

The Church of the Messiah's
Good News
September 4, 2022

Welcome to the Church of the Messiah

We are delighted to have you worshipping with us.



"Sometimes, you get what you want.
Other times, you get a lesson in patience,
timing, alignment, empathy, compassion,
faith, perseverance, resilience, humility,
trust, meaning, awareness, resistance,
purpose, clarity, grief, beauty and life.
Either way, you win."

-Brianna Wiest
Author of *101 Essays That Will
Change The Way You Think.*

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, Miyoko, Helen, Dicky, Bobby, Lydia, David, Nancy, Meriweather and Susan.



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**.

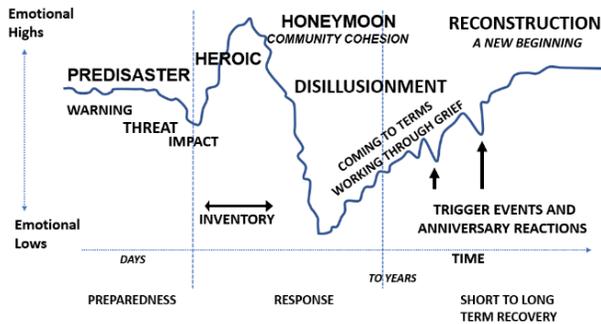
We are always welcoming new members! If you are interested in singing and/or ringing with us, please speak to Brittany. All experience levels welcome!

CEMETERY COMMITTEE NEWS

It may still be hot and sometimes humid, but now we are entering meteorological autumn and changes are on the way. And we can even think of winter and spring to follow in spite of the summer heat. Over the summer, Dee and Don Aukamp planted a batch of donated daffodil bulbs along one of the cemetery stone walls. They have planted numerous bulbs in recent years throughout the cemetery. Dee reports that there are new trees planted at the back of the Nims section, which is the section beyond the cemetery ring road at the base of the hill.

Dear Parishioners,

As we begin September, we are heading into the last third of the year. In mid-September we will also be marking two and a half years of pandemic response. I well remember back to that time, there was a hope that if we all quarantined for two weeks, then we could “flatten the curve” and the pandemic would be averted or over. 30 months later, we now know that we are living into a pandemic reality that has created a ‘new normal,’ and that COVID-19 could be with us for some time.



Disaster theorists often trace the emotional lifecycle of a disaster through phases that often include an early ‘heroic response’ where altruism is high, through a honeymoon period of ‘community cohesion.’ After that, when a disaster continues on, long after adrenaline and energy have dissipated, there is often a plunge into a period of disillusionment, before we work through grief and come to terms with a changed reality, and can reconstruct a new beginning (Zunin and Myers,

‘Emotional Phases of a Disaster,’ (1990,) published by DeWolfe, 2000, in public domain.)

Where do you think we are on that Lifecycle as to being the Church of the Messiah during COVID-19? As I was writing this, I was also aware that within this emotional lifecycle of COVID-19 response at the Church of the Messiah you have also had the retirement of the Rev. Deb Warner, a beloved Rector of 17 years. Although not an unanticipated disaster, it is certainly an event which occasions grief. However, since this has been within the time of the pandemic, perhaps the above lifecycle is also applicable.

Where do you think you/we are on that Lifecycle as to farewelling a Rector?

In my experience of the Church of the Messiah, you certainly made a heroic response and the community pulled together, the Wardens and Vestry took on the responsibility and authority of continuity and management in a new or stronger way, church staff such as Nancy McDonald, Brittany Lord, Bruce Bagley, and Doug Amon held things together with commitment, grace, and good humor, the tech team continued their excellent midwifing of each service, and community members have shown up, worshipped together, and cared for each other in meaningful ways. You have welcomed me in as Bridge Priest, and although my time in that position has been longer than anticipated, there has been a sense of cohesion, hope, and community togetherness over the Summer.

Perhaps since the Rector retired at the beginning of Summer, and we are now at its end, it might be likely that we will experience some disillusionment, anxieties may rise, and concern about what comes next comes to the fore. Although at times, I wonder if some of you may have idealized my ability to preach and pastor, I have so loved being a part of this community and its people. I trust in the weeks ahead, when I may preach an overly long or boring sermon, am on the Vineyard when you would rather that I were in Woods Hole, or take a little too long to think before I respond to an email or text, especially as the school year begins, that we will continue to affectionately work through disappointment and disillusionment, and live into the reality of the next months, with hope, even though we are not certain what that might look like.

As with COVID, the way forward may be different from what we anticipated, however, I am heartened by the ways I see the staff, Wardens, Vestry, Altar Guild, Tech Team, Search Committee, other Committees, and liturgical volunteers and ushers, getting on with the work of ‘being church,’ which is the responsibility of us all. If we continue this way with resilient attitudes in the face of change, even when we don’t get what we want or expect, I trust we can get through whatever may face us.

As we move into this new phase of community life, we are thinking of marking it with something along the lines of a ‘Homecoming Celebration,’ where we welcome back those who have been absent over Summer, over COVID, or just away. We particularly want to welcome back our younger members, who now are able to be fully vaccinated and safely with us, and celebrate them in our midst. We are anticipating a luncheon or picnic after the 10 am service on September 18th, so SAVE THE DATE. We will tell you more details closer to the time, but we would love to see you all. Whether you are an 8:30 am worshipper, a 10 am worshipper, new to the community, or haven’t been here for some time, if you can only come online and eat lunch with the community gathered at the church via Zoom on a laptop in our midst, you are welcome, you are wanted, you are a wonderful part of the Church of the Messiah. We look forward to seeing you that and every day.

Peace,

Storm+

Bridge Priest

NEWS FROM THE WARDENS

Vestry members Rachael Rhude and Patti Dibella have been working to relaunch our Love First program this Fall. We applied for and received a \$5500 grant from the diocese to assist us in this effort. The team has been assisted by Colette Potts, founder of the program, but has run into a few obstacles finding a person willing to take on the part-time paid role of Love First Coordinator. If you are interested in working on this program or know of anyone who might be interested, please let us know.

Our next vestry meeting is Monday, Sep 12th, at 5pm in the PCC.

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

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

Courante

baroque music ensemble



presents

The World's a Stage

instrumental music from baroque theater

featuring works by Elisabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, George Frideric Handel, Henry Purcell,
Jean-Baptiste Lully, Alessandro Scarlatti and Jean-Philippe Rameau

*Brittany Lord, harpsichord; David Gable, violin;
Molly Johnston, viola da gamba; Jan Elliott, recorder*

Sunday, September 18, 2022 3:00pm

Church of the Messiah

22 Church Street, Woods Hole, MA

\$20 suggested donation

Children free

More information at: 508-237-2278, mstmolly@gmail.com, or courantecapecod.com

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Church of the Messiah Search Committee continues to meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month. The September meetings will be on the 13th and 27th.

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.

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.

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](#)

September 2022 - October 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 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 11:00am Interment
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 3:00pm WHWC Welcoming Tea 5:00pm Search Comm.	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 5:30pm WH Daycare Coop Reception	24
25 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	26 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	27 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 11:00am WHWC BOD Mtg. 5:00pm Search Comm.	28 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	29 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	30	Oct 1
2 8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	3 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	4 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	5 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	6 10:00am - 2:00 PM Office Open	7	8

Church of the Messiah

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8/29/2022 12:21 PM

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>

Rev. Dr. Storm Swain

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