

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**May 3, 2020**

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



*Hail thee, festival day*

*Spirit of life and of power,  
now flow in us,  
fount of our being,  
light that dost lighten all,  
life that in all dost abide.*

- *Text from Hymn 175 "Hail thee, festival day" Hymnal 1982  
author of text Venantius Honorius Fortunatus (540? – 600?)*

***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 NOTICES:** The Church of the Messiah and the Parish and Community are closed for all services and meetings until Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. The staff will be working remotely unless their responsibilities require them to be on the church premises. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call the rector, The Rev. Deborah Warner at 508-259-1570.

**Our Sunday worship services are 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 email tomorrow.**

*On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> we are delighted to have our Love First families joining the 10 AM service.*

**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.

**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.

**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.

**PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Our prayers are asked for those who suffer from 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. Lastly, we pray for all who are suffering from or ministering to those with the COVID-19 here and around the world. In our parish, we continue to pray for Charlie Hauck, Gloria Borgese and Ellen Leary.

## PASTORAL REFLECTION BY BISHOP ALAN GATES

April 25, 2020

My Holy Week journey was out of sync. In order to prepare our videotaped Easter Day celebration at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul, my Easter sermon had to be written and delivered fully 10 days ahead. I centered my mind and heart in the astonishing revelation of the Empty Tomb. Then, with that taping accomplished, I re-entered the narrative of our communal journey, just heading into Palm Sunday. Easter gladness was suddenly a memory, as the sorrows of the Passion once more took center stage. It was a strangely disjointed experience – from Lenten solemnity to Easter exaltation to Passiontide sorrow to Good Friday desolation and back to Easter gladness. There was nothing linear about this journey.

Our calendar this year is out of sync. With the pandemic crisis surrounding us, we are in a continuing state of anxiety and sadness. Though the liturgical calendar says we have made the transition from Lent into Easter season, the reality around us suggests otherwise. Living in the northern hemisphere, we are accustomed to an alignment between the message of resurrection and the bursting forth of spring. But this year neither the world's vernal renewal from grey to green, nor the church's liturgical transition from purple to white, is aligned with the continued global struggle with isolation and fear. There is nothing linear about this journey.

Our lives are perpetually out of sync. In fact, this year's powerful experience of disjunction between season and sensibility is always present to some degree. Things never really progress neatly from challenge to resolution, from pain to pleasure, from sorrow to celebration. A man's sister dies on the day his daughter gives birth. A priest moves from a celebratory confirmation in the morning to a graveside funeral in the afternoon. A son celebrates college commencement in one state while his grandfather undergoes bypass surgery in another. A marriage is joyfully but quietly solemnized in the midst of pandemic isolation. Neat, predictable cycles are not the way of things. There is nothing linear about this journey.

The apostle Thomas was out of sync. Thomas was not with the other disciples when Jesus appeared to them, huddled behind locked doors. Jesus had renewed their spirits with his spirit and brought them peace. Thomas wanted to see for himself. And so it happened, a week later. *"Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!'"* [John 20:26-29] Of course, even this happy ending is still not the end. Still the disciples will recognize the Risen Christ at some moments, and fail to recognize him at other moments. Still the disciples will endure Jesus' second departure. Still they will have trials and martyrdom to face. There was nothing linear about their journey.

But having once known the Resurrection, the victorious power of love would now be the object of the apostles' faith, and the bedrock of their life. Life was still, often enough, full of hardship and sorrow. But now they knew: it was not yet the end. In fact, in so many ways, it was just the beginning – the start of a journey which would never be linear, but which would always be traversed in the knowledge of Christ's risen presence and with the promise of renewed life and joy.

In Christianity it is called "inaugurated eschatology." That is Jesus' message that resurrection is available to us not just in an afterlife, but even now. The grief-stricken find comfort and begin again. The addicted find sobriety. The rejected find love. The frightened find courage. The dispirited find hope. This resurrection we see with our own eyes. And another resurrection is yet to come. This we see only with the eyes of faith – "through a glass, darkly" – entrusting the victims of this dreadful pandemic, and our own loved ones, and ourselves, and this whole sad, broken world of ours – entrusting all of these to the eternal love of God. The resurrection already; the resurrection yet to come. Christ is risen!

Easter is not Easter because the calendar says it is. Easter is not Easter because our springtime world displays it. Easter is not Easter because our lives consistently manifest it. Easter is not holiday good cheer; it is not the stuff of championship parades. Easter is Easter precisely because in the midst of lives which are not linear and experiences which are out of sync, we – like the apostles – journey in the knowledge of Christ’s risen presence and with the promise of renewed life and joy. Our Easter season may feel like an extended Lent this year – but that is precisely when we need it most.

Hear again last Sunday’s word from Saint Paul: *"God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. ... In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials. ... Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy."* [I Peter 1:3,6,8]

Blessings of these Great Fifty Days to you.

Faithfully and fondly,

+*Alan*

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates

### **DIOCESAN GUIDELINES AND PRACTICES DURING COVID 19 PANDEMIC**

**Note: This information was edited by The Rev. Deborah Warner so it contains only information that pertains to the Church of the Messiah. It was originally sent to clergy in charge of congregations and parish lay leaders. Further information may be found on the diocesan website: [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org)**

**Worship** (You should now plan for **no in-person public worship services until May 31**. We will hope fervently that we might have a Spirit-filled celebration of Pentecost on that day. As with our [March 21 communication](#), this restriction governs in-person worship open to the public. **Online and live-streamed services from church buildings remain permissible**, as long as *fewer than 10 people* are present, *physical distancing* is maintained and *strict hygiene measures* are observed. Our current listing of churches providing online worship is available [here](#).

Private **funerals and memorial services** may proceed as long as *fewer than 10 people* are present, *physical distancing* is maintained and *strict hygiene measures* are observed. An outdoor graveside option is strongly recommended.

#### **Mental health and domestic violence resources**

During this time, ordinary channels for mental health support may be disrupted and support groups, like 12-step meetings, may not operate at the usual places and times. Those under quarantine, sheltering at home or feeling isolated or fearful may need additional support. The risk of domestic violence may increase. Stay in touch with people in your congregation through phone calls, video chats and notes. Find resources for additional support listed on our diocesan [COVID-19 Updates](#) page.

#### **Financial and operational matters**

**COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund:** We have established a **COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund** to respond to emerging, urgent needs in our congregations and affiliated organizations, and in support of collaborations with ecumenical, multifaith and community partners. The fund will address critical community needs and congregational sustainability during the time of the pandemic. A grant application with more guidelines will be available soon. The fund is now open to receive online gifts at [www.diomass.org/give-now](http://www.diomass.org/give-now). We are deeply grateful for your sacrificial generosity. *"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."* (Galatians 6:2)

**2020 EASTER OFFERING: An Exceptional Year with Extraordinary Needs**

As many of you heard on Easter Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, the vestry and I wish to extend to you an opportunity to support others and this congregation during these extraordinary times. Although we do not usually set a financial goal for our holiday offerings, this Easter we have intentionally chosen to do so.

Our goal is to raise at least \$4,000 that will be divided between two different organizations: **The Falmouth Service Center** and **the Maya Childcare, Inc.** in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Any additional funds beyond the \$4000 will go to the operating account of the Church of the Messiah.

Here is brief information on the recent work and focus of the Falmouth Service Center and Maya Childcare, Inc.

**Falmouth Service Center:** [www.falmouthservicecenter.org](http://www.falmouthservicecenter.org)

\* In March 2020, the Service Center distributed 4292 bags of food to 889 households.

\* From April 1<sup>st</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>, they distributed 1144 bags of food which have benefited 306 Upper Cape households, including signing up 37 new households in the first six days of April for food distribution;

\* By actively partnering with the Falmouth Senior Center in the hopes that the Service Center can keep most seniors safe in their homes. They are picking up and delivering bags of food for approximately 50 senior households/week.

\* The Service Center is continuing to offer ‘drive thru’ distribution Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 – noon.

**Maya Childcare, Inc., working through the Acorn Childcare Center:** [www.mayachildcareus.org](http://www.mayachildcareus.org)

- Serving children living in poverty who are may also suffer neglect because of the poverty;
- Providing
  - A safe environment
  - Active learning for children ages 2-6 years old
  - Nutrition and clean water
  - Parental support
  - Medical care
- Serves as a beacon of hope and belonging to children and families being served.

The time in which we are living is exceptional. It is also an extraordinary reminder of our clear interdependence and strength as human beings. May we be instruments of the hope of the Resurrected One now and in the seasons to come.

Please send your donations payable to the Church of the Messiah with **Easter Donation** on the memo line to:

Church of the Messiah  
16 Church Street  
Woods Hole, MA 02543

On behalf of those whom your generous gifts will benefit, thank you.

*The Rev. Deborah M. Warner*  
Rector

*Nancy Rea*  
Warden

*Jean Taft*  
Warden

### **UPDATE ON CHARLIE HAUCK**

I am very happy to report that as of Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, Charlie and Sally Hauck are back in Falmouth. Charlie continues to work on his recovery as an inpatient at Royal Megansett Nursing Home in North Falmouth. Sally is at home.

The Haucks have been sustained by the constant prayers and love extended to them by members of the parish family, the Woods Hole and Falmouth community and the generous outpouring of support from their many friends.

Our community is one that is bound by love for and with one another. It is sustained by prayer and action. May we as members of a broad and loving community, continue to hold Charlie and Sally and their children as well as those who work with Charlie with our love, kindness and prayers.

– *The Rev. Deborah Warner, Rector*

### **WELCOME TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE'S CORNER CHAT:**

A few updates from the committee: As a group, we have decided to explore some must-read books on the topic of climate change. We have selected our first book, *Climate Justice: Hope, Resilience, and the Fight for a Sustainable Future* by Mary Robinson. Mary Robinson is the former President of Ireland and the United Nations Secretary-General's Special Envoy on Climate Change. The book details how everyday people are fighting against the global climate crisis. Please feel free to join us for further discussion on this timely topic. Please contact Maureen Nolan if you are interested in joining this discussion, or better yet, the Environmental Committee!

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](http://www.bayendfarm.com/farmstand)  
contact them for CSA details

**Bootstrap Farm, Cataumet** [www.bootstrapfarm.com](http://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](http://www.capecodorganicfarm.org)  
May 27- September 30 for pick up at Farm

**Coonamessett Farm, Hatchville** [www.coonamessettfarm.com](http://www.coonamessettfarm.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](http://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](http://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 spring 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](http://www.whrc.org) and follow the prompts.

### **MANY THANKS TO DICKY ALLISON FOR HELPING US "TEAM UP"**

We deeply appreciate Dicky Allison's incredible efforts in helping us divide our parish membership into neighborhoods as part of our "Disaster Preparedness Plan" (also known as "Neighbor to Neighbor Plan". Each neighborhood has two convenors who will be reaching out to those in the parish who live nearby each other. As needs arise, convenors will be contacted and will be able to reach out to others nearby who might be able to assist or call the rector if a pastoral care call is needed. In a time when we are keenly aware of the stark reality of the importance of "physical and social distancing," knowing who is our parish neighbor is even more important as away of breaking down the possibility of social isolation.

### **UPDATE ON THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN – GOOD NEWS INDEED!**

As announced at the Annual Meeting and detailed in the Annual Report, we experienced an extraordinary response to our fall Capital Campaign outreach, with new gifts and/or pledges from 98 donors. Sparked by a matching challenge grant of \$55,000 by two generous donors, new individual gifts and pledges more than met the match, securing the full challenge amount. Moreover, two anonymous foundations added another \$100,000 bringing the total of gifts, pledges, and bequests to \$2.4 million, moving us close to the \$2.5 million campaign target. 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.

A total of 353 separate donors have contributed financially to the campaign. Of the 157 households on our Parish List, 124 (roughly 80%) have made financial contributions and many others are core volunteers in the Parish. We also have received many in-kind contributions, especially furnishings. This is a remarkable level of support for our relatively small community. It has made possible the stunning transformation of the original 1853 church building into a new structure, one that will support more effective service to the Parish and provide new opportunities to the wider community. Thanks and congratulations to everyone involved!

*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](#)



# May 2020 - June 2020

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>May 3</b> 10:00am Morning Prayer (Live-streaming)	<b>4</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streaming)	<b>5</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>6</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>7</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>8</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> Mother's Day (United i 10:00am Morning Prayer (Live-streaming)	<b>11</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streaming)	<b>12</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>13</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 10:30am Outreach Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Live-st	<b>14</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>15</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 10:00am Morning Prayer, Live Streaming	<b>18</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streaming)	<b>19</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>20</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>21</b> Ascension Day 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>22</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>23</b>
<b>24</b> 10:00am Morning Prayer - Live-streamed	<b>25</b> Memorial Day (United 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-stre	<b>26</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>27</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>28</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>29</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>30</b>
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<b>7</b> 10:00am Morning Prayer, Live-streamed	<b>8</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED 3:00pm 4:00pm W H Meditation (Live-streamed)	<b>9</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>10</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>11</b> 10:00am 2:00pm OFFICE CLOSED	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>

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 &amp; Financial Recorder</i>
Bruce Bagley	<i>Church Sexton</i>
Doug Amon	<i>Cemetery Sexton</i>
Warren Bagley	<i>Custodian</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

### The Rev. Deborah M. Warner

Cell: 508-259-1570, E-mail: [dwarner74@aol.com](mailto:dwarner74@aol.com)

**Office hours: Monday – Thursday, 10 AM – 2 PM**

Phone: 508-548-2145, FAX: 508-548-2134

E-mail: Website: [www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org](http://www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org)