at my home at 18 Helwig Street on Tuesday December 9th at 6 PM.** The link to our SignUp Genius to RSVP and to offer an appetizer, dessert or beverage is: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA8A823ABF9C07-60564777-united>

We will have our traditional Sock Gift Exchange. If you want to participate, "wrap" your gift (a \$10 limit is suggested) in one tied sock and bring the matching sock for the drawing! Parking at the top of the driveway is quite limited, so please plan to carpool with friends. There is ample parking across the street at Lisman Landing, 37 Helwig Street, with a short walk up the driveway or front steps. For more information see Chris, Leigh or Becky

Our next meeting will be January 13th at noon in Dodd Hall. At that meeting we will install our officers for the coming year: Leigh Bak, President; Becky Virgalla, Vice-President; Helene Dellert, Secretary; Lisa Sobolewski, Treasurer; Beth O'Brien, Liz Dillon, Melodie Velez, Nominating Committee.

This is the schedule for the coming year: January 13, noon; February 10, noon; March 10, 7PM; April 14, noon; May 12 6:00 PM Mother-Daughter Dinner; June 9, noon.



2026 UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINE REPORT

Copies of the 2026 Upper Room Discipline were distributed to about 85 Mary Taylor Memorial UMC members, some of whom are homebound. 18 books were distributed to Monroe UMC. Some of the remaining were distributed to members of Footsteps who use them as part of their Reunion Groups,

Each year more books are ordered than were requested so there are some left for anyone who would like to have reading the Bible as part of their faith journey. A New Year's Resolution to read the Bible daily would be a nice way to start 2026. The 2026 Upper Room Discipline meditations are based upon the lectionary which is adhered to by many denominations.

If you are interested in being part of the Mary Taylor family that reads the Bible daily please contact Don Hastings.

**"I'd Rather be Coloring"
Come Join us!**

WILL RESUME IN JANUARY

3-5pm in The Library Supplies provided Always fun.



MESSY CHURCH

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19TH 5:30—7:30 PM IN DODD HALL
JESUS HAS A BIRTHDAY!**

Please RSVP to Pastor Adeline 203-736-4450 or use the sign-up genius.



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.



Changes are coming! After 18 years Prayer Shawl Ministry is getting a new leader. Barb Wicks has volunteered to be that person. I'm sure she will have some new ideas, and that may be what we need, but the basic premise of making shawls and having them ready for your needs will not change. So—Welcome Barb Wicks!

Our next meeting is Thursday December 11th at 7pm in the Wesley Center Library.

Call Joan Zauner at 203-283-5643 for additional information.

Prayer shawls are always available after church on Sundays, see Joan Zauner, or Phoebe Repetsky or

during the week through the church office. 203-874-1982.

FINANCIAL DONATIONS AND YARN DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED.



DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

We will be collecting **CANNED FRUITS & CANNED VEGGIES.**

The collection bins are in the back of the Sanctuary and in Wesley Center.

If you would like to help with the Purple Pantry, please call Shelley

Lapadula at 203-258-2777 or email her at m.lapadula@rubens-lazinger.com.

THE MISSION COMMITTEE is currently collecting fall and winter clothing and footwear to offer the members of our community who attend our Community Supper each month.

Personal hygiene items are also gratefully appreciated. There is a box labeled for the donations under the name tags in the side entrance. Please contact Beth O'Brien if you have any questions. Thank you.





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.



THE GAME GURUS.

This group gathers on the **THIRD MONDAY** of the month to play games—all kinds! Although games will be provided, you are welcome to bring your own.

THE GAME GURUS WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

The next meeting will be January 19th at 1:00 p.m. in Dodd Hall

Please contact Linda Sheehan at 203-283-5362 to confirm your attendance and/or for more information.



READERS RENDEZVOUS – QUARTERLY BOOK CLUB

When Breath Becomes Air by Paul Kalanithi

will be discussed at our next meeting –
hosted by Linda Sheehan and Lisa Sobolewski

on Tuesday - February 17th – at 10:30 A.M. in DODD HALL.

Please call or text Lisa Sobolewski at 203-530-9478 to confirm your attendance and/or for more information.

HAPPY FEET WALKING GROUP

Walkers meet every Wednesday at 9:15 AM.

For details, please contact Maryann Petremont at mapetremont@yahoo.com
or at 203-415-0544.



LUNCH BUNCH

WOMEN: 12:30 P.M. – Wednesday - December 3rd at Gusto's Restaurant

MEN: 12:30 P.M.—Wednesday—December 10th at SBC.

Please confirm your attendance with Helene or Jerry at 203-878-8801.

MONDAY December 8th—Amazing Christmas Show at the Aqua Turf -

Rock This Town Orchestra - swingin' with the 50s and 60s.

See the flyer on the next page for complete details.

Saturday, DECEMBER 27TH—12:30 p.m. in Dodd Hall. End of Year & Ring in the New Year luncheon celebration! Our very own Nita Pryor will be sharing a special message with us! Please confirm your attendance with Helene at 203-878-8801.

Continued on next page



PRIME TIMERS Continued

SAVE
THE
DATE

March 10th: An IRISH COUNTRY CELEBRATION—This show takes you on a musical journey through songs, stories, and the lilt of Irish laughter. A flyer will appear in the January Beacon.



The Prime Timers presents...
"Rock this Town Orchestra"
Amazing Christmas Show
Swingin' with the 50's and 60's



at the lovely Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT
Monday December 8, 2025

ROCK THIS TOWN ORCHESTRA Swingin' you through the 50's & 60's covering artists such as Louis Prima, Bobby Darin, Eddie Cochran, Richie Valens, Frank Sinatra, Johnny Cash, Brian Setzer Orchestra, Bill Haley and The Comets, Glen Miller Orchestra, Buddy Holly, The Stray Cats, Dean Martin, Benny Goodman, Gene Vincent, Elvis Presley, and many more.. It is at the forefront of the swing revival in popular music, blending a vibrant fusion of the American sounds of classic 50's rock & roll and big band swing with the energy and spirit of contemporary culture.

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Delicious Plated Family Style Luncheon at the amazing AQUA TURF CLUB
- **ROCK this TOWN ORCHESTRA** Christmas Show "Swinging with the 50's & 60's Songs"
- Meal Taxes and Gratuities
- Driver gratuity

Family Style Luncheon
Homemade Soup
Yankee Pot Roast
&
Baked Scrod
Rolls & Butter
Vegetable & Potato
Dessert - Coffee & Tea
Meal subject to change

**Benny Goodman**

For Reservations call
Helene Dellert
(203) 878-8801

**Bobby Darin**

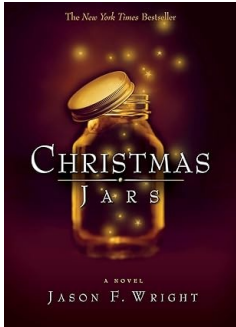
**BILL
HALEY**
& HIS COMETS
ROCK AROUND
THE CLOCK



Bus Departs 10:00 am
*Mary Taylor Memorial United
Methodist Church Parking Lot
Milford, CT*



\$131
Per Person



The Christmas Jars tradition is underway at Mary Taylor!

You read the book, you filled a jar with spare change, so now what? Here comes the hard part. It's time to decide WHO will receive your jar and HOW you are going to deliver it.

Remember, you want to remain anonymous!

We will meet in January to share our experiences and feelings about The Christmas Jars Tradition. We HOPE you have a wonderful experience!

Merry Christmas! Don Hastings & Becky Virgalla

ART SALE ~

Sunday December 7th in Dodd Hall after service

Karen Keane is selling small paintings to benefit the [Purple Pantry Ministry](#).
Cash or check only please.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT

Please join us for a Christmas craft on December 13th from 12-2 p.m. in Dodd Hall.

We will be making an adorable lighted snowman globe.

The cost is \$20 or \$15 with 3 non perishable food items.

Please bring glue guns and scissors. All other items will be supplied.

This is an on going fundraiser for the [Purple Pantry](#) box that we fill daily at MTMUMC.



Contact Eileen Murphy at 203-809-0188 or Sheryl Hollyday at 203-376-6658 to reserve your spot.

Space is limited to 25 individuals.

Thanks to our November craft participants, we raised \$300 in monetary funds and \$300 in non perishable items!



Please join us on Sunday December 14th at 2pm
for an afternoon of intergenerational Christmas caroling!

How? Join in our annual intergenerational *“Ringing and Singing in the Season”* event for shut-in members & friends of Mary Taylor Memorial UMC.

Who? Anyone from the youngest child to the “most grown-up”, and everyone in between. You do *not* need to have exceptional musical talent to participate; just a desire to share the joy of the season. Please plan to join us, and bring your friends and family; “the more the merrier” certainly applies here.



When? Sunday December 14th; we’ll meet in Dodd Hall at 2 PM for a brief “rehearsal”. Then we’ll head out by carpool to ring & sing for a few of our members.

After caroling, we’ll return to the Parsonage, 47 Commodore Place for refreshments and fellowship. Please speak with Leigh (203.215.0470 or LeighB619@gmail.com) or Gina (914.330.2599 or ginamariegrubbs@gmail.com) if you would like to bring “refreshments” to share.

Why? Because we’ll brighten the lives of our shut-in friends in a fun and easy way.

Warning: This activity may brighten your life and holiday season as well!



Date: Sunday, December 7th

Time: 2-4pm

Where: Dodd Hall at MTMUMC

This is an RSVP event so that we can have the correct number of houses and building supplies available. RSVP to Gina at ginamariegrubbs@gmail.com or (914-330-2599) by December 1st.

Hope to see you there!



MISSIONS

Submitted by Rachel Merva

Missions Beacon Article

December 2025

- **Missions Meeting:** Our monthly Missions meeting will be held in person on Monday evening just after the prayer time in Wesley Center. Please join us from 7:15PM-8:30PM where we can plan and strategize about the mission and outreach programs we are involved in. Our next meeting is Mon. **Dec. 1st**. These meetings are open to all.
- **All In for Milford Monthly Gathering:** Thurs., **Dec. 4th**. Please join us for All In for Milford's December Community Gathering! This month we will come together at Chimichurri for a relaxed evening of refreshments and socializing while celebrating each other with stories of gratitude and success in 2025. Enjoy a holiday snack or beverage as we look ahead to the coming year. Doors open at 6PM with refreshments and the program runs from 6:30-8PM. We are working on food insecurity, housing, environmental issues and transportation. Come and join the work!
- **Community Supper:** Since the 4th Thursday of December is on Christmas Day this year, other organizations have already volunteered to cover meals for the day. Please share and support the following: **The Elks** is hosting a roast beef dinner at their location, 124 New Haven Ave. for lunchtime and **"Cooked with Love"** is hosting an in-person Holiday meal at 5PM at Beth El Center. See the Cooked with Love facebook page for details.
- **NO Freeze Overflow Volunteers / Upcoming Training:** We are looking for volunteers to stay overnight with guests during the 2025-26 No Freeze season which runs from Dec. 1st to March 31st. Training is required before you can volunteer. See below for December scheduled training dates/times. The Sign Up Genius for filling volunteer slots will be available shortly. For any questions, please contact Kaylyn Crawford, ph. 917-946-4277:
 - **In-person at Beth_El Center on Monday December 8th 5-7 PM**
 - **Virtual (via Zoom) on Friday December 12th 12 noon -2 PM**

You can **register for training** by emailing Beth-El: Info@BethElMilford.org or by scanning this QR



code:



You can **view the Volunteer Description** here:



MISSIONS Continued

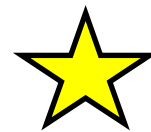


- TEAM, Inc. Toys for Kids Toy Collection: You can make this holiday season brighter for those families in need by bringing new unwrapped toys to the collection boxes in the main church building or in Wesley Center **now through December 10th**. Your generous contribution will directly impact the families in our community by helping create memories that will last a lifetime. By donating to TEAM Toys 4 Kids, you will be helping nearly 2,000 children right here in our community have a wonderful holiday this year. TEAM Toys 4 Kids serves children in need, from newborns to age 12. All families

are welcome to apply! No income limit. Applications will open online on November 3 and close on December 10th. Children must live in one of the following towns: Ansonia, Beacon Falls, Bethany, Derby, Milford, Orange, Oxford, Seymour, Shelton or Woodbridge. Once your application is approved, you will be sent a link to sign up for an appointment to visit our Toy Store in Shelton & pick out some toys!

****[PARENTS ONLY IN TOY STORE - NO CHILDREN]**** Toy shopping for age 0-9; and gift cards provided for ages 10-12. Go to www.teaminc.org/toys4kids

- Coat Drive continues: We will collect new or gently used coats, warm clothing and socks for men, women and children again for the month of December. Please bring donations to the bin in Dodd Hall. We will support our local and regional community with these donations, including our community supper attendees and Bridgeport Rescue Mission.
- Purple Pantry Boxes for December - Canned fruit and canned veggies.



*Rick
James
Adeline
Mary Lou
Pastor Roy*



TRANSPORTATION & 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 Pastor Adeline Hazzard on her cell at 203-736-4450. We ask that you give Adeline as much time as possible, 24 hours is most helpful. Of course if there is an immediate need, we will do our best with God's help to serve our members.

CARING MINISTRIES

Pastor Adeline

Caregivers are a vital part of the Mary Taylor UMC ministry. Thank you to those who provide for this ministry. There have been many visits with our shut-ins, those hospitalized, some post operative care. We have provided transportation for several patients who needed rides to Doctor visits, chemo treatments, and day surgeries. Without the dedication of our volunteers all these activities would not be possible.

Communion Visits are provided to those who are shut in, homebound, in a facility or request them because of short term illnesses. These congregants are unable to worship in person on Sunday Mornings. A time of fellowship a discussion of how God works in our lives and the Lord's Prayer is always offered.

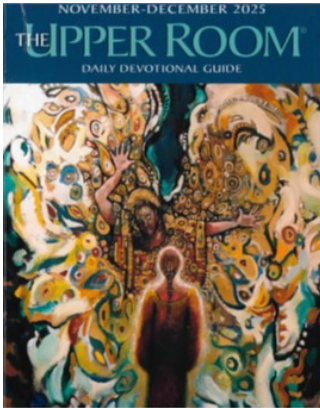
This caregiving ministry is a blessing not only to those who are provided care and prayer but also for those who are delivering the care and prayer and sacred space for the Holy Spirit to be among us.

My thanks to those who readily volunteer to offer friendly visits, rides, and spiritual support. May God Bless You as you endeavor to do his work in the world that needs light, love, grace, and mercy.

If you or a loved one is in need of our caregiving ministry, please contact the church office at 203-874-1982 or Adeline Hazzard 203-736-4450

Peace and Blessings,
Adeline Hazzard





NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 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, Anne Marie Levesque
and Nancy Sengstacken

PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG during Sunday service.
Are you new? Have we met?



The name tags are at the entrances to the church.
If you don't have one, please call the office at 203-874-1982 or see
Holly Firmender so that we can make one for you. Thanks!



ALTAR FLOWERS AND MISSION CROSS ORDERS are welcomed anytime.



Flowers are **\$35**, 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 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, or
directly to Pastor Roy at 914.330.1789



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



NO COMMUNITY SUPPER AT MTMUMC

THURSDAY, **DECEMBER 25TH**

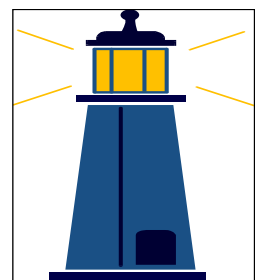
BETH-EL CENTER WILL BE SERVING DINNER AT BETH-EL

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



JANUARY BEACON DEADLINE IS **MONDAY, DECEMBER 15TH**

Please submit materials on or before this date to
mtmumc@sbcglobal.net or a hard copy to the church office.





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 would like to contribute, you can do so by cash or check. Checks should be made payable to Mary Taylor Memorial UMC, with "staff Christmas gift" in the memo. Cash should be placed in an envelope with your name on and "staff Christmas gift" on the envelope. Please place your gift in the offering vessels.

Any questions, please see Shelly Lapadula.

We will be collecting gifts until Sunday, December 14, 2025. At this joyous and giving time of the year, we thank you.

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 FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12th.

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.

**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; 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 Greg D'Andrea
7th Heidi Shamansky
Steven Clark
8th Shari Murzyn
9th Julia Rodriguez
Christine McGregor
10th William Pitre
13th Amber Shufelt
17th Paul Daneault
Ed Pineau
George Velez
18th Joshua Paton
Tim Pitts
Dianne Carroll
19th Alexia Poloski
20th Craig Thompson
Jerry Dellert



21st **Fran Merva**
Paul Downing
22nd Jason Liontas
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
Rick Riccardi
Gail Hulak





December 2025 Calendar

Sun 30	Mon 1	Tue 2	Wed 3	Thu 4	Fri 5	Sat 6
10:00 AM Worship Service	TEAM - Toys for Kids Toy Collection thru Dec. 10th 6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel 7:15 PM Missions meeting-Library		9:15 AM Happy Feet Walking Group 12:30 PM Prime Timers Women's Monthly Luncheon - Gusto's Restaurant 6:40 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal	6:00 PM All in for Milford - meet at Chimichurri 7:00 PM Thursday Evening Scripture Study - via Zoom	10:00 AM Friday Morning Prayer & Bible Study - Library	9:00 AM Cookie Walk - Dodd Hall
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
10:00 AM Worship Service 2:00 PM Gingerbread House Challenge - Dodd Hall	Prime Timers Xmas Show - Aqua Turf 5:00 PM In-person training for No Freeze Volunteers - Beth-El Center 6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel	6:00 PM United Women in Faith meeting - Christmas Party at Leigh Bak's house 18 Helwig, Milford	9:15 AM Happy Feet Walking Group 12:30 PM Prime Timers Men's Monthly Luncheon - SBC 6:40 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal	7:00 PM Thursday Evening Scripture Study - via Zoom 7:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry - Library	10:00 AM Friday Morning Prayer & Bible Study - Library 12:00 PM Virtual (via Zoom) training for volunteers - No Freeze	12:00 PM Craft Event - Dodd Hall
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM 2nd Sunday Soup Sale - Dodd Hall 2:00 PM Intergenerational Christmas Caroling - meet at Dodd Hall	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel		9:15 AM Happy Feet Walking Group 6:40 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM Choir rehearsal	7:00 PM NO Thursday Evening Scripture Study - via Zoom 7:00 PM Blue Christmas Service	10:00 AM Friday Morning Prayer & Bible Study - Library 3:00 PM NO Coloring - Dodd Hall 5:30 PM Messy Church- Dodd Hall 5:30 pm	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Blood Pressure Screening-Sanctuary	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel		Christmas Eve 9:15 AM NO Happy Feet Walking Group 5:00 PM Christmas Eve early service 10:00 PM Bell Choir Rehearsal 10:45 PM Bell Prelude 11:00 PM Christmas Eve late service	Christmas Day 5:30 PM NO MTM Community Supper - Beth-El will serve dinner at Beth-El 7:00 PM NO Thursday Evening Scripture Study - via Zoom	Christmas Holiday - the Office is closed today 10:00 AM NO Friday Morning Prayer & Bible Study - Library	12:30 PM Primer Timers Luncheon - Dodd Hall
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
10:00 AM Worship Service	6:00 PM Prayer Circle-Chapel		New Year's Eve 9:15 AM NO Happy Feet Walking Group 6:40 PM NO Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:45 PM NO Bell or Choir rehearsal	New Year's Day - the Office is closed today 7:00 PM NO Thursday Evening Scripture Study - via Zoom	10:00 AM NO Friday Morning Prayer & Bible Study - Library	

The BEACON

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

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