

The Church of the Messiah's

Good News

August 7, 2022

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



Re-member your Baptismal Vows

Will you....?

worship God

pray

share Communion

resist evil

be an example of Good News

serve Christ in all people

love others and love yourself

strive for justice and peace

respect the dignity of every human being

*See 'Holy Baptism,'
Book of Common Prayer, p.304-5*

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

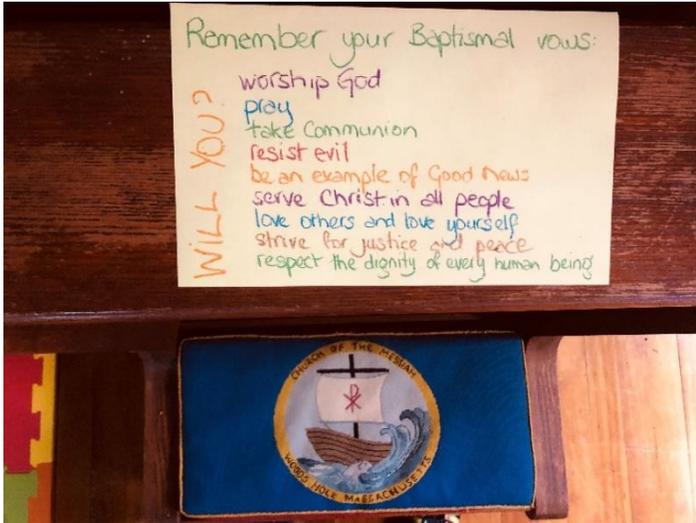
Our prayers are asked for those who suffer from racial profiling, addiction, anxiety, abuse, dementia, cancer, emotional distress, are suffering from or ministering to those with COVID-19 here and around the world. We pray for all who are unemployed or homeless. We pray for those who are victims of natural 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. We pray also for the soul of Barbara Woll Jones, for Evan, Ben, her family, and all who grieve her death and celebrate her life.

Dear Parishioners,

I wonder how many of us remember our baptism? Those of us who were infants will not have any conscious memory of the event, where adults in our lives made vows for us. Some of us may remember the affirmation of those vows if or when we were confirmed. I confess that I can't remember a thing about my confirmation classes. We do, however, get the opportunity to reaffirm our baptismal vows, every time someone is being baptized in the service, or at the Great Vigil of Easter, (after sundown) on Holy Saturday. I find it helpful to remember these baptismal vows, because we sometimes seem to conflate Christianity with vague terms like "being nice," "being a good person," or "being a good Christian." Well, fine... but what does that actually mean in practice? The affirmations and renunciations we make at Baptism and reaffirm at other times may call us into places and faces which are not nice, and don't feel good. "Resisting evil" and "striving for justice and peace," can, as we know, take us into some uncomfortable places where we make others uncomfortable in the process. Those of you who have protested on front lines for the rights of others know this so well. It is likely that some of the vows we make, some of us will find easier to practice on a daily basis, others may be more challenging. This will, likely, be different for each of us. In August, when the traffic lines are long, and I notice the different driving styles with cars with different States on their number plates, or observe the lines at the ferry, I sometimes have to remind myself what it means to "respect the dignity of every human being."

This past General Convention of the Episcopal Church, a conversation was started about whether Baptism should continue to be a requirement to take the Eucharist, as so many churches now practice an open table welcome. I think there is a fear, that is we don't require baptism to take the Eucharist, then no one will get baptized. Baptism is of course, one of the two sacraments that we call 'Sacraments of the Gospel,' because they were commended by Christ – "Go baptize..." "Whenever you do this, do this in remembrance of me." In my view, thinking of baptism and the ticket to communion does both sacraments a disservice. If



the saving grace of God is a free gift through the love and work of Christ, what does it mean when we put a gate around that? Baptismal vows are not the promises we make to obtain something, they are the commitments we make because something has already happened. The challenge is what we do after that. Rather than being "good Christians," I suspect the invitation is to be more of the messy, haven't-always-got-it-worked-all-out Christians seeking to worship, pray, love, resist, respect, share, and serve others, in our "sinful and broken world." So, I invite you, to consider your baptismal vows sometime in the

next month. What is the easiest one for you, and what is the greatest challenge? If you are in Church in person, you will notice some space has been created around the font, and a prayer desk is there, for you to just take a moment, and reflect, consider, and pray, as you so choose. Baptism compels us to live into eternal life, not because we have to, but because not to do so, is to go against who we are in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Baptismal blessings on you all, this week.

Peace,

Storm+

Bridge Priest

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.

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 9th at 5:00 p.m. at the Parish and Community Center. Please contact Julia Alling, allingjulia@gmail.com or Frank Gormley, fxgormley@gmail.com with any questions.

ZOOM INFORMATION

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

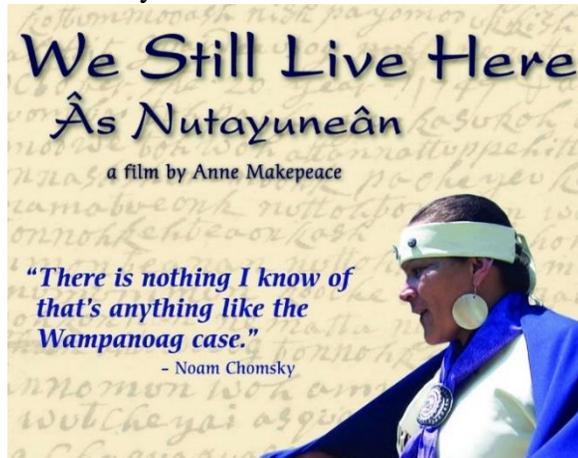
INSTRUCTIONS TO DOWNLOAD ZOOM:

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, Sunday, August 14, 2022

On Sunday, August 14th, 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 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.

- 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 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										

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug 7 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	8 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 5:00pm Vestry mtg.	9 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg. (PCC) 7:00pm WHCC	10 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	11 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 1:00pm Memorial Service & Interment	12 7:00pm WHCC Dress Rehearsal	13 5:00pm Holy Eucharist 7:30pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)
14 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 7:00pm WHCC Dress Rehearsal	27 5:00pm Holy Eucharist 7:30pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)
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 Cont. Rm.)	31 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	Sep 1 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	2 7:00pm WHCC Dress Rehearsal	3 5:00pm Holy Eucharist 7:30pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)
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	8 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir rehearsal (PCC)	9 7:00pm WHCC Dress Rehearsal	10 5:00pm Holy Eucharist 7:30pm WHCC Concert (Stone Church)

Church of the Messiah

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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>

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