

**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 so 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. 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](mailto:lslater0256@yahoo.com) for more information.



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

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

song  
song

welcome & announcements

passing the peace

song

contemplative moment

song

**gospel lesson** matthew 20:1-16  
*page 21 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 laborers in the vineyard" rev. paul a. fleck

joys & concerns

song

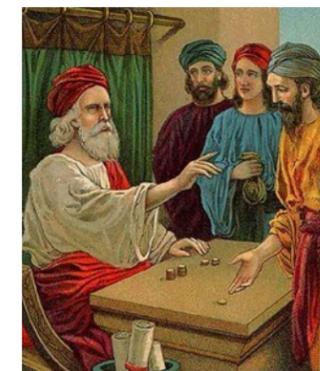
song

sending forth

**NEW MILFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
*"Every Member a Disciple"*

**Ushers— 9:30 a.m.—Mike and Larissa Dreyfus**  
**11:30 a.m.—Tracie Nixon**

**Liturgist—9:30 a.m.—Mary Prause**



**The Service of Worship**  
New Milford United Methodist Church  
68 Danbury Road  
New Milford, CT 06776  
[www.newmilfordumc.org](http://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

*7th Sunday of Easter—Ascension Sunday*  
*"The Laborers in the Vineyard"*

*Sunday, May 17, 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** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" FAITHFULNESS  
**Hymn #140**

**Call to Worship**

Call on the name of God and give thanks.  
**Make known God's deeds among the people.**  
Sing and tell of God's wonderful works.  
**Let those who seek God rejoice in their hearts.**  
Let us worship God.

*All Sit.*

**Sung 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.**

*Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Gospel.*

**First Gospel Lesson** Matthew 20:1-16  
*Page 21 in the New Testament of your pew Bible.*

The Word of God for the people of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*All Sit.*

**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."*

**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 2:00 pm Nominations and Lay Leaders

**Mon., May 18** at 10:30 am Tai Chi in Fellowship Hall  
at 4:00 pm Daisy Troop 40215 in Fellowship Hall  
at 6:00 pm Open Door Band Practice in Sanctuary  
at 7:00 pm Wesley Group in Fellowship Hall

**Tues., May 19** at 7:00 pm SPR in Conference Room

**Wed., May 20** at 7:00 pm Missions in Conference Room  
at 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 31 in Fellowship Hall

**Thurs., May 21** at 1:30 pm Book Club in Fellowship Hall  
at 3:00 pm "Our Daily Bread" in Food  
at 3:30 pm Bridgeport Rescue Mission (off-site)  
at 5:45 pm Bells Practice in Sanctuary  
at 6:30 pm Pack 467 in Fellowship Hall  
at 7:00 pm Choir Practice in Sanctuary

**Fri., May 22** at 7:00 pm All Star Band Concert—Arion Singing Society

**Sun., May 24** at 10:00 am Joint 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](http://www.newmilfordumc.org/calendar.html)

## 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** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" FABER

*Chancel Choir*

#### Prayer

Liberating God, we seek your journey.  
With parted waters, set us free.  
With cloud and fire, guide us.  
With gushing waters, quench our thirst.  
With food from heaven, feed us.  
Draw us out with joy and singing,  
that we might know your ways. **Amen.**

### RESPONSES

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

**Hymn 441** "What Does the Lord Require" SHARPTHORNE

#### Morning Prayer

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

#### Pastoral Prayer

#### Prayer of Confession

**God of fruitful labor,  
work sometimes brings out the worst in us.  
At home, at school, in the workplace,  
even in our relationship with you,  
we too easily question what others do and get,  
instead of taking care of our own business.  
Take away our bitterness.  
Teach us the art of the careful complaint.  
Give us grateful hearts, we pray. 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 Laborers in the Vineyard" Rev. Paul A. Fleck

**Hymn 355** "Depth of Mercy" CANTERBURY

### SENDING FORTH

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

*our prayers are with:*

- Jan Parsons, who broke her foot.
- Pat Tripp, who injured her back.
- Sue Sterling's cousin, Mary, who recently passed away. Prayers for her family.
- Austin, Jean Lord's grandson, who is still in Nepal working with the International Rescue Teams.
- Sandy Lybe's co-worker, Patty, whose mother passed away.
- Ann Coppola, daughter of Bob Coppola, whose daughter had pregnancy complications resulting in an emergency C-section and delivered a 1 lb. 5 oz. baby girl.
- Jack, Angie Chastain's father, who has been diagnosed with liver and pancreatic cancer and will start chemotherapy this week.
- Kim Birsen, who is seeking employment.
- Fiona Cooper during life transitions.
- Sandy Lybe's co-worker whose mother is dying.
- Juliette Diamond, daughter of Emily Nixon, who is experiencing health issues.
- Carolyn Dion who is scheduled for surgery on May 20th.
- 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, whose kidneys are improving but still has a few more chemotherapy treatments remaining.
- Terri Hudak's cousin, Julie Spence in Virginia, who is battling cancer.
- Terri Hudak's aunt in California who has been diagnosed with breast cancer.
- Jeanne Johnson, friend of Laurel Partrick, who has been diagnosed with liver cancer.
- 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.

### 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!

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

**Charge Conference** - We will have a Charge Conference on May 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. during our regularly scheduled Church Council meeting. There will be three orders of business: (1) the election of Pam Butler as a Trustee in the Class of 2017; (2) the acceptance of a redesignated bequest from Art Carlson; and (3) the pastoral compensation package for Rev. Alex Souto.

**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). **All proceeds of this concert will benefit the whole church through the general fund.** The evening will begin with a silent auction and refreshments and the bands will begin to play at 8:00 pm. 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](http://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 Kowitz at [sbkowitz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sbkowitz@sbcglobal.net) or 203-417-9670, Tracie Nixon at [tracienix@gmail.com](mailto:tracienix@gmail.com) or 203-994-7763 or Marlene Davis at [mmdavis@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://www.newmilfordumc.org).

**Scholarships**—Faye and Art Carlson Scholarship applications are available in the Lobby and on the Church website—[www.newmilfordumc.org](http://www.newmilfordumc.org). Scholarship applicants must be members of NMUMC. Scholarship applications are due no later than NEXT SUNDAY, 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.

**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; e-[hmorin218@yahoo.com](mailto:hmorin218@yahoo.com).