

Joys and Concerns

our prayers are with:

- Jerry Jones as he recovers from an arm injury.
- Tyler Poeti as he recovers from an automobile accident.
- Marlene Davis' son, whose cancer is more serious than originally thought.
- Kay Jones' niece, Sherri, whose cancer has returned.
- Jan and Gene Parsons' friend, Brad, whose cancer has returned.
- Brady Tripp's mother-in-law who has cancer.
- Eileen Clark, who recently had a stroke.
- Sue Sterling's cousin, Mary, who has lung cancer
- The LaBella family whose daughter is undergoing chemotherapy.
- Millie Ackerly's daughter who is receiving cancer treatment.

Our Life in Community

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

Angels in the Pews—Our audio system equipment needs to be replaced. Two sound technicians evaluated our needs and recommended we purchase two new speakers, a power amplifier, and a digital mixer. A capital campaign to raise the necessary funds will begin **TODAY** and continue through Sunday, July 27th. Please help us by placing your contribution (with “speakers” designated in the memo line of your check) in the envelope provided in today’s bulletin. Donations may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church, 68 Danbury Road, New Milford, CT 06776.

VBS - There will be a VBS meeting **TODAY** at 11:30 a.m. for anyone interested in helping with VBS. Please see Pastor Paul or Barbara Williams for more information.

Would you like to spend a week in the evenings at Gangway to Galilee, helping our children discover the welcoming love of God at work all around us? At Gangway to Galilee, we will help children experience God’s amazing grace through dramas, crafts, games, science activities, music, and hours of fun! Sign up for a **Vacation Bible School** leadership role and join us in the excitement at Gangway to Galilee. VBS will be held August 4-8, 2014 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. To Volunteer contact Barbara Williams at 860-354-4203 or the Church Office at 860-354-4596.

Small Group Scripture Study—A small group to study scripture will be held at the Tripp home one Wednesday a month beginning July 16th from 6:45—7:45 p.m. If you’re interested in participating, please see Pat Tripp or call 860-354-8720 and leave a message.

The Mix—How does the Word speak to your life? Join us in Fellowship Hall for food, live music, and scripture Wednesday, July 23 at 6:00 p.m. We will engage in Lectio Divina/Pneuma Divina, letting the Holy Spirit guide our reading.

Our Daily Bread - Our Daily Bread Food Pantry is in need of macaroni & cheese, tuna fish, and toilet paper. We appreciate your continued support of this mission.



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 Pastor
Emily Nixon, Open Door Band Leader

Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Blended Service—Sunday, July 13, 2014 at 10:00 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. We especially welcome every visitor today. We are very glad you came. 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

Hymn 383 “This Is a Day of New Beginnings” BEGINNINGS

Call to Worship

The Lord is the sower of the seeds of love and redemption.

But we have not always been ready to receive these seeds.

Today we hear again the scriptures that remind us of the awesome generosity of God.

Help us be good soil, O God, prepared to receive your love and to grow in that love.

Amen.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God,

in the reading of the Scripture, may your Word be heard;

in the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known;

and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown.

Amen.

Epistle

Romans 8:1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the

Meetings & Opportunities this week:

Mon., July 14 at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall
at 6:00 pm Open Door Band in Sanctuary
at 6:30 pm United Methodist Men in Fellowship Hall

Tues., July 15 at 6:00 pm Worship Committee in Conference Room
at 7:00 pm SPR in Fellowship Hall

Wed., July 16 at 6:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina in Sanctuary
at 6:45 pm Scripture Study at Tripp Home
at 7:00 pm Missions in Fellowship Hall

Thurs., July 17 at 1:30 pm Book Club in Fellowship Hall
at 3:00 pm “Our Daily Bread” in Food Barn
at 3:30 pm Bridgeport Rescue Mission (off-site)

Fri., July 18 at 3:30 pm Loaves and Fishes (off-site)
at 5:00 pm Wedding Rehearsal

Sat., July 19 at 2:00 pm Wedding
at 7:30 pm Family Bowling (off-site)

Sun., July 20 at 8:30 am Chapel in the Pines Worship Service
at 10:00 am Blended Service in Sanctuary
at 2:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina Church in Sanctuary
at 2:30 pm Youth Group
at 4:00 pm Iglesia Cristo Reina Church in FH

flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!'

'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

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

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the 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.**

Prayer of Dedication

All Sit.

Prayer

God of abundant love, we come to you this day in the midst of a season of great growth and coming harvest. All around us are signs of growth, in our earth, in our families, in our nation, in our world. We come this day, seeking your healing love and abounding mercy. Open our hearts to receive all that you offer that we may become fruitful workers for you. **Amen.**

RESPONSES

Sound System Presentation

Dave Kullgren

Special Offering

Please stand if you are able to sing the hymn.

Hymn 348 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling" THOMPSON

Morning Prayer

Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.

Please end your prayer with: **This is my prayer,**
The congregation may respond: **This is our prayer.**

Pastoral Prayer

U.M. ARMY Reflections

Please stand if you are able to sing the song.

Song #21 "Wash Over Me"

Prayer of Confession

Lord, forgive us when we doubt your mercy and your love. We are so caught up in getting everything that we want; and we want it all right now. We have trouble waiting and remembering that it is in the waiting that we might hear your voice. It is difficult for us to believe that we can be fruitful, good soil for your words and work. We find excuses not to be attentive to you, but to focus instead on our own desires. Slow

us down, Lord. Remind us again of your mercy and your love; for we offer this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Passing the Peace

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM
Please refer to page 39 in your hymnal

Christopher and Denise Reiss
present their daughter,
Peyton Miranda Reiss born December 20, 2013

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

"Sower or Soil?"

REV. PAUL A. FLECK

Reader's Theater

Please stand if you are able to sing the song.

Song 30 "Miracle in My Heart"

SENDING FORTH

Liturgist: *Bob Hoburg*