

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church - 106 Walnut St., Natick, MA 01760
(508) 653-1674 **www.fiskumc.org**

October 2015

Reflections from Pastor Xia

As we head into autumn, there is much to be thankful for at Fisk United Methodist Church. I give thanks for all the ways in which God has blessed and led this church. We have seen new life spring forth in so many ways here at Fisk Church—from the growth we've seen in membership and outreach programs, to new opportunities for adult Bible study and faith formation, to more participation and involvement of children and youth. As your pastor, I'd like to say a heartfelt "thank you" to everyone! I am grateful for the people of Fisk church, and the hearts full of care and compassion that I've seen in action so many times. From kind words given to one another after church, to incredible moments of compassion when you have gone the extra mile for complete strangers who are in need—I've seen it all. We are the church. It is such a blessing to work together as the church, one body of Christ.

As I thought about this blessing, it occurred to me that it is, in large part, a reflection of how we see our church, and of what it means to us in a personal way. When we gather here for worship and more, we gather as family and friends, brothers and sisters lifting up one another in prayers. In the house of God, there is a spirit of welcome, love, acceptance, and belonging that is wonderful to see and experience. This is, I believe, what and how we are to be as a church.

As your pastor, my hope and prayer is that this spirit will continue to grow. We are the church!

Each of you has been giving freely of your time, money, presence, prayers and service to support church ministry here at Fisk. This fall, as we are starting our annual stewardship campaign again, I'd like to ask you to prayerfully discern how to help and support your church family in various ways. Take time to think about what the church means to you and the ways that you have been blessed through being a part of it. Having done this, then take time to consider how you can make your commitment to the church even stronger—a reflection of the gratitude you feel.

May God continue to bless us through our church!

Grace and peace,

Rev. Xia Tiao-Chur

Pastor's Vacation

Pastor Xia and her family will be on vacation from October 4 – 17. In the event of a pastoral emergency please contact Dorothy Phillips; she will get in touch with local clergy for you.

home: 508-655-9939,

cell: 508-561-6829,

dwphillips@comcast.net

It's a New Look!

Pastor Xia and staff hope you will enjoy the new format of The Messenger. This style change has been made to conserve on production costs and preparation time.



October

One of the many, many benefits of a church family is our ability to help and support each other. The ministries of Fisk touch so many people in so many ways, and those ministries depend directly on our giving. Several of our families have experienced setbacks this year. Financially, we need everyone's help to compensate for some of those setbacks. If you are perhaps behind in your planned giving, please consider catching up. If you have not given in the past, we would urge you to consider supporting our ministries. If you have the ability to do something extra, consider the benefits to your church family.

Financially, we continue to find ourselves behind our Plan after eight months. We continue to spend wisely, and carefully managing our resources:

- Our financial giving remains 15% below Budget, through August,
- We are spending less than our budgeted expenses to compensate, saving 17% so far, but expenses continue,
- We continue to pray for improvements in our financial position.

The fall season is a beautiful reminder of God's many gifts to us, and our obligation as good stewards to give back a portion of that bounty.

Members of Finance Committee, which includes representatives from other committees at Fisk:

Michael Bruns (Chair), Pastor Xia, Dorothy Phillips (Lay Leader), Thom Townsend (Chair-Admin Board), David Cail (Treasurer), Sherry Culver (Financial Secretary), Geoff Del Sesto (Trustees), Tom Currie (SPRC), Larry Drolet, Frank Foss, Jen Garrant, Crystal Mayo.

* * * * *

Music & Movement Time
For Kids Ages 2 To 7
October 3rd and 24th
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.,
at Fisk UMC



The event is FREE! No registration is required.
For more information and pictures of past classes, visit:

www.fiskumc.org/music-and-movement.html

Annual

We will gather at 7PM
Wednesday,
November 18, 2015,
in the Sanctuary.



All reports are due to the church office by Monday, October 26.

* * * * *

Did you know?

Fisk serves breakfast each Thursday morning to the Charles River Rotary Club.

Why?

Fisk is their current meeting place and we serve them as a fundraiser for our budget. Currently they have between 6 and 12 members.

Want to help?

We need to have 2-3 people each Thursday come and serve them a hot breakfast of your choosing in addition to fruit and bread, muffins or bagels.



Depending on your menu you need to arrive at Fisk between 6:30 and 7:00am to make coffee and put out the juice, milk etc. Set-up is usually done for you and we provide milk, ½ and ½, coffee, yogurts and cereal.

If you are an early riser and want to do service and be done by 9:30am—please call the church office. You submit your bill for any food that you purchase and will be reimbursed. Community service and we benefit too.
WIN-WIN!!

Guest Speaker Harriett Jane Olson

General Secretary of
United Methodist Women

“And Justice for All”

October 24, 2015

**North Boston Korean United Methodist
Church**

244 Lowell Street, Andover, MA 01810
978-470-0621

Ingathering—

We are collecting **backpacks** for both the
Cambodian Church in Lynn, MA
and the Hispanic Church in Lawrence, MA

Registration begins at 9:00 AM

Worship is at 9:30 AM

**WORSHIP –MUSIC – AWARDS
FELLOWSHIP –FUN**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Special Allergies: _____

Child care needed? _____ Ages _____

**Please return registration form and
payment of \$14.00 due by October 10.**

Checks to NECUMW

Marcia Hoyt 8 Bacon St. Natick

Carpooling available from Fisk UMC



Menu

Ham, baked beans, coleslaw,
rolls and dessert

Cost

\$10 for adults,
\$8 for children 5 to 12
FREE for those 4 years old
and under

Date and time

Saturday, October 17 at 5:30pm

This is a public supper.

Invite neighbors and friends.

Sponsored by the United Methodist Men

**MESSENGER DEADLINE:
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26**

United Methodist Women

This is the
time ...



The week to
CLEAN OUT your garage, cellar or
wherever you store your “stuff.”

- Make a pile or fill a box at home until October 13... that is when you can begin to bring your goodies to the church after 12 noon on the 13th through 16th.
- Toys, bikes, kitchen items, all types of books, tools, games, puzzles, pots and pans, baskets, vases, holiday items... just about anything you are ready to pass on....in the name of mission.

Saturday
October 17
8:30 AM
until noon



**All monies go to local
and national missions!**

Questions to -- Janis Cail

Sponsored by United Methodist Women



Family Fall Festival at Fisk Sat. Oct. 17th 10-12:30 p.m.

Games - bean bag toss, bowling, football toss, make caramel apples, face painting and more!

Food - baked goods and hotdogs, popcorn, and cider for sale



Visit our
Pumpkin Patch and pick
out a pumpkin for
purchase

All proceeds go to support Missions!!

Please contact Heather Oluwole, 508-650-4752, HeatherOluwole@hotmail.com if you are able to lend a hand!

Stewardship We know that as Christians, we are called upon to be good stewards of our blessings, and we are called upon to give back generously to our Lord. We are not always able to give what we would like, but we try to reflect, and work hard, and stretch ourselves a bit. We have found, as the Scriptures teach, that our blessings continue, and increase:

“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms” – 1 Peter 4:10

“And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.” – 2 Corinthians: 8

Take pause, and reflect.

What do you know about the Natick Food Pantry?

Our Food Pantry provides:

- 3-5 bags of non-perishable food and
- 1 bag of perishable food
- 60 families served weekly

Each family is required to make an appointment for a specific date and time each month. Appointments are scheduled in 15-minute blocks.

What's the Process?

Once you become a Natick Service Council client, you will be given a Food Pantry card and can make your first appointment. You are responsible for making your own monthly appointments either by phone or in-person at the Natick Service Council office. We ask that you arrive promptly for your monthly appointment and be finished shopping within the 15-minute appointment time.



We provide assistance with food selection and bagging of your choices.

THIS IS WHERE FISK COMES IN. WE COVER THE SECOND THURSDAY EACH MONTH WITH TWO PEOPLE TO HELP THE CLIENTS.



How to Donate to the Food Pantry

Donations to Food Pantry are accepted each day between 9am and 5pm at our 2 Webster Street address.

BRING YOUR DONATION TO CHURCH PUT IN THE WOODEN BIN BY THE OFFICE.



Top 10 Food Pantry Items Needed:

Peanut butter, Tuna, Canned fruit, Hamburger Helper, Coffee and/or tea, Bottled juice, Cereal, Shampoo, Toilet Paper & Soap

See Gary Hoyt if you would like to volunteer 2 or 3 times a year.



Short Bible Verses to Lay Upon Your Hearts

Every word of God proves true.
Proverbs 30:5

Do not be afraid for I am with you.
Isaiah 43:5

The heavens declare the glory of God.
Psalm 19:1

Love the Lord your God with all your heart.
Deuteronomy 6:5

S. Carney- Education

Coming Attractions

- Probably Monday Mornings
- Definitely for moms / kids of preschoolers/toddlers
- In the nursery playgroup
- Fellowship
- Maybe 9:00-10:00
- See Susan Carney if interested
- Starting SOON !!!!!



Just an F.Y.I. Sarah Gates and I would like to let you know that any extra material that we have left from VBS this summer will be sent along to a small church in Maine for their use. There is some talk of US doing a three day Bible Camp in Maine. Just something exciting to think and pray about

S. Carney ... Education

Fisk Youth

OCTOBER

Calling all youth in grades 6-12! Join in the fun!
Bring your friends and enjoy being together!

Here is what we have planned for you!

October 4th - Apple picking
after worship with lunch



October 11th - no meeting -
enjoy the long weekend

October 17 - It's the Fisk Fall Festival, 10:00 -
12:30. Our church needs everyone to help with
this day - it will be fun for everyone. More info
as the date gets closer about jobs and how to
help.

October 25 - Regular youth Group meeting
after worship with lunch provided.

Help needed!! For Youth group meetings that
meet at Fisk, we usually provide lunch. If you
are able to volunteer to provide a simple lunch
for our group, let me know.

Do you have an idea for fall or winter? Youth
Council meets next on Sunday, October 25th at
9:15am. This meeting is to plan for the rest of
fall and winter so ideas are most welcome.
Looking ahead to November... Movie and Sushi
night at Xu's.

Email Sherry Culver Chair of Youth Council
(sherrycd@comcast.net) or see Bing and Tian
our Youth Group Leaders, fiskyouth@gmail.com.



*Connecting to Christ through Communion and
Community*

OCTOBER 4, 2015

World Communion Sunday is celebrated the
first Sunday in October. This day has taken on
new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world
where globalization often has undermined
peace and justice - and in a time when fear
divides the peoples of God's earth.

On this day, we celebrate our oneness in Christ,
the Prince of Peace, in the midst of the world we
are called to serve - a world ever more in need
of peacemaking.

World Communion Sunday is designated as a
"Special Sunday" in the UMC and you have the
opportunity to give a special offering that
provides scholarships for U.S. and International
students and assists racial and ethnic minority
persons pursuing various avenues of ministry.

Come celebrate World Communion Sunday at
10:30 a.m.!

Adult Bible Study You're invited!



The group meets on
Saturday afternoons
at 5:30 at the Gates
home.

If you would like to join, or just want to learn more about the group please contact Zachary Gates at zrg100@hotmail.com.



Special Requests for Prayer

Please pray for Margaret A. Smith, sister of Dorothy Phillips, Barbara Chandnoit and her grandson, Derek, and continue to pray for Stephanie Lindsey, whose insurance company is prolonging approval for her back surgery.



A Member of the Korean UMC ministry has asked us to pray for women and children who are imprisoned in No. Korean concentration camps. Their circumstances are horrible so they need our thoughts and prayers.

Military

Paul Kim, Alex Sinclair,
Michael Igo

Missionaries

Dr. Belinda Forbes, serving Christ in
Nicaragua, & Mat & Kayle Pelletier,
serving in South Africa

UMW Hannah Circle

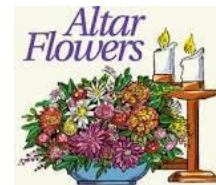
The Hannah Circle will meet on

Tuesday, October 13 - 12 noon to 2 p.m.

*Women are invited to bring their lunch.
Dessert and beverages are provided. At
this meeting, we will talk about Make A
Difference Day (October 24) and who has
made a difference in our lives and what we
have done to make a difference in the world.*

We will also work on projects for the Fair!

*Contact Nancy Parece or Nancy Swan if you
can come!*



Altar Flowers

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor or in memory of loved ones.. You may order flowers for October and November by contacting Debi Henry.

On All Saints Day, November 1, the Altar Guild will be offering an opportunity for members of the congregation to purchase plants in memory of loved ones.

See the Sunday bulletin on October 18 & 25
for details and order forms.