

**The Church of the Messiah's**  
**Good News**  
**November 20 & 27, 2022**

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



**"Eucharist"**

a thanksgiving shared from the body —  
a table lean-to surrounded by  
family friends community  
broken body blood runs so deep  
a shared new bond between  
creator and creation of life and joy  
a confession absolution peace  
something to establish harmony  
something divine — fourfold remembrance:  
taking—blessing—breaking—sharing  
the giving of thanks and loves acceptance  
piece of bread cup of the vine.

Joe Puentes, 2018.



***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, Ralph and Warfield.

Dear Parishioners,

As you will see we are combining the 'Good News' letters for Thanksgiving and the time leading up to Advent 1. This is because, Nancy McDonald, our Parish Administrator, will be away. We could have chosen to act as if she wasn't and had someone else send out a pre-prepared Good News later, but we made a deliberate decision to combine. This gives Nancy the opportunity to leave for vacation with family, knowing that she has done all that needs to be done, and she doesn't have to worry about it. This also gives us the opportunity to appreciate what is done, through its absence as well as presence. This is a deeply theological principle. The mystics talk about knowing God in God's presence (the *kataphatic* way,) and knowing God in God's seeming absence, all that is unknowable, unreachable, beyond human comprehension, and certainly, construction (the *apophatic* way.) Both in our theology and in our lives, it is important to both accept our finitude and be open to mystery. You may have heard me say before, (and I'm happy to repeat this,) one of my favorite prayers in the *New Zealand Prayer Book = He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*, is a night prayer that goes:

Lord  
it is night.

Night is for stillness.  
Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day.  
What has been done has been done,  
what has not been done has not been done;  
let it be.

The night is dark.  
Let the darkness of the world and of our own lives  
rest in you.

The night is quiet.  
Let the quietness of your peace enfold us,  
all dear to us,  
and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day,  
new joys,  
new possibilities.

In your name we pray,  
Amen.

NZPB=HKMOA, Genesis Pub, 2002, p.184

“What has been done has been done, what has not been done has not been done. Let it be.” I think this is both a spiritually and psychologically healthy place to rest each night, - a resilient practice that leaves unfinished business for the next day, and offers up the day that has been to God.

Another lifegiving practice is gratitude. This is a good place to start the day. At each Vestry meeting, we begin by sharing something we are grateful for, a practice, I suspect, was started by Deb Warner. It calls us to both what is good in our lives, and it connects us, with the goodness of God. In a time that can be anxious, with discussion of facilities and finances, being thankful is the place from which we begin. We come to the altar each week, whether online or in person, in *Eucharist*, a prayer of Great Thanksgiving, and behind the altar we are reminded that it is with “joy” that we are called to draw from “the wells of salvation.”

When I began celebrating Thanksgiving with the family of my now spouse, I was very excited. There were significant family traditions about what was to be on the table, and how it was to be set – the glass turkeys filled with cranberries, the creamed spinach and mushrooms, the dark chocolate, and somewhat surprisingly, the dark olives, along with the other expected food and an array of pies. As we sat at the long Shaker table and highback upright chairs, I looked forward to hearing what people were thankful for. However, that was not a part of the family tradition. The coming together was enough.

In these complicated and uncertain times, I suspect it is even more important to not forget the spiritual and psychological aspects of ritual, even if you have to introduce new elements. An *intentional practice* of thanks giving, along with an acknowledgement of the difficult realities that make it so important, is both healthy and hopeful. After all, it seems like the background reality of the whatever the ‘first’ Thanksgiving was a terrible epidemic, a temporary cessation of violence and enslavement, a need to learn new ways from those different, and a connection to the Earth that is thanked for growth, for rain after drought, and for life. A people could have starved rather than survived, a people could have defended rather than sacrificed and taught, and what little was had, was enough. There is much to mourn about what followed, but giving thanks to the Earth for those things that keep us alive, especially in difficult circumstances, is life-giving.

Just like that first Thanksgiving, the incarnation is not a Hallmark moment, but the breaking in of the light of God’s love, in Jesus Christ, in difficult realities. In Advent we become an expectant people, as we move toward the manger, and we pray that a Christmas spirit of generosity and hope, becomes not just an annual thing, but a daily practice. As we face into our own difficult realities, both personally and nationally, I pray that we may begin from a place of gratitude, may we mourn and seek to change what causes suffering and is unjust, and may we expect God to show up, even in unexpected places, teaching us ever again what the way of love looks like in our contexts.

As you gather around whatever table, may the light of God’s love, and the legacy of the people of the Light, shine through difference and difficulty, so that we may see how much we have to be thankful for, and resource for the journey towards Christ-mas, in the weeks ahead.

Peace be with you/ *Wunohteagk*

*Storm+*

Bridge Priest

**Please note, while I am away, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup>, the Rev. David Rider, will be covering for pastoral emergencies. His phone number is 917-288-0187.**

*The Thanksgiving fruit and vegetables on the altar  
are given to the Glory of God  
in memory of Eddie and Pinty Stimpson,  
by their family.*

**NANCY McDONALD WILL BE AWAY**

Nancy will be spending Thanksgiving with family in California. She will be out of the office from **Tuesday, Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> – Thursday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>.**

The office will be closed, but Voicemail will be checked regularly.

*The Advent Wreath is given to the Glory of God  
in loving memory of  
Carole Costa,  
by Peg Nicholson.*

**NEWS FROM THE WARDENS**

By now you have probably received the annual Stewardship letter and realized that the pledge envelope is missing, a glaring error of omission on our part for which we sincerely apologize. However, there are multiple ways you can pledge for 2023 without that envelope:

- (1) email your pledge to the Church at [messiahfisher@comcast.net](mailto:messiahfisher@comcast.net);
- (2) email your pledge to one of the wardens at [peg.nicholson@gmail.com](mailto:peg.nicholson@gmail.com) or [mkasparian@falmouthchamber.com](mailto:mkasparian@falmouthchamber.com);
- (3) email your pledge to one of the Stewardship committee co-chairs at [charleskmann@mac.com](mailto:charleskmann@mac.com) or [sgmorse@msn.com](mailto:sgmorse@msn.com);
- (4) pick up a pledge envelope at the back of the church on Sunday or from the office on Monday and mail it to us.

Thank you for considering the needs of the Church of the Messiah in your year-end planning. Pledging really helps us in developing the budget for the coming year.

If you have already replied to the letter from the Wardens dated October 19th with your pledge plans for 2023, we have your information on file and there is no need for you to do anything more. We thank you once again for your response and generosity.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE HOSTING RON CLARK AT COFFEE HOUR, Dec. 11, 11:30 AM**



***Sailing to Woods Hole***

Please join us for coffee hour on Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM, as Ron Clark reflects on his journey from a boy in post-Civil War Maryland, to a young man inspired to build his own boat and sail solo to Woods Hole, where he now heads the Seafarers Project in boatbuilding for students at Falmouth High School.

# Holiday Programs 2022

## COMMUNITY DONATION DAYS



**Turkey DROP OFF Day: Sunday, Nov. 20, 11 am-2 pm**

- We are accepting FROZEN TURKEYS ONLY
- 10-18 lbs. turkeys are needed



**Thanksgiving Distribution for Client Families: November 21 & 22**

**November/December Donation Days: 10 am-12 noon**

We are gratefully accepting:

- NEW children's winter coats (ages 0-10)
- NEW weatherproof gloves & hats (ages 0-10)
- Monetary donations
- Cranberry sauce
- Chicken broth
- Turkey gravy
- Quick Bread mixes
- Apple juice (64 oz.)



**Children's Holiday Program Distribution for Client Families: December 12, 13 & 14**

Your financial support and donations make a difference in our community.  
For questions about donations, please call 508-548-2794

*Thank You!*

## SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The newly assigned Search Committee Consultant, Rev. David Rider, has begun his work with the Committee. The Committee has begun to update and inform Rev. Rider of the prior functions and actions of the Committee.

The Search Committee will continue going forward with analysis of the parish wide survey and building the Parish Profile used by interested applicants.

The Search Committee welcomes the addition of Rev. Rider and his talents and experience to further develop the information and processes in seeking our new rector.

### The Search committee members contact information is listed below:

- Rev. David Rider 917-288-0187 [david.rider1207@gmail.com](mailto:david.rider1207@gmail.com) - Consultant
- Julia Alling Co-chair 978-257-6331 [allingjulia@gmail.com](mailto:allingjulia@gmail.com)
- Frank Gormley Co-chair 808-291-7018 [fxgormley@gmail.com](mailto:fxgormley@gmail.com)
- Mary Fran Buckley 508-540-0948 [maryfran55@earthlink.net](mailto:maryfran55@earthlink.net)
- Debbie Dougherty 774-487-0570 [ddough1999@gmail.com](mailto:ddough1999@gmail.com)
- Jim Galloway 434-249-8629 [jng@virginia.edu](mailto:jng@virginia.edu)
- Denise Jay 240-515-1512 [djaycc58@gmail.com](mailto:djaycc58@gmail.com)
- Terry Soares 508-566-5442 [mtsapecod@gmail.com](mailto:mtsapecod@gmail.com)
- John Vose 508-548-8251 [johntvose@gmail.com](mailto:johntvose@gmail.com)
- Steve Wagner 508-548-0971 [spcawagner@comcast.net](mailto:spcawagner@comcast.net)

Thank you for your thoughts and input as we continue the search process.

## 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).

## 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](#)

# November 2022 - December 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual) 3:00pm Courante	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open STORM AWAY (Thu. 11/17/2022 - Wed. 11/23/2022)	8:00am Office Closed 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg.	8:00am Office Closed 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handdchime	THANKSGIVING DAY 8:00am Office Closed		
27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	8:00am Office Closed NANCY AWAY (Tue. 11.22.2022 - Thu. 12.01.2022)	8:00am Office Closed 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg.	8:00am Office Closed 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handdchime Rehearsal	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg.	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handdchime Rehearsal	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 5:00pm Vestry mtg. (WH Room)	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 11:00am WHWC	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handdchime Rehearsal	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg.	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handdchime Rehearsal	10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open		Christmas Eve Christmas Eve (United States)

## 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)

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