

## Joys and Concerns

our prayers are with:

- Tyler Poeti as he continues to recover from injuries sustained in a car accident.
- Robert Cerrato as he heals from leg injuries and heart surgery.
- Jerry Jones as he recovers from an arm injury.
- 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.

## Notes

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## 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 continue through Sunday, July 27th with a special offering both **TODAY** and the 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. So far we’re nearly 1/3 of the way to our \$4,000 goal!

**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.

**VBS - Vacation Bible School** is just a few weeks away—August 4-8, 2014 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Registration is underway and forms are available on the Church website—www.newmilfordumc.org and on the table by the door in the Narthex. Volunteers are still needed as well. To Volunteer contact Barbara Williams at 860-354-4203 or the Church Office at 860-354-4596.

**Our Daily Bread:** Our Daily Bread Food Pantry would appreciate any extra garden produce you might have! Fresh produce can be dropped off on Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. and again from 3-7 p.m. Thank you for your continued support of this mission.

**Liturgist:** Marcia Cairns

### Meetings & Opportunities this week:

Mon., July 21 at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall  
 at 6:00 pm Open Door Band in Sanctuary  
 at 7:00 pm Wesley Group in Fellowship Hall  
 Tues., July 22 at 7:00 pm Church Council in Fellowship Hall  
 Wed., July 23 at 6:00 pm “The Mix” in Fellowship Hall  
 Thurs., July 24 at 3:00 pm “Our Daily Bread” in Food Barn  
 Sun., July 27 at 8:30 am Chapel in the Pines Worship Service  
 at 10:00 am Blended Service in Sanctuary  
 at 2:30 pm Youth Group

Monday - Friday at noon AA meeting in Fellowship Hall



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

## Sixth Sunday After Pentecost Chapel in the Pines—Sunday, July 20, 2014 at 8:30 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. 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 64 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty” NICAEA

Call to Worship

The Lord knows each and every one of us and loves each one dearly. **Sometimes it feels as though God has drifted away from us.** Be strong! Look for the ways in which God is present to you. **Given all the troubles of the day, we often look more closely at them.** Come, open your hearts and spirits to God’s love and presence **Lord, help us to see your presence in all of life’s circumstances. 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.

Psalm

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.  
 You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
 you discern my thoughts from far away.  
 You search out my path and my lying down,  
 and are acquainted with all my ways.  
 Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.  
 You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.  
 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.

Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?  
If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.  
If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea,  
even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.  
If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall cover me,  
and the light around me become night’,  
even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day,  
for darkness is as light to you.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts.  
See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

**Epistle** Romans 8:12-25  
So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience

*Please stand, as you are able, for the Gospel.*  
**Gospel** Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43  
He put before them another parable: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, “Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?” He answered, “An enemy has done this.” The slaves said to him, “Then do you want us to go and gather them?” But he replied, “No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.” ’

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, ‘Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.’ He answered, ‘The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and

gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

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, as you are able, 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.*

**Litany**

**Liturgist:** Worriers of the world, unite!  
Bring your cares and concerns, your anxieties and greatest fears!  
Bring those things that make you toss on your beds,  
or that tie your stomach in knots!  
Bring your torments! Bring your misgivings!  
Bring your troubles, and everything you dread!  
Heap them in huge mountains of distress,  
at the feet of the living God.  
Watch and see if God is faithful in all things.

**People: Look at the birds of the air!  
Our heavenly Father feeds them.**

**Liturgist:** God is faithful!

**People: Consider the lilies of the field!  
God clothes them in glory that exceeds Solomon’s finest.**

**Liturgist:** Are you not more valuable than birds?  
Will not God care more for you than for grass?  
You of little faith, let your worries go!  
Strive first for the kingdom of God and God’s righteousness,  
And all these things will be given to you as well!

## RESPONSES

**Angels in the Pews Sound System Presentation** Tracie Nixon

**Special Offering for Sound System**

*Please stand, as you are able, to sing the hymn.*  
**Hymn 583** “Sois la Semilla” ID Y ENSEÑAD

**Morning Prayer**

*Joys and concerns are lifted before God and the congregation.*

*The lay leader will conclude: Lord in your mercy.*

*The congregation responds: Hear our prayer.*

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Patient Lord, it is so easy for us to focus on all the things that are wrong. We spend much time and energy in anger and sorrow, leaving behind the possibilities of hope and service to you. Ease our hearts, O Lord. Forgive our willingness to get caught up in the negative. Direct our steps toward positive actions that will produce growth and peace. We offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ. 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 Good Seed” REV. PAUL A. FLECK

**Reader’s Theater**

*Please stand, as you are able, to sing the hymn.*  
**Hymn 147** “All Things Bright and Beautiful” ROYAL OAK

## SENDING FORTH