

# The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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June 2019

## Pastor's Note

This month I give thanks and praises to the Only Supreme One: The one who I encountered years ago, have walked with and still love. With this special person, I have survived a bloody civil war, and have overcome many trials and tribulations in my life. I have strived to be the best I can with prayer, patience, and persistence. And if the truth is to be told and heard, with this person, I continue to meet all challenges with courage and strength; never giving up and never giving in.

The other truth is that God has given me a wonderful and supportive family, long-time and prayerful friends, faithful mentors, and caring church families on this journey. For these, and other persons, places, and things I am grateful. Therefore, as I enter the connectional covenant of Full Elder in the United Methodist Church, I have hope that things can and will be different, with unconditional love and full inclusion of all persons. I know, because I was one of these; the least, lost, and last.

Finally, my special love, with heart-filled appreciation, for those who walked with me, stood up with me, and spoke with me. This month, June, in this year of our Lord 2019, I rejoice because this is the time God ordained, and that is why I still love this God of peace, equality and justice.

"Thanks for all you have done, are doing, and will continue to do, to make this world a better place for all persons, in all places, and at all times." BELIEVE!

*-Pastor Alecia*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS MONTH

For continuous spiritual growth as you live each day, spend time with family and friends, find time to read and reflect on the following scripture passages:

June 2	Revelation 22:12-21	John 17:20-26
June 9	Acts 2: 1-8, 12-21	John 14:8-17
June 16	Romans 5:1-5	John 16:12-15
June 23	Galatians 3:23-29	Luke 8:26-39

## The Central Massachusetts District of the New England Conference UMC

We are invited to a farewell celebration honoring Rev. Rene Perez, our District Superintendent. After serving many years as our DS, he is transitioning to serve as pastor of the Trinity UMC in Springfield. MA. The celebration is:

**When:** Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.

**Where:** Leominster UMC

77 Hall Street, Leominster. MA

**Note:** All gifts can be sent to Central MA District, 53 Birchwood Drive, Holden, MA 01520, in Rev. Perez's honor, for Justice for our neighbors (JFON) Hope to see all our leaders and members present.

## Celebration at N.E. Annual Conference and at Fisk UMC

On Friday, June 14 at 7 p.m., Pastor Alecia Addie Reeves-Freeman will be ordained as a full Elder in the New England Conference at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH. Thereafter, on Sunday, June 23, there will be a Celebration of Thanksgiving during worship at our 10:30 a.m. service; followed by a luncheon. All persons are invited and/or welcome to attend, either or both of these services.

## New England Annual Conference Award 2019

Is this month from June 12-15 at DoubleTree at Hilton Hotel in Manchester, NH. Please attend if you can. Marcia Hoyt will be awarded the "Lifetime Discipleship" Award in recognition of many years of dedicated service as a lay person to the United Methodist Church's missions. For this award, recipients are asked to designate their gift of \$500 to a program or mission within the connection.



**Congrats, Marcia,** and thanks to the great team of faithful persons that have journeyed with you.

## Worship Team

*"Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me...  
And make me love thee as I ought to love."*

**June 9—Pentecost Sunday** Pentecost is God's gift to us in the form of the Holy Spirit. On this "Gift of the Spirit" Sunday, we give thanks to God for each of you and your gifts of time, tithes, and talent. "We Are Fisk": a diverse group of people who welcome all and continue to invite and accept all God's children as we use our gifts in unity and to the glory of God. In addition, we are committed to unity, peace, justice and equality for all as God blesses us together. Wear something **red** to remember and reflect on this day.

**June 9—at 4:30 p.m. A Time for Spirited Kids** – our new adaptive service will be held in rooms 8 & 9. All persons are invited.

**June 16—Trinity Sunday and Father's Day** Trinity Sunday celebrates the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Worship Team will be giving out a small gift for each man in the congregation, in honor of Father's Day.

**June 30—Baptism of Matheus Arlington**, son of Italiana & Michael Racine, and great-grandson of Pat Price (a faithful member of our Caring Ministry Team). Matheus was born March 11, 2018. We welcome Matheus!

**July 7—Summer worship** starts in Rooms 8 & 9. Please arrive at 9:15am for "Favorite Hymn Sing" prior to start of worship service. We look forward to seeing all of you.

ENJOY YOUR SUMMER and SEE YOU IN CHURCH!!!

## Evangelism Team

Belong at Fisk UMC - We invite you to accept our invitation if you are looking for a spirit-filled and prayerful church family to connect and grow with.

This is also if you just need a prayer or want to become a member. Please call Pastor Alecia at (617-966-7048) or leave a message for a member of the Evangelism Team.

*"There is always room at our table.  
We are here for you."*

Evangelism Team: Michelle Drolet, Karen Gallagher, Heather Oluwole, Ken Reynolds, Robert Rowe, Aljani Stanley, and Tian Zhang

### Family Promise

We host this month from June 16-23. Thanks to all persons who prepare, cook, serve, and pray for our families as they transition to better their living.

## Ministry of Caring

### Lighten Another's Load.

Our vocabulary word for June is **Mephibosheth**. Can you pronounce it? Do you understand its meaning? In 2 Samuel 16:1, we read about David's travels..."there was Ziba, the steward of **Mephibosheth**, waiting to meet him." This bible verse shows the amazing impact of a gesture of encouragement. This month, and for the rest of your life, embrace God's command to "encourage one another and build each other up." Be aware of another's needs. May you be blessed as you listen to God's calling in your life.

At Fisk, we are a connectional group of sisters and brothers in Christ. We like to be with and see each person every Sunday. Hence, if you have not seen someone in a while, let a member of the Caring Team know so that we can reach out with a card, an email, a phone call or a text message to support and/or stay in connection.

*"When one suffers, we all do.  
When one rejoices, we all do!"*

Team Members: Pat Price, Marilyn Donnelly, Clotilde Hyango, Gerry Billingsley, Joanne Billo, and Pastor Alecia

## Christian Education



### Vacation Bible School (VBS)

### To Mars and Beyond!

June 24 to June 28, 2019

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Ages 4 – 11 No Cost**

**We'll have games, songs, learning,  
crafts, and fun!**

**Join us & invite your friends!**

### **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AT VBS!**

**Please contact Amy Bruns to see where you can  
serve God at VBS with your talents and gifts.**

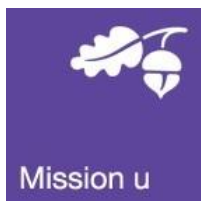
**Vacation Bible School at Fisk Church**

**106 Walnut St. Natick**

Online registration available at [www.fiskumc.org](http://www.fiskumc.org)

**Mission Education Opportunity**

**for Adults, Youth and Children  
at So. New Hampshire Univ., Manchester NH  
July 26-28, 2019**



Each year, United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women members prepare for faithful living and action by participating in mission studies. Mission studies are offered each year - and studies motivate, inform, and enrich our commitment to global ministry.

**What:** Studies offered are:

- Spiritual Growth Study for adults: **Mark and Radical Discipleship**
- Subject Study for adults: **United for Change: United Methodist Women in Mission—150 Years and Beyond**
- Children's Study entering grade 1 through grade 5: **Marked: A Mission Journey with Jesus in the Gospel of Mark**
- Youth Study: **Who Do You Say That I Am? Meeting Jesus Through the Eyes of Mark**

**Why:** Lots of conversation, time for fellowship, meaningful worship, great food, time for reflection and study.

**Cost:** for Fisk children and youth - We are blessed to be able to send youth and children to this event **fully funded** by Memorial, Mission and MYF funds.

For adults, and adults attending with children and youth-scholarship money is available from UMW. We hope to cover everyone who wants to come so they can attend at what they can afford.

Registration forms, with final cost info, are available at: <https://necmissionu.wordpress.com/2019-studies>

## MAPLE SYRUP IS BACK!

Help support the UMEM (United Methodist Economic Ministry) by buying some of the new run of 2019 Maple Syrup from Maine.



UMEM found a new supplier that was willing to work with them and supply a few churches with some Maple Syrup to sell (last year it was not available).

Quarts for \$20.00 and/or Pints for \$10.00.

Great gift idea!

*Does Dad like Maple Syrup on his pancakes?*

See Gary Hoyt

**Local & Global Missions**

## THANKS FOR CROSSING BORDERS

You may have heard United Methodist missionaries described as sent out "from everywhere to everywhere." What does that phrase mean?

The traditional picture of a missionary is someone who travels to the other side of the world to minister to people of a different culture. And that is certainly what many Methodist missionaries do today.

Yet from our very beginnings, Methodist missionaries have also been dedicated to sharing Christ with their own cultures in a relatable way. One was Kanichi



Miyama, a Japanese immigrant to the United States in the 19th century. He converted to Methodism in San Francisco, founded Japanese-American Methodism in both California and Hawaii, and eventually returned to Japan as a missionary.

Not all missionaries travel great distances, but all cross borders. They play vital roles in reaching out to under-served communities that may be right next door to them. From everywhere to everywhere, Methodist missionaries are bringing the love of Christ.



Just in the last few weeks Fisk has supported...

- **Addiction Ministries** connected to from Mike Clark—Urban Missions
- **Church World Blankets** for Mother's Day...\$400 to be used—Globally
- **Continuing Non-perishable food** for our neighbors in—Natick
- **Good used clothes** for our northern neighbors in—Maine
- **Our pledge** to our missionaries in—Nicaragua and South Africa

You can help sustain these and many more ministries with gifts designated for MISSIONS...to support missionary work and help spread the gospel through sustainable farming in Asia, medical care in Africa, or a prison ministry, as well as the things we are already committed to.

We (Fisk's Mission Committee-Janis Cail, Susan Carney, Mary Greenwood, Janis Townsend, and Marcia Hoyt-Chairperson) **thank you** for your continued interest and support.



Looking for a gift idea? Fisk has Father's Day gift/cards available for \$10.00 each that will support this CWS project...supplying tools, materials, and seeds for a family to sustain itself. What better gift to give the man in your life...a father, brother, son, son-in-law, or just a father figure to you. Cards will be available on Sunday June 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 9<sup>th</sup>.

In 2018, CWS distributed thousands of materials, seeds, and tools around the world. You can be part of an even greater response in 2019. You will reach families fleeing their homes, recovering from disaster or just trying to survive.



A huge amount of hope can come in a small package of seeds. Seeds are a vital resource for the families who plant and nurture them. With

some love – and some water and sunlight! Seeds grow to become better nutrition and a valuable income source. Around the world, families are planting sustainability, security and hope with your help.

Contributions to CWS Tools mean Church World Service will be ready to help people around the world gain the resources and develop the skills necessary to sustain themselves and their families and to build viable communities.

*Ahmad Syarif, a member of the Tolong Menolong Fishers Group in the Nias Island village of Olora, Indonesia, today fishes with one of several boats provided with the help of Church World Service. From fishing cooperatives in Nias to farming co-ops and training for 12 agricultural communities in northwest Haiti, CWS reaches out to those who have nothing to "fall back on," equipping them not only with solutions, but with resilience.*

See Marcia Hoyt or a member of the Missions Committee

## Finance & Stewardship

The generosity of the faithful stewards at Fisk UMC is amazing. Your gifts continue to support, strengthen, and enhance all ministries. **Thank you! And may God richly bless each of you as you include us in your Summer Plans!**

## United Methodist Women

Susan Carney, President

### SUMMER ACTIVITIES



**Road TRIP to Tower Hill Botanical Gardens** for the day! Lovely day of fellowship, beautiful gardens and paths and a delicious lunch. Join us on June 2! Questions? Call Debi Henry. Note: The Hannah Circle is coordinating this event.

**MISSION u** – July 26-28. This is a coordinated event between the New England Conference (church-wide) and UMW. More information on previous page and on the UMW bulletin board next to nursery room. Ask Sherry Culver.

**Reading** – UMW provides so many wonderful books for your reading "on the beach" or at home. Look at the choices and feel free to borrow any of the books and find out how you can join the challenge of reading five books and becoming a "READER." Ask Terry Ames.



**Knitting or crocheting** – Are they "your thing"? We meet each Wednesday at 10:00 to visit, knit, and pray. Stop in some Wednesday. Do you know someone in need of a Prayer Shawl? We have many in the cabinet. Ask Joanne Billo.

## AUGUST 9-11—SAVE THE DATE—WOMEN'S RETREAT

Spiritual leader--Dorothy Phillips

Retreat coordinators—Joyful Joannas

Place—Marcia's lake house in Harrison Maine

Submitted by Marcia Hoyt

### Farewell

To Pastor Ted Crass of the Community UMC, Wayland, MA. He has been the symbol of real connecton in local communities, and we will miss him. Blessings to you, Sarah, and your children on the next journey of life. Thank you!



## Youth News



*For Fisk youth and their friends in Grades 6—12*

Youth Group meets on the first Friday every month, and on the third Sunday following service, September—June. Friends are always welcome to attend MYF meetings and events. Please use this link to view pictures and schedule updates.

<http://www.fiskumc.org/youth-and-children.html>

### ***Youth & Family Night ~ Everyone is invited!***

**Friday, June 7, 2019, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

A simple dinner is provided – we ask for volunteers to bring a dessert, salad, or vegetables. Enjoy games, fellowship, and informal fun with members of the Fisk family. Please let Tian or Bingxin know if you plan to attend.

#### **Next MYF meeting at Fisk Church**

Sunday, June 16, 12:00 PM

#### **Youth Fellowship Leaders:**

Bingxin Xu & Tian Zhang, [fiskyouth@gmail.com](mailto:fiskyouth@gmail.com)

If you wish to volunteer, contact Tian, Bingxin or Sherry Culver at [sherrycd@comcast.net](mailto:sherrycd@comcast.net)

### **Youth summer activities!**



Our youth have many opportunities to attend camp this summer. The New England Conference is blessed with three choices for United Methodist Church camps.

#### **Camp Aldersgate in North Scituate, RI**

<http://campaldersgate.com/>

#### **Camp Wanakee in Meredith, NH**

<http://www.wanakee.org/>

#### **Camp Mechuwana in Winthrop, ME**

<http://www.mechuwana.org/>



Each site offers a unique style of camp experience ... one of them will surely match your youth! Over the past years, Fisk has sent several youth to camps and retreat experiences. Even better ... Fisk has scholarship funds to help you offset the cost of attending camp. See me for an application form. Once your child is registered for camp, complete the form and return it to me. After review, scholarship funds will be sent directly to the Camp.

Remember – there are camp experiences for all ages of youth, and there are even programs for an adult and a young child to attend camp. Scholarships are available

for any Fisk youth wishing to attend one of the United Methodist Church camps.

Sherry Culver for Fisk Youth Council,

[sherrycd@comcast.net](mailto:sherrycd@comcast.net)

### **♪ Music Ministry ♪**

#### **♪ Fisk Family Singers - Summer Singspiration ♪**

All Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church members and visitors are invited to join us at 9:20 every Sunday in July and August as we enjoy singing our favorite hymns prior to the 9:30 a.m. worship service!

Summer office hours begin the week of June 23. The office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
phone: 508-653-1674  
email: [fiskoffice@fiskumc.org](mailto:fiskoffice@fiskumc.org)

### **July—August Messenger Deadline**

**Friday, June 21**

**9:00 a.m.**