

# The Messenger

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

[fiskoffice@fiskumc.org](mailto:fiskoffice@fiskumc.org)

[www.fiskumc.org](http://www.fiskumc.org)

## October 2024

### Pastor's Message

This month is a time to focus on our harvest and replant for the future. As we do, we might have to deweed; to cut, enhance, support and/or uphold what we plant now and for the years ahead. There might be some things that we have to throw away, some might need to be nurtured and others might have to be burned. As we focus, we might have a flashback of times of old, the way it used to be and the way we wanted it to remain. But whatever it means for us, know that nothing in life is permanent, nothing is in our control and things will always change and continue to change. When we realize this truth, we can surrender more to God as we open our hearts, minds, and hands wider to serve God and humanity.

As the hymn states, "Blessed be the tie that binds" (UMH 557), let us also remember that if we are divided and continue to divide, we will receive what we plant. But the spirit of generosity that moves in our midst will continue to live in the faithful community of Fisk UMC, where God is always present.

Therefore, let us not forget that the next few months are going to be crucial as we plant in the religious and secular worlds. As we plant and nurtured, the lasting question will be, "What did we plant?" For whatever we, plant, we will receive it back three times in harvest of what was planted. So, it would be vital that each of us plant love and take courageous steps to continue to support Jesus Christ ministry on earth with mission to all of humanity. And yes, it is then, that we can be faithful stewards of creation, authentic Christians of Christ, and devoted disciples for transformation in our families, communities, churches, this nation and the world. I say this because I believe and know that God who is present at Fisk UMC is calling us to a higher calling, in and beyond the walls of the church. Most of all, we are responsible, and will be accountable when the final victory is won in Jesus Christ!

**"Is the tie to Christ and humanity bonded or broken?"**

+ Pastor Alecia



### We WELCOME All

Fisk United Methodist Church is a loving community of believers and servants with open hearts. We extend our welcome to all people, celebrating differences in age, economic reality, nationality, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, abilities, and limitations.

- We invite all to find a spiritual home with us and to share in the fellowship, worship, sacraments, ministry, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation.
- We affirm the gifts and graces of all persons.
- We are committed to be a fellowship in which all persons feel a part of our family.
- And, we invite you to work for justice with us.

Statement of the Administrative Board, Fisk UMC, 2019

All persons are invited to Fisk UMC  
Worship Service 10:30 a.m. in the sanctuary.  
To connect by telephone use either of these numbers: +1 646 558 8656 US  
Enter Meeting ID: 994 3325 8889  
+1 312 626 6799 US Enter Meeting ID: 994 3325 8889  
By computer, tablet, or smart phone, use this link: <https://zoom.us/j/99433258889>  
Or visit [www.Zoom.us](http://www.Zoom.us) and enter Meeting ID: 994 3325 8889



## Worship

### For Spiritual Growth & Reflection- October 2024

For continuous spiritual growth; read and reflect on the following scripture passages:

	<u>Liturgist</u>
<b>October 6, 2024</b> Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-12	- Terry Ames <b>Mark 10:2-16</b>
<b>October 13, 2024</b> Hebrews 4: 12-16	- Dr. Dorothy Phillips <b>Mark 10: 17-31</b>
<b>October 20, 2024</b> Hebrews 5:1-10 Psalter: 104: 1-9, 24, 35 (UMH 826)	- Geoffrey Del Sesto <b>Mark: 10:35-45</b>
<b>October 27, 2024</b> Readings - TBD	- Pastor Alecia

"Read as you study, study as you live,  
and live well!" + Pastor Alecia

## Save the Dates!

- Oct. 6** - World communion Sunday  
World Communion Sunday is a day to recognize the Christian practice of breaking bread together. It is a time to remember that the Lord's Supper is also celebrated in many different ways around the world. "Make or buy a bread to share."
- Oct. 13** - Pastor Appreciation Sunday
- Oct. 20** - Laity Sunday
- Oct. 10** - Bishop Day at Parkway UMC
- Oct. 19** - Yard Sale! 8:30 a.m. -12 noon
- Oct. 26** -Trustees & UMM outdoor cleanup day
- Oct. 27** -Stewardship Sunday  
-District Resource Day in Needham
- Nov. 2** - (Our New Bishop: New England Conference) The Installation Program for Bishop Bickerton at Sudbury UMC.

## United Methodist Men

### OUT TO EAT!

That is what we do to catch up with each other and make plans for our service.

### UNITED METHODIST MEN

Meet us at BJ's Restaurant  
(across from Ken's Steak House on Route 9)

October 8th at 6:30 p.m.

More information from  
Tom Carney or Gary Hoyt

## Pastor Appreciation Day



**Sunday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024 is Pastor Appreciation Day!**

**Thank you, Pastor Alecia** for ALL that you do! We are so blessed to have you as our Pastor, here at Fisk UMC!

October is  
**Pastor Appreciation Month**  
...thank your pastor!

## Outdoor Fall Cleanup Day!



**Everyone is invited to join the Trustees & United Methodist Men's Fall Cleanup Day – Saturday 10/26/24 from 9:00 am - 12 Noon outdoors (If it rains, it's cancelled.)**

The Trustees need people to help with the Fisk fall spruce up of the lawn and bushes.

Tools to bring: rake, broom, gloves, small tarp, hedge trimmers, pruning shears, anvil loppers. Thank you!

## Natick Days Celebration!

Fisk UMC was present at Natick Days to serve and share. We handed out over 120 blessing of the backpack tags and about 140 prayer cards to residents, students, teachers, and schools. The people of Natick were kindly receptive and welcoming.

Thank you to all who supported this event and served generously!



United Women in Faith

SAVE THE DATE:

Fall Fair coming November 16th!



We need your help! We need JEWELRY donations for our jewelry table. We need donations for our Silent Auction, more info. to come! Any questions or early

donations feel free to contact Terry Ames @ [amesterry61@gmail.com](mailto:amesterry61@gmail.com)

Susanna Circle Meetings – Save the dates!

Thursday, Oct. 17 at noon at the church. Bring a lunch and help with organizing for the yard sale.

Thursday, Nov. 14 at noon in the church kitchen, to make pies for the UWF fall fair.

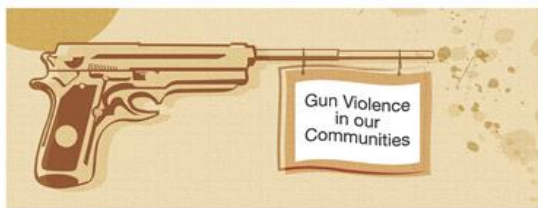
Thursday, Dec. 12 at noon going out for a Christmas lunch.

YARD SALE is coming!

It's time to start saving items for the yard sale- Saturday, October 19th 8:30-12 noon.



You know the drill!



United Women in Faith Annual Gathering New England Conference

NEAC United Women in Faith gather on Oct. 26

The Conference United Women in Faith's annual gathering will be Oct. 26 at Hedding UMC in Barre, VT, and online. Gun violence is a topic for the day and attendees are invited to wear orange to honor victims and survivors.

Learn more and register visit [www.neumc.org](http://www.neumc.org)

It's time to Go GREEN- by filling this PINK bag

Women of Fisk Methodist Church are sponsoring their semi-annual recycling opportunity:



Recycle textiles and old clothes with us on

Saturday, October 19th between 9:00 a.m. -noon.

(no later please -this is a one-time scheduled pick-up)

Don't forget shoes, pillows, blankets, drapes, hats, pocketbooks, sleeping bags, toys and towels too! Items don't need to be in pink bags but they do need to be dry and free of hazardous materials.



Fisk Methodist Church

106 Walnut St, Natick MA 01760

508-653-1674 [www.fiskumc.org](http://www.fiskumc.org)

(All proceeds used for programs supporting women and children.)

Women's Retreat at Framingham UMC

You Are So Beautiful

Eighteenth Annual Women's Retreat

The retreat is being held at Beacon of Hope

United Methodist Church

DATE: October 18-19, 2024  
TIMES: October 18th - arrive 5:30 - 6:00 pm, ending at 8:30 pm Friday Night  
October 19th - arrive 8:30 - 9:00 am, ending at 5:30 pm Saturday

WHERE: 360 Water Street, Framingham, MA

COST: \$ 25.00 per person – Cash or make check out to Beacon of Hope UMC

There will be partial scholarship funds available.

Please have all registrations in by Saturday, October 12th. (Registration forms can be found in the Fisk Church office.) Come and enjoy a time of fellowship, music, crafts, prayer, a love feast and friendship. We look forward to seeing you!

QUESTIONS? Contact Bonnie-jean Rowe:

[bjmrower@verizon.net](mailto:bjmrower@verizon.net) or 508-523-8582

## Stewardship

### STEWARDSHIP: 2024-2025

Fisk UMC has been blessed by your faithful stewardship gifts of tithes, time and talent. Every year we honor the ways in which we continue to give back to God through Fisk's ministry and mission work. For this, we are thankful for all God has done and continues to do in our lives and the life of this great church. And that is why we sing, "Blessed be the tie that binds" (UMH 557).

We have been bonded by a covenant instituted by God through the sacrament of Baptism. That has made us the church of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. And as baptized Christians, we can look back with gratitude on how far God have brought us and what we have been given.

We will be praying about our gifts, making prayerful pledges as we start an early thanksgiving of praises for all our gifts. And believing that the "Joy of the Lord is our strength" we will share our gifts graciously and cheerfully when we celebrate our "Covenant Giving" on Sunday, November 17 with a spirit-filled worship service and a luncheon after church.

Therefore, let us continue to focus on prayer as the Holy Spirit moves in our midst and enable us to be faithful stewards in rethinking our giving for 2025. 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 and God bless you!

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**Stewardship Sunday** starts on Sunday, October 27 with worship and a guest preacher and servant of God. We will have Rev. Garvin Warden, a retired elder in our New England Conference. Rev. Warden will share about stewardship and service. He served churches in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island. Welcome Rev. Garvin Warden to Fisk UMC where God is always present.

## Women's Bible Study on ZOOM

**Women's Bible Study on ZOOM: Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.**

Please let me know if you are interested and I will send you information. God bless you all. We serve an awesome God and His word lights our path. -Susan Carney

[susanjcarney@gmail.com](mailto:susanjcarney@gmail.com)

## Family Promise Event



**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:00pm to 9:00pm**

*The Verve*

[1360 Worcester Street, Natick MA 01760](#)

*Featuring a silent & live auction to raise*

*When you attend Keeping the Promise, hosted by Family Promise Metrowest, you are part of a movement that transforms lives. Families who are homeless or facing homelessness are among the most vulnerable in our communities. These families often struggle not only with a lack of adequate resources and shelter, but the emotional and financial burdens that follow. By supporting this event, you are directly contributing to programs that provide safe housing, critical resources, and a path to stability for these families.*

*Our theme this year is Hope & Illusions. Your presence signifies hope—hope for a brighter future. Hope that when a family needs help Family Promise Metrowest can continue to be there, to understand their individual situation, and walk forward with them as they set their next path to stability. The illusion refers to our mistaken assumptions and struggles to see beyond the surface level to recognize that homelessness is an issue that can befall even those we would not expect. To purchase tickets for this event, please visit: <https://e.givesmart.com/events/DTn/>*

*funds to support families in our community  
who are homeless or facing homelessness*

## MISSIONS and OUTREACH

### **FALL MISSION UPDATE** **CHRISTMAS GIFTS for UMEM**

#### **United Methodist Economic Ministry**

We will accept Christmas Gifts for the Mission site in Maine **only until October 6th**. They will be delivered to Salem Maine following this date. Gift Cards are also encouraged.



### **Our GOOD USED/NEW clothing for the Thrift Shop in Salem and Howland Maine.**

**LAST day to bring those to Fisk is....drum  
roll...also October 6<sup>th</sup>**. We will make our last trip with clothes until Spring 2025. In the meantime, please do not bring clothes to Fisk...they just collect all winter. Either find another place to donate or hang on to them until April 6<sup>th</sup>.

With GRATITUDE the Missions Committee says “THANK YOU” for your continued support of our connection to this Ministry in Maine. They depend on all of us to help the “needy people of the Western Mountains of Maine.”

### **NATICK FOOD PANTRY “HELPERS”**

Our local Food Pantry serving our NEIGHBORS is looking for volunteers to serve in many ways. Fisk has “signed on” for the second Thursday of each month—from 3:30-6:00pm. We just assist “our neighbors” in making some choices of food items, make sure they have bags and assist bagging but mainly making sure they “move along” to accomplish their shopping in 10 minutes. Very easy and very helpful. If you can volunteer in this process, please contact Gary or Marcia Hoyt. Maybe twice a year?

Your generosity is remarkable. The Mission Committee is grateful as well as the recipients of your giving.

*Marcia Hoyt, Janis Cail, Janis Townsend and Mary Greenwood.*

### **A PLACE TO TURN-NATICK**

Natick also has another Food Cupboard and source of help for those in need in the Natick / Framingham area. A Place to Turn is located next to the Presbyterian Church on Hartford Street.

### **Every child should have enough diapers to be clean, dry, and healthy.**

This organization holds an ANNUAL DIAPER COLLECTION-The Diaper Project. So, we are supporting this collection **during OCTOBER**. They are asking for disposable diapers for babies and children of all sizes. However, they are particularly asking for sizes 4, 5 and 6. Also there is a need for size 4T and 5T Pull-ups. Baby Wipes too!

Up to 3000 families in Natick and Framingham struggle to buy diapers. WIC and Food Stamps do not cover diapers.

If you prefer to make a financial donation through your church offering (memo-Diapers) then we will order and deliver diapers for you. How easy is that?

Some toddlers and babies cannot attend childcare programs without a supply of diapers.



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### Prayer Box / Prayer Wall/ Prayer line

Prayer is the master key that can open and close all doors. When you find the need to pray with the assurance that others are praying for and with you, leave a prayer on the prayer wall, in the prayer box on the front lawn of the church, on-line on our website, or just call and speak with **Pastor Alecia at (617) 966-7048.** **The Wednesday night prayer line: Wednesdays 6:00-6:30 p.m.**

**Dial: 1-712-775-7270, Access code: 580274#**

Remember that no one walks alone. At Fisk UMC, we are willing and ready to travel the journey with you.

### Sunday School



**Children's Sunday School Classes**  
Join us Sundays 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Grades 1-7.

Bring your child for some time with the Lord and give them the gift of Christian Community. – Susan Carney

### Coffee Hour/ Fellowship Time Schedule

If you would like to **host coffee hour**, there is a sign-up sheet located in the back of the Sanctuary or you can email the Office. Thank you!

**November Messenger Deadline:**  
Please submit information by  
**Friday, October 18, 9:00 a.m.**

### UMC Commonwealth East District News



### Get follow-up materials from Church Conference Form Training

If you missed the sessions on submitting the 2024 Church Conference forms through the Church Dashboard, you can watch recordings of the training and find other helpful links and materials.

[Learn more](http://www.neumc.org) visit: [www.neumc.org](http://www.neumc.org)

### Commonwealth East District Resource Day

Theme: When God Became White

Where: Carter Memorial United Methodist Church  
[800 Highland Avenue, Needham, MA 0249](http://www.neumc.org)

When: October 27, 2024; 4:00 pm

Over time, European Christians cast Jesus in their own image, with art that imagined a fair-skinned Savior. [Rev. Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim](#) examines the roots of the distortion, its harmful impact on the world, and show what it looks like to recover the biblical reality of a nonwhite, nongendered God.



Bishop's Day on the Commonwealth East District  
When: October 10, 2024  
Where; Parkway UMC; 158 Blue Hills Parkway, Milton, MA

The Schedule:

- 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm - Meet with district Clergy/Lay Supply
- 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm - Dine with all (clergy and laity)
- 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm - Introduction and worship (all)

Please mark your calendar and join us in extending a warm welcome to Bishop Thomas J. Bickerton as he begins his assignment as our Resident Bishop. This is an excellent opportunity to meet and greet Bishop Bickerton and learn about his vision for our district and for the New England Conference. All persons are invited.

New District information: District 6-Hub #5  
Commonwealth East and Commonwealth West District Offices have combined and there is a new email address: ce-cwoffice@neumc.org (NEW Email address!)  
Website:[www.neumc.org/CE](http://www.neumc.org/CE)  
District Superintendent: Rev. Nizzi Santos Digan  
Address: 2600 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington, MA 02421  
Email address: [CEDS@neumc.org](mailto:CEDS@neumc.org)  
Administrative Assistant: Allyson Printz  
(978) 682-7676 ext. 270 Email : [CEDistrict@neumc.org](mailto:CEDistrict@neumc.org)

**October Celebrations  
Happy Birthday!**



Kelli Garrant	10/1	Angela Curran	10/20
Tom Currie	10/2	Luke Day	10/22
Ann Russell	10/3	Turina Garrant	10/23
Jennifer Garrant	10/7	Pat Price	10/24
Kristen Morris	10/11	David Longworth	10/28
James Friscino	10/18		

**Best Wishes on Your Anniversary!**

Jeff & Paula LeBlanc, 10/14  
Ken & Shelby Robertson, 10/15



**Reminder: Turn your clocks back on Sunday, November 3, 2024.**