

Messenger

A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

October 2010

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Along the Path...

Last Sunday, I made mention of the Caring Network Ministries that is unfolding between Judson, Bethlehem Lutheran and St. Joan of Arc. A week ago, the following letter was presented to TRUST. This letter will be included in this month's TRUST newsletter.

If you are interested in being involved, please call me or email me.

JUDSON MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH



Dear Sister TRUST Church Member,

On February 19, 2009, Nancy Biele convened a gathering of TRUST Church leaders at Bethlehem Lutheran. The title of the meeting was "Helping in Hard Times: A Congregational Response." Four main concerns surfaced that morning. 1.) The numbers of those requesting help are beyond any individual congregation's ability to respond to the needs. 2.) The amount of time spent responding to these needs takes away from other pastoral duties. 3.) Each church was concerned about being good stewards of the congregation's money. 4.) Each leader felt the lack of adequate knowledge of the current resources in the community.

The group decided that morning to continue to meet to wrestle with the issue. There was a lack of clarity around how we might collectively respond to the needs, so we began by educating ourselves. Each month we heard from an agency operating within the Twin Cities. Within a few months our numbers began to dwindle. And, eventually there was no longer enough interest in continuing, and the hope for a collective vision died.

Diane Waarvik and I continued to meet and share our continuing concerns over the growing needs of people who come to our doors. Both of us had been impressed with St. Joan of Arc's presentation of their "Care Fund" ministry. We invited Marge Thurin to meet with us and discuss the possibility of a partnership with St. Joan of Arc. With the blessing of our churches, we decided to formalize our vision for a partnership and began bringing volunteers from each of our churches. We have personalized the Joan of Arc model and came up with what we are calling "The Caring Network Ministry". Marge Thurin has agreed to train

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Executive Council Wants You to Know: From Pam Joern, Moderator

Your Executive Council spent a Saturday in September working hard to make sure we have as smooth a transition as possible as we move through this year. Pastors Diane Hooge and Kevin Brown presented a thoughtful plan for Sunday worship and on-going pastoral care during the weeks leading up to the start of an Interim ministry. Jim Kuether and the Interim Search Committee are seeking input and discerning priorities as they look for an Interim Minister who will be a good fit for Judson.

This threshold time—when we are in between what has been and what will be—is an exciting time. The Executive Council is committed to providing stability through our on-going ministries, being open to new challenges and expressions of Judson's vision, and communicating transparently through as many channels as we can think of.

Pastoral Search Committee:

On September 26, the congregation voted for members to serve on a Pastoral Search Committee. Our constitution requires 12 to 14 members, including the Moderator, one member of Pastoral Relations, one youth, and no less than four representatives of committees. The Executive Council felt it important to have a member of both Personnel and Finance on the Pastoral Search Committee. Through the bulletin and the Judson email, we asked for volunteers to let us know of their interest. We're grateful for each person who agreed to serve. Members, listed alphabetically with committee representation in parentheses, are: Ross Aalgaard (Congregational Growth), George Burbie (Property), Mac Chatfield (Pastoral Relations), Cindy Clague, Emily Gustafson (Youth Representative), Samantha Hanson, Steve Hirsch (Finance), Pam Joern (Moderator), Monica Lewis, Chris

(Pedro) Peterson (Personnel), Jackie Thureson, Wayne Urbaniak (Worship). Wayne has agreed to serve as Chair of the committee.

There will be a variety of opportunities for those not on the Search Committee to participate. The initial work of the committee will be to design a process that allows for lots of input both in defining who we are and to discern our future needs and direction for leadership. If you have concerns, questions, or ideas—at any time—please contact Wayne, me, or any member of the Pastoral Search Committee.

There are a couple things to keep in mind as we move forward. According to our constitution, Kevin Brown or any other ordained member of Judson cannot be a candidate for the position of Senior Pastor. This is a denominational and Judson provision that has developed through hard-won wisdom. Nor will Kevin be expected to take over the duties of the Senior Pastor. These stipulations exist to protect current staff from exploitation, from unnecessary distractions during the transition, and from difficulties adjusting once new leadership is in place. We're grateful that Kevin's commitment as Director of Faith Formation allows him to focus on our children and youth, providing much needed stability and engendering new energy in those critical programs. It's natural and tempting for all of us to look to Kevin in Diane's absence—because he's capable and we know and love him—but our task will be to provide Kevin with all the support he needs to be successful in his current role as Director of Faith Formation.

Realignment of Church Year:

At our May business meeting, our congregation voted to work toward aligning our fiscal and program years. Currently, our fiscal year runs January

1-December 31, and our program year runs July 1-June 30. Aligning both to run from June 1-May 30 offers us several advantages, most notably our stewardship drive would coincide with church year planning and goal setting. To accomplish this takes some constitutional revision and some thought about managing our finances and budget. Please mark your calendars for **Sunday, October 31**, when we will have a special business meeting following morning worship to present proposals and vote on required constitutional changes. On **November 21**, at our regular all church meeting, we'll vote on the finance and budget requirements. Both of these meetings will also give us an opportunity to relay information about the search processes.

Fund Raiser:

Mark **November 6** on your calendar for a Great Gatherings Silent Auction and a chance for fun and fellowship. Stay tuned to your Judson emails to find out more. Wayne and Kathy Urbaniak will be collecting Great Gatherings ideas, so be thinking in advance what you can offer.

Thanks to all of you for maintaining your commitment to Judson, for working hard, and for providing a loving and consoling community for all of us. I believe that we are all engaged in holy work, and I'm grateful for God's promised presence with us.

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the volunteers. The setting for meeting with our neighbors in need will be Bethlehem Lutheran.

Diane and I have come full circle. We are inviting our fellow TRUST members to join us in this program that is designed to help us all be more accountable to the larger community and more accountable for our stewardship dollars. We are looking for volunteers and financial support from every church that would like to utilize the services of this Caring Network structure.

We invite you to look over the enclosed guidelines and determine if your church would benefit from being a part of a larger context in which to serve our neighbors. If so, we are holding an information gathering meeting on September 28, 2010, for anyone who is interested in this program. It will be held at 6:00 at Bethlehem Lutheran at 41st and Lyndale. Please plan on joining us for a light supper as we discuss this new ministry.

With gratitude for a new opportunity for sharing ministry,

Diane K. Hooge
Senior Pastor, Judson Memorial Baptist

Diane Waarvik
Director of Health Ministries, Bethlehem Lutheran

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Rev. Diane Hooge, Senior Pastor
Rev. Kevin Brown, Director of
Faith Formation

The Interim Period - Jim Kuether

One of the first steps for a church when their senior pastor leaves, is to appoint an “interim minister” who will provide pastoral services until a permanent senior pastor is called. Thanks to a great deal of work that has gone on over the past ten years, the interim period no longer needs to be a fallow time for the church. Through the development of “intentional interim” programs that provide training for clergy specifically geared toward the transition period in a church’s life, the interim period can be a time of growth, issue resolution, and clarity around the pastoral needs of the community.

Judson’s Executive Council has established a search committee, as prescribed in our constitution, to seek out and call an interim minister. Chaired by Jim Kuether, the committee will interview candidates and make a recommendation for an interim pastor to the Executive Council. The Interim Pastor may or may not be an American Baptist ordained pastor. The top priority will be to hire someone who understands the needs of Judson, and is sensitive to our approach to worship and theology. Our constitution explicitly states that the interim pastor cannot be a current or former pastor, associate pastor or staff member. While on the surface, this may be counter-intuitive, it allows the current staff to continue with their important work without distraction or interruption, and prevents divisions within the congregation over who provides primary congregational care once a new senior pastor is called.

The interim period can be an exciting time of growth and renewed energy for a community of faith. It can also be a time of uncertainty. If you have any questions or concerns about the interim search or the interim period, don’t hesitate to contact Jim Kuether or any member of your Executive Council.

Create a Jell-O salad for the

Farewell for Pastor Diane Hooge

Call Diana Larsen: 612-724-7515



MISSION TRIP - By Zach Newton

I had an amazing experience during the mission trip to Chicago and I think that everyone else did too. Throughout the week we had lots of fun and a nice amount of work. Going to Chicago and listening to some of the homeless youth at the HELLO group meeting really changed the way that I view homeless people and showed me that the typical stereo types of ratty clothes and stuff like that are very untrue. We listened to their stories about bringing homeless youth to the attention of the mayor, about how unsafe and unwelcoming adult homeless shelters are, and about the reasons that some of them were/are homeless. Two or three of the homeless youth at HELLO talked about how horrible one of the adult shelters was. They said that they were totally unwelcoming and immediately assumed that they had committed terrible sins and were being punished when the reality was that many people that are homeless were just dealt a bad card in life. This certain adult homeless shelter made you go to worship if you wanted to eat, but this often conflicted with things that people were doing to pull out of homelessness such as school. On top of all this, your stuff was stolen regularly and the workers wouldn't do anything about it. All in all, I learned that adult shelters aren't too great.

Along with work comes good times and we had plenty! On Wednesday we had the pleasure of going to Wrigley Field and watch the Cubs demolish the Brewers all the while spending our money on ridiculously over-priced foods and beverages. We went to Millennium Park and saw the Bean and the Chicago Symphony. During our down time everyone bonded by playing card games and ninja and lightning. We had a wonderful time.

Farewell for Pastor Diane Hooge

Join the celebration of Diane Hooge's ten years of leadership among us, and wish her and Ken well on the next phase of their life journeys. The party is at Judson on Saturday, October 9, from 5:30 to 8:00—but come early!

We'll enjoy music from our energetic youth, our incredible choir, the inimitable Gospel Five, as well as a reprise from the very, very original "My Green Eyes." We'll hear reminiscences and tributes to both Diane and Ken Hooge.

Our dinner will begin at 5:30 with opening remarks and appetizers served at the beautifully set tables in Fellowship Hall. **Remember to come early** and get a seat in the front of the room where all the action will be! At 5:45, a family-style harvest feast will follow. It will feature rotisserie chicken, wild rice, sweet potatoes, green beans, carrots, green salad, rolls, cookies, beverages, and some special homemade macaroni and cheese for the young or the young at heart.

As a special treat, the congregation is invited to bring a Jell-O salad to serve 8. Please call Diana Larsen at 612-724-7515 to let her know you would love to add your colorful Jell-O to the meal.

Everyone is welcome, and those who can are invited to contribute to a free-will offering for the meal with a suggested donation of \$5 per person (\$20 maximum per family).

You should already have received an invitation (through the post office or via email). Please respond as soon as possible **but no later than Sunday, October 3**, to help planners save a place at the tables for you!

CONGRATULATIONS

to David Glanzer & Tracy Vacura on the birth of their daughter, Beatrix Emagdalena Vacura, on September 15 at 3:49 am.

She weighed 8 lbs., 9 oz. and was 21 inches long. Everyone is doing well.



Hosting Just Got Easier

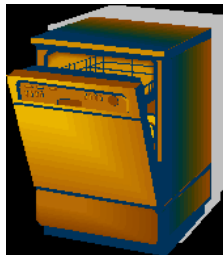
New Dishwasher Approved for Downstairs Kitchen

Having an easy to use dishwasher downstairs will ease the role of the Sunday morning hosts. The need for a smaller dishwasher downstairs has been realized since Fellowship Time moved downstairs a year ago.

Currently the hosts transport dirty cups and glasses on a wheeled cart to the upstairs dishwasher utilizing the elevator. And in reverse, the clean dishes are transported back downstairs for the next Sunday.

Exec Council just approved the purchase and installation of a "residential size" dishwasher for the kitchen off Fellowship Hall. Funds for this improvement come from three sources: money left in a Soup Group Dedicated Account, money left in a Green Team Fundraiser Account, money not used from this year's Hospitality budget for Lenten dinners. So this improvement has no budget impact.

Watch for it soon.



Flu Shots

TRUST, in partnership with MVNA will once again be sponsoring a flu shot clinic at Judson. The clinic will be on Sunday, October 31st from 12:00-1:00pm. It will be held in the library.

Reminders:

1. To have Medicare billed, please bring your Medicare Part B card.
2. Ages 3 years and older may receive the flu vaccination (With parent's consent).
3. There are numerous insurance plans accepted this year. Health insurance card (s) or a photo copy (front only) is required for billing. Picture ID (ex. Drivers License or Employee Badge) is required.
4. For the non-insured, the cost is \$26.00 paid in cash or check. Checks made out to MVNA.
5. Pneumonia shots are also available for \$57.00.
6. Please wear short sleeves.
7. Call Pat at TRUST with questions at 612-822-2394.

CALLING ALL GREAT GATHERINGS

Have you ever been to a Judson "great gathering?" Or hosted one? If so, you know what a good time they always are. In fact, some people plan their year's social lives around great gatherings.

This year's Great Gathering Silent Auction will be Saturday, November 6--an opportunity for you to place your bids--on gatherings of fun, food, and fellowship. Also, you will get to bid on services, tours, and adventures.

What can you offer? A talent to share? A specialty meal? A service to provide? A treat to deliver? Now is the time to be creative and hospitable--two of the DNA characteristics of Judson Church--and plan your great gathering.

Submit your idea in any of the following ways: 1. Call Kathy or Wayne Urbaniak at 612-825-0950, and they will write it up; 2. Email them at wayneurbaniak@gmail.com; 3. talk to either Kathy or Wayne at church; or 4. Fill out a Great Gathering form (available in the back of the sanctuary) and leave it in the box there.

What is your idea? How many people? What date (before October 31, 2011)? What is the value? Or...just have a conversation with Kathy or Wayne and we will figure it out together with you.

All funds raised go to Judson Church. So mark your calendars and save the date: Saturday evening, November 6. Watch for more information about that evening--other plans are in the works, in addition to the silent auction. We'll have some fun, get to know each other better, and raise some money.



TRUST News

Ann Reed in concert to benefit TRUST Parish Nursing.

Save October 16th on your calendars to see (and hear) Ann Reed, a frequent guest of MPR's former Morning Show. She will perform at 7:30 at First Universalist Church at 34th and Dupont. Tickets are \$15 and proceeds support TRUST's Parish Nursing program. See Clay Gustafson or Myrna tenBensel for tickets or get them online at www.annreed.com.



TRUST Auction November 6 at Lake Harriet United Methodist (50th and Chowen).



Plan to attend this evening of food, entertainment, and tons of auction action: silent and live. This is a major fundraiser for TRUST, and is especially important in these tough times. Please see Clay Gustafson or Myrna tenBensel for further information and for tickets. Auction item donations are also welcome.

TRUST Board votes to close the TRUST Family Center

As most people are aware, the TRUST Family Center has had financial difficulties resulting in it being unable to make its rent payments to Judson. Moderator Pam Joern and Pastor Diane Hooge met with TRUST Executive Director Nancy Biele and the TRUST Executive Committee to address the issue, particularly Judson's inability to continue to subsidize the Family Center. The TRUST Executive Committee voted to close the Family Center and the full Board of Directors affirmed that vote at their most recent meeting, setting a closing date of November 30, 2010.



Regret was expressed on all sides, but the reality of current economic conditions left few, if any, other options. The TRUST Family Center got its start at Judson through the effort of former pastor Dick Fowler and has served many people over its 40 years.

(continued from back page)

November 28, 2010 First Sunday of Advent
 Liturgist:
 Sermon: John the Baptist

December 5, 2010 Second Sunday of Advent
 Liturgist: Jon Odell
 Sermon: Mary and Elizabeth
 Music: University Bell Choir

December 12, 2010 Third Sunday of Advent
 Liturgist:
 Sermon: Zechariah

December 19, 2010 Fourth Sunday of Advent
 Liturgist:
 Sermon: Joseph

December 24, 2010 Christmas Eve Service
 8:30 prelude
 9:00 Service

December 26, 2010 Liturgist:
 Sermon: Kevin Brown
 Music: John De Haan and Jim Wentink



Treasurer's Report

(August 2010)

INCOME	Year End Budget	Year to Date Actual 2010	Year to Date Budget 2010
Pledges	217,046	132,132	144,697
Givers of Record/Loose Offering	7,400	15,004	4,933
Other income	*85,100	36,238	14,900
Adjunct Ministries	20,800	7,625	12,000
TOTAL	330,346	190,999	176,530

* includes the Dye-Knopf Gift and money from the quarterly fund raisers.

EXPENSES

Pastoral & Staff	241,111	155,619	160,741
Programs	38,025	21,610	25,800
Building & Office	86,100	57,118	57,400
TOTAL	365,236	234,347	243,941
Net income over expenses	(32,140)	(43,348)	(67,411)

The Judson

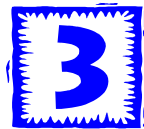
Knitting
Group



The October knitting group will meet on Saturday, Oct. 16, at 1 PM at the home of Sandy Chatfield. The address for Sandy is 4252 Toledo Ave S, St. Louis Park. Her telephone is 952-927-8990.

This is a change from the usual second Saturday meeting date because of the dinner for Diane Hooge on the 9th. Hope to see you there."

Margaret Buystedt



THINK THREE ON SUNDAY October 17th

Please bring three (3) items for Joyce Food Shelf to church on Sunday, October 17. Items needed are nonperishable food: boxed cereal, canned fruits and vegetables, soups, tuna fish, Spaghetti's, crackers, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese, and rice. Also, personal items needed are: toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, bathroom tissue, dish soap, and laundry detergent.

Monetary donations are always accepted. Just put the money in an offering envelope and designate that it is for Joyce Food Shelf, and drop in the offering plate. Please put your items in the box in the foyer or in the baskets at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you.

RSVP

- Saturday, October 9, 5:30-8:00
- Farewell for Pastor Diane and Ken Hooge
- Remember to reserve your place
- by Sunday, October 3

From Jil Edwards:

Jeanne (Edwards) Jordan (sister of Judi, Janet and Jil Edwards, and daughter of the late Bob and Vi Edwards) is being treated for cancer at Mayo Clinic's Methodist Hospital.

For more info:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/jeannejordan>

Dear Judson,

Please know that the basic framework of services have been planned out through January 2nd. I still have some Liturgist positions to fill. If you are interested, please call me or email me. Thanks! Diane

October 3, 2010 World Communion Sunday
Liturgists: Joel Hoefle and Trish Magal
Music: Judson Choir
Sermon: Diane Hooge

October 10, 2010 Diane’s Last Sunday
Liturgist: Jenny Simmonds
Sermon: “Celebrating the Crossing” Diane Hooge
Music: Judson Choir and Brass

October 17, 2010 Children’s Sabbath
Liturgist: Sondra Samuels
Sermon: Kevin Brown
Music: Joint children and adult choir

October 24, 2010 Liturgist: Pam Joern
Sermon: Julie Neraas
Music: Judson Choir

October 31, 2010 All Saints Sunday
Liturgist’s: Carl Appelquist and Karla McGray
Honoring those who have gone before us: Kevin Brown

November 7, 2010 Communion Sunday
Liturgist:
Sermon: Julie Neraas
Kevin and Julie presiding at the Table

November 14, 2010 Sacred Music Sunday
No Liturgist
Music: John De Haan, and the Judson Choir
Scripture Readings : Kevin Brown

November 21, 2010 Thanksgiving Sunday
Intergenerational Sunday
Liturgist: Laura O’Halloran
Sermon: Kevin Brown
Food Gifts for Joyce Food Shelf

Advent Theme: Season of Waiting: The Waiting Figures of Advent

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The Messenger

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