

The Church of the Messiah's
Good News
July 12, 2020

Welcome to the Church of the Messiah
We are delighted to have you worshipping with us.



Listen to Your Life

Listen to your life. See it for the fathomless mystery it is. In the boredom and pain of it, no less than in the excitement and gladness: touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it, because in the last analysis all moments are key moments, and life itself is grace.

~ Frederick Buechner, *Now and Then: A Memoir of Vocation*.
New York: Harper and Row, 1991

Church of the Messiah
Mission Statement

The Church of the Messiah is an inclusive and welcoming community

- *Committed to serving God by serving neighbors near and far;*
- *Affirming the dignity of every human being;*
- *Believing we are called to be stewards of creation.*

- *adopted by the Vestry of the Church of the Messiah on February 10, 2015.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE

At the vestry meeting on Monday, June 8, 2020 the consensus of the vestry, in conversation with the rector, was to delay “in person” worship in the Stone Church until at least September 1st. While all of us recognize this may be disappointing for some people, we reached this very important decision based on the following considerations:

First and foremost, our primary goal is do all we can to ensure the health of anyone who comes to worship in person. Because a large portion of the congregation is over 60 and others have compromised immune systems, by current CDC guidelines, these individuals are at a higher risk to contract COVID-19. We did not want to put anyone’s health in jeopardy, nor have people feel obligated to attend “in person” worship.

Second, the present virtual service online streaming is having very positive results. People from across the country are able to attend the services either live or view them later on our website. Going forward, one piece of our “new normal” will be to continue to live stream our services even after we have “in person” worship so we include any and all who wish to attend, regardless of their location.

Third, the audio visual and information technology at Messiah and particularly in the Stone Church needs a significant upgrade in order to enhance our online presence now and going forward. Services or events which are held in the Stone Church can be offered at a significantly higher quality. Therefore, the vestry voted to invest in completing this upgrade as soon as possible during the summer. It will be done by a highly respected company here on the Cape that works locally as well as in Boston and Cambridge. The final result will be that we are using state of the art audio visual equipment and information technology that will meet our needs now and for the foreseeable future.

We deeply appreciate the extremely positive support we have received throughout this time of physical distancing. As you can tell each and every week, we are extremely fortunate to have the technology team of Dicky Allison, Helen Gordon and Brittany Lord.

On behalf of the vestry and the parish, thank you very much. - *The Rev. Deborah Warner, Rector*

Our Sunday worship services *continue to be* live-streamed at 10 AM via Zoom. Information on how to join these services and how to download Zoom may be found below and will be sent out in a separate Constant Contact e-mail .

INSTRUCTIONS TO DOWNLOAD ZOOM:

1) Go to this link: <https://zoom.us/download> and follow the directions to download Zoom. Depending on what type of device you are using, the link will take you to the Zoom website or the App Store if you are on a mobile device. Zoom is **free**, and **there is no need to sign up or create an account**. All you need is the software/app installed on your device.

2) Then join us for Morning Prayer this Sunday at 10am by clicking this link: <https://zoom.us/j/632447285> We suggest you plan on getting to our virtual church at 9:45am to give yourself plenty of time to get settled. You can go ahead and test this link now ahead of time to make sure that everything is working. Because virtual church hasn’t actually started yet, you will end up looking at a screen that may show a live video of you if you have a camera. On Sunday at 9:45am when you join, you will be looking at the sanctuary.

PARISH PRAYER LIST

Our prayers are asked for those who suffer from racial profiling, addiction, anxiety, are survivors of abuse or assault, those who are undergoing treatment or living with cancer, are unemployed or homeless. We pray for refugees seeking safety and security in this and other countries and for all who are ministering to their needs. We pray for all who are suffering from or ministering to those with the COVID-19 here and around the world. Lastly, we join with millions of others here and abroad to pray for racial justice in this country and around the world. In our parish, we continue to pray for Charlie, Gloria, Sally and Larry.

In Thanksgiving for the Life of Prosser Gifford

It is with a heart full of deep gratitude for a life fully lived that I share the news that our beloved parishioner and friend of the community, Prosser Gifford died at his home on Sunday, July 5, 2020. As he had been over the past several months, Prosser was surrounded by his family at the time of his quiet and peaceful death.

Prosser was a gentleman, quite literally a gentle man. He was strong, diligent, dignified and ever mindful of the carrying forward his numerous responsibilities in this community as well as institutions he served and helped shape. He did all of this with grace. Always the teacher and scholar, many of us remember with deep fondness and affection the many times he would approach the lectern; and how he set whatever reading he was about to share in the context of history: be it a community's history or the author's own biography.

Prosser was fearless in his pursuit of knowledge. Fearless. He filled that hunger by reading biographies, historical nonfiction, fiction and poetry as well as delighting in attending concerts and lectures. He was always generous and thoughtful in supporting others in their pursuit of knowledge and truth - however each is defined.

Over the past three years since Prosser has been confined to his home, his physical absence has been felt many. What has not been absent, but has grown even stronger, is the deep respect, affection and care so many in and beyond the parish and community felt for him.

It is extraordinarily fitting that the large meeting space in the Parish and Community Center is called the Woods Hole Room. It has been given and named by Prosser. While he never was able to physically step into the space, his deep generosity to and gratitude for the diversity and richness of Woods Hole was unwavering and something he deeply cherished.

Prosser is survived by his three daughters: Paula, Barbie and Heidi, their spouses and their children. He will be buried in a private burial in the Woods Hole Village Cemetery.

Please know that even as we continue to practice safe physical distancing, our love and care for each other remains steadfast. This is especially true as we celebrate the life of those whom we love, including Prosser, who now rest from their labors yet whose legacy lives on in the privacy of our hearts and minds.

With deepest gratitude,

Deborah
The Rev. Deborah Warner, *Rector*

Letters of Condolence may be sent to: The Gifford Family P. O. Box 5 Woods Hole, MA 02543

“MASKS” by Falmouth Clergy

Please follow the link below to view “Masks”, a video by Falmouth clergy showing our love for our neighbors.

<https://youtu.be/FYg02WQMe48>

A PRAYER FOR OUR FUTURE

As our capital campaign continues, we invite you to join together in praying the following prayer that was composed by members of the parish and the rector.

O God, Giver of all good gifts,
we thank You for the grace of serving You by serving our neighbors.
May our hearts be kind and generous.
May our ministry be rooted in love and bold in imagination.
Having transformed the Parish and Community Center, may our lives
and the lives of all who join us, continue to be renewed by Your love and the
power of the Spirit. Amen.

ONLINE SERIES: Study of Martin Luther King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" Wednesday evenings, July 15th-August 5th

St. Barnabas Church will be having an online study and discussion of Martin Luther King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" beginning Wednesday, July 15th through August 5th from 6-7:30 PM. For further information and registration, please email: stboutreach@gmail.com

SAFE PLATES DINNER WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

More than \$13,000 was raised at last month's Safe Plates Dinner. Thanks to the generosity and creativity of the Buffalo Jump chefs, the passion of Waquoit Congregational Church and No Place for Hate in Falmouth and the extraordinary response of the Upper Cape community, several local organizations addressing racial injustice will benefit. On their behalf, thank you so very much! DMW

MUSIC NEWS

The choir and I are enjoying putting together the special "virtual choir" anthems and are looking forward to continuing through the summer. Since I will be making many more of the slideshows that accompany the music, I am looking for more photos and/or short (30 second) video clips to use. If anyone has nice photos of flowers, nature, wildlife, points of interest around Falmouth, church activities, etc, please feel free to share and they may be used in one of our worship services! As I continue to plan music for the summer, there may be certain "themes" that will come up, and I will put out additional notices looking for photos or videos that go with those themes.

If you'd like to share some photos, please email them to: comwoodshole@gmail.com. High resolution photos work better. If you have a short video clip (30 seconds or so), please contact me and I will let you know how to get it to me, as the file is probably too big to email.

Thank you!
Brittany Lord

FINANCIAL OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS: Although our church office is closed, we monitor the mail, voicemail and email on a regular basis. Please continue to send financial contributions by mail to the Church of the Messiah, 16 Church Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543. These can be sent on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual basis. We also have the capacity to receive stock transfers. For further information, please call the church office at 508-548-2145 and leave a voice mail.

Some thoughts about the month of June 2020 from our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry

During this month of June, we find ourselves in the midst of great titanic struggles, hardships, and difficulties. When important things are at stake, when the lives of God's children, and the life of the world in many respects is at stake. Even as I speak, protestors march through our streets, protesting the way we have been. Protesting for the way we could be. Black Lives Matter, protesting in our city streets that we might learn to live the ways of justice, and mercy that reflects the heart of God's love. And even as I speak, this month of June is Pride Month when our LGBTQ siblings remember and recall, and continue their struggle for equality and mutual respect, and human dignity in our society, in our church and throughout the world.

And even as I speak, the COVID-19 pandemic continues in strange and unanticipated ways, but it continues. This is the month of June. These are some hard times. Hard times for all, but really hard times for so many. Sometimes it's helpful to go back and look how others navigated hard times. I went and picked up a small book. There's a book of sermons by Harry Emerson Fosdick. It was published in the mid 1940s, in 1944 I believe. It was a collection of sermons that he preached as the pastor of Riverside Church in New York City, during the Second World War when the entire world was in an apocalyptic struggle between good and evil. One of the sermons he titled, "In such a time as this, no dry-as-dust religion will do."

He pleaded with people of God to draw closer to God for strength and energy. To live lives of love, of faith, of hope. In that same period of time, he composed the hymn that's found in many of our hymnals, and I would offer it for us this week in this month of June.

*God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thy ancient churches' story,
bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour . . .*

*Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore.*

(Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930)

God love you. God bless you. May God hold us all in those Almighty hands of love.

Reference: "No Dry as Dust Religion Will Do," *A Great Time to Be Alive: Sermons on Christianity in War Time*, Harpers & Brothers, 1944

(taken from the Episcopal Church website: short talks by the Presiding Bishop entitled "Habits of Grace" June 16, 2020)

CELEBRATING GOD'S CREATION: Caring for this corner of the earth

ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR YARD

We have been exploring various invasive plants to watch out for in our area, as well as the ecological benefits of including native plants in your yards. If you haven't had a chance to read the Good News the past few weeks, please check it out! Some great information has been presented already.



This week, let's start looking at ways to attract birds to your yard. Most birds rely heavily on the availability of caterpillars and other insects, especially to feed their young. For example, one pair of chickadees must collect between 6,000 and 9,000 caterpillars to raise one clutch of babies! That's just one pair of birds! If you start multiplying that number with multiple pairs of chickadees, as well as other pairs of species of birds, that's a lot of caterpillars! The caterpillars and other insects provide the protein that is important for healthy development.

Planting native plants is vital for providing these kinds of numbers of caterpillars because they have evolved over many years with the insects and in turn birds that rely on them. For example, research shows that native oak trees are host plants for 550 different types of butterflies and moths, while a non-native ginkgo tree only supports 5. Native plants will support more butterfly and moth species than non-native plants, so make sure to include some natives on your property!



You may not have room to plant a lovely oak tree but there are plenty of other trees, shrubs and plants that are great host plants too. Species of Goldenrod (*Solidago*) support 125 butterfly and moth species and is a superb pollinator plant when it blooms in the autumn, providing some of the last nectar for the season. If you are looking for a groundcover for a large area, wild strawberry (*fragaria virginiana*) is a host plant for 81 species of butterflies and moths. For shrubs, members of the *Prunus* family like chokecherry and beach plum support 411 species, and willow trees (*salix* family) support 399.

This native plant finder on the website of the National Wildlife Federation is a great resource for researching plants that make good host plants: <https://www.nwf.org/NativePlantFinder/Plants>.

- Brittany and the Environmental Committee

WAYS TO SAVE THE PLANET – Simple Things Can Make a Difference

Ah-h, the Clean Air!

Remember when the air was cleaner and there were fewer cars on the road? It seems like the traffic is beginning to feel more like normal now. I remember someone said that the earth seemed happier, even as we were in quarantine. The birds seemed to sing louder and even the trees leafed out happier. In our neighborhood we called each other when we were venturing out to the stores. “Can I pick up anything for you while I’m out?” Not that I want to stay in quarantine, but there was that side of it... Maybe if we each do a little bit of thinking we can still limit the number of cars or trucks on the road.

Here are some suggestions:

1. Perhaps continue the neighbor calling neighbor to ask if one could pick up something at the store instead of everyone getting in their cars to get just a few things.
2. Make the most of each car trip. Try to do a few tasks at a time, get gas when you are out grocery shopping, plan hardware, pet store, groceries all in one trip.
3. Buy local when you can, to save all that long distance truck travel for produce and such.
4. If you order on line, only ask for special delivery dates when you REALLY need something right away. Otherwise, one truck will have only your purchase to deliver instead of a truck full of merchandise.
5. Walk to the store when you can. If you have a lot to buy, well, why not press that old Flexible Flyer into service again. You might start a trend! Take it to the beach if you can walk there. Parking won’t be a problem.
6. Bicycle when you can, to places like the library, beach, or to pick up a few things.
7. Save gas by driving the speed limit.
8. Carpool
9. Consider continuing Zoom meetings, at least through the summer when tourist traffic is high.
10. If you are looking for a new car, think hybrid or electric. (ok, that’s not a little thing)

All of us doing our little bit can make a big difference. Keep the skies blue, the air fresh, and the earth happier!

LOCAL CSA’s (Community Sustainable Agriculture farms)

As we scramble to secure groceries, what better time to embrace our local CSA’s and businesses that source local, sustainable foods. Please see the list below for some of our area contacts. These farmers have different offerings and plans. All in the spirit of Buy Local!

Bay End Farm, Buzzards Bay www.bayendfarm.com/farmstand
contact them for CSA details

Bootstrap Farm, Cataumet www.bootstrapfarm.com

Offering curbside delivery for members. Public shopping is also available, currently for Tuesday, Friday & Saturday pick up. Order online, with car delivery at store. Please visit our website for the latest public shopping hours.

Cape Cod Organic Farm, Barnstable www.capecodorganicfarm.org

May 27- September 30 for pick up at Farm

Coonamesett Farm, Hatchville www.coonamesettfarm.com

offers a variety of CSA options for pick up at Farm. The Farm Market is open Wednesdays through Sundays 9 am to 5 pm. They are now taking SNAP program EBT cards. They have an expanded grocery section including produce, cheese, and meats. They also have take-home meals, fresh and frozen, made at the farm by Buffalo Jump.

DaSilva Farms, Teaticket www.dasilvafarm.com

offers a variety of CSA options for meat and eggs. Sign up to receive updates for delivery schedule.

Pariah Dog Farm, East Falmouth www.pariahdogfarm.com

contact them for CSA details. Vegetables, fruit, herbs, eggs, maple syrup, sea salt and honey

WOODS HOLE RESEARCH CENTER OFFERING SPRING WEBINAR SERIES

Here's something to add to our "stay at home" list...The Woods Hole Research Center is offering a lecture series to help people of all ages understand current research in climate change. To register for this free series, please go to the Woods Hole Research Center website: www.whrc.org and follow the prompts. *You can also view previous webinars in the series on this site.*

MIDDLE EAST FORUM WEBINARS

Middle East Forum of Falmouth 15th Annual Summer Lectures Webinars Open to the Public

The Middle East Forum of Falmouth (www.meff.world) will present five lectures this summer as a series of Zoom webinars (see below or www.meff.world/upcoming-speakers-1). The lectures will deal with diverse topics, moving through Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, Israel and Turkey with insights into their history, politics, sociology, and religion. The speakers are outstanding experts in their field and well known for their first-hand knowledge and scholarship.

The lectures will run for 30-40 minutes and will be followed by a question and answer period with the Zoom attendees. The lectures will begin at 5:00, EDT on the Sunday afternoons indicated below.

The webinars are open to the public and are free of charge. If you would like to attend all or some of the webinars, you should submit an e-mail to infomeff.world@gmail.com with your name and e-mail address, and request to be added to our e-mail list. You will then automatically receive an invitation to each of the webinars a few days before the scheduled date.

More information about the Forum and the lectures is available on www.meff.world.

July 12: Dr. Randa Slim. Challenges and Reform Opportunities Facing Lebanon

July 19: Prof Joshua Landis. Oil, Covid and the New Middle East: Implications for US Policy

August 2: Prof. Henry Munson. Role of Religion in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

August 9: Prof. Rashid Khalidi. The Hundred Years War on Palestine

August 23: Dr. Soner Cagaptay. Erdogan's Empire: Turkey and the Politics of the Middle East

We hope that you will join us for these lectures.

Marc Shulman
President, Middle East Forum of Falmouth
Falmouth, MA

UPDATE ON THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

While most of the response to our Fall 2019 campaign outreach was in hand by the time of our January Annual Meeting, we do continue to receive significant donations. To the gifts, pledges, and bequests reported at the Meeting, we have since received from both new and earlier donors, additional gifts of \$23,225 bringing our total to date to \$2,418,000. We will continue fundraising through August. We continue to welcome pledges as well as checks. The dream outcome would be raising the full \$2.7 cost of the completed building. As most of you know, even under the constraints imposed by the Covid-19 emergency, through the power of Zoom our new Parish and Community Center remains a focal point for a wide range of activities from committee meetings to meditation sessions.

Charles Mann, Chair, Capital Campaign Phase 2
Sandra Rodgers, Chair, Capital Campaign Phase 1
Don Aukamp
Carol Casey
Deborah Dougherty
Arden Edwards
Mark Haycock



Please like us on [Facebook](#)

Need a Mask?

We have FREE masks for men, women, teens, children (2 sizes), hearing aids, beards!

Masks for Falmouth is a group of women in the Falmouth area who are deeply concerned about the risks of transmission of the Covid-19 virus and have banded together to make non-medical cotton face masks for those who need them. The masks are provided without charge to Falmouth residents and employees, particularly those most vulnerable to Covid-19 infection: older people, those with underlying medical conditions, and those who care for vulnerable populations.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.masksforfalmouth.org

Questions or Volunteering? masksforfalmouth@gmail.com

July 2020 - August 2020

July 2020							August 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31										

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Jul 12 10:00am Morning Prayer, Live-streamed	13 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streamed) 5:30pm Vestry mtg. (Live-streamed)	14 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	15 TAX DAY - United States 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 10:00am Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Live-streamed)	16 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	17	18
19 10:00am Morning Prayer (Live-streamed)	20 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streamed)	21 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	22 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	23 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	24	25
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Church of the Messiah, Administrative Assistant

Church of the Messiah

2020 Vestry

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Jean Taft	<i>Warden</i>
Nancy Rea	<i>Warden</i>
Winifred Dick	<i>Clerk</i>
John Nolan	<i>Treasurer</i>

Susan Morse	2021	Mary Fran Buckley	2021
Don Aukamp	2022	Paul Graney	2022
Charles Mann	2023	Peg Nicholson	2023

Deanery Representatives

Dicky Allison	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Helen Gordon	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Carol Casey	Deanery Representative

Staff

The Rev. Deborah Warner	<i>Rector</i>
Brittany Lord	<i>Music Director, Organist</i>
Nancy McDonald	<i>Parish Administrator</i>
Jennifer Kelly	<i>Bookkeeper & Financial Recorder</i>
Bruce Bagley	<i>Church Sexton</i>
Doug Amon	<i>Cemetery Sexton</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

The Rev. Deborah M. Warner

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