

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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www.fiskumc.org

May 2019

Pastor's Note

I heard that April showers produce May flowers. Whether this is true or not, I know that this month is devoted to all mothers. So, we thank God for all these women who have worked, and those who are working to make life worth living, and burdens lighter for others. It does not matter what size, shape, race, creed, economic, social or political status, they are significant, and I honor all of them. I also pray that they will truly understand and believe that they are truly loved and will never be forgotten.

For the times they guided, fed, clothed, nurtured and prayed for us, we celebrate them! As we celebrate, I am encouraging each of us to reach out and touch a woman's life in our families, our church, our community, our nation, and the world.

Can we? I know we can, with a single red rose and sharing other roses with a woman or women who have impacted your life. And we can also be generous enough to honor all women who are 90 years and over, with thanksgiving of ribbons and carnations for them and all women who are still traveling the journey of life.

"Just a rose with carnation fillings will do!"

A Happy & Blessed Mother's Day for all our mothers!

-Pastor Alecia



Sunday, June 9 is **Pentecost Sunday**. On this "Gift of the Spirit" Sunday, we will give thanks to God for our gifts of time, tithes, and talent.

We are a diverse group of believers who have continued to use our gifts in unity and to the glory of God. Therefore, we can recommit ourselves for unity, peace, justice and equality for all persons as God blesses us together.

The Central Massachusetts District of the New England Conference UMC

Invites us 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:

Saturday, June 1, 2019 at 3:00 PM

Leominster UMC, 77 Hall Street, Leominster, MA

Note: All gifts, in his honor, can be sent to Central MA District, 53 Birchwood Drive, Holden, MA 01520. Please note JFON on the memo line. We hope to see all our leaders present. *Note:* We need a count by Thursday, May 23. Please call Pastor Alecia or email her if you will be attending. Thanks.

District Superintendent for Central Massachusetts (Our District)

With thanksgiving and gratitude we say farewell to Rev. Rene Perez who has graciously served as our District Superintendent for many years. By his leadership, our district has been the "Movers & Shakers." and by his calm presence and prayers, lives have been touched in our district and beyond.

As he leaves to continue God's work, we welcome Rev. Megan A. Stowe as our new District Superintendent effective July 1. She comes with a pastoral and passionate heart and with a new song. Hence, today and every day, we sing praises to God for those who continue to serve this great connection; the New England Conference UMC.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

We will resume on May 5 at 9:15 a.m., with the Book of Genesis. If you believe, like John Wesley, to continue to learn and live in a faithful community with others, come; bring your Bible and your heart.

Bible Study is held Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

We are studying the Book of Genesis.

May 5	Esau and Jacob
May 12	Jacob and Laban
May 19	Jacob in Canaan
May 26	Joseph's Journey to Egypt

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS MONTH

For continuous spiritual growth, meditation, and reflection please read the following scripture passages:

May 5	Psalm 30	John 21:1-17
May 12	Proverbs 31:10-31	John 10: 22-30
May 19	Acts 11:1-18	John 13:31-35
May 26	Psalm 67	John 14: 23-39

Worship Team

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices" and that is exactly what we did at Fisk on Easter Sunday! What a wonderful Lenten season we just experienced!

As we continue in the Easter season, you are invited to a Confirmation Service on May 5 at 10:30 a.m. Four of our youth, having completed preparation to be confirmed, will declare their belief in Jesus Christ and their desire to be members of Fisk United Methodist Church. The youth are Sarah F., Rose C., Sebron R., and Nick J. Following the service will be a reception in Whipple Hall.

Sunday, May 19 is the new Adaptive Worship Service at 4:30 p.m.

On May 12, we will celebrate Mother's Day, and all the women in our church, with a small gift.

Looking forward, June 9 is Pentecost Sunday, 50 days after Easter and the birthday of the church. Come and be with us for all of these occasions.



Easter sunrise service and pancake breakfast.

Evangelism Team

The Evangelism Team at Fisk does not just spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We witness to our faith by how we live out our lives in community. One of the things we do is to plan and organize community fellowship by hosting dinners for all persons. During these dinners people are connected to others and lives are touched.

If you have never attended one of these events but would like to connect with us, remember to leave a prayer request on our prayer wall or in our Prayer box. When you do, we stay connected through prayers. And as we stay connected, may God continue to bless all of us together.

Christian Education

Join us & invite your friends!
Fisk's VBS ADVENTURE

TO MARS AND BEYOND!

**We'll have games, songs, learning,
crafts and fun!**
**Invite everyone to join the
VBS adventure too!**

June 24 to June 28, 2019
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ages 4 – 11 No Cost



Vacation Bible School at Fisk Church

106 Walnut St. Natick

Online registration available at 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.

People of all ages can attend – there are plenty of scholarships for first time attendees and youth. Time is spent at group study session, worship, plenary topic session, fellowship activities and personal reflection time and shared meals.

For those adults attending with their youth and children there is also another study choice – one about the history and work of United Methodist Women celebrating our 150 years in Mission and advocacy.

Interested? Talk to one of these women who have attended before: Terry Ames, Barb Beekman, Susan Carney, Marcia Hoyt, Sherry Culver, and Winnie Sinclair.

Ask Sherry Culver for a registration form and youth scholarship form. sherrycd@comcast.net

More details can be found on the UMW bulletin board.

Ministry of Caring

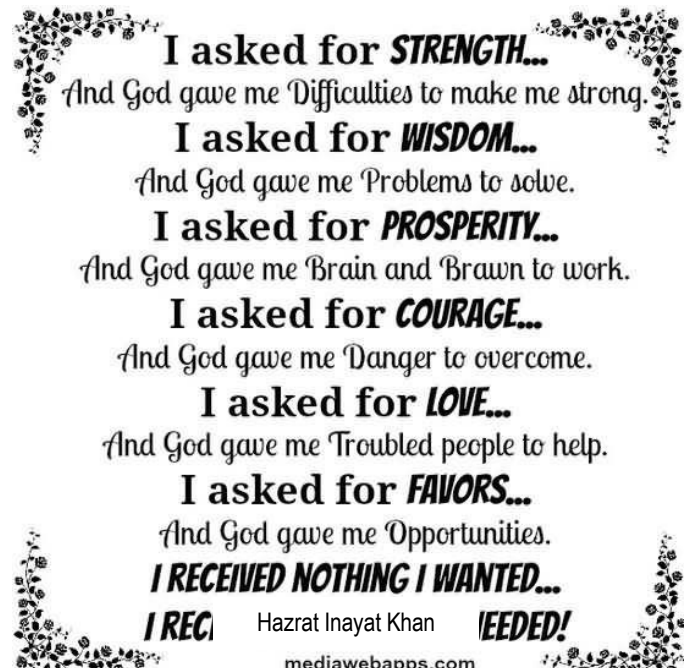
We, at Fisk UMC care, about all persons and are always present with those who need us. One way we do this important connectional outreach is to host monthly worship services at Whitney Place and at the Eliot House in Natick, MA.

The joy that is experienced is one that cannot be explained. But it is one that comes from God and it lives within hearts.

We are organizing Fisk's Prayer Chain for June, July, and August. Would you like to be a part of this prayer chain? Our prayer chain becomes a link with the healing power of prayer! When we have a relationship with God, he is there for us to go to at any time of the day or night. *"Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication through thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God."* Phillipians 4:6-7 Please consider joining our prayer team this summer! Please contact Marilyn Donnelly or Debi Henry for more information

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

Food for Thought



Finance & Stewardship

"We Are Fisk" the faithful and committed stewards. We devote our time, tithes and talent where God wants them and we do so with others.

As we work together for the common good and to the glory of God, we are strengthened for all ministries and missions. We are thankful for each of you and continue to pray that we will stay on the path that makes us responsible and accountable stewards.

Thank you to our wonderful church family, friends, and visitors for sharing in ministry and mission. We are thankful for all you have done. May each of you be blessed. "We are Fisk".

United Methodist Men

Geoffrey Del Sesto, President

Join us! All men and older teen boys are welcome and encouraged to come along. We meet often to go out to eat for fellowship and sample a variety of food and restaurant choices. Meet us on Tuesday, May 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the Dolphin Restaurant in downtown Natick.

Our "service project" this month is to assist with the Yard Sale. The most useful times to be present are Saturday, May 11 at 7:45 a.m. (to help move items outside) and again at 11:15 a.m. to break down and pack up what is left). We are done and gone by 12:45 if enough of us help.

See Geoff or Gary for more details.

Local & Global Missions



**HONDURAS – HAITI –SERBIA – PUERTO RICO -
SYRIA and the UNITED STATES!**

The CWS Blanket Program is one of the many ways Church World Service shares in a hope-filled tomorrow. Your support truly makes a difference in the lives of children and families the world over.

What a wonderful way to tell your mother, aunt, grandmother, or mother-in-law that you love them...a blanket of warmth for a victim of a natural disaster or being homeless. Last year 174,000 blankets were distributed.

Sunday May 5th and the 12th we will have a variety of cards available for you. Make a donation of \$10 for each card and a BLANKET will be given in your name.

We also have some cards that designate the funds go to the Maine United Methodist Economic Ministry.

Let's Blanket the World with Love.

ON-GOING MISSION PROGRAMS

- Natick Food Pantry—bring non-perishable foods to Fisk at any time. There is a wooden box outside the office.
- United Methodist Economic Ministry in Salem Maine - good, clean used clothing can be left in the *other* wood box outside the office.
- Health Kits – UMCOR Health Kits are assembled each year, all during the year. The list is in the Literature rack and the container is in the Parlor. Our annual goal is 100. Can you help?
- Aluminum Pull Tabs form canned foods and beverage cans – the collection container is in the kitchen. These tabs help Shriner's Hospitals do their important work to keep their services available to all.
- Volunteer at the Pantry
- Interested in a Mission Work Team?
- Christmas is coming! July and August we collect NEW toys and gifts...more information next month.

Missions Committee-Janis Cail, Susan Carney, Mary Greenwood, Janis Townsend, and Marcia Hoyt

JFON - Justice For Our Neighbors

THANK YOU, for the nickels and dimes ...and quarters and bills you deposited into the designated 2-Liter bottles. We collected \$135.00. This will help pay the expenses of the local JFON office as they help immigrants work through the legal system, resulting in a better quality of life for their families.

Missions Committee-Janis Cail, Susan Carney, Mary Greenwood, Janis Townsend, and Marcia Hoyt



United Methodist Women

Susan Carney, President

As United Methodist Women we support women, children, and youth. We generally have three major fundraisers throughout the year (2 Yard Sales and the Annual Fair in November).

YARD SALE ... and BAKE SALE

Saturday, May 11, 8:30 to 12 noon

CLEAN OUT your garage, cellar, or wherever you store your "stuff".

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday someone will usually be at the "red doors" from 1-2 pm. Friday after 6pm.

Monday and Tuesday--you will need to bring donations in the sanctuary entrance door and carry them to the TODDLER ROOM between 9 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Toys ~ bikes ~ kitchen items ~ all types of books
tools ~ games ~ puzzles ~ pots & pans ~ baskets
small furniture ~ vases ~ holiday items ~ plant
cuttings or starter plants ~ just about anything
you are ready to pass on/recycle

We could use you HELP also...especially on Saturday from 8 a.m.-12 noon.

SPRING BAKE SALE—bake for us and/or buy! Buy a treat for Mother's Day! ...or just something you will enjoy! The Hannah Circle is "in charge" of the Bake Sale.

All monies go to local and national missions!

Sponsored by United Methodist Women

Questions? - Terry Ames or Barbara Beekman

UMW has three opportunities for you to meet with a smaller group of women in a CIRCLE.

- ✓ Hannah Circle meets on the 2nd Tuesday at noon
- ✓ Susanna Circle meets the 2nd Wednesday in the evening
- ✓ Joyful Joanna Circle meets on the 2nd Thursday in the evening

You are welcome to visit or join any one of these groups. Call Susan Carney or Janis Cail for more details.



SAVE these DATES

JUNE--Trip to Tower Hill Gardens on June 11. Mark that date also. More information to come. See Debi Henry.

JULY--MISSION U A wonderful learning and fellowship time held at Southern NH University July 26-28. See Sherry Culver.

AUGUST--A Women's Retreat is being planned for August 9-11. Mark down the days and plan to join us in Maine at Long Lake. More details coming. See Barbara Beekman or Susan Carney.

UMW Hannah Circle

The Hannah's will meet on Tuesday, May 14, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Ogle Parlor. Our hostesses for this meeting are Nancy Parece and Winnie Sinclair. Pastor Alecia will be sharing a devotion with us. All women are invited to come, bring your lunch - (sandwich or salad), dessert and beverages will be provided. Today is the day that we receive our church report cards! How have we done - how has Fisk done since September? Come and receive your grades! Contact Nancy Parece or Nancy Swan if you can join us!

Youth News

For youth and their friends in Grades 6—12

Youth Group meets on the first Friday every month, and on the third Sunday following service. 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, May 3, 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, May 19, 12:00 PM

Youth Fellowship Leaders:

Bingxin Xu & Tian Zhang, fiskyouth@gmail.com

If you have an idea for a youth program or wish to volunteer, contact Tian, Bingxin or Sherry Culver at sherrycd@comcast.net

Is UMC Camp a part of your youth's summer activities?



Our youth have many opportunities to attend summer camp this summer. The New England Conference is blessed with 3 possible 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

May Worship Participants			
May	Liturgists	May	Acolytes
5	Susan Carney	5	Dwayne
12	Karen Gallagher	12	Sarita
19	Amy Bruns	19	Danny
26	Susan Carney	26	Nick
May	Cross Bearer	May	Psalter
All	Rose C.	19	Sarah F.
May	Communion		
5	Debbie Friscino & Susan Carney		

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<p>June Messenger Deadline</p> <p>Friday, May 24</p> <p>9:00 a.m.</p>
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MAY 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:00 AM Worship Choir Reh. 9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE - followed by Time of Fellowship 11:45 AM Children's Choir Reh.	29 Sr. Ctr. using parking lot 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM A Cappella Rehearsal	30	1 10:00 AM Music Lessons (Noel) 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl	2	3 6:30 PM Youth and Family Night 7:00 PM A Capella Reh.	4 UMW Spring District Meeting 4:00 PM A Capella Set Up, Concert & Reception
5 Confirmation Sunday 9:00 AM Worship Choir Reh. 9:15 AM Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE - followed by Time of Fellowship 11:45 AM Children's Choir Reh. 4:00 PM Girl Scouts	6 6:00 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Trustee meeting	7	8 10:00 AM Music Lessons (Noel) 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM Worship Team Meeting	9	10 7:00 PM Susanna Circle Yard Sale Set Up	11  8:30 AM Fisk Yard Sale & Bake Sale
12 9:00 AM Worship Choir Reh. 9:15 AM Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE - followed by Time of Fellowship 11:45 AM Children's Choir Reh. 11:45 AM Evangelism	13 7:00 PM FACE Board 7:00 PM Finance Comm.	14 11:30 AM Hannah Circle	15 10:00 AM Music Lessons (Noel) 10:00 AM NWC-Board 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl	16	17	18 Sr. Ctr. using parking lot 11:00 AM Music & Movement 1:30 PM Girl Scouts-62383 2:00 PM Holi Festival
19 9:00 AM Worship Choir Reh. 9:15 AM Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE - followed by Time of Fellowship 11:45 AM Children's Choir Reh. 12:00 PM Worship Team 12:00 PM Youth Group 4:30 PM Adaptive Worship	20 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	21 7:30 PM COM	22 10:00 AM Music Lessons (Noel) 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 7:30 PM Administration Board	23	24	25
26 9:00 AM Worship Choir Reh. 9:15 AM Bible Study/Sunday School 10:30 AM WORSHIP SERVICE - followed by Time of Fellowship 11:45 AM Children's Choir Reh.	27 4:00 PM UMW Exec. Board	28 7:00 PM SPRC	29 10:00 AM Music Lessons (Noel) 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl	30	31	1