

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**August 21, 2022**

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



“Listen to your life.  
See it for the fathomless mystery it is.  
In the boredom and pain of it no less than the excitement and gladness:  
Touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of it  
Because in the last analysis all moments are key moments,  
and life itself is grace.”

Frederick Buechner  
(7/11/1926 - 8/15/2022)

***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.

**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!

Dear Parishioners,

I once heard a Dean of a great Cathedral, in his farewell sermon, describe what “at minimum” was his daily prayers. There would be days he would do the full ‘daily office,’ and days that he would bookend with two simple prayers. In the morning, upon waking, he would say, “This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it,” (Psalm 118:24) At night he would say, a version of the *Nunc Dimittis* – ‘Lord, you have now set your servant free, to go in peace as you have promised ; For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, whom you have prepared for all the world to see.” He also described praying while running, and that at times his run was like a wordless prayer, with people’s names and places arising to consciousness and being offered to God. He tried to run each day. On those days when it poured with rain, he would go into the Cathedral, one of the largest in the world, and do laps around it, before the doors were open to others. Some might have seen this as sacrilegious, I saw it as an adaptive spiritual practice that kept him healthy as a person and priest.

What are the spiritual practices that bookend your day? What are the ways you pray without words? How do the rituals of your daily life, resource your spiritual life – the call to love God, love others, and love your ‘self’?

This morning, instead of one of my common Summer rituals of walking the dog and going for a swim on a Vineyard beach with my spouse, I rose early and walked the dog on Nobska Beach. (I am staying at the Rectory this week, in a writing retreat, whilst my son is in Basketball camp at Falmouth Academy.) I arrived early enough that there was only one person on the beach, combing for beach glass. One of my spiritual practices is what I call ‘Prayerstones’ – picking up stones (often on the beach) that are a symbol for someone I am thinking of or praying for at that time. I have glass vases of stones at home that represent students in my classes. I have picked up stones on a Vineyard beach for ‘Johnny’ and ‘Ted,’ and their families, but this morning I picked up a couple of stones on Nobska Beach, for the wider congregation of the Church of the Messiah. One fits well in the hollow of my hand, and is white with some veins, not quite chipped, but smooth and unblemished on one side, and a little wounded looking on the other; the other is a little bigger, salmon chips, with black veins in white. I am not going to overread the symbolism, but it heartens me to have these externalizations of my prayers for you. Perhaps it has something to do with Welsh and Scottish ancestors building cairns.

What are the ways that you interact with nature that are embodied prayers? How does nature present itself to you that takes you beyond yourself?

I like Frederick Buechner’s (God grant him peace) invitation to “Touch, taste, smell your way to the holy and hidden heart of” the mystery of your life. May the Holy surprise you this week, in the touch, taste, and smell of life – both the precious and painful moments. In your daily rituals may you find a value that is worth living into and out of, as you move through the week, in these late precious Summer days.

Peace,

*Storm+*

Bridge Priest

**THE 300 COMMITTEE TO PRESENT A SPECIAL TALK**  
(offered virtually on this date only)

**The Language is the Land**



**presented by jessie little doe baird  
of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe**

**Wednesday, September 14  
7:00 PM**

**This exciting presentation will look at how we understand our relationship with the land, including the ways the language displays Wampanoag understanding of the planet, the creation of beings here, and how the language can inform the history of flora and fauna.**

Many of you attended the film and discussion in the Parish & Community Center last weekend and this is the perfect follow-up. Follow the link to the 300 Committee website for more information and to register for the talk.

[300committee.org](http://300committee.org)

Click on News & Events in the upper right, then scroll down to Recent Posts in the lower right.

**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.

## **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

## **FALMOUTH ACADEMY REQUESTING A HOST FAMILY FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR**

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer and able to enjoy some rest and relaxation with family and friends. Summer goes by so quickly, and while I hate to pull you into the back-to-school mindset too quickly, I have a very important request. I am trying to find a host family for a 9th-grade boy from China who will be joining us for the 2022-23 school year.

Xuanyu Chang is from Jinan, the capital of eastern China's Shandong province. He is an accomplished pianist and enjoys learning about music theory. He describes himself as "optimistic, kind, and outgoing." I have been in communication with his parents and they are excited to have him join Falmouth Academy.

In order to help with expenses, the host family will receive a monthly stipend for 10 months.

If you are interested or have questions about the opportunity, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone at 508-457-9696 ext. 236, or email me at [sknowles@falmouthacademy.org](mailto:sknowles@falmouthacademy.org)

Sincerely,  
Sarah Knowles

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**Sarah L. Knowles**

Director of Admission and Enrollment Management

Pronouns: she, her, hers

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Falmouth, MA 02540  
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[sknowles@falmouthacademy.org](mailto:sknowles@falmouthacademy.org)  
[www.falmouthacademy.org](http://www.falmouthacademy.org)

## 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).



200 Massachusetts Ave NW, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

July 25, 2022

Church of The Messiah  
16 Church St  
Woods Hole, MA 2543

**Re: Thank you for your donation!**

Dear Friend,

Thank you for choosing to donate **\$2,997.00** on **6/10/2022** in support of our response to the crisis in and around Ukraine. We are so grateful to have your support. No goods or services were received in exchange for this philanthropic contribution.

WCK has provided more than 150 million meals since 2010 in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises across the world. We are dedicated to being first to the frontlines with a fresh plate of food, wherever we are needed.

WCK is truly a people-powered organization. We are able to serve food in times of need because of incredible donors, local chefs, and volunteers who show up in different ways. In our response to the crisis in Ukraine alone, we have partnered with more than 500 restaurants, food trucks, and caterers – along with countless community organizations, volunteers, and supporters like you.

While we can't predict where the next crisis will occur, we know that we will continue to show up with hot, nourishing meals wherever we are needed. As WCK Founder José Andrés says, ***"World Central Kitchen was born from the simple idea that food has the power to create a better world. A plate of food is a plate of hope, it is the fastest way to rebuild life and communities."***

I share our heartfelt gratitude from the entire WCK family. Thank you for your belief and trust in our mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nate Mook".

Nate Mook  
CEO

p.s. - We hope that you follow us on Twitter (@WCKitchen), Facebook (@WorldCentralKitchen) and Instagram (@wckitchen) for the latest updates on our work.

### **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	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	8	9	10	11	12	13	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	15	16	17	18	19	20	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	22	23	24	25	26	27	25	26	27	28	29	30	
	29	30	31				26	27	28	29			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 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	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	16	17
18 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual) 3:00pm Courante	19 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	20 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	21 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	22 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	23	24

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

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