

# The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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## November 2018

### Pastor's Note

The other morning as I looked out the window, I was amazed of how many things to be thankful for. Then, I looked in the mirror and scream, "Wow! Even this one is made in God's image! And then, I fell on my knees in humble adoration to a God who loves all of God's children in spite of whom they are, how they look, what they have done, where they came from and what they have been through.

In the midst of all that was going on in my heart and mind, it occurred to me that this month, we intentionally will give thanks. Or is it really the only month or time to give thanks? Well some persons may agree and others might not. But for most people, November is the time to restart and get ready with anticipation of giving and receiving those Christmas gifts. But if the truth is told and heard, each person has been, is and will continue to be blessed in so many ways other than at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Therefore, take a good look at yourself in a mirror and look around you. As you do these things, reflect on your life, all that you have and what has been given to you unmerited and undeserved. When you can truly do this, you will awaken to a new experience of giving thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day but as long as you live.

Give thanks, give a gift and participate in God's ministry and mission as if it were your last day!

*-Pastor Alecia*

### Scripture Readings for the Month of November

<b>Nov. 4</b>	Psalm 146:1-10	Mark 12: 28-34
<b>Nov. 11</b>	Psalm 127	Mark 10:38-44
<b>Nov. 18</b>	Hebrews 10:11-25	Mark 1: 1-8
<b>Nov. 25</b>	Revelation 1:4-8	John 18:33-37

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

*- Pastor Alecia*



### BIBLE STUDY ~ Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

This month we will complete our study on the book, "TREASURE", by Jacob Armstrong.

It is also the month we return our covenant (Pledge) cards to the Financial Secretary and the Finance Committee to start early planning for 2019. As we do, may God give us peace knowing that we are the cheerful givers that God has blessed and will continue to bless. Complete the study by attending on Sunday mornings at 9:15am and do not forget your Bible, your heart, your thoughts and your hands as you return those gifts.

November 4	"Don't Worry, Be Happy" <i>Matthew 6:27</i>
November 11	"A Different Perspective" <i>Matthew 6:28-30</i>
November 18	"God Knows What You Need" <i>Matthew 6:31-32</i>
November 25	"First & Foremost- Finding Treasure in God" <i>Matthew 6:21, 33-34</i>

### CHURCH CONFERENCE

**Tuesday, December 18 from 7-8 pm**

**All persons are invited.** Questions to start thinking about for our church conference on Tuesday, December 18 are below:

Note: SPRC will meet at 6pm with the District Superintendent, Rev. Rene Perez.

1. What are your hopes and dreams for the year(s) to come?
2. In what ways can we pray for and seek God's Way in the year(s) to come?
3. What is our prayer for the greater UMC's Way Forward?
4. What do we give thanks for?
5. What struggles and challenges do we pray about?
6. How has God's Way closed behind/before the congregation?

**REMINDER: reports must be submitted to the church office no later than November 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Coming soon: Advent Bible Study**

Book: **Preparing the Way; A study for Advent & Christmas** by Martha Rowlett  
Please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15am or  
Thursday evenings from 7-8pm.  
Come, let us prepare the way together.

### **Worship Team**

***Come Ye Thankful People Come***

***Raise the Song of Harvest Home***

This hymn, one of my favorites, ushers us into November, a time of Stewardship and Thanksgiving. Some highlights of the month are the following:

- 11/4     Communion**  
All Saints Day (observed)
- 11/11   Consecration Sunday**  
Bring your pledge card today
- 11/18   Thanksgiving Sunday**  
Baptism of Anton Xu
- 11/25   Christ the King Sunday**  
Reception of New Members

***Come to God's own Temple, Come***

***Raise the Song of Harvest Home***

*The Worship Team of Fisk United Methodist Church  
wishes everyone a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.*

### **Fisk Welcomes New Members**

On Sunday, November 25, we will officially welcome Mike & Carolyn Disciullo into full fellowship with thanksgiving for their commitment to participate in ministry and mission by their prayers, presence, gifts and service.

### **SENSORY Worship Service & Ministry - Coming Soon!**

Fisk will host a new worship service and ministry during each month for those persons that need our special attention and care. Jennifer French has graciously accepted to lead this effort with Deb Friscino, Susan Carney, and Diane French as Ex-officio. Until then, please keep them in prayers as God reveals what is needed and how we can minister.

### **Community Connections**

#### **Residents' Worship Service**

Each month, a worship service is held for residents of Whitney Place (First Tuesday at 1:30pm) and the Eliot House (second Wednesday at 2:00pm) by Pastor Alecia.

Thank you for your gifts that make it possible for Pastor Alecia to be present with us and all of our neighbors; those who are homebound, those in nursing homes, those who are ill, those who grieve and those who are in need.

### **Fisk Music Ministry**

### **Music/Choir Director/Church Organist Job Opportunity**

We are currently accepting letters of interest and resumes for the position of Music Minister. You would be our Choir Director/Church Organist to start in January 2019. The Music/Choir Director/Organist position is held by one person. Fisk has an average weekly attendance of 55-65 people with a Chancel Choir comprised of 10-12 people. A more detailed job description can be found on our website.

***Please mail a letter of interest and resume with references to:***

Senior Pastor/Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC)  
Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church  
106 Walnut Street, Natick, MA 01760  
Telephone: 508-653-1674  
E-mail: [fiskoffice@fiskumc.org](mailto:fiskoffice@fiskumc.org)

### **Remodel of the Choir Room**



Please visit this room and see what our Trustees can and will do when we share our gifts of time, talent and tithes. This project was lead by Deborah H., a member of the committee with as always, faithful servants who made this happening through the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Thank you Faithful servants with recognition and appreciation to the family of our late brother and choir member, James Phillips, who made a generous donation in his memory. God bless each of you as James continues to rest in eternal peace!

### **Evangelism**

Evangelism has a new project underway this fall. In September a Community Prayer Box was installed on the left side of the driveway as you enter the church parking lot.



The idea grew out of the success of our Prayer Wall at Natick Days and in our church to provide individuals this opportunity to leave a prayer anonymously if they so choose. Evangelism is working on creating better signage and writing materials which will be added in coming weeks. Please visit the Community Prayer Box or look as you go by and remember to inform your friends, neighbors and people in the community that they may leave a prayer request and it will be lifted up in prayer by our church members.

Thank you to everyone that came out for the Pasta and Karaoke dinner on Saturday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. We enjoyed a variety of delicious pasta as well as yummy desserts, garlic bread and salad. We were able to spend some time together in fellowship with our church congregation and community guests. Thanks for all the hard work and helping hands that volunteered for this event!!



Fisk is a 2018-19 Season supporter of the Metrowest Symphony Orchestra. An ad for our church will be in program booklets at concerts. The MSO began in 1973 in Framingham. Through name and organizational changes through the years, one core piece remains. The orchestra's musicians are residents of the Metrowest community and they come from all walks of life – to professional players to dedicated amateurs who play for their love of music.

A holiday concert with the Natick High School Chorus will be held on Sunday, December 16, 2 p.m. at Natick High School. Tickets for this concert are available through the MSO's website at

<http://www.metrowestsymphony.org/current-season>

### **Natick High School Drama presents Fiddler on the Roof**

*Fisk is proud to support the Cast and Crew!*

Friday & Saturday, 11/23 & 11/24  
at 7:30 p.m.

Friday, 11/30 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, 12/1 at 3 p.m.



Tickets are reserved seating and can be purchased at

<https://natickhighfiddler.brownpapertickets.com/>

For more information, please contact Elisa Currie.

### **Wellesley Theatre Project presents A Midsummer Night's Dream**

The Wellesley Theatre Project (WTP) empowers youth with life skills learned through performance art education. This production will be held at the Wellesley Theatre Project Auditorium at the Wellesley Community Center, 295 Washington St., Wellesley, November 16 at 7 p.m., Saturday, 11/18 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m., and on Sunday, 11/18 at 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. For tickets:

<https://www.tix.com/event.aspx?eventcode=1097664>

For more information, please contact Jennifer French.



Next month, December 16-23, we will host clients of **Family Promise** with Wayland Community UMC, First United Methodist Church and Wesley UMC of Framingham, MA. If you can assist in any way, please contact Deb Friscino or Pastor Alecia.

- To prepare a bed or a room
- To cook or serve a meal.
- To sleep over or clean up

### **Calling All Characters...to tell "The Story"!**

*First*, mark your calendars for  
**Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> for**

***The Christmas Story...Live on the Lawn!***

*Second*, sign up now to participate in this meaningful, annual event.

Who will *you* be this Advent season? We need wise ones and angels, shepherds and townspeople, speakers and singers. Costumes are provided and there are no lines to memorize.



*All* are called to be blessed as we share this holy story for our Fisk family and our wider community.

### **Altar Guild**

The altar flowers in October included flowers in celebration. Michael and Amy Bruns gave flowers on the altar on October 14 celebrating their daughter Rachel's wedding and marriage to Alex Johnston in Maryland. On October 28, SPRC gave flowers on the altar in honor of Pastor Alecia, and in celebration of Minister Appreciation Month. If you would like to reserve a flower arrangement for a particular Sunday in November or December – for a celebration, occasion, or in memory of someone you loved, please print your name legibly on the date.



## Country Fair

November 10, 2018

**Cookies & cookies! Cakes! Breads! PIES! Fudge! Bars! and what else can you think of?** Plan your baking for the FAIR. We need lots of things to sell. We will have prepared salads etc. "to go."

We have a **Country Store** featuring apples, pickles, wheels of cheddar cheese and the 'scent of Maine' from the western mountains of Maine—and of course, FREE popcorn!

We have added an **Accessory Room**. **What is that?** We have some gently used and/or new handbags, scarves etc. for you! Don't forget to go through your jewelry...we love to sell your used treasures. Come and find some great bargains.

**Ornaments, decorations, candles and crafts** for the fall and winter seasons. Look for the "little hats!"



**Good as New Room**—new space for this ever popular tables of "new or Good as New" purchases. Find a gift...something you have been looking for...or a surprise!

**Luncheon**---the now famous "Lois' Lobster Roll", homemade soups, Mac 'n Cheese and hotdogs. Enjoy lunch and then buy something to take home for dinner.

**Outside Vendors**—have reserved tables to sell their specialties. Wooden Signs, soaps, aprons and more.

**Silent Auction**—Gift cards, very special items...watch the bidding! *Going, Going, Gone!*

**Santa is coming!** 11am-12:30pm.  
*Bring your camera!*



**Bring your friends and relatives to shop and have lunch while supporting missions—local and international.**

Questions... Susan Carney 508-655-6148 or  
Terry Ames 508-653-1462

### Mission Possible by Marcia Hoyt

This is the time when we especially concentrate on THANKFULNESS and GRATEFULNESS. Fisk offers so many opportunities for giving and sharing. The Laity reflections from our October 21<sup>st</sup> worship stressed using our TIME, TALENTS, and TREASURES to grow Christ's kingdom...through our church.

**November 4<sup>th</sup>** —"Sign a Card" for a Veteran. At Coffee Hour we will have cards available for you to write a message and sign a card of THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE. These will be brought to the VA Hospital for distribution to our vets.



**November 11<sup>th</sup>** —Thanksgiving! We will distribute bags to each of you for your non-perishable foods for the Natick Food Pantry. Please fill it with donations for the shelves of the Pantry. Crackers, granola bars, Rice-a-Roni, Hamburger Helper, jelly, coffee, juice, cereal—these are some of the staples needed.



**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** —Bring deodorant, shampoo, hand cream, shaving cream, any personal care products, plus small gifts — such as note cards, small crossword puzzle books, combs etc. All must fit into white tube socks. So we need donations of the socks too. We will stuff socks with their mates to make a pair plus a few of the gift items and they will be delivered to a Shelter for Christmas.



The **STUFFING PARTY** will be **December 9<sup>th</sup>**.

A basket for donations will be available at Coffee Hour on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Any day**—find a way to help or support an organization or person in need. There are so many ways to help and as we show our **thankfulness**, let us Praise God for all that we have for our families.

Reach out to a neighbor! Help a co-worker! Visit someone you have not seen for a while. Offer a ride to someone. Bake bread for someone living alone.

Happy Thanksgiving—*The Mission Committee*



### UMW Hannah Circle

On Tuesday, November 13, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the Hannah's will hold their monthly meeting. "Gratitude is a continual celebration of life." All women are invited to bring their lunch (sandwich or salad), **and** a slice/piece/part of a dessert that will be exchanged. Beverages will be provided. A part of the November meeting will include the assembly of health kits (please contact Winnie Sinclair) and assembly of a family Thanksgiving basket (please contact Debi Henry). Please let one of our "Nancy's" know if you can attend. (Nancy Parece, or Nancy Swan)



## Stewardship 2018-2019

***"Stewardship is not about raising money; it's about raising Christians who willingly trust God." - unknown***

Fisk UMC is blessed by your gifts of tithes, time and talent. Each year we honor the ways in which we continue to give back to God through our ministry and mission work. We are intentional about our thanksgiving for all God has done and continues to do for us. That is why we always sing, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" (UMH 95).

For the next few weeks, we will pray about our giving, make a prayerful pledge and start an early thanksgiving of praises for our gifts. We will share our accomplishments, our joy, our concerns and conclude with a celebration of our "Covenant Giving" on Sunday, November 11 with a spirit-filled worship service and a luncheon after church. Hence, during these few weeks, we would like you to focus on prayers, faithful and continuous stewardship as the Holy Spirit leads us in rethinking the estimates of our giving for 2019.

Though we have committed ourselves to support the work of Jesus Christ, through ministry and missions at Fisk, this year and the years ahead will be challenging. Hence, we will all need to be more intentional with our giving as we take a leap of faith and climb one, two or more steps. As we do, it is our prayer that God will multiply our gifts, widen our circle and increase our territory to create a harvest that will need more workers. Thank you!

### **Bring a Rake Bring a Broom it's time to clean-up the grounds and the rooms!**

The Trustees need people to help with their fall cleaning of several rooms in the church and to spruce up the grounds.

Please join the team on **November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9 a.m.-- 12:00 p.m.** to help get Fisk in tip top shape for everyone that will be coming to the upcoming Church Fall Fair on November 10th.

Everyone is invited and welcome. Bring some co-workers, some rags, cleaning stuff and snacks to share. Most of all dress comfortably and be ready to make God's house as clean as your heart. Thank you!



## Ministry of Caring

The Ministry of Caring has continued to reach out this month to our shut-ins and those with individual needs through correspondence, phone calls, and some visits. Our church has reached out beyond our area to victims of Hurricane Michael, and floods in the Carolinas and Virginia. Many are reached spiritually through the Prayer Wall, and recent addition of the Prayer Mailbox. There is nothing as great as the power of answered prayer. We can all spread the love of God by saying Hello and Welcome to a visitor to Fisk on Sunday, or someone we don't know. That gesture can give you such a warm feeling, and you could make a new friend! Someone did that for me on my first visit and it was so special I came back the next week. Blessings to all of you, wherever your heart leads you. *Pat Price and Marilyn Donnelly, MOC Co-Chairs*

## Youth News

For youth and their friends in Grades 6—12

### **Youth Fellowship Leaders:**

Bingxin Xu      [newacexbx@gmail.com](mailto:newacexbx@gmail.com)  
Tian Zhang      [zhangtian96@gmail.com](mailto:zhangtian96@gmail.com)

**Youth Group** meetings are held following Sunday services (usually twice a month) and there will be special activities periodically for all youth and families. Friends are always welcome to attend MYF meetings and events. Please check out

<http://www.fiskumc.org/youth-and-children.html>  
to view pictures and schedule updates.

### **Everyone is invited!**

**Friday, November 8**  
**6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**



- Who :** Youth and Families of Fisk - all ages.
- Food :** Simple dinner provided – we ask for volunteers to bring dessert, salad or vegetables.
- Activity :** Games, fellowship, and informal fun members of the family.

Please let Tian or Bingxin know if you plan to attend.

Next monthly meetings at Fisk Church  
MYF meetings at 12:00 p.m.  
Nov. 11 and Nov. 30

**December Messenger Deadline**  
**9AM - Monday, November 26**



### MUSIC & MOVEMENT TIME

FOR KIDS AGES 1 TO 7

**Saturday – November 3**

**Friends, Family, Food & Football**

**11 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

Young children and their parents and/or grandparents are invited to our **FREE** Music and Movement class.

For more information:

Please contact/email Deborah Hernandez

out of "Camp Complaining," N = **No** weapon that is known, O = **On** earth can yield the power, P = **Praise** can do alone! Q = **Quit** looking at the future, R = **Redeem** the time at hand, S = **Start** every day with worship, T = **To** thank is a command. U = **Until** we see God coming, V = **Victorious** in the sky, W = **We'll** run the race with gratitude, X = **X**alting God's Most High! Y = **Yes** there will be some good times, and yes some will be bad - but, Z = **Zion** waits in glory....  
where none are ever bad!  
(Author Unknown)

### UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY!

United Methodist Student Day, one of the church-wide Special Sundays, is Sunday, November 25. Every year The United Methodist Church supports many students' education through gifts to United Methodist Student Day offering. The Special Sunday provides scholarships and loans for students attending United Methodist-related and other accredited colleges and universities.



Daylight Savings ends on Sunday, November 4. Remember to set your clocks back 1 hour on Saturday night.

### The Thanksgiving Alphabet:

A = **Although** things are not perfect, B = **Because** of trial or pain, C = **Continue** in Thanksgiving, D = **Do not begin** to blame. E = **Even** when the times are hard, F = **Fierce** winds are bound to blow, G = **God** is forever able, H = **Hold** on to what you know. I = **Imagine** life without God's love, J = **Joy** would cease to be, K = **Keep** thanking God for all the things, L = **Love** imparts to thee. M = **Move**

### November Worship Participants

Nov	Liturgists	Nov	Ushers
4	Barbara Beekman	4	Dwayne
11	Aljani Stanley	11	Billingsley
18	Sherry Culver	18	&
25	Crystal Mayo	25	Friends
Nov	Greeters	Nov	Fellowship
4	Mike	4	
11	Bruns	11	
18	&	18	Gary & Marcia Hoyt
25	Friends	25	
Nov	Acolytes	Nov	Cross Bearer
4	Nick J	4	Rose
11	Danny J	11	Currie
18	Sarita H	18	all
25	Kateri G/Tiffany S	25	Sundays
Nov	Communion	4	Janis & Thom Townsend