

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**July 31, 2022**

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



**On Children**

And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said, "Speak to us of Children."

And he said:

Your children are not your children.  
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.  
They come through you but not from you,  
And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.  
You may give them your love but not your thoughts.  
For they have their own thoughts.  
You may house their bodies but not their souls,  
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,  
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.

You may strive to be like them,  
but seek not to make them like you.  
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.  
You are the bows from which your children  
as living arrows are sent forth.  
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,  
and He bends you with His might that His arrows may go swift and far.  
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;  
For even as he loves the arrow that flies,  
so He loves also the bow that is stable.

**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!

**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, Sarah, Bruce, Betsy, Amy, Bob, Debby, Sandra, Helen, Dicky, George, and Bobby. We pray for the soul of Barbara Woll Jones and for her family that grieves her.

Dear Parishioners,

When you come into Church this week, bodily or virtually, you may see some significant changes down the back of the Nave by the Baptismal Font. With the Vestry's approval we have changed the space to make it a more child and parent friendly space, with a foam tile floor mat, and comfortable chair for a parent to sit in with an infant, or a teen to lounge upon.

Why would we do this when there are no children currently in Church, taking up space that we used to use for an information table and water station? I am not so naïve to think, like Kevin Costner in the movie *Field of Dreams*, "You build it, they will come." It is more along the lines of "You build it, they may come back." Incidentally, in the week following the Vestry decision to change-up the space, before we have done anything, a mother and baby turned up for the midweek Noontime Concert, and on Sunday, two young parents and their baby were at one of the services. If we have a space that immediately says, "This Episcopal Church welcomes you," no matter how old you are, how wriggly your children are, or what time your child needs to feed or nap, then a parent or child is more likely to actually feel an embodied welcome, and is more inclined to see this as a spiritual home to return to again.

On Trinity Sunday, I preached offering another way of seeing the Trinity as Earthmaker, Painbearer, Lifegiver, and suggested that we are called into a Trinitarian life of earthmaking, painbearing, and lifegiving in our practices. For me, creating such a welcoming space is such an earthmaking practice. Whether one child or ten get to use it over a month, it says that children are not just the future of the Church, they are the Church now. Particularly in a time when children have experienced church spaces as unavailable or risky, as they are the last part of the population to be vaccinated, I think we need to go the extra step in making spaces available, visible, and appealing to a kid's eye.

When I originally envisaged the space, and looked at mats and chairs online, I had an image of the space with a muted white, beige, brown checkered foam mat, and a (rather expensive) rocking chair of wood that matched the pews, with a red faux leather seat (like the pew cushions) that could be easily cleaned – something that fits in aesthetically. This may still happen. However, I did not want to wait for those things to arrive, and decided to set up the space with things I could resource locally, as a temporary look, so whatever children may turn up in the next few weeks could try it out. Consequently, we have a multicolored alphabet mat, that may remind you of a preschool, a brighter cloth covered Ikea chair, that was sourced on Facebook Marketplace, all for around \$100.



After I had finished, and stepped back to look at this colorful space, I confess to having a thought run through my head. “Despite the fact that it has been a child friendly space before, they’ll look at it and think I’m mad.” Although I hadn’t taken a ‘Before’ photograph, I decided to take an ‘After’ one of this playspace. It was then I realized God was playing with me. When I looked at the photograph three things stood out and I realized that the colorful tiled mat was the same colors and brightness as the maritime window above the staircase, and these two were the same colors and brightness as the window behind the font. For a moment all three felt like an amusing harmony of “Ancient and Modern.”

This space will of course change over time as we discuss what we like, and don’t, what works, and doesn’t. We will add more specifically chosen books for children and teens, like the newly purchased ‘Action Bible,’ a graphic version, and a new book, “You are Enough.” As you react and respond to the renewed space, feel free (after the service) to let us know what you think, and what you think the theology and physical reality of the space says about who we are as a Church.

Thank you all for your prayers and care for this beautiful building, and the Body of Christ it holds, young and old, year-round and Summer, cradle Episcopalian and spiritual but maybe not so religious. I end this letter by giving thanks that in Christ, all are welcome.

Peace,

*Storm+*

Bridge Priest

### **CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS**

During these hot and often hectic months, we invite you to pause and take advantage of one of the numerous benches while you are walking in the church grounds and the cemetery. You can enjoy looking at the sweeping view from the bench near the back of the PCC down across the Vale. You can view Little Harbor or look down across the Pasture to the Whitney barn from the benches near the large parking lot and in the Pasture.

From the PCC to the rise near the large parking lot to the Nims section or the Memorial & Herb Gardens areas, there are many places to rest your body and your spirit.

### **SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

The Search Committee met on 7/26/2022.

- The Committee is collaboratively creating a series of questions to help parishioners visualize the implementation of the parish's goals in preparation for calling a new rector.
- The Committee will soon seek parishioner input for the Parish Profile/Rector Call, in small affinity groups and other outreach methods.

The next meeting of the Search Committee is on Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. at the Parish and Community Center Conference Room. Please contact Julia Alling, [allingjulia@gmail.com](mailto:allingjulia@gmail.com) or Frank Gormley, [fxgormley@gmail.com](mailto:fxgormley@gmail.com) with any questions.

### **WOODS HOLE INSIGHT MEDITATION COMMUNITY**

The Woods Hole Insight Meditation Community meets every Monday from 3 – 4 PM. The format includes 10 minutes of introductions, 30 minutes of sitting with brief instructions, a 10-minute break for questions and a closing 10 Loving Kindness meditation. Our leaders include people who are experienced meditators and have done some teaching. Due to COVID, the group has been meeting online and recently introduced an in-person masked option. Further information can be found on our website:

[www.woodsholeinsightmeditationcommunity.com](http://www.woodsholeinsightmeditationcommunity.com).

### **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.

- Effective Sunday, July 17, masks will no longer be required at the 8:30 AM service due to our ability to remain physically distant from one another. Anyone who prefers to wear a mask may of course continue to do so.
- 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](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](#)

# July 2022 - September 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>Jul 31</b> 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	<b>Aug 1</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>2</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 5:00pm WHHM Annual 7:30pm WHCC	<b>3</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>4</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 1:00pm Interment
<b>7</b> 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	<b>8</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 5:00pm Vestry mtg. 6:00pm Children's	<b>9</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (W. H. Rm.)	<b>10</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>11</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 1:00pm Memorial Service & Interment	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	<b>15</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>16</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (Stone)	<b>17</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>18</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 7:00pm WHCC Rehearsal (Stone)	<b>19</b> 7:00pm WHCC Dress Rehearsal	<b>20</b> 5:00pm Holy Eucharist 7:30pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)
<b>21</b> FALMOUTH ROAD RACE 4:00pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)	<b>22</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>23</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>24</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>25</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	<b>29</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>30</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 11:00am WHWC BOD Mtg. (PCC Conf. Rm.)	<b>31</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>Sep 1</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b> 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	<b>5</b> LABOR DAY Office Closed	<b>6</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>7</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	<b>8</b> 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>

Church of the Messiah

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## 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>

### Rev. Dr. Storm Swain

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