

# 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)

## June 2021

### Pastoral Note

#### **My Beloved sisters and brothers in Christ!**

I am excited and hopeful for greater and better persons, places, and things that God offers. I say offer because all that is needed is our acceptance and it is unmerited and free for all. Most of all, I am excited because summer is here and "Are We Yet Alive" (UMH 553). What a glorious blessing God gives by and through the amazing grace. Summer can also be a glorious opportunity for us in many ways even as this pandemic passes away. And as all things pass away, let us slow down, or restart at a slower pace to be and feel kinder and gentler than what we were.

Last weekend as I sat in my backyard and enjoyed some quiet time, I viewed summer as a special time to experience God's love for us, and to share that same love with all of creation. I know that we have more and more to share through our time, talent, and tithes. But I also know that the family at Fisk UMC, where God is always present, is also sharing with others within and beyond our community of faith. "We are Fisk" and we continue to support the Family Promise program, Salem Economic ministry, Natick Food pantry, Justice for our Neighbors, Spark Kindness, Natick is United, and many other local and global ministries to name a few.

In addition, each Sunday when you join us for worship on Zoom, you can feel the lasting presence and wonderful working power of God. With this same excitement, we are looking forward to in-person worship in addition to the continuation on Zoom (check our website: [fiskumc.org](http://fiskumc.org) for the link to connect each Sunday)

Finally, I believe that all is possible, because we are the ordinary people, that God can and will use to do extraordinary things. We did before, during the pandemic and we will do long after it passes away.

As we re-enter the physical sanctuary, let us be thankful for newer and greater opportunities as we face each challenge with renewed hope because it will build strength and noble character for God's ministry and mission on earth until the final victory is won!

Have a Blessed, Safe, and Enjoyable Summer!  
+ 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.

June 6	2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1	Mark 3: 20-35
June 13	2 Corinthians 5: 6-17	Mark 4: 26-34
June 20	2 Corinthians 6: 1-13	Mark 4: 35-41
	Psalter Reading- Psalm 9: 9-20	

## Worship

### In the month of June

**Highlights** for ZOOM worship this month.

June 6: **Communion Sunday.** Don't forget your bread and juice.

June 20: **Father's Day:** We celebrate all Fathers with us and all Father's who have passed on to glory.

Note: Summer sermon will start on June 27<sup>th</sup> for 10 weeks on the 10 Commandments

See you on ZOOM!

## Nominations & Leadership

Nominations and Leadership Development Committee (N&LD): Passion, Talent, and Time.

*God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other; passing on to others God's many blessings. 1Peter 4:10.*

Thank you for serving God through your untiring service at Fisk!!!!

Same time each year the discussion begins around who will be the Fisk committees' leaders for the next year. Due to the unprecedented time in 2020, we skipped a year; most people continued in their 2020 positions. But the process resumes in 2021.

The N&LD committee wants to thank each person who used their passion, talents, and time to serve in one of the chair or class positions. Your willingness to serve at Fisk is a blessing to each other and spreads God's love and message out to the community.

The N&LD is asking everyone to prayerfully consider how you can add to Fisk's ministries by participating in a committee or ministry as God's hands, feet, and/or voice.

Ministries: Missions, Evangelism, Ministry of Caring, Education, Youth Ministry, Worship, and Altar Guild.

Committees/Boards: Finance, Board of Trustees, Staff-Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)

Others: Communications Coordinator, Tech Team (new)

If you are passionate about a special ministry and/or desire to share your talents and time serving in one of the ministries, committees or board please reach out to the N&LD Committee: Pastor Alecia Reeves-Freeman ([fiskpastor@fiskumc.org](mailto:fiskpastor@fiskumc.org)), Sherry Culver ([SherryCD@comcast.net](mailto:SherryCD@comcast.net)), Tom Currie ([tcurrie42@gmail.com](mailto:tcurrie42@gmail.com)) or Dorothy Phillips ([dwphillips@comcast.net](mailto:dwphillips@comcast.net)).

## Finance & Stewardship

We are grateful for all your gifts (tithes, time, and talent) this past year. Most of all, the power in our connection that was strengthened throughout this difficult time and our shared connectional giving. Over this past year, we have given to each other, to our church, to our community and to the global ministry and mission of the United Methodist Church. That is, we made a commitment and had a stake in the outcome of all ministries and mission at FISK. In addition, we have remained faithful and responsible for all that God has given, knowing that we cannot match God's giving but we continue to strive with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

This past year, we have been grateful for each of you and your families in shared giving. In view of all that you did, we also took steps to empower others to step up their giving, encourage others to give for the first time as well as reduce our expenses, and remain the missional church we are called to be.

Therefore, because of you, we continue to strive and to be the best and most faithful stewards God wants us to be. For these and more, we say "THANKS" with grateful hearts as a part of our on-going covenant to God and to each other.

Thank you!



## NE Conference Annual Meeting

**Guiding Scripture: Psalm 137:4**  
**NIV "How can we sing the songs of the LORD while in a foreign land?"**

At its February 25<sup>th</sup> meeting the Annual Conference Sessions Committee solidified elements of the 2021 New England Annual Conference virtual session.

## 2021 New England Conference UMC June 10-12

New England Annual Conference virtual session schedule, including Clergy Session, is below:

- **Clergy Session** will begin at 9 a.m. **Wednesday, June 9.**
- **Annual Conference** will begin on **Thursday, June 10,** and conclude on **Saturday, June 12.**
- **The Service of Ordination and Commissioning** for the classes of 2020 and 2021 will be held on the afternoon of **Saturday, June 12.** The service will be livestreamed.

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

### WORLD PARISH CITATION WITH THANKS

Our district, Commonwealth East and the New England Conference extend their utmost gratitude to all of you at Fisk UMC for another year of 100% Missions Shares paid; especially this past year 2020. Though 2020 was a challenging year, you remained faithful servants and stewards of Jesus Christ for the transformation of this world.

Thanks to each of you, with praises for all our leaders that God called to serve in the past and **NOW.**

## Missions

### FATHER'S DAY

Well, I had decided to not promote Blanket Sunday for Mother's Day this year. Traditionally, we have had Mother's Day cards available at Fellowship time to support Church World Service and Blanket Sunday or a few other choices for your gift giving. As it turned out, a couple of people asked for the cards! Who knew?

This resulted in the making of 4 Mother's Day cards supporting Blanket Sunday AND...13 cards supporting Health Kits for UMCOR-United Methodist Committee on Relief...resulting in 80 completed Health Kits! How wonderful! What a great way to say "Happy Mother's Day!"

#### **NOW, we have Father's Day coming up soon.**

I do have cards for the "men in your life celebrating Father's Day". The cards can designate one of a few mission opportunities.

1. \$10.00 per card to supply a man in an underdeveloped country has the basic tools to help provide work, teach skills, or help rebuild his home. Be a partner in the heavy lifting. **TOOLS for FATHER'S DAY**
2. We also have cards that support the Natick Service Council's Food Pantry. For just \$10.00 you receive the gift card to give a Special Dad and the Food Pantry will stock

their shelves/refrigerator with fruits and vegetables.

*Just contact a Mission Committee member: Janis Cail, Susan Carney, Mary Greenwood, Janis Townsend or Marcia Hoyt-Chairperson*



**Thanks to Mary Lou Greenwood Boice,** for speaking about the General Board of Global Ministries and UMCOR. Thanks Mary Lou for bringing us your message and visiting us on ZOOM.



**Virtual Experiential Educational Musical Event  
Fundraiser  
for New England Justice for Our Neighbors**

**June 5, 2021 7pm EST  
No-No Boy**

No-No Boy is an immersive multimedia work that blends original folk songs, storytelling, and projected archival images to illuminate hidden American histories. About the Project Taking inspiration from his own family's history living through the Vietnam War, as well as interviews with World War II Japanese Incarceration camp survivors and other stories of Asian American experience, Nashville born songwriter Julian Saporiti has transformed years of doctoral research at Brown University into an innovative project bridging a divide between art and scholarship. By turning archival study and fieldwork into a large repertoire of folk songs and visuals, Saporiti has been able to engage audiences with difficult conversations through song and storytelling, performing with a revolving cast of collaborators everywhere from rural high schools and churches to New York City's Lincoln Center.

To purchase tickets, a virtual table or give a donation, please go to

<https://one.bidpal.net/nonoboy2021/>

Join us for this virtual fundraiser! The program sounds very interesting.

Support JFON-Justice for our Neighbors.

**We are planning to meet in person!**

**Tuesday, JUNE 1 at 4:30pm at Fisk-outside  
(Weather providing)**

***POUND AUCTION***

**Bring your lawn chair AND a pound of something  
...wrapped creatively.**



**We'll auction the "pounds" off.  
Snacks served.**

- Well, we had a very successful Yard Sale. It was great to be "in person" and to welcome the community to our parking lot to search for treasures. Profit of about \$1900 for Missions! Great work! Thanks to some High School youth and the men of United Methodist Men's group. NEXT ONE is in October...save items until then.
- Our three UMW circles continue to meet either virtually or in person and enjoy their time together.
- Susanna Circle has a Tea...with fancy hats...at Margaret Lowe's home.
- Hannah Circle met by phone and are continually keeping in touch with each other.
- 400 Shawls! Did you know that the Prayer Shawl Group has given about 400 shawls or lap blankets (since 2010) to those needing a bit of love and comfort...or to celebrate an event. Join us some week.
- Books from the UMW Reading List are being shared and passed along. There's still a good supply in the bookcase in Ogle Parlor. Look for some summer reading! Terry Ames, the chairperson, has done a wonderful job of keeping us current with new selections and has even offered to deliver books to you.
- Mission u dates are in late July and early August. More information from Marcia Hoyt. It will all be "virtual" on Zoom.
- A Women's Retreat is still being discussed and possibly planned late in the summer. Stay tuned.
- Health Kits for UMCOR are being collected and packaged. Have you contributed to that project? Follow the list in your UMW booklet.

Questions—contact Janis Cail, President 781-894-1730



## TRIVIA

- Trivia #1 Which country consumes the most chocolate per capita?
- Trivia #2 What is the world's biggest island?
- Trivia #3 In the bible, Paul was shipwrecked on what island?
- Trivia #4 What were men trying to do at the Tower of Babel?
- Trivia #5 Who are our FISK members over 90 years of age?



Celebrating our Fisk members who are over 90 years old. They are still active. Many are in their own homes. Some are driving. Some attend gatherings at church. Others are fortunate to have people care for them. Well deserved. Send a card occasionally. Stop to visit. Give them a call. Do pray for them.

**Jean Brown**  
**Helen Hollingworth**  
**Betty Wicks**  
**Winnie Sinclair**  
**Florence Young**  
**Nancy Parece**

(This information is from the Membership Rolls)  
If you know of any changes-let the office know

Articles by: Marcia Hoyt

## United Methodist Men

**All men of Fisk are invited  
To the  
Fisk United Methodist Men  
(UMM) Cookout.**

**Date:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** Gary Hoyt's house, 8 Bacon St.  
Please bring your own food for grilling.  
Salad and Dessert will be provided.

### CONGRATULATIONS

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#### Masters:

Tian Zhang

#### College:

Kelli Garrant

#### High school:

Rose Currie

Brock Howatt

Noah DeSouza

#### Middle school:

Tiffany Stanley

Logan Mayo

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Teach us, good Lord,  
to serve you as you deserve;  
to give and not to count the cost;  
to fight and not to heed the wounds;  
to toil and not to seek for rest;  
to labor and not to ask for any reward,  
except that of knowing that we do you will;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Prayer of Ignatius of Loyala



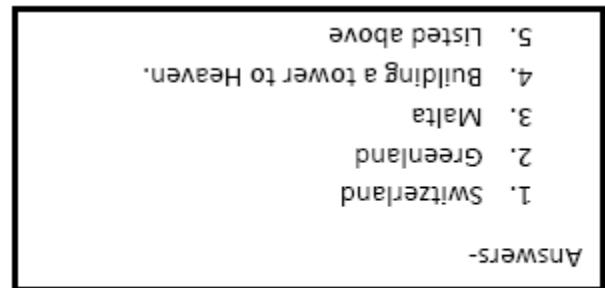
Starting on **Sunday July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Fisk UMC will be meeting  
**in-person for Sunday Service!**

We will still have Church online as well, over Zoom, for the people who prefer to have Church online!

The time for Sunday Worship service will remain the same (10:30 A.M.) this summer for in- person and Zoom until next year, 2022.

Thanks for worshipping and visiting with us at Fisk UMC where God is always present.



Information from the Membership Secretary  
Marcia Hoyt

### *From the Church Office*

#### **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](tel:(781)861-0249)

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

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

Administrative Assistant: **Allyson Printz**

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

### **JULY Messenger Deadline**

Please submit info by

**FRIDAY, June 18 at 9:00 AM**

