

# The Messenger

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Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church  
106 Walnut St., Natick, MA 01760 (508) 653-1674

[www.fiskumc.org](http://www.fiskumc.org)

## JULY 2022

### Pastor's Message

*"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19)*

As I continue to reflect on the mission of the church, one truth keeps coming to light. But I sometimes wondered if all Christians see ministry and mission as pastors do or vice versa? I ask because sometimes there are disconnections and/or misconceptions in many churches.

Some churches view ministry and mission as necessary good, others as a requirement, and still others, as a command. But whatever our views are, ministry and mission should be driving forces for not just reaching out but to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Over the years, I have observed that many persons who claimed to be Christians or practicing the Christian faith have lost awareness or gone to sleep on the great task to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. That is, though we may be spreading the gospel, this is not the end. Lives need to be transformed and we are vessels being used daily. And though I believe that it is Jesus Christ who does the transformation, we also have a stake in the process, and the outcome.

One of the ways we can live and uphold the gospel is by promoting justice, equality, and peace in all manner of our lives, our families, communities, churches, nation, and the world where we co-exist.

Therefore, when real Christians participate in the transformational process or are being used as sturdy vessels for Jesus Christ, our community of faith is strengthened and is healthier as we meet physical and spiritual needs of all of God's beloved. Let us never lose sight on why the church exists and what we are called to do.

Summer blessings!

+ Pastor Alecia

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.

<b>July 3,</b>	James 5:13-20	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
<b>July 10,</b>	1 Chronicles 16:23-29	Luke 10:25-37
<b>July 17,</b>	1 Chronicles 29:10-18	Luke 10:38-42
<b>July 24,</b>	2 Corinthians 9:6-15	Luke 11:1-13
<b>July 31,</b>	Ephesians 4:17-32	Luke 12:13-21

**"Read as you study, study as you live, and live well!"**

+ Pastor Alecia

**All persons are invited to Fisk Worship Service, every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.**

Please note: **NEW NUMBERS, LINK, AND MEETING ID**  
To connect by telephone use either of these numbers:  
+1 646 558 8656 US Enter Meeting ID: **994 3325 8889**  
+1 312 626 6799 US Enter Meeting ID: **994 3325 8889**  
By computer, tablet, or smart phone, use this link: <https://zoom.us/j/99433258889>  
Or visit [www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us) and enter Meeting ID: **994 3325 8889**

Worship

**Spiritual and On-Going**

*Can We Increase our Gifts; Time, Tithes, Talent?*

**The fact is: We all can!** - We can in different ways. In addition, we can tell our story: Who we are, what we believe, and what we do. But most of all we can finance ministries and mission of our congregation by teaching stewardship as on-going giving and outreaching gift from a spiritual perspective. Therefore, as we anticipate our Annual Stewardship Campaign and continue to enhance our on-going giving, let us focus on a simple yet, sometimes difficult question. It is, "What is God calling me to give and to do?"

When we can rethink what God is calling us to give and do, rather than, what does the church need from me in order to pay its bills, we will experience **God's Amazing Grace** and see an increase in motivation to support more ministries and mission at Fisk. And as, always, God will remain present at Fisk UMC as we become God's ardent presence in the world and faithful stewards at Fisk and beyond.

After two unusual years, we are praying for you and looking forward to your continuous and consistence support as we move on, and together in **GRACE**. Most of all, as each of you find time to have an enjoyable summer vacation with family and friends.

**THANK YOU** as God richly blesses you and your family!

Acts 20:35  
New International Version

<sup>35</sup> In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

*United Women in Faith*

*This summer Sermon Series is:*

*The Lord's Prayer.* The Sermon Series starts on July 3, and continues through August 21. Please join us as we reflect on this prayer.

**July Liturgist Schedule**

- July 3, Terry Ames
- July 10, Deborah Hernandez
- July 17, Dorothy Phillips
- July 24, Carolyn DiSciullo
- July 31, Susan Carney

Please email the Church Office at: [FiskOffice@FiskUMC.org](mailto:FiskOffice@FiskUMC.org) to choose a date to be a Liturgist! There is also a Liturgist Signup sheet located in the back of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

*Thank you!*

Thank you to the Trustees who installed the safety hand rails on the side of the stairs leading up the altar. They have made a great improvement, with easy access to the altar.

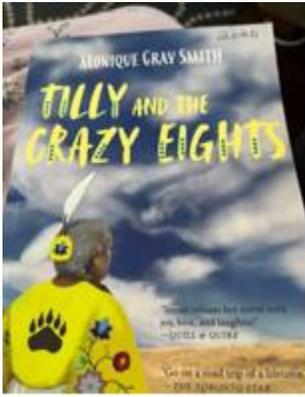


*Ministry Of Caring*

Caring with prayer is the master key of our ministry. We pray for all persons, even if you do not leave a prayer request. Therefore, if there is a need for us to reach out and/or be present with you, your family, or a loved one, please leave a note for the Caring Ministry Team.

You can count on us and believe that this ministry is a life-giving and life-sharing ministry that touches lives within and beyond the walls of Fisk. Hence, if you have a spiritual gift of helping or nurturing others, please let Pastor Alecia, Pat Price, or a member of the team know. There is always room at the "Serving Table." Thanks.

## A Book Review- *Tilly & the Crazy Eights*



You may remember a book, *Tilly*, from the 2016 UWF Reading List. That book was about a Native American girl named “Tilly” who shared her life and strength with us as an amazing young Indian woman who struggles and survives.

The newest book by Monique Gray Smith, released in 2020, is *Tilly* returning to us a number of years later in *Tilly & the Crazy Eights*. Tilly is still living in Canada with her fellow tribe. She is asked to drive the bus taking eight senior citizens of the tribe, to the Gathering of Nations Pow Wow in Albuquerque, New Mexico. These lively ladies, along with two men, also ask to live out a few bucket list experiences along the way. This trip not only transforms the seniors in the group, but also Tilly. It’s a heartwarming, and a bit emotional, story that will touch your soul! I highly recommend you add this book to your reading list. *by Terry Ames*



**Reading Program** Have you chosen a couple of BOOKS from the Reading List for your summer reading? Amy has the details.

**Prayer Shawl Group** meets all summer-Wednesday at 10:00 a.m., usually at Fisk. If we change the location we will post it on the red doors. Janis C. has the details.

**Mission u** is happening in July 22-24, at Southern NH University in Manchester. Marcia has the details.

**Health / Hygiene Kits** Keep the list in your wallet and pick up a few items as you shop this summer.

**Send cards** to friends, **pray** for our church, and our United Women in Faith, stay in touch with each other.

**We believe**  
**love in action**  
**can change**  
**the world.**

## Youth MISSIONS and OUTREACH

# SAVE THE DATES! YOUTH MISSION WEEK

**Fisk Memorial UMC** (106 Walnut St., Natick)  
**10AM-4PM, Monday-Friday**

Youth entering grades 8-12 are invited to join this week of fun and community service hosted by Fisk Memorial UMC (Natick) and Community UMC (Wayland). Each day will be filled with opportunities to work on projects to benefit our neighbors (such as making cards for a nursing home or doing a trash clean-up) and fun activities together. One day will be set aside for a beach day at Lake Cochituate!

**CONTACT: REBECCALYN.CHO@GMAIL.COM**

JULY  
**11-15**  
**2022**



**To REGISTER your child, visit:**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLe1kybVAGr5-HwgcaBg2F4ZeQqvOQ\\_9oqGxOxu1Ady7pLg/viewfo](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLe1kybVAGr5-HwgcaBg2F4ZeQqvOQ_9oqGxOxu1Ady7pLg/viewfo)

MISSIONS and OUTREACH

## Christmas in July ...and August!

### Questions

1. What is big and red?
2. Where is it?
3. What do we put in it?
4. Who is it for?
5. Where does it go?
6. How does it happen?

### Answers

1. Big RED TUB
2. In the back of the sanctuary or in the hallway
3. NEW Christmas Gifts...games, books, puzzles, packages of underwear and socks...all age groups
4. These are delivered to our Mission Partner and used for the Christmas Shoppe in November and December for the clients of the Thrift Shop.
5. Salem, Maine to the United Methodist Economic Ministry.
6. You help! When you are shopping during July and August...purchase an item or two each time and add to the bucket. By the end of August we should have filled two buckets! Can we fill three?



**Prayer Box / Prayer Wall**

## Missions during the summer

- ✓ What can I do? Look around.
- ✓ Family Promise is sometimes looking for volunteers.
- ✓ Natick Service Council may need your help.



- ✓ Natick Food Pantry usually can use extra help.
- ✓ Purchase food items for the Pantry and leave them at Fisk or in the box at Roche Bros.
- ✓ Sort through your clothes and bag them for Maine..." folded in paper grocery bags."
- ✓ Purchase school supplies for Cooper Community Center.
- ✓ Give a financial gift to the Bishop's Respite Fund
- ✓ Support Belinda and her dentistry mission in Nicaragua (UMCOR)



- ✓ LEARN more about any of these partners of Fisk and maybe another mission you may be interested in.

Mission Committee: Marcia Hoyt, Jan Townsend, Janis Cail, Kelli Garrant, and Mary Greenwood

Prayer is the master key that can open and close all doors. When you find the need to pray with the

assurance that others are praying for and with you, leave a prayer in the prayer box on the front lawn of the church, on-line on our website, or just call and speak with **Pastor Alecia** at **(617) 966-7048**.

**If there is an additional need, join the Prayer Line:  
Every Wednesday, from 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  
Dial: 1- (716) 427-1083, Access code: 580274#**

Remember that no one walks alone. We at Fisk UMC, are willing and ready to travel the journey with you.

You can also find private time to stop at the cross and pray individually or invite family and friends.

**August Messenger Deadline:**

**Please submit information by**

**Friday, July 22, 9:00 a.m.**

*From the Church Office*

**FISK CHURCH STAFF**

**Rev. Alecia Reeves-Freeman, Pastor**

[Fiskpastor@fiskumc.org](mailto:Fiskpastor@fiskumc.org)

**Dr. Americo Motta, Minister of Music**

[Fiskmusicministry@gmail.com](mailto:Fiskmusicministry@gmail.com)

**Susan Carney, Director of Christian Education**

[SusanjCarney@gmail.com](mailto:SusanjCarney@gmail.com)

**Carolyn DiSciullo, Administrative Assistant**

[Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org](mailto:Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org)

Church Office Phone: (508) 653-1674  
Church email: [Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org](mailto:Fiskoffice@fiskumc.org)  
Website: [www.fiskumc.org](http://www.fiskumc.org)  
Church Office Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Thank you for your generosity in making the Bishop's dream come to fruition to assist Clergy in need.

**NEUMC CONFERENCE INFORMATION**

**District: 6 - Name: Commonwealth East**

Website: [www.neumc.org/CE](http://www.neumc.org/CE)

Address: 2600 Massachusetts Ave., Lexington, MA 02421

Phone: (781) 861-0249

District Superintendent: **Rev. We Hyun Chang**

His email address: [CEDS@neumc.org](mailto:CEDS@neumc.org)

Administrative Assistant: **Allyson Printz**

Her email address: [CEDistrict@neumc.org](mailto:CEDistrict@neumc.org)



**whose God is the LORD"**

**Psalm 33:12 (NIV)**

**Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July!**



**New England Conference**  
The United Methodist Church

**CELEBRATING OUR BISHOP WITH THANKS**



This year our New England Conference celebrated Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar's upcoming retirement, his ministry, and mission on June 10, in Manchester,

NH. We are all invited to help support a gift in his honor, that reflects his care of the Clergy and the establishment of the "Pastors Respite fund". Please make a donation to Fisk UMC, memo: "Pastor's Respite Fund" and Fisk UMC will send a united gift.