

The Church of the Messiah's

Good News

June 5, 2022

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



Practice
Random Kindness
And
Senseless Acts
of Beauty

- Anne Herbert

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!

NEWS FROM THE WARDENS

The newly developed Strategic Plan was distributed to all parishioners on June 1st. We ask that you read it before Sunday, June 5th, which is Pentecost. We will be launching the execution of the plan that day and will be asking everyone to volunteer to work on at least one of the objectives. There will be a short presentation at the services on June 5th. We need your time and talent to put this plan into action.

The rectory is badly in need of renovation. At a minimum, it needs new windows and doors, new siding and trim, and a new kitchen. The Operations/Building and Grounds team is busy getting multiple estimates for this work. One piece of good news: we received approval from the Falmouth Historical Commission for the exterior work.

The vestry and the search committee will have a joint meeting on June 13th at 6:30pm.

***There will be lemonade and cookies on the lawn after the 10am service this Sunday, June 5th, weather permitting.

THE NOONTUNES SUMMER CONCERT SERIES RETURNS!

After a two year absence, we are thrilled to bring back our summer concert series this season. **There will be three concerts during the month of July on Wednesdays at 12:15pm.**

This year's schedule is:

Wednesday, July 13th: Jeanne Prendergast, soprano and Mark Lawlor, organ

Wednesday, July 20th: Schola Cantorum

Wednesday, July 27th: Sarah Bach, soprano and Emily Murphy, piano

We are looking for sponsors to help cover the costs of these concerts. We welcome donations of any amount and all donors will be listed in each program during the series. Donations may be made "in memory of" or "in honor of" someone and will be listed that way in the program.

Brochures are available in the back of the church that include more information about Noontunes and being a sponsor. Please contact me if you have any questions. Thank you! - Brittany Lord

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday notes a shift in the ‘Church Year,’ from the weeks following Easter, to Pentecost and “Ordinary Time.” It signals a shift from Christ as an historical person in the world, to the Spirit of God, at work in the world and in the community of faith. The Apostle Paul, says that the fruit of the Spirit is “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” (Gal. 5:22-23.)

At times, when sick, anxious, or scared, I sometimes find myself becoming defensive, protective, and short with others, most often those closest to me. At other times, I can practice a resilient attitude where I am more adaptable, present, and solution focused. One of the popular memes that I have found helpful, is the sometimes overused but not trite, “Practice Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty.” Rather than just a pithy saying to give us a momentary sense of pleasure it invites us into action and agency. It calls on us to ‘Practice,’ which means doing something again and again, perhaps in different contexts and different ways. It calls us to a way of coping as a way of being in the world. The invitation is to practice kindness “randomly.” To me, this means not just being kind to those in our immediate proximity, or those that we know will receive kindness well, or even to those that seem in most need of it (although that is arguably a good choice) but just putting kindness out there. Sometimes we are not aware of whom really needs a word of kindness, until we see its effect. Perhaps this is just about letting the ‘heart’ or ‘spirit’ move you to kindness, simply through being prompted by remembering to do so.

The saying also calls us to “Practice Senseless Acts of Beauty.” In and around Woods Hole, (or whatever our context may be) we are surrounded by beauty, particularly at this time of year. In this practice we are called not simply to notice and appreciate beauty, but to participate in “acts” of such. I have lived in many beautiful places, and am often surprised how much so, when I go back, but participating in an act to make beauty takes us to a different level. Such actions can be small or large, personal or systemic. They are also called to be “senseless.” Rather than thinking of this as being solely without reason, I tend to think of this as not being profitable. Although, there is certainly may be a secondary gain from acts like picking up trash on the beach when you see it.

These days, when I am concerned for the safety of people, in a time of war, gun violence, and continuing pandemic conditions, when I am seeking to build trust and relationship in the Church of the Messiah community which is new to me, when there is so much to mourn and so many places that need our action and accountability, I find the small pleasure of practicing deliberate acts of kindness and making things a little more beautiful can have a large affect. Two small examples this past week are the vase of three deep purple irises on my kitchen counter, and the practice of paying for one more bag of trash at the dump than I have brought, to be passed onto whomever the service attendant chooses. I learnt the benefit of that random act of kindness because someone did it to me. Somebody else’s practice has had a ripple on effect, quite likely for more than me.

For those of you that are reading this who are feeling in need of kindness, are feeling bruised physically or spiritually by the world, and are finding it difficult to see beauty, this isn’t a moral lesson, but the expression of a hope - a hope that in the hard week ahead, you may experience the kindness of others, that you may find some beauty that gives you a moment of joy, and that the Spirit moves with you, that you may know you are upheld in Christ’s love.

Peace,

Storm+

Bridge Priest



**FALMOUTH
SERVICE CENTER**
more than a food pantry

May 24, 2022

Rev. Deborah M. Warner
Church of the Messiah
16 Church St
Woods Hole, MA 02543

Dear Deborah,

The staff and the Board of Directors of the Falmouth Service Center would like to express our sincere appreciation for the very generous contribution of \$2,997 from the Church of the Messiah. This donation will help us continue to support our clients by providing them with healthy nutritious food as well as helping them as they struggle to meet their other basic needs. We are particularly grateful for your donation at this unprecedented time as it helps us to meet growing demand for our services.

Our mission is to ease stress, reduce hunger and improve the quality of life for our neighbors in need. The Falmouth Service Center works to increase self-sufficiency by helping to build networks among clients, neighbors and agencies. Thank you for partnering with us to assist those who struggle in our community. We are grateful for your gift and hope that our efforts will continue to merit your support.

Sincerely,

Kerin Delaney
Executive Director

We cannot thank you all enough for this incredible support! ♡

The Falmouth Service Center welcomes your consideration regarding bequests. Please contact the director or any board member for a confidential discussion.

In accordance with IRS regulations, the Falmouth Service Center declares that it has not provided any goods or services in exchange for this contribution. Please retain this statement for your tax records

CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS

Outside water taps have been turned on in the cemetery. Old U. S. flags will be removed from graves in anticipation of new flags being placed in time for Memorial Day.

If your loved one's grave needs a metal flag holder representing a specific branch of service, please contact the town's Veterans' Services Department located at 59 Town Hall Square, 508-495-7453.

Please be aware that small objects and stones placed on gravesites and headstones may be removed at the discretion of the committee or the landscape workers to prevent mowing hazards. Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

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, Dicky and Jean.

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 1st

Based on the recommendations of the Regathering Oversight Committee, on Monday, March 14th 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.

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 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

June 2022 - July 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 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	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) 4:30pm Vestry mtg. (WH)	14 Flag Day (United States) 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (W. H. Rm.)	15 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Environmental Comm. Mtg. (Virtual)	16 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	17	18 9:30am Celebration of Life (PCC)
19 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-Person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	20 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 10:00am Outreach Comm. Mtg (Virtual) 3:00pm W H Meditation	21 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (W. H. Rm.)	22 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	23 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	24	25
26 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-Person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	27 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	28 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (W. H. Rm.)	29 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	30 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	Jul 1	2
3 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-Person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	4 Independence Day (United States) Office Closed 3:00pm W H Meditation (Virtual)	5 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (W. H. Rm.)	6 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	7 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	8	9

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

Rev. Dr. Storm Swain

Cell: 646-236-2002, E-mail: sswain@uls.edu

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

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

E-mail: messiahfisher@comcast.net

or

comwoodshole@gmail.com

Website: www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org