

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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www.fiskumc.org

March 2022

Pastoral Note

As we continue the journey of life in the third month of 2022, we will commemorate Ash Wednesday on March 2, to start the season of Lent. Lent is an incredible, historical, and symbolic season for Christians all around the world. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for forty days (excluding Sundays) as representation of the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness. It is also a time when we can pause, ponder, pray, and petition God as we prepare for Resurrection Sunday.

This season has been observed for centuries. Hence, let us remember that this time offers us an opportunity to renew our commitment to being more Christ-like and present with each other. And though some days will be easier than other days, know that no one travels alone. We will be walking side by side and hand in hand. But most of all:

"The LORD himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged." (Deuteronomy 31:8- NIV)

What a great promise of hope! Yes, to live and know that all will be well no matter what comes our way. Therefore, this month, I am affirming hope because there is a lot to be hopeful for as we travel amid chaos, conflict, and confusion. Hope is vital for living because there are many uncertainties in life, many unanswered questions and many challenges. But, with God's presence we can feel with our hearts, clear our minds, and open our hands to offer God's grace in brokenness. A brokenness, because sometimes we forget that relationships matter more than the stuff we want, stuff we buy and stuff we hoard. Yes! Life is worth more than stuff. It is more important for us to be humble, have a compassionate spirit, connect with people, feed the children, take care of the elderly, provide for those without, advocate for the voiceless, stand up, and make peace and justice our shield. For when we do these things, we become more Christ like.

Remember that though the journey may be challenging at times, joy comes.

Come and walk with us at Fisk UMC, 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

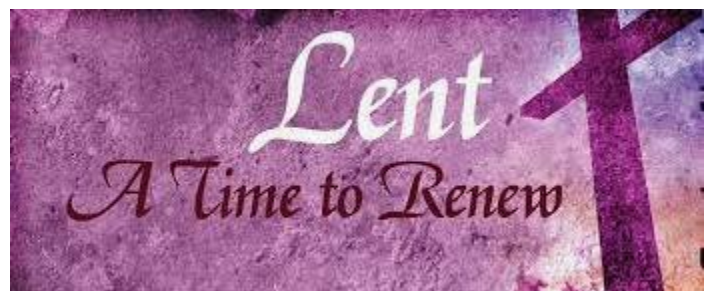
For Personal Reflection & Spiritual Growth

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

March 2:	Psalm 51:1-17	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
March 6:	Romans 10:8-13	Luke 4:1-13
March 13:	Psalm 27	Luke 13:31-35
March 20:	Isaiah 55:1-9	Luke 13:1-9
March 27:	Psalm 32	Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

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

- Pastor Alecia



Weekly Worship Service

Worship service is every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.
In- person and on Zoom. We welcome all persons.

Log in information for ZOOM Services

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

Meeting ID: **936 6690 6008**

Connect by telephone use either of these numbers.

+1 253 215 8782 US or **+1 301 715 8592 US**

Meeting ID: **936 6690 6008**

If those links fail to get you into Fisk Service, visit

www.zoom.us click "Join Meeting" on top right

Type in **936 6690 6008** in the "Meeting ID"

Click Join.

March Liturgist Schedule

Sunday, March 6,	Amy Bruns
Sunday, March 13,	Dorothy Phillips
Sunday, March 20,	Thom Townsend
Sunday, March 27,	Terry Ames

Sunday, March 20, will be the Baptism of Elias William Ayala.

United Methodist men
United Methodist Women

Calling UMW Bookworms

On March 1st –4:30 PM we are hosting a Book Review via ZOOM at our UMW meeting and **would love you to share** a paragraph with us of a book you've read from our Reading Program, or if not from our program, another book you have read recently which inspired you, comforted you, or you just enjoyed and would like to recommend. Can you help us? Let's make our March UMW meeting a fun and interactive meeting with you reading a book from our book list NOW or one of your own books and sharing a short review of it at our March meeting? Just a few sentences or a paragraph of what it's about. Also, we would love to hear of any recommendations from you for a movie, particular series or TV shows you may be watching now.



Join a group of Fisk men for a Great Breakfast and Fellowship on Tuesday, March 8. We will meet at Fisk at 8:00am and carpool to Ashland.



"Bacon the Finest Scratch Breakfast and Lunch"

372 Union St. Ashland MA

Questions: Call Gary Hoyt 508-655-0077

This is how we all stay connected, by sharing of ourselves with others. Visit www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram find a full list of the books from 2021-2022 on our Reading Program many of which are in our Ogle Parlor Library. Contact Terry Ames if you would like to run any books by her ahead of time.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/94188447457>

Meeting ID: 941 8844 7457

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 941 8844 7457

Find your local

number: <https://zoom.us/j/94188447457>



Missions

Yes, the Super Bowl—as in NFL football is over.



Unfortunately, HUNGER in the United States and beyond is not over.

Fisk signed up to participate in this annual emphasis to assist in the HUNGER needs of our town. We are collecting all types, brands, flavors, and sizes of canned soup for the Natick Food Pantry. We will deliver the donations on March 7.

These cold days have been great SOUP weather. The theme for 2022 is **Let's TACKLE HUNGER!** How are we doing? Well, at this date we have collected \$75.00 and about 18 cans of soup. We can do more! Have you done your share? Canned soups can be



brought to the church or checks payable to Fisk...memo: Soup! Thanks for participating.
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Happy Birthday to our Missionary Dr. Belinda Forbes in Nicaragua. Her birthday is March 26. Send greetings to Belinda! Pray for her ministry.

Email: bforbes@umcmmission.org

Another missionary

James Keech Birthday March 30

Email: jkeech@umcmmission.org



CALENDAR? Look in this newsletter to find a Lenten Calendar as one way to focus yourself during this most holy season.

Remember that March 23 is Giving Day. "What can you GIVE to make a difference?" UMCOR? JFON?

Missions Committee: Janis Cail, Mary Greenwood, Kelli



Why Hygiene Kits?

These kits provide basic necessities to people who have been forced to leave their homes because of human conflict or natural disaster. Hygiene kits are also used as learning tools in personal hygiene, literacy, nutrition, and cooking classes. Those people on the receiving end say "Thank you!"

It is VERY important that this list be followed closely. Please note details to make this process go smoothly.

One hand towel (15 x 25 -17 x 27 inches)

No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels

One washcloth

No kitchen, cleaning, or microfiber towels

One comb

Must be sturdy with at least 6" of teeth

No pocket combs or picks

One toenail or fingernail clipper

No emery boards or metal nail files

Bath-size soap (3 oz. bar or larger)

No Ivory or Jergen's soap

Do not remove from packaging

One adult toothbrush

Do not remove from packaging

Personal advertising not acceptable

10 adhesive bandages ($\frac{3}{4}$ by 3 inches)
 Common household bandages acceptable
 One one-gallon size re-sealable bag
 Completed kits or individual items may
 be left in the basket in Ogle Parlor.

Questions or to receive a ZOOM invite.

Lenten Bible Study

A Clearing Season: Reflections for Lent

By Sarah Parsons

Allow this Lenten season to be a time of refreshing,

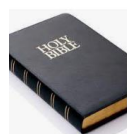
March 2022



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
			<u>Ash Wednesday</u> Lenten Service 7:00PM at Fisk	Clean out a closet and recycle what you can	Call a neighbor to check on them. Just a Hello/Wellness check	Gather canned soups for Natick Food Pantry- bring to Fisk on Sunday
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Attend worship 10:30AM either "in person" or virtually Check web site	Go for a walk in a new area in Natick	Pray for the missionaries serving UMCOR	Lenten Study 7:00PM (online)	How can you help an immigrant family settle?	Pray for all United Methodist clergy in New England	Prayers for all the children and youth connected to Fisk.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Attend worship 10:30AM either "in person" or virtually Check web site	Shop for Hygiene Kit supplies	Pray for families served by Cooper Community Center in Boston	Lenten Study 7:00PM (online)	Justice for all. What can you do? What will you do?	Research an important women in history. <u>Women's History Month</u>	Pray for the staff and clients of UM Economic Ministry in Maine
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Attend worship 10:30AM either "in person" or virtually Check web site	Pray for and email a missionary serving in Africa.	Read something to help you make a plan to address Climate Change	Lenten Study 7:00PM (online)	Food Insecurity is a social Justice issue. What can you do to help?	Pray for victims of Child Abuse	Global Health What can we do as a church?
27	28	29	30	31		
Attend worship 10:30AM either "in person" or virtually Check web site	Pray for the UMCOR Staff and Missionary Personnel.	How can you save water today?	Lenten Study 7:00PM (online)	Go out for a walk and look for signs of SPRING!		

*as we do some spring-cleaning for our souls!
 Open your heart to hear what new insights God has
 for your life.*

Education



Women's Bible Study on Zoom!

Join the Tuesday morning group at 10:00 a.m.

Or the Thursday night group at 7:15 p.m.

Contact: susanjcarney@gmail.com with

Wednesday evenings on Zoom 7-8PM

March 9- Pastor Rebecca Cho, Community UMC (Wayland)

March 16- Pastor Alecia Reeves-Freeman, Fisk UMC (Natick)

March 23- Pastor Heather Kattan, Beacon of Hope UMC (Framingham) & Lay Leader, Bonnie Jean Rowe

March 30- Pastor Sandra Bonnette-Kim, Carter Memorial UMC (Needham) & Pastor Travis Bonnette-Kim, First UMC (Melrose)

April 6- Pastor Alicia Vélez Stewart, Weston UMC (Weston)

Join us on the Community UMC Zoom account:

Zoom Meeting ID: 508 653 0577, Pass code: 0

To join by phone: Dial (646) 558-8656 Enter the Meeting ID: 508 653 0577

When prompted press #, then # again.

*You may purchase a book as needed.

Enter the 2022 Laity Address Challenge

The Conference Board of Laity is pleased to invite all laypersons in the New England Annual Conference to enter the Laity Address Challenge to have an opportunity to give the Laity Address at the 2022 Annual Conference.

The 2022 Annual Conference will be held online and in-person on June 9-11. The Laity Address will be pre-recorded. The specific date/time of the Laity Address broadcast has not been set.



Our Annual Conference theme is "Envisioning the Beloved Community." Our guiding scripture Philippians 3:12-14 (The Message). The address must use that as its theme.

The address should be 15-20 minutes long. Entrants must submit a written copy of their entire proposed address along with a video of themselves delivering the first 5 minutes of the address. The deadline to submit your proposed address and video is May 6, 2022.

Please submit your manuscript to Ruby Blake at msrube65@gmail.com and you will be sent instructions for how to upload your video file. If you have a link to your video to share, you can email that along with the manuscript.

Sunday school

Join us Sundays: 9:30 a.m. -10:15 a.m.

Questions -- see Susan Carney or Carolyn DiSciullo

Saint Patrick's Day Dinner at Beacon of Hope UMC
360 Water St. Framingham, MA 01701
Saturday, March 12, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.
By Reservation only. Contact jajeb1@hotmail.com to reserve your tickets by March 6th.

The Church Office

FISK CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Alecia Reeves-Freeman, Pastor

Fiskpastor@fiskumc.org

Dr. Americo Motta, Minister of Music

Fiskmusicministry@gmail.com

Susan Carney, Director of Christian Education

SusanjCarney@gmail.com

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: Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri.
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

NEUMC CONFERENCE INFORMATION

District: 6 - Name: Commonwealth East

Website: 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

Administrative Assistant: **Allyson Printz**

Her email address: CEDistrict@neumc.org

April Messenger Deadline

Please submit information by

Friday, March 18, 9:00 a.m.