

The Messenger

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Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church
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www.fiskumc.org

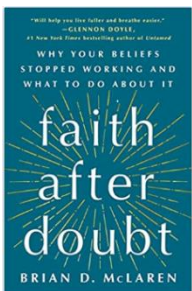
July 2021

Pastoral Note

God's beloved children!

After an intentional time of physical distancing and through God's grace and mercy, we can celebrate that we are still blessed, as we remember all our brothers and sisters gone ahead to glory.

Last month, at our annual New England Conference, I was reminded that we are not perfect people because we are in a church and feel connected to God. There was joy with laughter and sorrows with tears but amid these parts of the human condition of life, I felt a profound sense of peace. The peace that is not given by individuals, communities, churches, nations, and the world. But rather, *"the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding"* (Philippians 4:7). The peace that we can have because of Jesus Christ. For this, the Holy Spirit continues to work through our minds, hearts, and hands as we live in hope of better persons, places, and things.



At conference, our Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar, also shared the summary of a book, **"Faith After Doubt"** by Brian D. McLaren, that he read and encouraged pastors and congregations to read and reflect on together. Therefore, this summer, I am encouraging each of you to read this book. In the fall, we will schedule time together to affirm who we are and where our faith lies amid all the doubts that exist. But most of all, we move forward, on this Christian journey.

For now, have a blessed, safe, and enjoyable summer with your family and friends. As you do, know, and believe, that your family at Fisk UMC,

needs your continued gifts of tithe, time, and talent. For it is through your gifts, that we are still God's presence in our community and beyond, as we continue to reach out to all of God's children and for the transformation of the world.

Thank you, dear sisters, brothers, and friends of Fisk United Methodist Church, where God is always present!

+ Pastor Alecia

We WELCOME All

Fisk United Methodist Church is a loving community of believers and servants with open hearts. We extend our welcome to all people, celebrating differences in age, economic reality, nationality, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, and limitations.

- We invite all to find a spiritual home with us and to share in the fellowship, worship, sacraments, ministry, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation.
- We affirm the gifts and graces of all persons.
- We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family.
- And, we invite you to work for justice with us.

Statement of the Administrative Board, Fisk UMC, 2019

For Personal Reflection & Spiritual Growth

For continuous spiritual growth and reflection, read the following Scriptures that have been selected for our worship this month.

Summer Sermon Series 2021

The Ten Commandments

July 4	Exodus 20 1-6	Psalms 115: 1-8
July 11	Exodus 20:1-7	Psalms 15
July 18	Exodus 20:1-11	Psalms 92
July 25	Exodus 20:1-12	Psalms 113

Worship



Starting on **Sunday July 4th, 2021**
Fisk UMC will be meeting
in-person for Sunday Service!

We are happy to announce, that in-person worship services will begin on July 4th, in God's Sanctuary. Masks will be required and it is asked that you keep distance between families.

ZOOM services will continue as usual. Both ZOOM services and in-church services will be from 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

You are asked to sit toward the front of the sanctuary to hear better, as there will be no public address system; just the sound system from the I-Pad used for the ZOOM people.

Pastor Alecia will be offering sermons on the Ten Commandments throughout the summer and Communion on the first Sunday, of each month.

We can't wait to see you in church (or on ZOOM).

Log in information for ZOOM:

<https://zoom.us/j/93666906008>

Meeting ID: **936 6690 6008**

Connect by telephone use either of these numbers.

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

Meeting ID: **936 6690 6008**

If those links fail to get you into

Fisk Service, do this:

www.zoom.us

Click "Join Meeting" on top right

Type in **936 6690 6008**

in the "Meeting ID or Personal Link Name" box

Click Join

Nominations & Leadership

Praises to God and thanks to all chairpersons and committee members; especially this past year when there were many new challenges, and the uncertainty amid an unknown pandemic. We will forever be grateful for your leadership, all you have done, are doing, and continue to do. *Thank You!* But remember, that God's work is still not completed on earth, and we need all of you to step up in whatever way you can through your tithes, talent, and time. Therefore, in view of this vital

need for Jesus Christ's ministry and mission, let us know, to never give in or give up as we serve our Church in places that brings joy to our passion and enhance our gifts.

May God richly bless each of you and your families that share you with us at Fisk!

Finance & Stewardship

We experience our vision of transformation through your tithe, talent, and time. With the connection of these, added prayers, and commitment, we continue to meet all challenges. Therefore, having each person who is connected to Fisk United Methodist Church, invest in ministry and mission, we stay alive knowing, and believing, what God is calling us to be and to do. We think about the impact our services are making; lives that have been touched and the connections that have been strengthened. We think of what has changed us, or will change us, if we have to change, for God's purpose. Thanks to each of you, as we travel the road of spiritual giving and as we give and serve with inner strength and humility. THANK YOU!

Ministry of Caring

The Ministry of Caring team has received these encouraging words from a recipient of their caring cards;

"Dear Ministry of Caring,
Thank you for the uplifting,
inspiring, and meaningful
hand written note of
scriptures and thoughtful
comments. So timely for this season of my life!"



"Dear Ministry of Caring,

I am always blessed to hear from you. Your thoughtful and inspirational notes come at just the right time to keep my eyes on Jesus, the author and finisher of my faith. May you always find joy and thanksgiving in your dedicated service to others for Christ's sake. Mathew 20:26-28"

We pray, prayers of thanksgiving, for the Fisk United Methodist Church, Ministry of Caring team. Thank you for all of your kindness and thoughtfulness! We pray for the recipients, that they may be uplifted

and touched by the Holy Spirit, as they read your caring cards.

Missions

Christmas in July ...and August

JULY---how did that happen?
Annually During July and August we collect Christmas toys, games, new pj's, new socks and packages of underwear. ALL AGES AND SIZES—adults as well as children. The RED BUCKETS will be in the church for July and August.



These are sent to Salem Maine—United Methodist Economic Ministry—for the under-served people of the Western Mountains of Maine. Help us make their Christmas a bit brighter. Gift cards are also

welcome. (Do not put them in the red buckets---mail them to Marcia Hoyt or leave them in the office marked—Christmas in Maine.)

This ministry depends of us—the people of the churches.

Mission U

What is MISSION U? This is not a typo. MISSION U is about “YOU”. An annual opportunity to gather—virtually in 2021—to study and learn about a current issue or biblical study. Marcia Hoyt can fill you in.

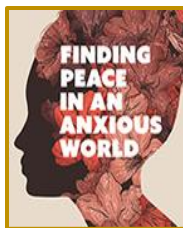
Men, women, and youth---all are welcome!

STUDY CHOICES:

Option 1--Finding Peace in an Anxious World Leader: Marie MacDougall
Dates: **August 7th and the 11th.**

Two sessions each day from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.

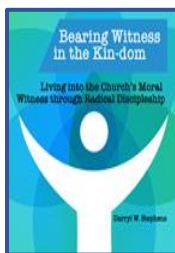
Study Book: Finding Peace in an Anxious World Edited by Erin James-Brown



Option 2—Bearing Witness in the Kin-dom: Living into the church’s Moral Witness through Radical Discipleship.

Leader: Jana Marie Whitten
Dates: **July 24th and the 31st**

Two sessions from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.



Study Book: Bearing Witness in the Kin-Dom by Darryl Stephens

COSTS: The costs are \$30.00/per person/per study, when paid in full and received by July 1, 2021. After July 1, 2021 the cost increases to \$40.00/per person/per study.

Calling all First-timers (never attended Mission U in the past)—we are giving you a “First-timer Scholarship” to cover the Registration fee, when registered by July 1.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Scholarships may be available through your UMW units, the District, or Conference UMW groups.

BOOKS: Your responsibility is to order your Study Book ASAP. These can be ordered from Amazon.com

TO REGISTER: Return the attached form with your check to me—or--- pay through the Conference with a Credit card and just send or email me the form or the required information.

Checks payable to: Mission U and mail to—
Marcia Hoyt 8 Bacon Street Natick, MA 01760

FACE Children’s Center Celebrating 50 years



Some Facts about FACE Children’s Center, which is Celebrating **50 years** of child care service to the Metrowest Community this year.

FACE is an acronym that stands for Fisk Area Community Endeavor.

Our Mission Statement:

The mission of FACE Children’s Center is to enhance and support children and their families by providing a wholesome and safe day care setting, which offers a nurturing and stimulating environment. All

parents can be assured that this educational program constantly strives for excellence, maintains high standards of care, and employs a committed staff.

We have 3 names for our classes:

The TEDDY BEAR classroom is for children starting at age 2 years and 9 months.

The CHIPMUNK classroom is our middle group, children are 3 years 5 months and older.

The BUTTERFLIES are children 4 1/2 years old, who will soon be “flying off” to Kindergarten.

We are fortunate to have a dedicated and professional group of teachers at FACE, who also enjoy a sense of fun being with young children. Have you ever been in the building to hear laughter that erupts from time-to-time?

FACE is open year round Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 6 PM.

FACE is one of the few daycare centers that offer breakfast, a hot lunch, and snacks. We receive some government funding for the delicious home cooked meals provided by our cook.

Children have outdoor playtime twice a day, weather permitting. We use the playground and the side driveway for bike riding and chalk drawing. The backfield is great for soccer and sledding. The Maple tree is a favorite hangout spot for imaginative play. If you are at the church take a walk to the gardens near the shed, the hollyhocks are in bloom now and you’ll also find the outdoor classroom, one of our teachers created this spring. Our full time enrollment was 60 children per day before the COVID pandemic and we will return to that number in the fall.

Jane Therriault is FACE’s Executive Director. She started her involvement with FACE as a volunteer 47 years ago and has been the Director since February, 1987. We are so fortunate to have had Jane making sure FACE Children’s Center runs smoothly for the past 34 years. She recently shared with the FACE Board of Directors that she has felt happy every day that she comes to the center and feels proud to have helped so many families with childcare and so many teachers with careers. FACE Children’s Center is a mission outreach of Fisk Church, but next month I will tell you about all of the service projects the children at FACE have participated in.

We hope that you will join us for the 50th Birthday Celebration of FACE after church on October 17th.



United Methodist
Women



Summer is definitely here! It is a wonderful time to relax a bit and catch up with friends, family, and some of the things that may not get done on a regular basis.

Like what? Well, some summer **READING** from the **UMW Reading List**. I hope you know that there is a regular Reading List each year with a variety of great books for your interests, knowledge, and some edgy things that you might not usually read. If you read just a minimum of 5 books and read some of the Response Magazines in Ogle Parlor--- you will receive a certificate and a **Gift in Mission** is sent to the Conference in your name. Just a bonus to help fund Mission Projects while you relax and read. Questions? Terry Ames has the answers.



Prayer Shawls and Knitting....or crocheting! We still meet on Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. to fellowship, knit, and have prayer time. We also Celebrate---lots of things with joyful prayer and thankfulness.

In the parlor there are some notes to attach to any shawls or lap robes that you may bring AND a basket to hold them behind the sofa. See Joanne Billo

Speaking of baskets...there is also a basket for...

Health Kit supplies. Please continue to fill that basket. The need is ongoing. Please help us get 200 kits during 2021. We are on our way.



Colin
Macdonald

7/23

& Kate

Food for Thought

"The curse of this age is that we have put gold above God, chattels above character, and mammon above manhood. We have inverted God's order of things"

By Sam P. Jones, Old Time Methodist

From the Church Office

Would you like to receive our Church emails?

If you currently are not receiving our Church emails and would like to be,

Please email the Church office at:

Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org



NEUMC CONFERENCE INFORMATION

District: 6 - Name: Commonwealth East

Website: www.neumc.org/CE

I CAN DO ALL THINGS
THROUGH CHRIST
WHO STRENGTHENS ME
PHILIPPIANS 4:13



FISK CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Alecia Reeves-Freeman, Pastor

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Carolyn DiSciullo, Administrative Assistant

Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org

Church Office Phone: (508) 653-1674

Church email: Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org

Website: www.fiskumc.org

Church Office Hours: Open

Mon. Tues. Wed. & Fri.

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

August Messenger Deadline
Please submit information by

FRIDAY, July 16 at 9:00 AM