

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**May 15, 2022**

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



God of the present moment,  
God who in Jesus stills the storm  
and soothes the frantic heart;  
bring hope and courage to *us all*  
as we *wait* in uncertainty  
in this time of COVID-19  
and all the challenges in our lives  
Bring hope that you will make *us* the equal  
of whatever lies ahead.  
Bring *us* courage to endure what cannot be avoided,  
for your will is health and wholeness;  
you are God, and we need you.

***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.*

### **ALL ARE WELCOME: A Word from the Bridge Priest and the Wardens**

As an Episcopal parish, our intention is to welcome any and all who come into our midst whether physically or virtually. We are delighted to have you here. Welcome!

### **BEYOND IMAGINATION: A Celebration of Giving Thanks**

As I write this, ten days have passed since the extraordinary celebration of our shared ministry at Messiah when members of my extended family and friends joined the parish and Bishop Gates to celebrate and give thanks to God for the myriad of gifts over the years.

While the days have passed, my deep gratitude for each and all of you continues to deepen. Your kind and thoughtful notes along with the Memory Book have touched me deeply, bringing smiles and tears to my face and warmth to my heart. As I begin to figure out where to plant the peony and the shadblow, I am realizing how our lives have been rooted in the mystery of caring for each other over the years. The magnificent painting by Karen Rinaldo, commissioned by the vestry, of the Parish and Community Center and the Stone Church is a strikingly beautiful reminder of the call faith communities have to always reach out to the wider community of which they are a part. Lastly, your extraordinarily generous financial gift is now safely set apart for future travel in and beyond this country.

Having met and had a wonderful conversation with The Rev. Dr. Storm Swain, I am deeply grateful for the pastoral sensitivity and grace she is kindly extending to you as you begin this time of discernment; and even more importantly carry out, perhaps in new ways, the ministry entrusted to each of you in baptism.

Please know that I will continue to hold you in my thoughts and prayers even as I give thanks for our shared ministry. May each of us and the world we serve discover what it is that the spirit and wisdom of God is calling us to do with *“this one wild and precious life.”* (Mary Oliver, “The Summer Day.”)

With deepest gratefulness, now and always

Deborah

The Rev. Deborah Warner

### **NEWS FROM THE WARDENS**

Thank you to all for your generosity at Easter. Our offering totaled \$8991. The Episcopal Relief & Development Ukraine Crisis Fund, World Central Kitchen’s Ukraine Food Program and the Falmouth Service Center will each receive a check for \$2997.

The search committee held its first meeting on Sunday after the 10am service. Kelly O’Connell facilitated the meeting as our temporary search consultant. She walked the committee through a ten-step summary of the search process. The committee agreed to meet again on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The vestry and search committee are hoping to schedule an informal retreat together before the end of the month.

The vestry held its monthly meeting on Monday evening, May 9<sup>th</sup>, our first meeting with Rev. Dr. Storm Swain. We discussed the following: how to keep the congregation safe given the uptick in Covid cases and the impending influx of summer residents/visitors; the recently completed Transition Review and 2021 Financial Audit; scheduling a joint meeting with the cemetery committee; how to launch the execution of our Strategic Plan; restarting coffee hour; the renovation of the rectory; our 2022 YTD financial performance; and an expedited re-launch of the Love First program.

**COFFEE HOUR:** If you are interested in “hosting” coffee hour after the 10am service, please notify Nancy in the parish office which date you are able to do so. We will pull the information together and publish a schedule.

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS**

Spring is here, and summer is soon to follow! With warmer weather arriving, the Cemetery Committee would like to encourage church members and community residents to visit the lovely Herb Garden and Memorial Garden on the south side of the Stone Church.

The Herb Garden is a special location with beautiful plantings that has been the site of spring and summer baptisms. The Memorial Garden offers a sacred final resting place for the cremated remains of loved ones. The plaque on the church wall contains the names of many past church members and local residents. Benches between the two Gardens allow for rest and quiet reflection.

### **PATHWAYS UPDATE**

The Pathways Committee is still waiting for a cost estimate from Grafton Briggs for the redesigned pathways project. Apparently, landscapers and their suppliers are all extremely busy and under-staffed.

### **PARISH PRAYER LIST**

Our prayers are asked for those who suffer from racial profiling, addiction, anxiety, abuse, dementia, cancer, emotional distress, are suffering from or ministering to those with COVID-19 here and around the world. We pray for all who are unemployed or homeless. We pray for those who are victims of natural disasters and changes in the earth's climate. Along with so many around the world, we pray for the people of Ukraine as they continue to suffer from Russia's invasion. Finally, we pray for all who serve in the diplomatic corps and in the armed and peacekeeping forces.

In our parish prayer list, we continue to pray for Charlie, Larry, David, Robert, Miyoko, Emily, Steve, Janet, Bunk, Sarah, Johnny, Bruce, Betsy, Amy, Bob, Debby, Sandra, Helen, Ted and Dicky.

### **ZOOM INFORMATION**

**Our 10 AM Sunday worship service will continue to be virtual via Zoom.**

#### **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 Sunday services at this link: <https://zoom.us/j/632447285> We suggest you plan on getting to our virtual church at 9:45 AM to give yourself plenty of time to get settled. When you join, you will be looking at the sanctuary until the service begins.

### **UPDATED COVID PROTOCOLS as of April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Based on the recommendations of the Regathering Oversight Committee, on Monday, March 14<sup>th</sup> the vestry voted the following COVID protocols based on the latest diocesan directive sent to clergy and lay leaders on March 7, 2022. The directive allows for local discretion.

- Masks are to be worn for indoor worship.
- A quadrant of seating has been set aside for people wishing or needing to maintain physical distancing. Others are invited to sit there as long as the physical distancing procedure is followed.
- With the exception of the seating set aside for people wishing or needing to maintain physical distancing, kneelers have been placed on the floor.
- Communion is offered in both kinds: the larger chalice for those who wish to drink from the common cup, and a small chalice for those who wish to receive communion by intinction. We are using unwrapped communion wafers.
- Hosts are needed to prepare the coffee and tea which will be served in the Woods Hole Room after the 10 o'clock service. The room is to be properly ventilated – with windows and the door to the balcony open. Masks are to be worn to the degree they do not interfere with consuming beverages. Purell will be available.
- Weather permitting, coffee hour will be held outside on the patio.

### **NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH**

Many thanks to Mary Anne Mann who has worked extremely hard to research the history of the Church of the Messiah here in Woods Hole. Her research and subsequent essay are part of a response each parish has been urged to do as a means of further understanding the complex history of our diocese, especially with regards to Enslaved People and Indigenous People. Her essay was emailed earlier this week and is available on our parish website: [www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org](http://www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org). Along with other parish histories, eventually this essay will be available through the Community of Practice website through the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts: [www.diomass.org](http://www.diomass.org). Hard copies are available at church.

### **FINANCIAL OFFERINGS AND DONATIONS TO THE CEMETERY MAY ALSO BE MADE ONLINE**

Contributions may be made **online** through Vanco Payment Solutions. These can be scheduled on a weekly, monthly, quarterly, semiannual or annual basis. If you wish to donate now, please go to the church website: [www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org](http://www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org) and click on the *Donate* tab on the upper right of the Home page and follow the top link.

**Donations to the Cemetery Annual Appeal and Perpetual Care Fund may also be made online, via PayPal.** Click on the *Donate* tab and follow the bottom link to PayPal. Please indicate if you wish to donate to the Annual Appeal or the Perpetual Care Fund.

We also have the capacity to receive stock transfers. For further information on any of the above, please call the church office at 508-548-2145 and leave a voice mail.



Please like us on [Facebook](#)

# May 2022 - June 2022

May 2022							June 2022						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28	29	30		
29	30	31					27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>May 15</b> 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	16 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Outreach Comm. Mtg. (Virtual) 3:00pm W H Meditation	17 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	18 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Virtual)	19 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	20	21 10:00am WH May Festival (WH Ballpark)
22 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	23 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	24 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	25 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	26 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	27	28
29 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	30 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	31 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	Jun 1 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	2 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	3	4
5 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	6 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	7 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	8 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	9 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	10	11
12 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	13 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual) 5:00pm Vestry mtg.	14 Flag Day (United States) 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	15 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Virtual)	16 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	17	18 9:30am Celebration of Life (PCC)

Church of the Messiah

## Church of the Messiah

### 2022 Vestry

The Rev. Dr. Storm Swain	<i>Bridge Priest</i>
Peg Nicholson	<i>Warden</i>
Michael Kasparian	<i>Warden</i>
Winifred Dick	<i>Clerk</i>
John Holden	<i>Treasurer</i>

Charles Mann	2023	Patti Dibella	2023
Susan Morse	2024	Rachael Rhude	2024
Denise Jay	2025	Paul Graney	2025

### Deanery Representatives

Dicky Allison	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Helen Gordon	Diocesan, Deanery Representative
Jean Taft	Deanery Representative, Convention alternate

### Staff

The Rev. Dr. Storm Swain	<i>Bridge Priest</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>
Jessica Morrison	<i>Webmaster</i>

### Rev. Dr. Storm Swain

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