

The Church of the Messiah's
Good News
June 7, 2020

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



Pastoral and prophets words from our Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry

What America has seen in the past several days may leave us wondering what we can possibly do in this moment to be good Samaritans — to help heal our country, even the parts we don't know or like. But we have the answer. Now is the time for a national renewal of the ideals of human equality, liberty, and justice for all. Now is the time to commit to cherishing and respecting all lives, and to honoring the dignity and infinite worth of every child of God. Now is the time for all of us to show — in our words, our actions, and our lives — what love really looks like.

- *The Washington Post, May 31, 2020*

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

The bishops continue to extend virtual worship through July 1st.

Although Governor Baker has lifted the moratorium on worship communities, all Episcopal Churches in Massachusetts will continue to offer only virtual worship through July 1st. A detailed directive has been sent to all rectors outlining a very specific procedure that must be followed prior to re-gathering and thereafter. An advisory committee to the rector has been formed to implement this plan here at the Church of the Messiah. We will keep you informed as details and our plans unfold. Thank you for your ongoing support as we seek to uphold the dignity and safety of all people during this pandemic.

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.

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.

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. 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, Gloria, Sally and Larry.

**The Presiding Bishop. The Most Rev. Michael B. Curry's Op Ed
in the *Washington Post*, May 31, 2020**

I am an African American man, blessed to serve as the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church. In my 67 years, I have seen our country change a great deal. But what happened to *George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Sandra Bland, Paul Castaway, Melissa Ventura, Eric Garner, Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin* and countless others has been a sad constant.

Back in the 1960s and '70s, my father ran the Human Relations Commission for the city of Buffalo. He organized sensitivity trainings for the police department, many of whose members he respected and liked. He also warned me to be careful whenever I interacted with the police, because he knew the dangers for a young black man were real. As events in Minneapolis have revealed, that danger has not changed. What has changed is technology: Today, cellphones document racial terror. That is why we see frustration, pain and anger rippling through our streets today. We should all feel the same.

But that frustration must not lead to fatalism or despair. We are not condemned to live this way forever. I recommend a different path — the path of love.

Our nation's heart breaks right now because we have strayed far from the path of love. Because love does not look like one man's knee on another man's neck, crushing the God-given life out of him. This is callous disregard for the life of another human being, shown in the willingness to snuff it out brutally as the unarmed victim pleads for mercy.

Love does not look like the harm being caused by some police or some protesters in our cities. Violence against any person is violence against a child of God, created in God's image. And that ultimately is violence against God, which is blasphemy — the denial of the God whose love is the root of genuine justice and true human dignity and equality.

Love does not look like the silence and complicity of too many of us, who wish more for tranquility than justice.

“What does love look like? Not like this.” These words — spoken Thursday night by my friend Craig Loya, the newly elected Episcopal bishop of Minnesota — haunt me. I look at searing images of racialized violence across our country — against the backdrop of the disproportionate number of covid-19 victims who are black, brown and native — and I cannot help but notice love's profound and tragic absence.

So what *is* the path of love? In times like these, how can we find it and follow it?

When I think about what love looks like, I see us channeling our holy rage into concrete, productive and powerful action. In this moment, love looks like voting for leadership at the local, state, and federal level that will help us to make lasting reform. Love looks like calling on officials and demanding they fulfill their duty to protect the dignity of every child of God.

Love looks like making the long-term commitment to racial healing, justice and truth-telling — knowing that, without intentional, ongoing intervention on the part of every person of good will, America will cling to its original, racist ways of being.

Love looks like working with local police departments to build relationships with the community and develop mechanisms that hold officers accountable. It means ensuring that no police officer with a history of unauthorized force or racialized violence is shielded and allowed to endanger the lives of those they've sworn to protect and serve.

Love looks like all of us — people of every race and religion and national origin and political affiliation — standing up and saying “Enough! We can do better than this. We can *be* better than this.”

What does love look like? I believe that is what Jesus of Nazareth taught us. It looks like the biblical Good Samaritan, an outsider who spends his time and money healing somebody he doesn’t know or even like.

What America has seen in the past several days may leave us wondering what we can possibly do in this moment to be good Samaritans — to help heal our country, even the parts we don’t know or like. But we have the answer. Now is the time for a national renewal of the ideals of human equality, liberty, and justice for all. Now is the time to commit to cherishing and respecting all lives, and to honoring the dignity and infinite worth of every child of God. Now is the time for all of us to show — in our words, our actions, and our lives — what love really looks like.

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Bishops’ Statement on Racial Violence on May 31, 2020

June 1, 2020

Dear People of the Diocese of Massachusetts,

Yesterday afternoon we stood in Boston with other religious leaders as “Clergy United in Prayer, Protest, Peace, and Justice.” Sponsored by the Black Ministerial Alliance and the Massachusetts Council of Churches, the demonstration’s speakers called “for the swift prosecution of those perpetuating violence on black bodies and killing; for justice in our nation and in our neighborhoods, in...a pandemic that exposes the massive injustice of unequal access to basic physical and mental health care which communities of color have had to endure.”

The demonstration included prayer for the dead, and for the living, “for the broken-hearted and those losing hope.” In devastating wordlessness, we held silence for 8 minutes and 46 seconds – the length of time it took to snuff out the life of George Floyd with a knee to his neck.

That afternoon protest was peaceful, as were several other large demonstrations throughout the day. When night fell, however, the protests turned violent, with significant destruction to property in the area surrounding our Cathedral Church of St. Paul.

We decry every manifestation of violence. This includes the destructive violence which followed peaceful protests in Boston this weekend. If we experience these events as extraordinary, however, we must recognize that acts of violence done to black and brown bodies are anything but. The recent, appalling deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmaud Arbery are but the latest in our nation’s 400-year history of violence against people of color, manifestations of our sin of racism and the culture of unexamined white supremacy. Until we understand and acknowledge all of these forms of violence as integrally connected, we can never hope to make our prayers for peace anything more than wishful thinking.

We commend to you Dean Amy McCreath’s letter earlier today reporting effects of last night’s violence surrounding our cathedral, and reflecting upon ways to respond.

We commend to you also yesterday’s essay in *The Washington Post* by our presiding bishop, the Most Rev. Michael B. Curry, who issues this call:

“I see us channeling our holy rage into concrete, productive and powerful action Love looks like making the long-term commitment to racial healing, justice and truth-telling – knowing that, without intentional, ongoing intervention on the part of every person of good will, America will cling to its original, racist ways of being. ... Now is the time for all of us to show – in our words, our actions, and our lives – what love really looks like.”

Faithfully yours,

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates
The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris

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Dean of Cathedral of St. Paul's, Boston
Statement on Racial Violence, May 31, 2020

Dear friends in Christ,

Yesterday, I stood with Bishop Gates, Canon Parnell, and about 300 clergy and lay leaders from the Boston area holding 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silence, in honor of the murdered Black man George Floyd, whose neck was pressed into the pavement by the knee of a police officer for that length of time. Those of us gathering in solidarity with the Black Ministerial Alliance in Roxbury yesterday afternoon were peaceful, as were the overwhelming majority of protesters marching to the State House and filling the Boston Common area last night.

As many of you saw on the news, later last night, some violence did occur very near our cathedral. Stores were looted in Downtown Crossing and a police cruiser was burned a few blocks up Tremont Street from us. Windows were smashed at neighboring restaurants MooYah and Lamberts, but not the Black Seed Cafe. Cafe Bonjour, which has been partnering with us to feed the MANNA community, had windows smashed and property loss. No damage was done to the cathedral property and none of our staff were on site during the protests.

But this morning, as the MANNA community regathered in our sanctuary and Sproat Hall, the psychic damage of having witnessed the violence in the spaces where they have been sleeping rough in a virtually-abandoned, locked-down area for two months, was clear. Please pray for all our MANNA staff as they attend to these wounds, for housed and unhoused residents in our neighborhood, and for all who, in the days ahead, will struggle to push back the understandable urge to lash out in the face of persistent injustice, white supremacist culture, and a president who inflicts more trauma with every tweet.

The vocation of cathedrals is to draw people together for the mission we share in Christ. In our diocese, part of that mission is building relationships. Another is engaging our world. We cannot gather physically at the cathedral right now. Rather than call us together in a virtual vigil, or issue yet another statement decrying racism, as Dean I invite us to build relationships and engage our world by uniting with one another, creatively and urgently. “Go to the cathedral” in ways like...

...planning joint zoom worship services that bring together parishes across racial and cultural differences.

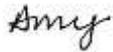
...donating to the Massachusetts Council of Churches One Church Fund , which is providing support for immigrant, Black, poor, unhoused, and unaffiliated churches.

...using deanery assemblies to learn more about the particularity of systemic racism and its impact in your area and to discuss how to work together to address it.

...something else I could never have imagined but that the Spirit is revealing to you . Pray. Listen deeply. And respond.

May the Holy Spirit convict us of our sins, stir us to repentance and action, embolden us to speak truth to power, and unite us for Love's sake.

Faithfully,



The Very Rev. Amy McCreath, Dean of the Cathedral of St. Paul, Boston

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The bishops of the seven New England Episcopal dioceses on June 2 issued the following joint statement in response to President Trump's photo op at St. John's Episcopal Church in Lafayette Square, Washington, D.C., characterizing it as "cynical" and calling out "the abomination of continued oppression of and violence against people of color in this nation."

June 2, 2020

What President Trump did in front of St. John's Episcopal Church, Lafayette Square on the evening of June 1 was disgraceful and morally repugnant. Displaying a Bible from which he did not quote, using as a mere backdrop an Episcopal church where he did not pray, and – more callously – ordering law enforcement to clear, with force and tear gas, a path through demonstrators who had gathered in peace, President Trump distorted for his own purposes the cherished symbols of our faith to condone and stoke yet more violence.

His tactic was obvious. Simply by holding aloft an unopened Bible he presumed to claim Christian endorsement and imply that of The Episcopal Church. Far more disturbingly, he seemed to be affecting the authority of the God and Savior we worship and serve, in order to support his own authority and to wield enhanced use of military force in a perverted attempt to restore peace to our nation. His actions did nothing to mend the torn social fabric of our nation. Instead, they were a blatant attempt to drive a wedge between the people of this nation, and even between people of faith. No matter where we may stand on the partisan spectrum, we, as Christian leaders called to proclaim a God of love, find his actions repugnant. Jesus taught us to love our enemies, to seek healing over division, and make peace in the midst of violence.

Our church may rightly feel outraged and insulted by having the symbols of our faith used as a set prop in a cynical political drama. The real abomination before us, however, is the continued oppression of and violence against people of color in this nation. Let us reserve and focus the energies of our indignation to serve our Lord Jesus Christ's higher purpose: to extend love and mercy and justice for all, and especially for those whose life, liberty, and very humanity is threatened by the persistent sin of systemic racism and the contagion of white supremacy.

The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan, Connecticut
The Rt. Rev. Ian T. Douglas, Bishop Diocesan, Connecticut
The Rt. Rev. Thomas James Brown, Bishop Diocesan, Maine
The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates, Bishop Diocesan, Massachusetts
The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, Bishop Suffragan, Massachusetts
The Rt. Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Bishop Diocesan, New Hampshire
The Rt. Rev. W. Nicholas Knisely, Bishop Diocesan, Rhode Island
The Rt. Rev. Shannon MacVean-Brown, Bishop Diocesan, Vermont
The Rt. Rev. Douglas J. Fisher, Bishop Diocesan, Western Massachusetts

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Diocese of Washington's Bishop Mariann Budde's Response to President Trump

June 01, 2020

The President just used a Bible and one of the churches of my diocese as a backdrop for a message antithetical to the teachings of Jesus and everything that our church stands for. To do so, he sanctioned the use of tear gas by police officers in riot gear to clear the church yard.

I am outraged.

The President did not pray when he came to St. John's; nor did he acknowledge the agony and sacred worth of people of color in our nation who rightfully demand an end to 400 years of systemic racism and white supremacy in our country.

We in the Diocese of Washington follow Jesus in His Way of Love. We aspire to be people of peace and advocates of justice. In no way do we support the President's incendiary response to a wounded, grieving nation. In faithfulness to our Savior who lived a life of non-violence and sacrificial love, we align ourselves with those seeking justice for the death of George Floyd and countless others through the sacred act of peaceful protest.

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The Presiding Bishop, The Most Rev. Michael Curry's Statement in response to President Trump's Action on June 1, 2020

This evening, the President of the United States stood in front of St. John's Episcopal Church, lifted up a bible, and had pictures of himself taken. In so doing, he used a church building and the Holy Bible for partisan political purposes. This was done in a time of deep hurt and pain in our country, and his action did nothing to help us or to heal us.

The bible teaches us that "God is love." Jesus of Nazareth taught, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The prophet Micah taught that the Lord requires us to "do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God."

The bible the President held up and the church that he stood in front of represent the values of love, of justice, of compassion, and of a way to heal our hurts.

We need our President, and all who hold office, to be moral leaders who help us to be a people and nation living these values. For the sake of George Floyd, for all who have wrongly suffered, and for the sake of us all, we need leaders to help us to be "one nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all."

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT GRADUATES

The following is a list of members of the Class of 2020 from the following schools. We congratulate them and wish them every success as they move forward in the coming years.

Gio Borgese - Falmouth High School
Abe Lineaweaver - Falmouth High School
Leah Glidden - Falmouth High School
Josephine Graney - Groton School
Malcolm Swope - New Hampton School

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

INVASIVE PLANTS AND NATIVE PLANT ALTERNATIVES

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 two weeks, please check it out! Some great information has been presented already.



This week we look at an invasive plant that can be found popping up in yards everywhere – Asian (also referred to as Oriental) Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*). This aggressive woody vine can grow as long as 60 feet and invades fields and forests, forming a dense mat that smothers out shrubs and other plants and can also climb high into trees girdling them. Birds love to eat the seeds, dispersing them far and wide. Unfortunately, people also use the yellow seeds (which split open reveal red) to make wreathes and other decorations, which helps to spread the seed when these decorations are disposed of. Small plants are easy to get rid of by hand-pulling. Larger plants will need to be cut down repeatedly, and all parts of the root dug up so it doesn't regrow. If you see the vines growing on trees, you can cut the vine at the base to immediately start helping the tree. Note: Our native bittersweet (*Celastrus scandens*) can be confused with the invasive bittersweet. The native bittersweet produces flowers only at the tip of the stem, while the invasive bittersweet flowers from multiple spots along the stem.



If you are looking for an ornamental vine for your garden, consider Trumpet (Choral) Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*). This is native to the eastern and southeastern U.S. It is not the same as the invasive Japanese honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica*). Our native honeysuckle is a vigorous woody vine that grows quickly and twines around a structure for support. It blooms during the summer and has tubular red flowers which are a magnet for hummingbirds and other insects. 36 species of butterflies and moths can use this as a caterpillar host plant in our area. After flowering, it fruits with berries that are yellow, orange and red, and attract birds. Birds also enjoy nesting in the twisty wooden vines. I added one of these to my yard earlier this spring to climb a pergola. The flowers are just starting to open and already there has been a steady parade of hummingbirds paying them a visit!

- Brittany and the Environmental Committee

REGIONAL POLICY PLAN Re: The Cape Cod Commission

The Cape Cod Commission plays a leadership role in planning and policymaking across Cape Cod, regulating developments of regional impact, and making decisions on buildings and infrastructure that will last for decades. On May 28th, the Commission will hold a virtual public hearing to consider proposed amendments to its Regional Policy Plan (RPP) . Further information on reading this plan and possibly taking action related to it, please consider visiting the website: www.350.capecod.org

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

1. Use Energy Efficient Lightbulbs:

Energy efficient lightbulbs are a simple way to reduce the amount of power you use. Not only will this help the planet, it will also save your bank balance too. By replacing just one lightbulb, the effect can be tremendous. If every house in the USA did this, it would reduce pollution by the same amount as removing one million cars from the road!

2. Turn Your Computer Off Overnight:

If you turn your computer off every night, again you will reduce the power you use. You will save an average of \$14 a year. It's not a huge amount, but better in your pocket than your energy supplier's right?

3. Don't Pre-Rinse the Dishes:

If you can't live without your dishwasher, then at least cut the pre-rinse. With a decent detergent, your dishes will be just as clean and you can save an average of twenty gallons of water per load.

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

Coonamessett Farm, Hatchville 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
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 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 and follow the prompts. *You can also view previous webinars in the series on this site.*

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.

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](#)

June 2020 - July 2020

June 2020							July 2020						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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14	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
21	15	16	17	18	19	20	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
28	22	23	24	25	26	27	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Jun 7 - 13		Jun 14 - 20		Jun 21 - 27		Jun 28 - Jul 4		Jul 5 - 11					
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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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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