

The Church of the Messiah's
Good News
January 1, 2023

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



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 Interim 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!

Dear Parishioner,

I look forward to my new role as your Interim Priest in Charge that begins this Sunday, January 1, and I thank the Rev Dr Storm Swain for her faithful ministry as our Bridge Priest.

Bridge Priests and Interim Priests share the same responsibility for liturgical and pastoral leadership between Rectors. Interim Priests have the additional duty to help the parish and vestry formally take stock of its recent past while re-imagining a faithful next chapter of life.

I have assumed this role a half-dozen times over the years in churches both large and small. It's an honor and joy to support parishes as they move from trepidation to new dreams and anticipation as a call is eventually extended to a new Rector.

On Thursday evening, January 5, and Sunday morning, January 8, we embrace this process with a second round of parish discussions regarding our parish culture and future mission. See details in this Good News. Please join one or both meetings to share your vision and listen carefully to fellow parishioners as we mutually discern fresh priorities for ministry.

On Sundays starting January 8 at 8:45 AM, we also begin an interim experiment as I lead a weekly discussion on Rehearing Heaven, Hell and the Human Soul. See details in this Good News. I hope the class stands on its own as a deep dive into core Christian beliefs of what it means to be human. As an interim exercise, it also tests a thirst for adult formation and communal conversation after extended time in pandemic isolation. Please make it your New Year's Resolution to join what I promise will be a fascinating exploration of our human identity on both sides of the grave.

Faithfully,

David

Interim Priest

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, Helen, Dicky, Bobby, Lydia, David, Ralph and Warfield.

NEWS FROM THE WARDENS

As Storm winds down her 8 month commitment to the Church of the Messiah this week, we are pleased to announce that we have rescheduled the pot luck luncheon in her honor for **Sunday, January 15th**, following the 10 a.m. service. We hope everyone will be able to attend to express our deep thanks and gratitude for the wonderful leadership and steady hand she has provided to all of us during her time as our Bridge Priest.

Please also be aware that our annual meeting has been scheduled for **Sunday, February 12th**, after the 10 a.m. service. It will also be available via Zoom. We have never had final financials for the prior year available by the annual meetings held on the last Sunday of January. This year it is extremely important that we have them to explain our decision on whether we are searching for a full time or part time Priest.

Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy new year!

LINKS TO RON CLARK'S TALK

Ron Clark gave a talk at Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 11th, sharing his journey to here. The Outreach Committee is going to be offering more talks at Coffee Hour from now on as part of a Racial Justice series. If you missed the talk and want to see it, here are the links. The .mp4 is 500MB and the .pdf is 35MB. You will have to download the .mp4 because it's too large for Google to open. The .pdf starts with a photo of Ron giving a talk at the NY Public Library and continues with the document he presented during his talk.

<https://bit.ly/3HCpAHY> .mp4 The video.

<https://bit.ly/3WgdXuf> Ron's Document

The video sound is very faint and you must turn your computer volume to max. We will make that better next time. Problems: email dickyallison39@gmail.com and we will figure it out.

SERVICES IN THE NEW YEAR

Sunday, January 1st, 2023

10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist

Note the change:

Beginning on Sunday, January 8th, 2023

the service times will be

8:00 AM – Holy Eucharist (In-person)

10:00 AM – Holy Eucharist (In person & Virtual)

NEW COURSE ON SUNDAYS – Beginning January 8th, 8:45-9:40 AM

Starting Sunday, January 8, the Rev David Rider explores the spiritual DNA that binds our vision of divine accountability, cosmology, human anthropology, social justice, and postmortem survival as witnessed in the Old and New Testaments. A weekly one-page set of notes will tee up the theme, avoid lecture, and stimulate conversation.

More information and a list of topics was sent separately by e-mail on Monday and a link is in this week's e-mail 'Virtual Worship & Good News'.

Copies can be found on the table in the back of the church and in the office, Mon.-Thur. 10AM – 2 PM.

JANUARY PARISH INTERIM CONVERSATIONS

Building on two December parish conversations, the Rev David Rider, Interim Priest, will host two additional

meetings in January to jump-start 2023. Our meeting times are:

- Thursday, January 5, from 7:00-8:30 PM via Zoom <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82685190772>
- Sunday, January 8, from 11:30-1:00 in our Parish and Community Center

These meetings seek to build community as we share perspectives and listen respectfully to each other. More specifically as an interim exercise, they help us articulate our parish's strengths, challenges and the specific skills we need from our next rector to thrive in the coming years. To what extent do we want to hold down the fort, and to what extent do we re-imagine God's hand at work at the Church of the Messiah? Future rector candidates definitely will want to know our common answer to this question, so let's begin to formulate it now.

Our December meetings began this conversation with insights into liturgy/preaching, models of pastoral care, community outreach, and our relation to the scientific community surrounding us. But more people and perspective deepen our wisdom while clarifying our priorities.

For January, we'll focus the first 45 minutes on big-picture parish culture dynamics and the second half on particular program priorities like adult formation, outreach, and pastoral care.

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The next meeting of the Search Committee will be Tuesday, January 10th, at 5:00 PM.

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 members contact information is listed below:

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

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

January 2023

January 2023							February 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28				
29	30	31											

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 1, 23 New Year's Day (United States) 10:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person & Virtual)	2 Office Closed	3 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	4 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	5 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 7:00pm Parish Conversation (Zoom)	6	7 10:00am Memorial Service
8 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 8:45am Sunday Course 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:30am Conversation	9 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 5:00pm Vestry mtg. (WH Room)	10 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 11:00am WHWC 5:00pm Search Comm. Mtg.	11 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	12 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	13	14 Memorial Service
15 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 8:45am Sunday Course 10:00am Holy Eucharist 11:30am Potluck	16 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	17 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	18 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	19 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	20	21
22 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 8:45am Sunday Course (PCC) 10:00am Holy Eucharist	23 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	24 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 11:00am WHWC BOD Mtg. 5:00pm Search Comm.	25 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	26 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	27	28
29 8:00am Holy Eucharist (In-person) 8:45am Sunday Course (PCC) 10:00am Holy Eucharist	30 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	31 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	Feb 1 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open 6:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Handchime Rehearsal	2 Groundhog Day Groundhog Day (United States) 10:00am - 2:00 pm Office Open	3	4

Church of the Messiah

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2022 Vestry

The Rev. David M. Rider	<i>Interim 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. David M. Rider	<i>Interim 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. David M. Rider

Interim Priest

917-288-0187

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

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

E-mail: messiahfisher@comcast.net

Website: www.churchofthemessiahwoodshole.org