

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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November 2019

November Worship Highlights

Pastor's Note

**Happy November! Let us,
"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good" (Psalm 136:1).**

Dear sisters and brothers, we have come a long way and there is much to be thankful for. Though there are still things that are not going as we think they should, we can still give thanks to God and continue to pray. Hence for this month, let us set aside our differences, the thoughts of preparing for Christmas and all the things we think we should and will be doing. Let us just focus on giving thanks to God; because giving thanks is spiritual and uplifting.

As we give thanks, remember that though sometimes the world is filled with chaos, conflicts, and confusion, God promised never to leave us. God is always present during the good and not-so good times. All we have to do is to remain faithful in the God of all possibilities.

This month and the months ahead, as we remain faithful, let us never give up on being thankful for all God has done, is doing and will do in our lives, our families, our communities and the world.

In view of this and as "Thanksgiving Day" approaches, I want you all to know that I am thankful to God for each of you. I am joyful to be serving along side each of you because I believe that our service together will lead to an overflow of blessing for more lives to be touched. For this, let us be thankful and hopeful.

Until final victory is won, may the grace and peace of our God be with each of you and your families!

-Pastor Alecia

International Day of Prayer

Is Sunday, November 3rd- Let us pray for those in our families, our churches, our communities and the world. And let us never forget to, "Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering." (Hebrews 13:3). Hence, on this day and all the days ahead, leave a prayer in Fisk Prayer Box on the front lawn and on the Fisk Prayer Wall.

UM Special Sunday—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. Thanks for your sharing.

**Adaptive Worship—Time for Spirited Kids
Sunday, November 17 at 4:30 p.m.**

Coming Soon: Advent & Advent Bible Study

Advent starts with the first Sunday of December. On December 1st, we will start preparing our hearts, minds and hands for the coming of the Christ child. During this time, we will walk the journey together by studying and viewing a DVD on "Almost Christmas". As we do, we are encouraged to follow Jesus Christ, experience Advent in a new way and make the commitment to connect Peace, Hope, Love, and Joy into our lives.

New England Justice for Our Neighbors

(NE-JFON) is part of a nationwide faith-driven ministry that welcomes immigrants into our churches and communities by providing free, high-quality immigration and legal services, education, and advocacy. To support this mission, there will be a dinner on Saturday, November 2nd at St John's Korean UMC, 2600 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA. If you cannot make the dinner (seats are all sold out) you can make a donation to Fisk UMC; memo section - put JFON). This donation will help to support this mission of the New England chapter of the United Methodist Church. Thanks for sharing with others.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS MONTH

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

Nov. 5	Ephesians 1:11-23	Luke 6: 20-31
Nov. 10	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Luke 20: 27-38
Nov. 17	Consecration Sunday	
Nov. 24	Philippians 4:4-9	John 6: 25-35

Family Promise—Keep the Promise 2019

**November 2nd, 6-10:00 p.m. Sheraton Framingham
Hotel—Conference Center**

Enjoy food tastings from area restaurants, an extensive silent and live auction. Please join them if you can. Family Promise continues to assist local families as they transition to independent living.

**3rd Annual Singing in Solidarity with our
Immigrant Neighbors**

When: Sunday November 17, 4:00 - 6:00 PM
**Where: Greater Framingham Community Church,
44 Franklin St. Framingham**

Music from many faiths and cultures. The event features local musicians and performers who are joining together for a celebration of community and solidarity with our Metrowest neighbors.

Stewardship

“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).

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 joys, our concerns, and conclude with a celebration of our “Covenant Giving” on Sunday, November 17 with a spirit-filled worship service, a guest speaker, Reverend David Abbott, and a luncheon after church.

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 2020.

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!

Bishop's Day in our District (Central Massachusetts)

When: Saturday, November 9, 2019

Time: 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Where: Franklin UMC

82 W Central St, Franklin, MA 02038.

Note: All members of all congregations are invited

Ministry of Caring

How is your gratitude attitude? Is there room at your Thanksgiving table for one more? Our Thanksgiving table does not just have to be on a holiday. Reaching out, or making a visit “just because” can add a blessing to a person’s day. Happy Thanksgiving! May you & your friends & family be blessed. **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 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 = Xalting 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)



To Debi Henry! Fisk UMC received a grant of \$300 from the United Methodist Communications’ 2019 Unwrap Christmas event campaign, Nashville, Tennessee. It is one to help local churches offer meaningful places for people to connect with one another throughout the Advent season. This first grant is one for our annual “Christmas Story....Live on the Lawn that has been attended by so many persons over the years, with thanks to all those who continue to serve.

Our next staging is Saturday, December 14 at 4:30 p.m., followed by refreshments, fellowship, and the Christmas hymn-sing. You do not want to miss this amazing, life-giving and life-restoring event. COME!

**Calling All Aspiring Actors...
...to tell “The Story”!**

First, mark your calendars for
Saturday, December 14th 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.



Thank you & Farewell

To Rev. Vicky Guest -The shepherd-leader of the First Congregational Church in Natick, Massachusetts.

Thanks Rev. Vicky for your ministry and presence with us. Thank you for opening hearts and minds to the word of God and helping to feed the community. We wish you joy and blessing on your journey of retirement. And may God surround you and your family with love, the presence of Jesus Christ, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit this day and all the days ahead.

Pastor Alecia states, "God bonded us together for a season; a time for us to work together for the advancement of God's kingdom on earth in Natick". Thank You!

Cookie Walk – Cookie for a Can!



Come to the Cookie Walk at the Country Fair and bring a canned good, give it to one of us, and we will give you a free cookie! (3 cans limit per person) Canned goods will be distributed to area food pantries.

At the Cookie Walk, you can choose your own custom cookie assortment! Traditional favorites & fancy chef masterpieces will be available!

See you at the Country Fair!

UMW Hannah Circle Cookie Coordinators

Debi Henry, Judy Maloney, Barbara Miller, Diane O'Loughlin, Nancy Parece, Winnie Sinclair, Nancy Swan, and Florence Young.

Finance

FISK is a Vibrant Community of Christians

Our ministries are full of **worship, caring, education, music, and fellowship.**

Our Fisk family **grows together, works together, laughs together, and at times, cries together.**

Our community is fueled by your **love, friendship, energy, compassion, nurturing, and prayers.**

And it is also **fueled by your pledge.**

Your weekly **giving helps pay the staff, warms the building, and keeps the lights on. But most of all, your giving enables Fisk's local and global ministries.**

It's time again to consider how much you will pledge for next year. This is not so much a plea for you to give as much as you can, but rather a request for a good faith *estimate* of what you will give. We use these estimates to make our budget for the next year.

If you did not pledge last year, please consider filling out a pledge card this year. Unpledged giving is a welcome blessing, but pledges help our planning.

If you have pledged, prayerfully consider the possibility of an increase for 2020.

Your pledge gives Fisk the foundation on which to build next year's budget and support our vibrant community.

The Finance Committee is grateful to the Fisk community for its generous support.

Blessings.

The Finance Committee

The UMW Hannah Circle

The UMW Hannah Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 12th at 11:30 a.m. in Ogle Parlor and Room 9. All women are invited to bring a salad/sandwich for lunch, and beverages & dessert will be provided. It will be a whistling while we work & singing a happy hymn Hannah Circle day! The Country Fair will be four days away! Winnie Sinclair will "show us how it is done" as she coordinates an angel ornament project, and Diane O'Loughlin is coordinating the mixing and filling of jars of our famous Hannah Hot Chocolate – this year it is the original and sugar-free mix that will be available at the Country Fair. For more information, or to let us know that you can join us, please contact Nancy Parece or Nancy Swan.



Local & Global Missions

The MISSIONS COMMITTEE thanks all who came to hear Dr. Belinda Forbes speak last month. Belinda is one of the

missionaries Fisk supports through the General Board of Global Ministries. If you ever desire to write her an email or note, her address follows. Giving to support this missionary work can go into the offering at any time...Memo-Belinda Forbes

Apartado C-244
20502 Managua
Nicaragua
bforbes@micmissions.org

THANKSGIVING is upon us there are many options for your extra giving. World Thank Offering containers (in the Parlor) or stickers (for your container) are on the bulletin board by the Nursery...remember how thankful and grateful you are for SHELTER, FOOD and CLOTHING. Give your change for a month. Give 25 cents for every window in your house or apartment. How many pairs of shoes do you have? -50 cents a pair. Give a dollar for every meal you ate out or got take-out. Bring food for the Natick Food Pantry. These are just ways to remember how grateful and thankful we are for all of our blessings. Not everyone is this blessed.

NOVEMBER 3 there will be cards to sign at Coffee Hour for Veterans and they will be delivered before Veterans Day. Celebrate those who gave years of their life to defend our country and are either living in a Veterans Home or VA Hospital.

JFON - Justice for Our Neighbors

OUR MISSION DOLLARS AT WORK!



Although NE-JFON does occasionally send **teams of attorneys to the U.S.—Mexico border**, most of our work with asylum seekers happens right here in the United States. There are hundreds of asylum-seeking families living in our cities, towns, and communities who need our help.

The **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** has just announced a three-year, \$1.8 million pilot project to support asylum seekers in the U.S.

Church World Service, meanwhile, will help the asylum seekers with their day-to-day practical needs; housing, registering children for school, enrolling in language classes, and accessing various social service and community programs. We thank Amy B. for her volunteer work in Framingham teaching English as a second language.



Marcia Hoyt and the Missions Committee

United Methodist Women

This is the month—NOVEMBER—for our **Annual Fisk Country Fair**. It is one of the best days we all have for

fellowship, sharing lunch, seeing friends—all while earning money to support the missions of the UMW. All of you are included.

Mark the date! Plan to come! Bring a friend! Bake for our Food Table & cookies for the Cookie Walk Visit with Santa ...and Mrs. Claus. Purchase gifts and stocking-stuffers. Maple Syrup from Maine-to support UMEM.

We are looking for two things. Well.....maybe three.
Maybe you can help!

1. More outside vendors. Do you know someone who has a craft or other business that might want to rent a table? See Sherry Culver
2. Silent Auction. Gift Certificates, special gift items for this auction. Ask your hairdresser, or your favorite restaurant etc.
3. We have many copies of the flyer. Do you know a place to post one? There are some in the church office or ask Susan or Terry. Post one in your car window! Share on your social media. Help us spread the word.

Susan Carney-President Article by Marcia Hoyt

Fisk Country Fair **November 16 9:00am - 2:00pm** **Here at Fisk Church**

**Luncheon including lobster rolls
and homemade soups**

Holiday items and Ornaments

**Bake Table ~~ Craft Table ~~ Country
Store ~~ Free Popcorn ~~ maple syrup
from Maine ~~ Pickles ~~ Pies**

COOKIE WALK

Few special antiques

Jewelry—used and new

Silent Auction—many Gift Certificates

Good-as-New Table

Santa and Mrs. Claus will visit.

(call the church 508-653-1674)

Profits go to missions—locally and world wide



Youth News

For Fisk youth and their friends in Grades 6—12



Youth & Family Night
Come and bring a friend!
Friday, November 1, 2019,
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Enjoy dinner games, fellowship, food, and 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, November 17, 12:00 PM

Looking ahead

Special Youth Event, December 6

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 Fellowship Leaders:

If you wish to volunteer, contact Tian, Bingxin
 Bingxin Xu & Tian Zhang, fiskyouth@gmail.com
 or Sherry Culver at sherrycd@comcast.net



**Fisk youth
 sharing a pizza
 supper at
 Youth and
 Family Night
 in October.**

Wellesley Theatre Project presents Disney's Frozen Jr.

Disney's Frozen Jr. will be performed at Babson College's Sorenson Center for the Arts located at 19 Babson College Drive in Wellesley on December 13th at 5 p.m. & 8 p.m., and on December 14th & 15th at 2 p.m., and 5 p.m. The Wellesley Theatre Project (WTP) empowers youth with life skills learned through performance art education.

Tickets for this production are \$15 for adults, and \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets may be purchased online at <http://wellesleytheatreproject.org> in advance, or at the door for \$18 for adults and \$12 for students and seniors. For more information, please contact Scott, Jennifer or Sarah French.

Natick High School Drama presents Bright Star, the Musical



This production will be held at Natick High School on
 Saturday, November 30 @ 7:30 p.m.,
 Sunday, December 1 @ 7:30 p.m.
 Friday, December 6 @ 7:30 p.m., and
 Saturday, December 7th @ 3:00 p.m.

Tickets are available through Brown Paper Tickets at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4367704> for all shows. Adult tickets are \$12, and students and seniors are \$10. There is assigned seating. Fisk is proud to support the Cast and Crew! For more information, please contact Tom, Elisa, or Rose Currie.

November Celebrations

Congratulations

Sherry Culver was elected and installed as Vice President of the New England Conference United Methodist Women on Saturday, October 26th in Guilford, NH. As Vice President she "planned and orchestrated the entire day." We are proud to have her in this position. With this title comes great responsibility and Sherry handles it well. United Methodist Women is such a great part of any local church, but to be part of the Conference UMW is exciting and challenging.

As a United Methodist Woman, you are part of something very strong and influential. All 800,000 of us do make a difference in this world of hurting women, children and youth.

Sherry challenged us to *MOVE OUR FEET*...to do mission work. Congratulations, Sherry!

Dr. **Dorothy Wingfield Phillips** is our lay leader at Fisk. She majored in chemistry and was the first African America woman to receive an undergraduate degree from Vanderbilt University in 1967. Last month a portrait of her was unveiled as one of "Vanderbilt Trailblazers" to recognize individuals from various eras of the university's history who have broken barriers and made a positive impact both on the university and in society at large.



In view of this honor, her family at Fisk Memorial UMC gives God the glory for great things God has done, is doing and will do in her life as we remember her husband (James Edward Phillips) who shared her with us. CONGRATULATIONS!

Friscino-Hebble Wedding

Debbie & Dom Friscino are pleased to announce the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Elizabeth (Liz) to

Drew Hebble on Saturday, November 2, 2019. They are very blessed and excited to start their new lives together and we wish them much joy and blessings.

Congratulations and Blessings

To The First UMC of Milford as they celebrate the Church's 175th anniversary on November 3rd.

Gracias, 고맙습니다 and Thank you ...

To our volunteers for all of the individual tasks you did to help with the Installation Service and reception for Rev. Megan Stowe. Table setter-uppers, chairs arranged, food preparation, baked goods, punch makers, coffee servers, hostesses, table removers, chair removers, and general cleaner-uppers. Many hands make light work...so they say and I think they are correct. I am pleased with how things went and that could not have happened without each and every one of you. I think we made FISK proud. Thank you for your part in this hospitality for our Connectional Church.

Peace, Marcia Hoyt



Remember

**Set your clocks back one
hour on Saturday night,
Nov. 2nd**





December Messenger Deadline

Friday, November 22

9:00 a.m.

Mailing Date: November 27

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9:00 AM Worship Choir 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM WORSHIP followed by Time of Fellowship 11:30 AM Children's Choir 4:00 PM Installation: Rev. Stowe	28 9:30 AM Visiting hours for Judy LeBlanc 11:00 AM Funeral- Judy LeBlanc 4:00 PM UMW Exec. Board 7:00 PM A Cappella	29 Sr. Ctr. using parking lot 9:00 AM Silent Alarm Testing	30 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 7:00 PM Finance Comm.	31  Happy Halloween!	1  All Saints Day 12:00 PM Natick Women's Club 6:30 PM Youth and Family Night	2 1:30 PM Girl Scouts 62383
3 9:00 AM Worship Choir 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM WORSHIP followed by Time of Fellowship 11:30 AM Children's Choir 4:00 PM Girl Scouts 82803	4 6:00 PM Girl Scouts-LP 7:00 PM A Cappella 7:00 PM Trustee meeting	5 7:00 PM UMW Unit Meeting	6 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl	7 12:00 PM UMC Clergy Group	8	9
10 9:00 AM Worship Choir 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM WORSHIP followed by Time of Fellowship 11:30 AM Children's Choir 11:45 AM Evangelism	11 7:00 AM Solar Panel Installation 7:00 PM A Cappella 7:00 PM FACE Board 7:00 PM Finance Comm.	12 7:00 AM Solar Panel Installation 11:30 AM Hannah Circle 6:00 PM Girl Scouts	13 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 10:00 AM Worship Team Meeting 7:00 PM Susanna Circle	14 7:00 AM Solar Panel Installation	15 6:00 PM Fair Set Up	16  Holiday Craft Fair 9:00 AM UMW Fall Fair
17 9:00 AM Worship Choir 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM WORSHIP followed by Time of Fellowship 11:30 AM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Adaptive Worship	18 6:00 PM Girl Scouts-LP 7:00 PM A Cappella	19 7:30 PM COM	20 10:00 AM NWC- Board 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl	21	22 Messenger Deadline	23
24 9:00 AM Worship Choir 9:15 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM WORSHIP followed by Time of Fellowship 11:30 AM Children's Choir	25 4:00 PM UMW Exec. Board 7:00 PM A Cappella	26 7:00 PM SPRC	27 10:00 AM Prayer Shawl 7:30 PM Administration Board	28  Thanksgiving DAY	29 Church Office Closed	30