

Judson Memorial Baptist Church

A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

February 2020

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From Travis

In lieu of a Sunday afternoon nap the other day, I chose to ride my bike across Lake Nokomis. I figured riding a bike across a frozen body of water was the closest miracle of Jesus' I could re-enact. How hard could it be? A few inches of powder on a flat frozen surface. As I transitioned, from the bike path to several inches of powder, my ride instantly transformed from extremely easy to extremely difficult. I knew if I stopped pedaling, I would lose momentum, I would never get the forward motion going again, and I would have to push my bike to the other side. I kept pedaling and made it to the other side. After reaching the other side, I paused to catch my breath; {Confession: Church, I have never had a workout knock me out like that!}.

A few months ago, I read these two sentences on transforming established liberal churches like Judson, ***“The experienced church leader has learned that while renewing an established congregation may take only half as many radical changes as projected, it will take twice as long as anticipated, and be three times more difficult than ever imagined. One can never underestimate the time and energy required.”*** As I pedaled back across Lake Nokomis, those two sentences kept rolling through my head as the perfect model for our work together, transforming Judson. How hard can it be to turn around Judson Church? How hard can it be to ride across a flat frozen lake? It turns out, it's doable, but it takes more time and energy than ever imagined. And...it's way more fun than ever imagined!

Over the past few weeks, we have seen glimpses of our future; outside groups seeking Judson out to hold events and gatherings: (National Day of Racial Healing, Kingfield Bike and Pedestrian group, Quilting Blitz, to name just a few). Increased attendance (we are now averaging over a 100 each Sunday; one Sunday we had 116, on Christmas Eve we had 166), enthusiasm for the work we are doing (at council meetings there is genuine energy and excitement!). Sometimes the congregation is two steps ahead of me waiting for me to catch up rather than the other way around, and people are volunteering more than ever! Over the past year, I feel like we are re-learning how to do effective and meaningful ministry together.

We're not undertaking radical changes - just time and energy. It's harder than it looks but doable. And...this is fun stuff!

Peace, Travis

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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2019-2020**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Moderator	Brad Joern
Vice Moderator	Laura O'Halloran
Secretary	Karla McGray
Treasurer	Bill Forsyth

FAITH & SPIRIT CLUSTER

Christian Education	Kristine Revak
Adult Education	Cindy Clague, Pam Joern, D'Ann Lesch, Austin Mason, Leslie Rapp, Lian Partlow*
Congregational Care	Luise Forseth
Hospitality Team Leaders	Barb Balcom, Sandi Knoche, Polly Schrom, Kathy Urbaniak*
Missions	
Worship	Polly Schrom

ADMIN & SUPPORT CLUSTER

Building Use/Communications	Steve Hirsch
Finance	Bill Forsyth
Personnel	Tom Zaremba
Property	Larry Jacobson

VISION & COVENANT CLUSTER

Membership/Leadership/Stewardship	Beth Waterhouse
Planning & Policy	

OTHER GROUPS

Judson Historian	Tom Balcom
Judson Preschool Board	Sandy Chatfield, Monica Lewis, Susan Mason, Polly Schrom*
Formerly Known as Knitting Group	Sandy Chatfield
Loaves & Fishes	Gretchen Williams
Messenger	Eileen McLaughlin
Spiritual Voyagers	Ron Cottone
Starfish Ministry	Wayne Urbaniak
The Gathering	Kathy Urbaniak
TRUST Reps	Clay Gustafson & Jim ten Bensel
Ushers	Office Coordinator

The Pastoral Relations committee includes the following people: Joel Frederickson (chair), Greg Lehman, Mary Gustafson, Pam Joern, and Karla McGray. Feel free to speak with any of these people to share ideas, concerns, or thanks.

(*Subcommittee members are listed alphabetically)

Articles for the next issue of the Judson Messenger can be submitted to judsonmessenger@yahoo.com. The deadline is the 20th of each month for the following month.

For hardcopy submissions, see the editor listed on the address page.

WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY 2020

Keep loving each other like family. Please Don't neglect to open up your homes to guests, because by doing this some have been hosts to angels without knowing it. Hebrews 13:1-2

Warm your soul with worship at Judson. Our pastor, G. Travis Norvell, is marking his 20 years of pastoral ministry in 2020. He (and guests) are offering sermons on questions that keep folk up at night. He has found in times of stress, anxiety, and change people know for certain what they do not believe, and yet... they fall back on beliefs or faith systems that bring pain and confusion. The sermon series – *Believe It or Not* – will continue in February and will invite reflection and reconstruction of basic beliefs for a flourishing and healthy life.

We'll be celebrating and welcoming new members on February 2nd and will enjoy a Jazz Sunday service. Bring your hopes. Bring your doubts. Feed your soul. All are welcome!

February 2nd (Communion)

Communion and New Members
Worship Leader: Beth Waterhouse
Music: Fendrick & Peck and Judson Choir

February 9th

Sermon: *Believe It or Not - Small Acts Add Up*
Guest Preacher: Dr. Camerson Howard, Professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary
Worship Leader: Sandi Knoche
Music: Judson Choir

February 16th

Sermon: *Believe It or Not: Integrity is important* - Travis Norvell
Personal Reflection: Brad Joern
Worship Leader: Leslie Rapp
Music: Judson Choir

February 23rd

Jazz Sunday
Worship Leader: Jim ten Bensel
Judson Jazz Group

FEBRUARY MEETING FOR TEXTILE GROUP

Hi Everyone, Karla McGray has offered to be our host. Her address is 2212 Irving Ave So. Mpls. Email: karlamcgray@hotmail.com Phone 612-272-6618. Please let Karla know if you plan to attend.

If Karla is busily welcoming her new baby GRANDDAUGHTER, our backup location will be the Ann Judson Room at JMBC. Just a reminder: there is a flight of stairs at Karla's house. We can aid people on the stairs, so if you can walk up with help, we are there for you: **Saturday, February 8th, at 1 pm.** Carpooling is encouraged, and if you need a ride, email Sandy at schatfield1@comcast.net or text 651-402-0252.



MODERATORS LETTER

Hello, Judsonites,

“Is it safe?” This is the question Laurence Olivier repeatedly asks Dustin Hoffman in Marathon Man. I won’t go into details here, but Olivier played an evil guy who thought Hoffman knew something important that could jeopardize Olivier’s future.

Since Christmas Eve, when Judson worshippers were met at the corner of 41st and Harriet by abusive protestors, it is only natural that some, if not all, of us, have wondered if Judson is a safe place. I have certainly asked myself the question, “is it safe?”

There are, of course, multiple aspects of being safe. There is the physical aspect, and we recoil at the news of people across the country being killed or injured in churches, temples, synagogues, and cathedrals. There is also the spiritual/personal aspect of being safe.

Unfortunately, no one can guarantee our physical safety when we come to Judson. However, the idea of Judson being a safe place where we can individually and communally be fully ourselves without criticism, blame, or judgment has been core to our mission for years. Thankfully, the events of Christmas Eve did not change that. We include our aspirational vision in the bulletin each week: “Judson Church will be a spiritually grounded community united in providing sanctuary for all who enter. We seek to open ourselves to the healing and transforming power of God’s love as we seek to follow the life of Jesus: honoring our deepest differences, seeking justice and mercy, discovering and implementing our gifts, and nurturing our children.”

Are we safe after Christmas Eve? If we mean are we physically safe, it is hard for me to say “yes” or “no definitively.” But if we mean are we spiritually safe, or free to be precisely who each of us is, then I respond with a resounding “YES.”

Thankful to God for each of you exactly as you are,

Brad Joern

Judson Moderator

P.S. In my November and December articles, I mention the work the Judson Council has been doing to help us continue to create a strong community by serving both the current members/attendees and by reaching out in service to the wider community. On February 16 will be giving the reflection, in which I plan to provide additional details about what the Council has been up to. I hope to see you there.

UPDATE ON SHAPAN ORPHANAGE.

The Hoefle’s - Joel, Trish, Nika, Celia, Katiana - and the Judson Mission Committee thank you for your generosity to support the Shapan Orphanage in Myanmar (Burma). To date, 22 Judsonites have contributed \$10,000 to feed, clothe, house, and educate the children (ages 3-17) for 6 1/2 months in a loving and safe environment. We are grateful to you for your generosity to help these children who live in safety in a war-torn country. We invite those of you who are thinking of donating to do so as an annual gift or monthly gift. Our dream is to raise another \$8,000 to support these children for a total of 12 months. We appreciate your consideration.

PHONE DIRECTORY UPDATE.

It is time to update the church directory. There is a large version of the phone directory in the back of the sanctuary. Please check it out to make sure we have the correct contact information for you. If you are not listed, please add your information (name, address, phone, email, and birthday). If you are not sure, call the office to check your information. A new directory will be available in a few weeks. If you would like to receive a copy of the directory in a pdf format to have on your computer, please let me know, and I will send you one.

WAC-WEDNESDAYS AT CURRAN'S

You have an open invitation for you to join Judson folks at 9:00 any Wednesday morning at Curran's (4201 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis). Put it on your calendar as "WaC" = Wednesdays at Curran's. It's another opportunity for us to connect. Just show up and find our group at one of the round tables or a long table. Have breakfast, or just coffee; no agenda or topic-just conversation as we enjoy spending some time together. If you have questions, contact Keith Ford or Wayne Urbaniak.

AMAZON SMILE

Amazon Smile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Shopping at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the same low prices, vast selection, and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from over one million organizations to support. To shop at Amazon Smile, go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You use your same account on Amazon.com and Amazon Smile. Your shopping cart, WishList, a wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same. On your first visit to Amazon Smile smile.amazon.com, you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation. Judson is one of the many 501c(3) public charitable organizations.

OUR VISION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

The children and youth of Judson Church will experience the love of God within our faith community. Here, the Christian story will take on meaning and relevance for their lives so that they become persons of faith: biblically literate, prayerful, seekers of justice and equipped to reflect on moral decisions in light of faith.

MUSIC AT JUDSON IN FEBRUARY

**Judson Memorial Baptist Church Choir and the Twin Cities Jewish Chorale
Together present two performances.**

HOLOCAUST CANTATA

SONGS FROM THE CAMPS

Sunday, Feb. 23, at 4:00 pm and Wednesday, Feb. 26, at 7:00 pm.

The Twin Cities Jewish Chorale and the Judson Memorial Baptist Church Choir unite to perform "Holocaust Cantata Songs from the Camps," a poignant English-Language union of songs and text drawn from original Polish materials in the archives of the US Holocaust Museum.

Sunday, February 23, at 4:00 pm
Judson Memorial Baptist Church
4101 Harriet Ave. S., Minneapolis

Wednesday, February 26, at 7:00 pm
Temple Israel
2323 Fremont Ave. S., Minneapolis

Based on the research of original music sung by inmates in World War II concentration camps, this 40-minute cantata by Donald McCullough is an emotional musical journey. Working from translations of the original Polish, McCullough has fashioned a haunting choral tribute to the six million Jews who were systematically persecuted and murdered. And the millions of other individuals the Nazi Party classified as "undesirables" — Poles, Romanian gypsies, homosexuals, transsexuals, political opponents, religious dissidents, the mentally ill, and the physically disabled.

The Cantata, written in 13 movements alternating between choral/solo singing and readings from letters and diaries, the cantata features the combined choirs, soloists and instrumentalists. The Twin Cities Jewish Chorale is directed by Gary Wolfman, and the Judson Memorial Baptist Church Choir is conducted by John De Hann.

What emerges from one of history's worst horrors is a sense of music's life-affirming powers.

A volunteer donation will be gratefully accepted.

JAZZ SUNDAY AT JUDSON

Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 23rd, at 9:30 am. The highly anticipated annual event, **Jazz Sunday**, will take place. Music for Jazz Sunday is by a combo of top-notch local jazz musicians and will feature members Scott & Josh Johnson, Scott Simpson, and Jim ten Bensele. Joining them will be Dale Alexander, Ollie Lyle, and Russ Peterson.



THE JUDSON MUSIC SERIES WELCOMES BILL STAINES back for an intimate concert in the sanctuary of historic Judson Church in south Minneapolis. General admission at the door with \$15 requested. Friday, February 28, at 7:30 pm.

CHILD OF MINE, RIVER, A PLACE IN THE CHOIR, ROSEVILLE FAIR... these are just a few of Bill's more than 300 contributions to America's folk songbook. Bill has appeared frequently on radio and TV, and his songs are featured in several movies. Bill's

songs have been Peter, Paul and Mary, Glenn Yarborough, Makem & Clancy, Priscilla Herdman, and more. Bill's CDs will be available for purchase. Doors open at 7:00 pm

NEWS FROM THE RACIAL JUSTICE GROUP

Opportunities identified by the Racial Justice Group.

In addressing racial injustice, we seek together, in community, to risk being open to exploring and reflecting on our white privilege. As a group, we intend to share resources, opportunities, and action plans to grapple with racial justice issues. Recognizing that each person approaches this work from their unique personal history, we invite others to join us in what we hope will be "brave" space to reflect, learn, change, and grow.

The next meeting is on February 17 at 9:30 a.m. Events/items in the community that you might want to attend/see include:

- 1) First Thursday Films, part of Black Cinema: Under the Skin - a program exploring Black culture and experience. Topical and relevant, Black Cinema aims to create a space for dialogue and better understanding. Showing on February 6 at 7 p.m. at North Community High School is "Harriet." Come for the movie, stay for the audience discussion. The cost is \$5.
- 2) Penumbra Theatre's regional premiere of Claudia Rankine's THE WHITE CARD. February 6 - March 1. This play poses the essential question: Can American society progress if whiteness remains invisible? The play explores what happens if one is willing to stay in the room when it is painful to bear the pressure to listen and the obligation to respond.
- 3) Luise Forseth recommends Amanda Seales's HBO "I Be Down" and podcast "Small Doses."
- 4) Emily Baxter's video, "We Are All Criminals." Ms. Baxter spoke at the recent Racial Healing meeting here at Judson.
- 5) YouTube video WHITE FRAGILITY - Robin Diangelo <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwIx3KQer54> (If you want a visual and perhaps more accessible version of the book, this is good.)
- 6) Podcast - Universal Design and Equity - 99% invisible <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/99-invisible/id394775318?i=1000412096202> This is a very interesting program about the disability rights movement and how the battles they fought and won actually benefit all of us.

JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY!

As we prepare for the "Big Game" on February 2, Joyce Food Shelf will have its own "Souper Bowl" and see how many cans of soup can be donated. The soup goes a long way for families and provides an easy and nutritious way to warm up on a cold February day. So for February, please bring any and all types of soup to Judson. There are baskets at the back of the sanctuary for the items.

Monetary donations are also appreciated, please designate "Joyce Uptown Food Shelf" on your check or offering envelope. Thank you for your support!



ADULT ED SCHEDULE:

February 2nd - Artist Series Part 5 - Poems and Songs with Madeline Fendrick and Brian Peck. Fendrick & Peck (Madeline Fendrick and Brian Peck) will be our guest speakers for the final offering in our Artist Series. They will also provide the music for our service on Sunday. Madeline and Brian describe their style as "hard-adventuring acoustic music with tight harmonies. Our work centers on the rebellious messages growing in opposition to our cultural narrative; perhaps the answers we seek can be found in the peace in wildness, accepting our authentic selves, and love of the finest kind."

February 9th - Doug Wallace and the Oscars. Doug will talk about three of the Oscar-nominated movies during the second hour. The three movies are Little Women," "Harriet," and A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood."

February 16th - Action Group - LGBTQIA+ - Matt Toburen, Executive Director of The Aliveness Project, will be the LGBTQIA+ group's guest speaker for the February 16th adult education session. The Aliveness Project is a Judson neighbor, located at 3808 Nicollet Avenue, Minneapolis. In addition to describing what the Project offers its members, he will talk about volunteering opportunities for us.

The Aliveness Project was founded as a community center for and driven by people living with HIV. For over 30 years, they have been facilitating connections to the community, offering nutrition and wellness services, and linking their members to resources to lead fulfilling and healthy lives.

February 23rd - Action Group - Climate Justice / Buff Grace, the Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light (MNIPL) solar outreach manager, will be the climate justice group guest during the Feb 23rd adult education session. He will be explaining the proposed Solar Bulk Buy program that Judson has applied to and hopefully will be part of this calendar year and answer questions that church members may have about the program and Judson's participation.

"THANKS"—FROM JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF

2019 was a busy year at Joyce Uptown Food Shelf, and we at Joyce Food Shelf are especially grateful to the Judson church community, and the many ways you supported the Food Shelf and the people we served in 2019.

Joyce Uptown Food Shelf saw a 12% overall increase in individual food shelf visits and compared to 2018.

Here is 2019 by the Numbers:

- * 12,684 total individuals served (4, 606 households)
- * 4,358 children served (ages 0-17)
- * 2,032 first time Food Shelf visitors served
- * 239,556 pounds of food distributed

Looking ahead to 2020 and beyond, the Joyce Uptown Food Shelf will continue to live out our mission to *serve with respect and dignity* and work towards our strategic goals. One of our strategic goals is to provide high quality and quantities of food to all individuals and families that visit the Food Shelf. One way we do that is by providing food options. Food Shelf participants can depend on receiving at each visit. In 2019 we completed a client survey and learned the food items that clients depend on most are meat/protein, fresh produce, eggs, dairy, cereal/rice/pasta. We continue to work towards providing these food options. We are grateful for your help and support!

TRUST HAPPENINGS

TRUST BUILDERS - Join TRUST Builders are building one Saturday a month with Urban HomeWorks. 2020 dates are February 8, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12. We start at 8:30 AM and work until about 3 PM. To sign up, email John Corlett, TRUST Builders Coordinator, at jrcorlett@comcast.net or call him at 612-839-6566 (evenings only). If your church has a TRUST Builders coordinator, please sign up with them.



TRUST'S SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS COALITION FOR GRIEF SUPPORT - offered to anyone in the community who is experiencing a loss. There is no pre-registration, no fee, no expectations. Just come and listen. Chances are you will hear one thing that will help you through the next week. The Winter Series runs on Thursdays, January 23 – March 26, 2020.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY SENIOR MASS AND LUNCHEON - St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church invites all seniors to their St. Patrick's Day Senior Mass and Luncheon, Tuesday, March 17. Mass is at 11:30; lunch, music and door prizes follow. Reservation are required! Call no later than noon on Saturday, March 14th. 612-823-8205. 4537 3rd Ave. S, Mpls. 55419.

COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR WORKSHOP - Living Spirit is offering a FREE Community Gospel Choir Workshop on February 21-23. Do you like to sing? No auditions, open to the community, and no long-term commitment. A local gospel singer, choir director, and historian of black religious music Sherri Orr leads the group.. Friday, Feb 21, 6:30-8:00 PM, Saturday, Feb 22, 10:00 am-Noon, and Sunday, Feb 23, rehearse at 9:30 AM, sing during the service at 10:30 AM. Living Spirit is a multicultural, intergenerational church located at 4501 Bloomington Ave S, Minneapolis. livingspiritumc.org/cgcw

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JOIN US FOR TRUST LOAVES AND FISHES IN 2020! TRUST serves at Loaves and Fishes on the 4th Monday of every odd month. The site is located at St. Stephen's school, 2123 Clinton Avenue South. The remaining dates for 2020 are March 23, May 25, July 27, September 28, and November 23. Current congregations include Judson Baptist, Living Spirit UMC, Linden Hills UCC, and Lutheran Church of Christ the Redeemer. St. John's Lutheran folks retired from Loaves and Fishes at the end of 2019. Many of them had been doing it since we began in 1982. We thank them for all their work and dedication over the 37 years. We need another church or at least another consistent group of people to cook or serve. The program is divided into three teams. One team prepares the food, one team serves, and the third team comes in and cleans up. The schedule for the day is 3:00-5:30—cooking & preparation; 5:15-6:30 -serving; and 5:45-7:00 - cleanup. If you think your church could get involved or you would like to volunteer as an individual, call the TRUST office at 612-827-6159 or email trust@trustinc.org.

TRUST BUILDERS

Join TRUST Builders building one Saturday a month with Urban Homeworks. 2020 dates are February 8, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12. We start at 8:30 AM and work until about 3 PM. To sign up, email John Corlett, TRUST Builders Coordinator, at jrcorlett@comcast.net or call him at 612-839-6566 (evenings only). If your church has a TRUST Builders coordinator, please sign up with them.

Thank you for your support of the work happening in our South Minneapolis community!

MONTH IN REVIEW

On January 12 we looked at the Baptism of Jesus; when Jesus comes out of the water, a voice from the heavens says, "This is my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." So we will explore how baptism, church life, and being blessed are all tied together.



Judson was once again the South Minneapolis Community Partner Host Site for the **MLK Holiday Breakfast on Monday, January 20.** Thanks to a grant from the General Mills Foundation, we will provide breakfast and a live stream viewing of the event. This year's keynote speaker is The Honorable Eric H. Holder Jr., the former Attorney General of the United States and the first African American to serve in that position. This year we welcome Holy Trinity Lutheran Church as host partners.



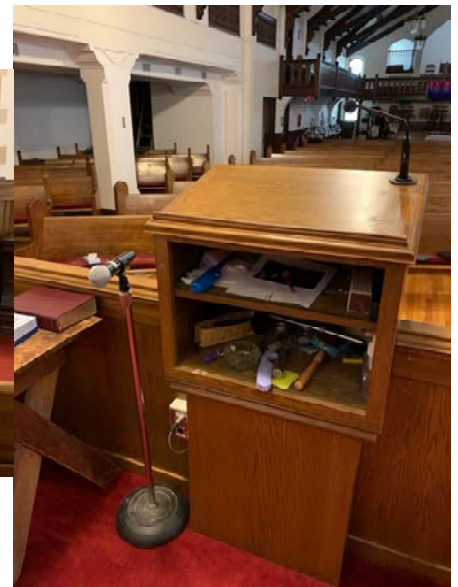
NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING. The City of Minneapolis Office of Race and Equity, along with City Council Vice President Andrea Jenkins, is hosting a community event at Judson Church in Fellowship Hall for the National Day of Racial Healing. The event is on Jan. 21 from 4 - 6 pm and will center around criminal justice reform.





JUDSON HAS A NEW SOUND SYSTEM

The old "60's something" sound system will be replaced with new speakers, microphones, amplifiers, and 6 new hearing assistance units. Bids from three different Twin Cities firms were obtained and the system selected is from EMI Audio from Robbinsdale. Installation was done the week of January 27th. Thanks to Doug Weatherhead, Eileen McLaughlin, and Travis for their help in selecting the system. Larry Jacobson, property committee chair.



New hearing assistance modules.



New wireless mike and lectern mike

New speakers in the choir loft on the right and left



New speakers in the sanctuary.

REGULAR HAPPENINGS AT JUDSON CHURCH

Sundays	9:30 am	Worship Service	
	10:03 am	Fellowship Time	Ann Judson Room
	11:00 am	Second Hour Education	
Mondays	6:30 pm	Women's Strength Training	Providence Room
	Every Monday evening—starts at 6:30 and goes until 7:30		
Tuesdays	7:00 pm	Spiritual Voyageurs	Library
	Meets on the first and third Tuesday of every month.		
Wednesdays	9:00 am	Wednesdays at Currans	Currans Restaurant
	Open invitation for you to join Judson folks at the restaurant. No agenda or topic—just conversation.		
	7:00 pm	Judson Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Every Wednesday evening the choir rehearses music for upcoming services. The choir is always looking for new members.			
Thursdays	7:00 pm	Mahjong at Judson	Ann Judson Room
	Several people have learned how to play mahjong and gather on Thursday evening to play.		

Published monthly by
Judson Memorial Baptist Church

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JUDSON NEWSLETTER

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED