

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church - 106 Walnut St., Natick, MA 01760

May 2014

Reflections from Pastor Rick

What a grand celebration we had at Fisk this Easter!

Congratulations to all who planned for and then participated in the Easter Egg Hunt on the Saturday before. We had 174 children and a like number of adults smiling, laughing, enjoying fellowship, and being acquainted with our church family.

On Easter Sunday morning at our 7:30am service, we had some new folks who added their voices and prayers to the outdoor service and communion. At our 10:30am service we had a great crowd with many children. Someone said to me, "This is how Fisk used to be!" My reply is, "This is how Fisk is going to be!"

This church has so much to offer its members, the community, and the world. We simply need to put it all together and get the word out. As Easter reminds us, Jesus is alive and well and asking us to be his hands and feet in the world. Whatever rebirth takes place here needs to start with what Jesus called being "born from above". We need to let the Holy Spirit run a little wild and create a little mischief. With the Spirit at its center, the church is not meant to play life safe, but rather to take risks and do outrageous things. Any community of people who have as their central belief that Jesus was resurrected, has already

demonstrated its willingness to do the impossible. I see a lot of fun in the future of Fisk.

Never lose heart always know that Jesus walks with you, and "This is how Fisk is going to be!"

-Pastor Rick-



Staff of Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

Pastor:	Rev. Rick Black
Admin. / Newsletter Editor:	Judy Bortolotti
Deacon:	Rev. Cheryl Gates
Youth Ministers:	Joshua & Deanna Leedy-Andreozzi
Choir Director /Organist:	Eric Mazonson

How to reach us:

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Josh & Deanna's Email: D&JLA@gmail.com	
Eric's Email: emazonson@verizon.net	
Church Website: fiskumc.org	

Lectionary Readings for May:

May 4	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	1Peter 1:17 – 23	Luke 24:13 - 35
May 11	Acts 2:42-47	1Peter 2:19-25	John 10: 1-10
May 18	Acts 7:55-60	1Peter 2:2-10	John 14:1-14
May 25	Acts 17:22-31	1Peter 3:13-22	John 14:15-21

Thank you – from Family Promise;

Family Promise Metrowest could not have had a more successful Walkathon than we did on Saturday, April 12! The weather was glorious, the spirit infectious and the contributions more than we had ever envisioned. At the end of the day our totals were at \$68,637 - far exceeding our \$50,000 goal!!

Thank you for joining us to Walk Away Homelessness! I offer deepest thanks to each of your team members and all their sponsors for their generosity.

Our member congregations are the foundation on which our vision was founded. You continue in countless ways to contribute to our success year after year. This year's walkathon was one of them. We are ever grateful.

With gratitude,

Judy Mongiardo

Network Coordinator, Family Promise Metrowest

Worship Service Participants and Nursery Volunteers for



Greeters

May 4 - Gary and Marcia Hoyt
May 11- TBA
May 18- TBA
May 25-Terry Ames & family



Liturgists

May 4- Rev. Cheryl Gates
May 11- Susan Carney
May 18- Joshua Leedy-Andreozzi
May 25- Deanna Leedy-Andreozzi

Yard Sale and... A BAKE SALE

**Saturday, May 10
8:30am - 12:00noon**



**All of your good used & un-used
items from the closets, garage, sheds,
cellar, toy bin...wherever you need to
clean out!**

- ➡ **No clothes or computer parts**
- ➡ **Any large furniture items...if not sold we may ask you to pick them up at the end of the day.**
- ➡ **You may begin bringing your items to the Preschool Classroom (next to the Nursery) on Monday, May 6.**

**We are adding the request for
Baked Goods! Mother's Day is the**



**next day. . . buy MOM some
cupcakes, cookies, a cake or pie.
*Coffee and donuts for sale!***

***The profits from this support our Mission Budget—Natick
Service Council, Family Promise and Natick Food Pantry.
Fisk's United Methodist Women thank you for your support!***

Questions-Call Barbara Beekman or Janis Cail

Mission in Maine

It is Springtime and time to clean out your closets and sort clothes you no longer need or want. I will be making several trips to the **United Methodist Economic Ministry** in Salem Maine during the next few months. I take your GOOD-CLEAN used clothing to the thrift shops that serve this very under-served population with very high unemployment.

Our United Methodist connectional system supports this mission site with monetary gifts, clothing and many other needs for those living in the western mountains in Maine.

Bring your appropriate clothing...best if folded and in paper grocery bags...easier to handle than large trash bags that are too difficult to lift :). New items are also welcome!

UMEM takes, women's, men's and all youth and children's clothing! **Questions: Gary Hoyt 508-655-0077**

May Altar Flowers! On **Sunday, May 4**, the flowers on the altar are given by Betsy Lindsey in memory of her mother, Marge MacKenzie. Marge was an amazing woman who loved her family, music, arts, nature, and animals. She battled cancer for 16 years and while doing so, always maintained a positive, upbeat attitude. She had a joyful spirit and had an amazing strength of character!

On **Sunday, May 18**, the flowers on the altar are given by Marilyn Donnelly in memory of her mother, Lucy P. Lee. Lucy loved gardening, sewing (she was a seamstress!), cooking, people, and she was an artist! Today, some of her landscape paintings hang on the wall in Marilyn's house. She loved being with church friends and family, and loved to write notes and keep in touch with everyone. Even at age 91 – she drove people to church!

Adult Sunday School

May 4-11-18, 2014

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Room 9

From Gump to Glory

Forrest Gump - He's the dejected, rejected and bullied one. Forrest is who he is and just sort of goes about life not trying to be anything particularly special, just be himself and live life the way he sees fit. Jesus Christ: He was the rejected and dejected one, but He went on in life, ministering and loving, in the way He thought was right.

- Selfless Love vs. Self-Reliance – May 4 (Hosea 1:2-11; Luke 15:11-32)
- Destiny vs. Accident – May 11 (Colossians 1:13-20)
- Innocence vs. Cynicism – May 14 (Psalm 77; Matthew 10:1-16)

All adults are invited for devotions and discussion!

June Messenger deadline: May 22@ 8:00am



Easter Egg Hunt follow-up!

In 2013, a group of Fisk members started planning to host a community wide Easter egg hunt as part of the church growth initiative, and we had no idea what kind of attendance to expect. God knew and thankfully He directed us in our planning such that not a single one of the more than 177 children went home without eggs or crafts! This year we lowered the age attendance from 1-10 year olds to 1-8 year olds, and we still had **174** registered children plus their parents and grandparents visit our church, even with the lowered age limit! And, we saw some of the faces on Sunday morning at Easter Services as well! What a blessing!

We made quite a few process improvements this year including an improved throughput, entering through the sanctuary doors where they were greeted by Debi Henry and Crystal Mayo among others and at the end, exiting out the Whipple set of doors where Eva and her adorable puppy, a real hit with the children, made sure that each child left with their goodie bag. After registering, Zach Gates and others helped usher small groups into our beautiful Sanctuary where Dorothy Philips and Pastor Rick welcomed them to our church. Barb Beekman and Betsy Hoyt and others then usher them outside to the Easter Egg hunt areas, segmented by age groups for crowd control and safety or to rooms 8&9 for the toddler room manned by Debbie Friscino and Susan Carney and her daughter made sure even our youngest attendees had a great time. Josh, well, Josh did just about every job that needed assistance – we will just say on our team, he was the designated hitter and the closing pitcher!

After the hunt, the children came in to Whipple Hall and had the opportunity to color an Easter scene or work an Easter cross word puzzle or connect the dots as well as have snacks and to choose a craft such as a paper plate chicken, egg necklace or a bunny pencil. Many thanks to Pat Price,

Tian Zhang, Michelle Drolet and Marcia Hoyt and others who manned the craft tables.

We had a full court press on promoting the event which, combined with the great word-of-mouth marketing done by our members, contributed to the excellent attendance. Fliers were distributed to Starbucks in Sherwood Plaza, several day care centers including FACE, Natick Hall, and Morse Library. Marcia Hoyt addressed postcards for a neighborhood mailing which was very successful. Sherry Culver broadly publicized the event online on multiple community bulletin boards and on our own beautiful Fisk website. And, Debi Henry sent her “feet team” out delivering fliers all over Natick and Framingham which drove in a great many people, as did the placards in front of the church which Susan Carney’s compelling copy.

There are so many people in the church that need to be thanked but are too numerous to list them all, but each of you deserve a big Christian hug for making this such a successful initiative and what we hope will be the start of a new tradition here at Fisk. Marcia Hoyt and Deborah Hernandez drove the planning and execution but without so many of you who hid eggs, registered families, assembled crafts, brought in food, filled goodie bags, etc., it would not have happened. Marcia and her granddaughter Molly deserve an additional shout out for filling over 1,500 eggs!

And, it doesn’t stop there. While we had a few repeats, most were new attendees and many parents asked about Sunday School for their children. We now have names and addresses to use for future mailings and will be looking forward to more events to create wonderful experiences for our community children and to give us an opportunity to share the warmth of Fisk and Christian love with all who participate.

We hope that each of you will put on your creative hats and be thinking about how we can better serve the children of our community, most of whom have no church home.

United Methodist Women

Spring has finally sprung! We are getting ready for the Annual Spring Yard Sale AND an added Bake Sale.

Saturday, May 10 from 8:30-12 noon

Save your treasures and bring them to the preschool room next to the Nursery beginning May 5.
Not before please.

More information elsewhere in the Messenger.

Do I have \$4.00? Do I have \$5.00

Come and bid on a Box Lunch.

Bring a lunch / dinner in a creative wrapping (anything from a brown paper bag to a basket) and we will auction it off... money goes to

Missions and then we enjoy our dinner...whatever you bought at auction. It is a fun night!



Join us May 6 at 7:00pm

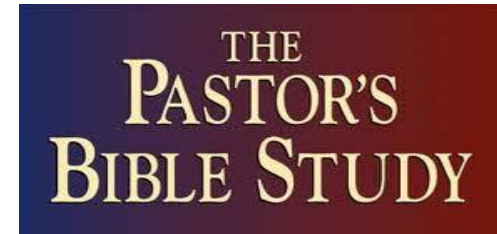


Attention upcoming Graduates!

Graduates of all ages, please let the church office know about your upcoming graduation, so we can recognize and celebrate your accomplishment with you!

Church office (508) 653-1674

Or email us at Fiskumc@aol.com



Join Pastor Rick on Tuesday afternoons for a Bible Study. **We meet at 4:00pm in Ogle Parlor.** We are exploring what the scriptures are saying to us individually, what they mean for Fisk United Methodist Church, and what they are saying for the world.

Our Sunday Worship Services are broadcasted each week on Natick Pegasus!

Please check out the schedule below or on the link below

Sunday: 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Monday: 5:00 and 9:00p.m.

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Thursday: 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 11:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m.

Saturday: 12:00 noon

Natick Pegasus - Access Channel

RCN 3 / Comcast 99 / Verizon 29

http://www.natickpegasus.org/Access_Channel_Schedule.html