

Joys and Concerns

our prayers are with:

- Teddy Oxton who will be going in for surgery.
- 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.
- 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

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. **Today** will be the last day of our capital campaign and special offering. 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 - Vacation Bible School is next week—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 is in need of macaroni & cheese, tuna fish, and toilet paper. We appreciate your continued support of this mission.

Meetings & Opportunities this week:

Mon., July 28 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
 Thurs., July 31 at 3:00 pm “Our Daily Bread” in Food Barn
 Sun., Aug. 3 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

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost Chapel in the Pines—Sunday, July 27, 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 583 “Sois la Semilla (You Are the Seed)” ID Y ENSEÑAD

Call to Worship

From the mustard seed a great and mighty shrub emerges.

Good things can come from something that seemed so insignificant!

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

We can be those people who bring hope and peace to God’s world.

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

Let our spirits soar in gratitude for the opportunities God gives us to serve. 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 8:26-39

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.' No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

He put before them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.'

'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

'Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'

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 Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

All Sit.

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

Angels in the Pews Sound System Presentation Priscilla Williams

Special Offering for Sound System

Please stand if you are able to sing the hymn.

Hymn 400 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON

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

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 "Parables of the Kingdom" REV. PAUL A. FLECK

Reader's Theater

Please stand if you are able to sing the hymn.

Hymn 310 "He Lives" ACKLEY

SENDING FORTH