

The Messenger

Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

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www.fiskumc.org

October 2019

Pastor's Note

My dear sisters and brothers,

The life we live comes with many changes; in age, in status, in health, among others. All these are seasons of life, like we have seasons of the year. This month, we are entering autumn (fall); another season of the year. As we enter, we will be bracing ourselves for colder days ahead. When this happens, we can look back, reflect on, and hold the memories of the long, hot summer days. As we do, remember that there is still work to do at Fisk; God's faithful community here, in Natick, MA.

Though some of us are back from a time of rest and renewal, we can rest assured that the brightest and fullest days are still within reach. So, as we transition to another season, know that in the Bible, it is referenced that not producing in the season of autumn is compared to autumn trees without fruits. However, we are not like those who do not produce fruits. "We are Fisk" - the faithful community that produces fruits throughout the year. We do not change because of the unchanging nature of our God. Seasons will come and go, status in life will change, but we continue to focus on the God who abides and remains with us through all changes.

A lasting truth is that God's children will enjoy God's fellowship a million years from now. The world may fade, the stars may fall, resources may be wasted, and the seasons may change, but the God who has been our help in ages past is still our hope for years to come. In Him we can never be destroyed by any three-legged stool of hatred, division, and fear. In God, the greatest and Almighty One, we are not afraid. We have permanence, stability, love, joy, unity, and life unending.

Hence, as the season of autumn (fall) unfolds, this is a great time to focus on God's wonderful blessings—family, friends, strength, shelter, provision, guidance, love, care, fruitful ministry, opportunities to serve, more time to pray and study His Word, and the eternal life still to come. Most of all it is a time of greater opportunity to share our gifts; time, talent, and tithes.

Therefore, as the season changes from summer to autumn; the days get shorter and the night gets longer, try not to spend all your time sleeping. God's work still needs to be done. And remember that beyond the dark cloud, winter will come and so will spring with a smiling face. Rejoice!

-Pastor Alecia

You are invited to DS **Megan Stowe's** **Installation Service**



Oct 27, 2019 at 4:00 pm.

**Fisk Memorial United
Methodist Church
106 Walnut Street,
Natick, MA**

Childcare will be available

Please RSVP

by October 1st to fiskpastor@fiskumc.org

or by October 6th to cma@neumc.org

September Worship Highlights



World Communion Sunday – October 6, 2019

One way to visualize World Communion Sunday is as a large, round table which encircles the world. Christians are participating in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus all over the world and throughout this day.

Observed on the first Sunday in October, this day calls the Church to be the universal, inclusive Church. In the United Methodist Church (UMC) October 6th is also a Special Sunday on the UMC Giving Calendar and a special mission moment. We have the opportunity to give an extra offering to support the division of chaplains and ministries, crusade scholarships, and the scholarship fund for minority groups. Designated envelopes will be available for giving.



A Time for Spirited Kids Adaptive Worship Service

October 20 - 4:30 p.m.

We welcome families seeking a more flexible, less structured worship experience for children, and youth with diagnoses and challenges that make attending a traditional worship service difficult. The 30-minute service includes music, movement, and active participation while allowing freedom to move around, draw, and otherwise “fidget” while listening to Scripture, a short message and prayer time.

This monthly service will be held on the third Sunday of each month. Worship will be followed by a light meal and time of fellowship. While the service is designed for people with special needs, everyone is welcome to join us.

CMA Lay Servant Ministry

Classes for the Central Mass District will be held on October 19, 26, and November 2 at Wellspring UMC in Shrewsbury. All classes meet 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. The courses, available for certification or audit purposes are:

- Lay Servant Ministries Basic Course
- Advanced Course: You Can Preach
- Advanced Course: Life Together in the United Methodist Connection

The deadline for class registration is October 6. For more information, contact Barbara Beekman or Debi Henry, or go to <https://www.neumc.org> and under Leadership and Learning, click on Lay Servant Ministries.

Fisk Funnies

Oh, baseball in October. Fond memories, Red Sox fans. Question: Where is the first baseball game in the Bible? Answer: In the big inning. Eve stole first, Adam stole second. Cain struck out Able, and the Prodigal Son came home. The Giants and the Angels were rained out.



Ministry of Caring

"Here I am Lord. It is I Lord. I have heard you, calling in the night. I will go, Lord. If you lead me, I will hold your people in my heart."

In the Pastor's Note on page 1, she talks about "We Are Fisk", and the many talents that we have in our church. In Galatians 5:22-23, we read *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law"*. Did you notice that the word "fruit" is singular? There is one fruit, but many flavors, or colors. Your Fruit of the Spirit strength may be the same as someone else's, but your talent is different.

All of our talents equal "We Are Fisk". God is coloring our world, and our Fisk world with the Holy Spirit and all of his fruit!

Love = White (pure, clean)

Joy = Yellow (happy, sunny)

Peace = Green (a fresh, grassy meadow)

Patience = Blue (ocean, sky - wide, and big)

Kindness = Gold (great worth, to give or receive)

Goodness = Orange (healthy, life-giving)

Faithfulness = Red (blood, Christian brothers and sisters who stick together)

Gentleness = Pink (a newborn baby)

Self Control = Purple (royal, the King)

New England Justice for Our Neighbors (JFON)

Is a United Methodist nationwide faith-driven ministry that welcomes immigrants into our churches and communities by providing free, high-quality immigration and legal services, education, and advocacy. The New England chapter has three clinics: in Lowell/Lawrence (meets alternately in these two locations), Woburn, and Springfield, MA. Three dinner/auction events are planned for this year. They will be held:

[Oct. 19, 2019 at Trinity UMC, Springfield, MA](#)

[Nov. 2, 2019 at St. John's Korean, Lexington, MA](#)

[Nov. 9, 2019 at North Boston Korean UMC, Andover, MA](#)

Please donate and/or attend to support this much needed ministry.

October Messenger Deadline

Thursday, October 24

9:00 a.m.

Mailing Date: October 29

Local & Global Missions

Hurricane Dorian and UMCOR

As Hurricane Dorian threatened the U.S. east coast, United Methodists were connecting with other Methodists in the Bahamas to start relief efforts.

The Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church was fielding requests "To help those being evacuated from the "unprecedented devastation", to receive basic supplies, and find a place to live" says its president, the Rev. L. Carla Culmer.

After striking the island nation on Sept. 1st, Hurricane Dorian caused "vast devastation" and left 70,000 people in need of immediate humanitarian relief. Death total as of September 5th was 20 and expected to rise.

-- -- How you can help -- --

Donations for the Bahamas:

International Disaster Response **Advance #982450**. Money from this fund is used to respond to disasters around the world. In the U.S., donate to the U.S. Disaster Response **Advance #901670** for the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

Bishop Thomas Bickerton, writes "As we go through the peak of hurricane season, we see so much devastation, especially in the Bahamas," he wrote. "The United Methodist Committee on Relief, our global humanitarian aid and development agency, is actively providing assistance in the midst of these challenges. However, we are in need of your intentional and faithful support in order to continue this work."



"At this stage, donations to UMCOR are the best way for church members to respond" Bickerton said. Placements for volunteer teams will come later. Gifts for this effort can be put in the Fisk Sunday offering marked UMCOR/Dorian or the appropriate advance number.

UMEM – Donations Deadline

October 15th is the **last day** to bring in donations of clothing for delivery to Salem in western Maine. Please fold clothing into standard large paper grocery bags. Deliveries will resume in the spring.

Safe Havens* 2019 IMPACT Awards

Individuals and Institutions Making Progress against Abuse in Communities Together

Sunday, November 3, 2019, 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Congregation Kehillath Israel,
384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA

Tickets, \$18/person, for our **5th annual IMPACT Award event** can be purchased and **sponsorships** can be made online or by check/credit card. For more information, contact Safe Havens via email or at **617.951.3980**.

***Safe Havens is a United Methodist Connection
working against Domestic Violence and Abuse**

Mission Committee: Marcia Hoyt, Susan Carney, Mary Greenwood, Janis Cail and Janis Townsend

Fall Dinner for ALL Fisk Friends/Family



October 8th at 6:00pm

**This is an opportunity to gather for dinner and
celebrate!**

We celebrate another season!

We celebrate each other.

We celebrate our church family.

We celebrate Fisk's outreach to the
community and beyond.

We celebrate our *General Board of Global
Ministries* connection with Dr. Belinda Forbes.

Belinda will update us on her dental ministry in
Nicaragua. She is our designated missionary
through GBGM.

Chicken Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m.
so that families with children can be home
for a reasonable bedtime.

Child care (ages 7 and under) provided
following the meal.

Free will offering for expenses/Love offering for
Belinda's ministry.

Sponsored by UMM, UMW, and Missions--for all Fisk Friends

Susan Carney, President

October is a busy month—3 BIG events!

1

October 8, Tuesday at 6 p.m. Fisk Family Dinner

See details on previous page.
Hope to see you there!

2

October 19, Saturday morning FALL YARD SALE

Bring your donations anytime the 4 days previous.
Tell your neighbors!
Bring a friend for some fun-filled shopping!



As you are cleaning for fall, make sure you are putting aside things for the Yard Sale on October 19th. This is one of the major fundraisers for the Mission Budget of UMW. We need all the usual items...toys, dishes, bikes, antiques, glassware, small appliances, small furniture, wall art, books (children's also)...anything that you are done with and want to recycle to someone else.

Questions to Terry Ames or Janis Cail

October 26 NEC UMW Fall Gathering Guilford NH

3

Topic: Immigration

Do you want to hear more? What are our thoughts? Come and hear what some of those involved think about it.

More information--UMW Bulletin Board or
see Sherry Culver or Marcia Hoyt

The UMW Hannah Circle

The Hannah Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 8 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Ogle Parlor. All women are invited! Bring your sandwich/salad for lunch. Dessert and beverages will be provided. It is Exchange Tuesday! Women are invited to bring 1 or 2 mugs, and 1 or 2 books to exchange with others. After the exchanging, the remainder of the items will head down the hall for the UMW Yard Sale which will be held on October 19.



The Hannah's will also begin working on creating ornaments and the decorating of jars for our Hannah Hot Chocolate - both projects to be available at the Fisk UMW Country Fair in November! Our hostesses for this meeting are Judy Maloney and Barbara Miller. If you would like to attend, or if you have any questions, please contact Nancy Parece (508) 653-8687, or Nancy Swan (508) 653-8151.

United Methodist Men



**October 21, 2019
Text UMMEN
to 44321
Call (615) 340-7145
for more
information.**

Fisk Trustees Clean Up Day Is Saturday, **October 26** at the church from 8:30 a.m. until 12 noon. Everyone is invited and welcome. Therefore, come; bring some workers, rakes, 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!



Electronic and Appliance Recycle Day in Natick

Location: Fisk Memorial United Methodist Church

Residents of area towns are welcome.

**Saturday, October 5th
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. (rain or shine)**

See the Fisk Church community bulletin board for details.

Youth News



*For Fisk youth and their friends
in Grades 6—12*

Youth Group meets on the first Friday every month, and on the third Sunday following service, September—June. 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, October 4, 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, October 20, 12:00 PM**

Youth Fellowship Leaders:

Bingxin Xu & Tian Zhang, fiskyouth@gmail.com

If you wish to volunteer, contact Tian, Bingxin or Sherry Culver at sherrycd@comcast.net

October Celebrations