

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**August 14, 2022**

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



"It means a lot to me  
to get up in the morning  
and thank the Creator  
for all that you have  
in the language  
that was given to you.  
You can't imagine that feeling."

Jessie Little Doe Baird,  
'Voice of Wampanoag Language,' 2006.  
<https://mashpeewampanoagtribe-nsn.gov/>

***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, Robert, Miyoko, Emily, Steve, Janet, Sarah, Bruce, Betsy, Amy, Debby, Sandra, Helen, Dicky, George, Bobby, Lydia, Sophia, Phoebe, David and Nancy.

Dear Parishioners,

I wonder, what was the first word you ever spoke in a language that was not initially your own, the language identified with your people? Gracias? Merci? Danke? As we know, many of the more recent immigrants of countries whose 'Mother Tongue' is that other than English often grow up bi-lingually, moving easily between the language of their parents and ancestors, and the dominant language in their country of choice. At the Seminary where I teach, often in the Mid-week service, the presider will invite people to "unmute, and" pray the Lord's Prayer in the language most comfortable to you. You hear the strains of the dominant English, but also some praying in German, Norwegian, Swedish, Hindi, French, Portuguese, Spanish, and me, choosing to pray in Maori. It is a beautiful cacophony.

I was lucky enough to grow up in a consciously bicultural country, formed through a treaty signed between most of the Maori tribes and the British crown, (for what Maori thought was partnership, and the Crown thought was sovereignty.) Like the situation with the Wampanoag peoples of this area, (who also had a treaty with the Crown), early on the Bible was translated into Maori, and this was one of the ways that the Church enmeshed with colonizing forces, particularly as peoples with an oral tradition became more and more people of the Book. The initial impulse was evangelical, but could be seen as respectful, honoring the language of the other. Too often, however, this was followed with 'Western education,' and a demand, if not legislation that indigenous peoples speak in the language of the colonizer not their own, often with severe penalties for not doing so. Even countries with treaties followed this pattern, and those without often lost their languages, or it became the ancestral memory of a very few. The Church, which could have been seen as a liberating respectful force early on, in honoring language and customs, too often became a perpetrator of policies of domination and limitation. However, I grew up in a country where the language was peppered with Maori words, place names, and conceptions, in a way that has deeply shaped who I am as a person and priest.

In the last thirty years there have been strong forces of decolonization, and affirmation of a cultural competence that recognizes that language is not about other words, but an-other identity, way of seeing the world, thought forms, and even spirituality. When I was ordained, over 25 years ago, there had been a strong commitment to live out of the Treaty in a new way, and the Church saw an ethical commitment to model this. Consequently, priests in New Zealand had to be able to celebrate the liturgy in both English and Maori. It was through using the language in a liturgical environment that I really came to see beyond the language into the ethos embodied in language, but so much more. A direct translation of an affirmation of faith in English would be “You, O God, are the source of all there is...” and in Maori would be, “You, O God, are the tip of the fern frond of all being...” One of the gifts of this area is that we are surrounded by Wampanoag place names, and some of you know the meanings. However, the language as a whole was almost lost.

This Sunday, at 5pm, we get an opportunity to engage the documentary *We Still Live Here*, “the story of the revitalization of the Wampanoag language, the first time a language with no native speakers has been revived in this country.” I encourage you all, to come, to listen, to lament, and to celebrate the rediscovery of the Wampanoag language and the sensibilities that go with it. Perhaps this week, you will learn a new word, or a new meaning; perhaps in watching the film, you can hear a new way of greeting that you might experiment using. Such small things are in no way commensurate with the harm the Church has often done in the name of religion. However, by decentering ourselves even through a small acts of faith, we err on the side of justice. We may recognize that in so many ways, on the ancestral land of the Wampanoag that was not brought, gifted, or shared, and even on that which was, we are the visitors, that followed the First Peoples. In this, we get the opportunity to “respect the dignity of every human being,” in renewed ways that will expand our empathy and our community, with grace and goodwill.

Please consider coming on Sunday, where **we will be honored to welcome Wampanoag tribal member, Tia Pocknett, Lead Teacher in the Language Program Elementary Class**, who has a great resurrection story to tell, about the recovery of language and its gift to identity and spirit – a sacred task in which scripture has a paradoxical part to play.

Peace,

*Storm+*

Bridge Priest

**UNITED THANK OFFERING INGATHERING, Sunday August 28, 2022**

“I believe gratitude comes from a place in your soul that knows the story could have ended differently, and often does, and I know that gratitude is at the heart of finding the good in this world.” Heather Lend. [Find the Good](#)



**MUSIC NEWS: Choir and Chime Choir will be restarting soon!**

During this latest heat wave it's hard to believe that autumn is rapidly approaching! Choir rehearsals will resume on **Wednesday, September 7th at 6:00pm**. After a long break we will also be restarting our handchime choir which will start on **Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00pm**.

We are always welcoming new members! If you are interested in singing and/or ringing with us, please speak to Brittany. All experience levels welcome!

**NEWS FROM THE WARDENS**

The vestry met on 8/8.

We agreed at that meeting to hire Brittany Lord to manage our current website while we contract with a new person to redevelop the website using modern tools so that our staff can post material easily.

We are in the process of procuring a new Episcopal Church sign for the corner of Church St and Woods Hole Road.

We had an update on the search committee.

We reviewed a proposal for signage for the PCC and decided a follow up meeting is required to review additional options.

The Love First Committee is moving forward to hire a teacher for the program. We received a \$5500 Congregational Grant from the diocese to assist in the program's relaunch this fall.

We reviewed the RFP for renovations to the rectory and discussed options for fund raising and financing.

We approved the Treasurer's plan to address the recommendations in the 2021 Financial Audit which must be submitted to the diocese by 9/1.

Finally, we heard from Susan Morse, chair of the bylaws committee, that draft revised bylaws will be proposed for vestry adoption this fall and then be presented to the congregation for approval at our annual meeting in late January.

**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).

## **SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Summertime and the livin' is easy, especially after the past days of high heat and humidity ... through it all, the Church of the Messiah Search Committee continues to meet two times a month. In our last meeting, Tuesday evening, August 9, we had the pleasure of hosting the Rev. Kelly O'Connell, the diocesan consultant to our committee in our search for a new Rector. Her advice and recommendations are invaluable!

The Search committee includes parishioners Julia Alling, Mary Fran Buckley, Debbie Dougherty, Jim Galloway, Frank Gormley, Denise Jay, Terry Soares, John Vose, and Steve Wagner.

Please direct your questions and/or concerns to any one of these committee members; your questions will be presented to the entire committee at our next meeting. The committee will then provide you with a response.

The Search Committee has drafted a survey tool for all parishioners. At a future date, the Search Committee will invite small groups of parishioners to discuss their responses to the new survey. These responses will be compiled, and will represent the congregations' expectations for a new Rector and become part of the Parish Profile. Further information will be in subsequent editions of the Good News.

The Search Committee continues to meet twice a month. Our next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, August 23rd, 5:00 p.m.

## **ZOOM INFORMATION**

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

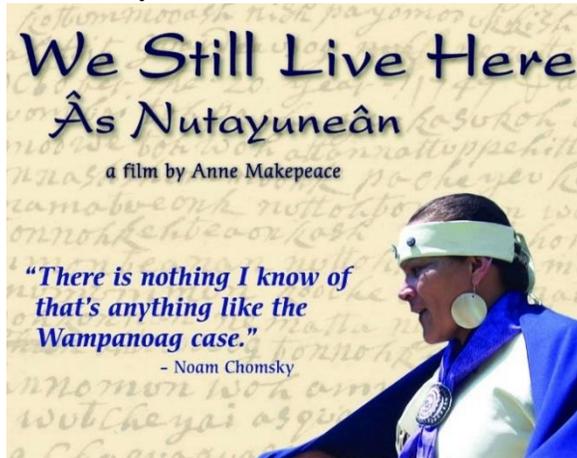
### **INSTRUCTIONS TO DOWNLOAD ZOOM:**

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.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE FILM PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION, Today at 5:00 PM.**

This evening, August 14<sup>th</sup>, at 5:00 p.m., the Outreach Committee will be presenting the film *We Still Live Here* in the Parish & Community Center. Tia Pocknett, a member of the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, will be a guest for the discussion following the film. She is the lead teacher in the Language School Elementary Class.



The film tells the story of the cultural revival of the Wampanoag of Southeastern Massachusetts and the return of the Wôpanâak language, silenced for more than a century.

Founded in 1993 by Jessie Little Doe (pictured here), the Wampanoag Language Reclamation Project did something never done before – resurrect a native language.

Wôpanâak was the first American Indian language to use an alphabetic writing system, developed by English missionaries in the early 1600s to convert the Wampanoag to Christianity. The first complete bible printed in the "New

World" was published in 1663 in Wôpanâak.

**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.

### **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.

### **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](#)

# August 2022 - September 2022

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

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

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>

### Rev. Dr. Storm Swain

Cell: 646-236-2002, E-mail: [sswain@uls.edu](mailto:sswain@uls.edu)

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

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

E-mail: [messiahfisher@comcast.net](mailto:messiahfisher@comcast.net)

or

[comwoodshole@gmail.com](mailto:comwoodshole@gmail.com)

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