

Gift Cards—If you'd like to support the scholarship fund, don't forget to place your 'Gift Cards' order. Order forms are available on the shelves underneath the bulletin board outside the kitchenette. You may also contact Heather Morin with any questions h-860-354-8406; c-203-770-5782; e-hmorin218@yahoo.com.

The Methodist Movers Relay for Life Team is looking for members! Registration is free this year, so please consider signing up today! All survivors and caregivers, please register as soon as possible. We had a wonderful year last year and I am hoping this year will be just as great. The event is June 27 - 28th, but the Team is in need of registrations as soon as possible planning can begin for the event weekend. Funds raised by anyone helping out on any fundraiser will be applied towards your required amount to earn a T-shirt. A ZUMBA for Relay Dance Party is scheduled for May 2nd at Phys-Ed, Still River Dr. Cost: Donations Please consider attending. Help with future fund-raising, decorations, team ideas, thoughts and ideas are very much welcomed. Please contact Team Captain Linda Slater at 860-354-6180 or lslater0256@yahoo.com for more information.

Meetings & Opportunities this week:

TODAY at 9:30 am Traditional Worship in Sanctuary
 at 10:00 am Children's Sunday School
 at 10:30 am Adult Sunday School
 at 11:30 am Contemporary Worship in Sanctuary
 at 2:30 pm Youth Group in Classroom

Mon., Apr. 27 at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall
 at 6:00 pm Open Door Band Practice in Sanctuary
 at 7:00 pm Wesley Group in Fellowship Hall

Tues., Apr. 28 at 4:00 pm Girl Scouts 40213 in Fellowship Hall
 at 7:00 pm Church Council in Fellowship Hall

Wed., Apr. 29 at 3:00 pm Directory Meeting in Library
 at 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 31 in Fellowship Hall

Thurs, Apr. 30 at 8:00 a.m. The Christian Board in Fellowship Hall
 at 3:00 pm "Our Daily Bread" in Food
 at 3:30 pm Confirmation in Library
 at 5:45 pm Bells Practice in Sanctuary
 at 7:00 pm Choir Practice in Sanctuary
 at 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 158 in Fellowship Hall

Sat., May 2 at 7:00 am Boy Scout Troop 31 Tag Sale
 at 9:00 am New Member Orientation in Conference Room

Sun., May 3 Blood Pressure Checks by Parish Nurses
 at 8:30 am Not Just Eggs in Fellowship Hall
 at 9:30 am Traditional Worship Service
 at 10:00 am Children's Sunday School
 at 10:30 am Adult Sunday School
 at 11:30 am Contemporary Worship Service

AA meetings in Fellowship Hall

Monday - Friday at noon and Saturday at 9:30 p.m.

To view the most recent calendar, visit our website—
www.newmilfordumc.org/calendar.html



**The Open Door
 Contemporary Worship
 11:30 am**

...in a religion born in a barn,
 an open door goes without saying

song "here i am to worship"
 song "he's calling out your name"

welcome & announcements

passing the peace

song "draw me closer"

contemplative moment

song "your love is deep"

gospel lesson matthew 13:33-35
 page 15 in the new testament in your pew Bible.
 the word of God for the people of God.
thanks be to God.

presentation of the offerings

children's message

sermon "the kingdom of heaven is like yeast"
 rev. paul a. fleck

joys & concerns

song "open the eyes of my heart, Lord"
 song "the Lord be magnified"

sending forth

NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 "Every Member a Disciple"
Ushers— 9:30 a.m. Bill Ihlo
11:30 a.m.—The Martin Family
Liturgist—9:30 a.m.—Stacey Didato



The Service of Worship
 New Milford United Methodist Church
 68 Danbury Road
 New Milford, CT 06776
www.newmilfordumc.org
 860-354-4596

Rev. Paul A. Fleck, Pastor
 Sandy Lybe, Music Minister
 Brinna Kolitz, Youth Leader
 Emily Nixon, Open Door Band Leader

4th Sunday of Easter

"The Kingdom of Heaven is Like Yeast"

Sunday, April 26, 2015 at 9:30 am

You are invited to worship with us in the quiet of prayer, in the joy of song, and in the desire to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. Part of our mission is to be a place for all people. All are welcome here! Whatever your gender, age, race, religious background, economic status, sexual orientation or condition of ableness, we greet you as a beloved child of God.

ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

Prelude

Announcements

Processional "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" ST. THOMAS
Hymn #540

Call to Worship

Leader: From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.

People: Good things can come from something that seemed so insignificant!

Leader: The spore of the yeast can leaven the whole loaf of bread.

People: We can be those people who bring hope and peace to God's world.

Leader: Come, let us praise the God of great and mighty wonders.

People: Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Tell me the stories of Jesus I love hear;

Things I would ask him to tell me if He were here:

Scenes by the wayside, tales of the sea,

Stories of Jesus, tell them to me.

First Gospel Lesson

Page 15 in the New Testament of your pew Bible.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

All Sit.

Matthew 13:33-35

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

The children are invited to come forward and sit at the chancel with the pastor as the congregation sings the first verse of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me."

Children's Sermon

The Lord's Prayer

OFFERING

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Please stand for the Doxology

Presentation

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Offering Prayer

All Sit.

The children are invited to go out to Sunday School after the anthem.

Anthem "The Lord's Prayer" MILLER
Chancel Choir

Prayer

Lord, you place before us the images of the small--the tiny mustard seed, the grain of yeast, the small treasure--and remind us that we, though we think of ourselves as small, are not insignificant in your kingdom. Open our hearts and our spirits to you in thankful remembrance of the ways in which we can serve you throughout all our lives. **Amen.**

RESPONSES

Please stand as you are able for the singing of hymn.

Hymn 583 "Sois la Semilla" ID Y ENSEÑAD
(You Are the Seed)

Morning Prayer

Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Lord, we like BIG things. We have focused on big cars, big houses, big bank accounts, big, big, big! And you must be disappointed in us when we forget that from even the smallest thing something mighty can happen. Today the scriptures remind us of the smallness of the mustard seed and the tiny grain of yeast. Each of these things grew into something that offered shelter, peace, and hope, which became the treasures of compassion. Take away our need for the BIG possessions. Open our hearts to receive your word of love and healing, and let our spirits be ready to grow for you. Forgive our

stubborn resistance to your faithful presence. For all things will work for the good for those who love God and are called according to God's purpose. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Passing the Peace

The congregation joins in repeating Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth,
**and the meditation of my heart,
be acceptable in your sight, Lord,
my strength and my redeemer.**

Sermon "The Kingdom of Heaven is Like Yeast"
Rev. Paul A. Fleck

Hymn 2130 (TFWS) "The Summons" KELVINGROVE

Reader's Theater

SENDING FORTH

JOYS AND CONCERNS

our prayers are with:

- Carolyn Dion who is scheduled for surgery on May 11th.
- The family of Richard Beckenback who recently passed away.
- Matthew Hatcher, friend of Marilyn Fuller, who is recovering from pulmonary problems.
- Eric Ballard, son of Lynne and Corky, that God will open his heart and provide direction in his life in the weeks and months ahead.
- Dorie Howe, friend of Marilyn Fuller, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Nancy Mascio who is recovering from surgery on her legs.
- Arnet, a friend of Roberta Buddle's daughter, who is starting another round of chemotherapy.
- A friend of Jen Middleton's whose mother passed away.
- Fred, son of Andy and Janet Schnitzler, who had heart surgery and is recovering well.
- Larissa Drefus' uncle, David, who is in hospice care.
- Roberta Buddle's niece, Wendy, who is undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer.
- Diane Jones, a relative Linda and Alex Slater, who had a large tumor removed from her bladder and will be undergoing chemotherapy.
- Rob, Traci Poeti's brother, who has a muscular disorder.
- Alexis, Chris Martirano's niece, who is going through chemotherapy.
- Bonnie Knapp's sister-in-law, Linda, who is experiencing kidney problems.
- Steve Bowers, who is now on dialysis and has been added to the transplant list.
- Laurel Partrick's cousin, Cynthia, is facing her third recurrence of cancer.
- Emily Nixon's cousin, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- Marlene Davis' son, who is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Kay Jones' niece, Sherri, whose cancer has returned.
- Sue Sterling's cousin, Mary, who has lung cancer.

Our Life in Community

For more information about any item listed below, please contact the Church Office at 860-354-4596 or office@newmilfordumc.org

Fellowship Hour—Please join us between services for Fellowship Hour in Fellowship Hall. All are invited!

New Member Orientation—There is a New Member Orientation scheduled for Saturday, May 2nd at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. Anyone interested in learning more about joining the Church should plan to attend.

Mother's/Father's Day Cards—Since 1989, NMUMC has offered the opportunity to purchase Mother's and Father's Day cards through the tools and blankets program of church world service. Through the sale of these cards NMUMC has contributed over \$6,500 to date toward the purchase of tool and blanket supplies for people in developing countries. Mother's Day Cards will be on sale May 3rd and 10th. Father's Day Cards on sale June 7, 14 and 21st. If you have questions, please contact Bonnie Knapp at (860) 355-0559.

Upper Room Devotionals—NMUMC is no longer providing hard copies of Upper Room Devotionals. You can, however, subscribe to receive daily devotionals in your email or on your smartphone by visiting the Upper Room website—<http://devotional.upperroom.org/> emaildevotional. The link is also available on the church website—www.newmilfordumc.org and scroll to the bottom of the first page.

All Star Concert—**All Star Concert**—The All-Star Concert 2015 will be held on Friday, May 22 beginning at 6:30 pm at the Arion Singing Society, 411 Danbury Road (across from New Milford High School). The evening will begin with a silent auction and refreshments and the bands will begin to play at 8:00 pm. **All proceeds of this concert will benefit the whole church through the general fund.** The event promises to be a great time, highlighted by first-rate music for only \$12 per ticket, plus a cash refreshment and bar area. Members of: Higher & Higher, Tony T. Orchestra, City Express Band, Future Tense, Perfect timing Duo, Shoo Fly, Two Dollar Hat and the Open Door Band will be performing. To purchase tickets, send your check to the church address with your contact information and we will have your tickets at the will-call table at the event. You can also go to this website: www.showclix.com/event/all-starconcert where you can purchase tickets for a small fee. We are also looking for items for the silent auction so if you know a business that might be willing to donate an item or a service, please contact one of the members of the auction committee. Steve Kolitz at sbkolitz@sbcglobal.net or 203-417-9670, Tracie Nixon at tracienix@gmail.com or 203-994-7763 or Marlene Davis at mmdavis@sbcglobal.net or 203-417-4554. Information and links for the All-Star Concert can also be found on the church website - www.newmilfordumc.org.

Confirmation Sunday is Sunday, May 24th during a joint 10:00 a.m. service. There will be no Sunday School that day.

Scholarships—Faye and Art Carlson Scholarship applications are available in the Lobby and on the Church website—www.newmilfordumc.org. Scholarship applicants must be members of NMUMC. Scholarship applications are due no later than May 24, 2015. Scholarships will be awarded on June 14th, 2015 and recipients must be present at either the 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service or the 11:30 a.m. Open Door Service to accept.