

# Judson Memorial Baptist Church

A Welcoming and Affirming Congregation

March 2020

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## From Travis

Every Sunday, we pray-sing the words, “Lead us not into temptation.” It is a line I pray several times each day (because the prayer book I use has the Lord’s Prayer at least three times each day). I am sure many of you pray it several times a day too. If you don’t, why not try to pray the Lord’s Prayer in the morning, at noon, after supper (then follow it with The Examen before you go to bed). Why?

Well, for one, during Lent, we will focus on the temptations of Jesus in Matthew 4:1-11. Go ahead and read that now, this article will wait. Okay, now that you have read that story, Lent, this year, will make more sense for you.

But there is another reason I am asking you to pray the Lord’s Prayer three times a day during Lent: to think about the ways you are tempted each day, each hour.

I described myself as a recovering racist, a recovering homophobe, a recovering misogynist, a recovering smart aleck. I feel I have made some progress in these areas. I feel I have overcome the culture that fed and nurtured those thoughts and actions. But I would be a fool to think I am not tempted on an hourly basis by those “sins,” ready to pounce and invade again. Perhaps you recall the warning God gave to Cain before he killed his brother Abel in Genesis, “sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.” I hear in God’s admonition to Cain, “you must be transformed.” You cannot deny your temptations, but you must honestly assess and deal with them.

I pray throughout the day some quick form of I’m sorry, help me, thank you. And I invite you to do the same. Because the world is full of too many people that deny they are tempted, who suppress their temptations, and then offer hollow promises and dead-end lines about life. The world needs authentic, honest, hopeful, transformed people.

The Judson sign reads: Transformed People, Transform People. Transformation starts with each of one us in the honest moments of our day. Jesus didn’t deny or hide from his temptations, and neither should we. Jesus shows us a life transformed by grace and love, and this grace and love changed the world...and we can too!

Happy Lent, Travis.

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Daylight Savings Time begins March 8



**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	Jackie Thureson
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](mailto: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 MARCH 2020**

***“The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart.” – Helen Keller***

Warm your heart with worship at Judson during March! As we enter the season of Lent, let us focus on our most basic routines: eating, drinking, and washing. Try a new pattern of life for a day, a week, or the whole Lenten season. For example, whenever you wash your face, your body, the dishes – whenever you encounter water, intentionally recall the waters of baptism. Whatever new pattern you choose, let your goal be to bring to your life fresh mindfulness of God’s tender presence all around.

During this season of Lent, Travis will be focusing on the teachings and writings of African-American author, philosopher, theologian, educator, and civil rights leader Howard Thurman. We will also be blessed by the personal reflections of members Doug Harvey and George Burbie. And we will welcome Sondra Samuels, President & CEO of Northside Achievement Zone, on March 22<sup>nd</sup>!

Bring your hopes. Bring your doubts. Feed your soul. All are welcome!

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**March 1st**

A Reflective Communion Service

Worship Leader: Polly Schrom

Music: Judson Choir

**March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Sermon: G. Travis Norvell

Worship Leader: Linda Wingader

Music: Judson Choir

**March 15<sup>th</sup>**

Sermon: G. Travis Norvell

Personal Reflection: Doug Harvey

Worship Leader: Eileen McLaughlin

Music:

**March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Sermon: Sondra Samuels, President & CEO, Northside Achievement Zone

Worship Leader: Barbara York

Music: Judson Choir

**March 29<sup>th</sup>**

Sermon: G. Travis Norvell

Personal Reflection: George Burbie

Worship Leader: Sandi Knoche

Music: Judson Choir

**Starfish Information—February 2020**

Requesters helped: 8 Total Aid: \$5,107.93

Rental/utility assistance: \$5,007.93

Bus/Gas/Cub/Visa cards: \$100

Monthly budget exhausted: February 7, 2020

Last year we donated \$5,185.97 to Starfish Ministries.

Thank You!



A partnership between Bethlehem Lutheran and Judson  
Episcopal to help individuals and families in temporary crisis.

## MODERATORS LETTER

Hello Judsonites,

Those of you in the pews on Sunday morning, February 16, heard Travis say he thinks Judson is “moving in the right direction.” You also heard me highlight some of the work the Council has been engaged in to keep the momentum going. In my remarks, I reviewed your most frequently noted perceptions from last Fall’s exercise of naming Judson’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. (Note: You named other perceptions in each area, as well, which will also be addressed in the months to come.) You said:

- Judson’s greatest strength is how we welcome all who enter with no judgment.
- Judson’s greatest weakness is helping new people feel connected with the community over the long term.
- Judson’s greatest opportunity is understanding our building as a blessing to the wider community and using it as a place of learning, gathering, sharing experiences, spiritual growth, etc.
- Judson’s greatest threat now is the possibility of becoming distracted from our mission by protestors. (The Council added this one in light of Christmas Eve.)

In each of these areas, the Council created specific steps or goals to be undertaken. Various Judson committees have stepped up to take ownership of several of the goals, and others are being addressed by task forces. Watch for more news as time unfolds.

At our recent February 18, 2020, Council meeting, we discussed the following topics:

- Marketing/communication. Council believes Judson could benefit from a clear and coordinated plan to advance the ministry of Judson through marketing and communication. We may bristle at the word marketing, but we are already doing it whether we realize it or not through the way our building looks and feels, how we greet people, how we leverage our website, how we use Facebook, what our printed materials look like, how we show up in the wider community, etc.

To address the question of marketing Judson, Council has agreed to form an ad hoc Marketing Task Force to develop a comprehensive marketing plan/strategy. Ideally, this task force will consist of about 4 Judson members and 1-2 outside advisors (one of which we hope will be a college intern majoring in marketing). If you have a marketing background or if you are filling a marketing/communication role at your workplace, please let me know if you would be interested in helping with this effort. If you know of a college student majoring in marketing or public relations, please let me know that too. We hope to kick the task force off before the end of May and expect the initial work to take about 3-4 months. The end product of this work will be a report to the Council identifying potential action steps.

- As a companion to the above, the Council also discussed the general responsibility for planning at Judson. We currently recommend not filling the Policy and Planning Committee again for the 2020-2021 year. Why? Given the groundwork the Council has laid this year to identify ways to enhance Judson’s ministry and the forthcoming results from the Marketing Task Force, Council believes it continues to be in the best position to facilitate planning at Judson for another year. Also, Judson policies are generally up to date, but as the need for policy creation or revision arises, existing committees and/or task forces will address that need. As the year unfolds, the question of the responsibility of planning will again be reviewed.
- Council has formed a task force to develop appropriate responses to individuals or groups that publicly protest Judson’s welcoming practices, as well as the overall safety of the congregation during worship. The task force consists of Jackie Thureson, Karla McGray, Betsy Ford, Helen Boddy, Laura O’Halloran, Travis Norvell, and Brad Joern. Look for more information and a possible second hour on this topic.

[cont. on next page]

## “MARCH MILK MADNESS” CHALLENGE

Please help Judson in the “March Milk Madness” challenge. It is a friendly competition between Judson Church and Lake Harriet United Methodist Church. Pastor Travis Norvell and Pastor Karen Bruins are challenging both congregations to see who can collect the most shelf-stable milk in March!



Joyce Uptown Food shelf needs nonperishable, shelf-stable, dairy, or non-dairy milk. It can be powdered milk, almond milk, coconut milk, oat milk, and whole milk. Shelf-stable milk is important to families who may not have refrigeration, and non-dairy milk is often requested by those who are lactose intolerant. Shelf-stable milk also helps us to have milk to distribute if we run out of fresh milk.

Please bring “MILK” to Judson at any time during March. There are baskets at the back of the sanctuary for your items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Please designate “Joyce Food Shelf” on your check or offering envelope and place it in the collection bag.



**“Milk Madness” starts on Sunday, March 1, and goes till Sunday, March 29.**

## MARCH MEETING FOR TEXTILE GROUP

Beth Waterhouse will be our host when we gather in the Ann Judson Room at Judson Church on **Saturday, March 14th, at 1 pm.**



Please let Beth know if you plan to attend. Beth’s email is [waterhousebeth2@gmail.com](mailto:waterhousebeth2@gmail.com). Her phone 952-401-0591.

Carpooling is encouraged, and if you need a ride, email Sandy at [schatfield1@comcast.net](mailto:schatfield1@comcast.net) or call 952-927-8990. All are welcome.

[Moderator’s letter cont.]

- Laura O’Halloran (Vice Moderator) is working diligently to fill the slate of officers and committee members for next year. If she approaches you to participate, all you have to do is say YES! Those who are relatively new to Judson—you don’t have to be a member of Judson to be on a Judson committee. We need your energy, and you might just gain a deeper friend in the process.
- Finally, the Membership, Leadership, Stewardship Committee is forming our 2020-2021 stewardship campaign that will support our budget. The committee has identified Easter Sunday (April 12) as pledge Sunday. You will hear more about this soon, and I encourage you to consider increasing your pledge for the coming year.

Thanks for all you are as the Judson community.

Brad Joern

## Minneapolis Trombone Choir 47th Annual Concert



### Highlights

- 32 Trombones!
- Music from classical to jazz
- Premiers of pieces by Stan Bann, Samantha Hogan, and Glen Newton
- Trombones, Euphoniums & Tubas

**Date: Sunday-March 15, 2020**

Time: 3:00 pm

Judson Church

4101 Harriet Ave, Mpls

Special guests:

Bassoon Bash

Director, Nick VanDuzee

Contact person:

Jim ten Bensel at

612-926-3708 or

Judson Church at

612-822-0649

Suggested donations are \$15. All proceeds from the concert go to support the Judson Music Program.

### HILARIOUS GIVING

In II Corinthians 9, the Apostle Paul is raising money for the church. He would have been a good addition to our stewardship campaign.

*Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*

*II Corinthians 9:7*

Three points stand out, true for Paul and the Corinthians, and true for us at Judson...

1. Giving is an individual decision (“...as you have made up your mind...”). We respect that. It implies thought and prayer--mindfulness and intentionality.
2. Do not give reluctantly or under compulsion. Attitude counts. Our giving to Judson comes not out of obligation but out of generosity, thanksgiving, dedication, hope, and love.
3. Give cheerfully. The Greek word translated “cheerful” is “hilaran.” Related to this Greek word is our English word “hilarious.”

So, our giving can be hilarious? Yes: our pledges can bring crazy joy (to Judson and to us), beyond expectation, hilarious in its generosity and effect. It can make us shake our heads, smile, laugh—and delight in God’s work through us and among us.

Article by Wayne Urbaniak (from Arizona!)

PS: Judson’s Stewardship Campaign will begin the last Sunday of March. You’ll hear more from the letter and lectern.

## Help Our Sanctuary Bloom! Order Easter Flowers Today!



Make our Easter  
alive with color.  
mums, or hydrangeas or  
memory of or in honor of



morning come  
Purchase tulips,  
Pansy Bowls in  
someone you

love, and watch our Sanctuary bloom.

Make your flower selection. Circle you color selection.  
Fill in the number you wish to buy and the total cost.  
Tell us if your choices are in memory or in honor of someone.



Attach a check to the form with Flowers in the memo line and  
place both in the offering plate or mail to the church office by  
Tuesday, March 31, 2020.

FLOWER	QUANTITY	COST EACH	TOTAL
Tulips – (6.5” pot) Red, Purple, Yellow***		\$9.00	
Mums -- (6.5” pot) Purple, Yellow, White		\$9.00	
Hydrangea (8” pot) -- Pink		\$15.00	
Pansy Bowl (10” bowl) assorted colors		\$10.00	
Pansy Bowl (12” bowl) assorted colors		\$15.00	
Check or Cash Total			

\*\*\*You can plant the tulip bulbs in your garden.

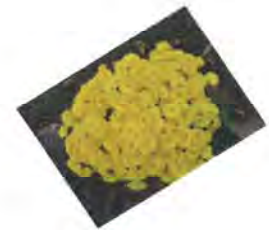
These flowers are in memory/honor of (please circle for each and print names  
clearly):

Memory/Honor \_\_\_\_\_

Memory/Honor \_\_\_\_\_

Memory/Honor \_\_\_\_\_

My name and phone number (please print clearly):




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Thanks very much – Judson Worship Committee

**ADULT ED SCHEDULE:**

**March 1 - Action Group - Racial Justice:** Nadine Graves, Attorney with Hennepin County Adult Representation Services and Board Chair of the non-profit organization We Are All Criminals, will be the Racial Justice group's guest speaker during the March 1st adult forum. Nadine works primarily with people struggling with barriers resulting from criminal backgrounds and dependence upon public assistance. Through individual advocacy, she helps people overcome those barriers and receive opportunities to self-sufficiency through education, employment, and training. Her personal story is compelling. We recommend watching the video "We Are All Criminals" on YouTube prior to March 1 if you have a chance.

**March 8 - Action Group - Youth Homeless**

**March 15 - Intergenerational Event:** Led by Carolyn Kolovitz. We will engage intergenerationally with spiritual-centered questions.

**March 22 - Missions Committee**

**March 29 - Lent Series Part 1 - Harvesting Hope.** The Guest speaker will be Julie Neraas. In these tumultuous and terrifying times, hope maybe our greatest need, its viability our greatest question. What can we hope for? Where might we find and nourish hope? Come for a conversation about the nature of hope and its many sources of hope. Julie Neraas is the author of *Apprenticed to Hope: A Sourcebook for Difficult Times*.

**April 5 - Lent Series Part 2 - Hope.** Travis will continue our conversation about hope.

**MARCH IS MN FOODSHARE MONTH**

This March, Joyce Uptown Food Shelf joins food shelves, faith communities, businesses, and organizations across Minnesota in acting to end hunger and food insecurity.

Did you know that Joyce Uptown Food shelf serves between 380-400 households each month? Joyce Uptown Food shelf is an emergency food shelf primarily serving the Southwest Minneapolis community; however, we are open to all who need food. The food shelf gives participants a three-day supply of nutritionally balanced food once a month.

**Here are some more facts about MN Food Shelves...**

- Over 3,000,000 visits are made to Minnesota food shelves each year.
- 12.5% of children in Minnesota struggle with hunger.
- Nearly 1 in 11 Minnesotans experience food insecurity.
- Local food shelves can often stretch your \$1 into food for two or more meals.
- The 2019 March Campaign raised more than 5.1 million pounds of food and \$8 million for Minnesota food shelves.
- 100% of financial contributions to Minnesota FoodShare via the March Campaign go to participating food shelves. Together, we can ensure #FoodForAllMN.



**Help Take Action Against Hunger in Minnesota! Donate to Joyce Food Shelf in March!**



## TRUST HAPPENINGS

### 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. Reservations are required! Call no later than noon on Saturday, March 14th. 612-823-8205. 4537 3rd Ave. S, Mpls. 55419



**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. See attached flyer for schedule, topics, and speakers.

### ONGOING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**JOIN US FOR TRUST LOAVES AND FISHES IN 2020!** TRUST serves at Loaves and Fishes on the 4th Monday of every odd month at the St. Stephen's site, 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 of 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](mailto:trust@trustinc.org). Think about it. Only five dates are remaining this year.

### TRUST BUILDERS

Join TRUST Builders building one Saturday a month with Urban Homeworks. The remaining 2020 dates are 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](mailto: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 CHORE PROGRAM NEEDS WORKERS!** The program provides household chore and maintenance services to older adults living in South Minneapolis—helping them to continue living safely and independently in their own homes. Currently, TRUST is looking for workers—or volunteers—that can do any of the following jobs: yard work, raking, snow removal, small repairs, and house cleaning. If you are interested, please call the TRUST Chore Program at 612-827-6150.



### LOAVES AND FISHES.

Monday, **March 23**, is Judson's turn to help at Loaves and Fishes. It is our turn to help clean-u[. Please arrive around 5:30 pm. The site is St. Stephen's School, located at 2123 Clinton Ave S., Mpls. Please let Gretchen Williams know if you can help out at [ethereal2classic@gmail.com](mailto:ethereal2classic@gmail.com).

**NEWS FROM THE RACIAL JUSTICE GROUP****Opportunities identified by the Racial Justice Group.**

The next meeting is **Monday, March 23**, at 9:30 a.m.

Events/items in the community that you might want to attend/see include:

- (1) Penumbra Theatre's regional premiere of Claudia Rankine's THE WHITE CARD. **February 6 - March 8**. This play poses the essential question: Can American society progress if whiteness remains invisible? This play is excellent and really helps illustrate the ideas in White Fragility.
- (2) THUNDER KNOCKING ON THE DOOR, **February 21 - April 5**, Ten Thousand Things Theater Co. Mythical tale takes place at the crossroads of "here and there," where Marvell Thunder, a mysterious shapeshifter, challenges Glory, a blind songstress, to a magical duel on the Delta Blues guitar. Some free performances. 1-800-838-3006. [tenthousandthings.org](http://tenthousandthings.org)
- (3) Don't forget about our booklist located in the church library or contact Monica Lewis (612-226-8349) if you want a copy of the list. Recently added to the list: Hope in the Struggle by Josie R. Johnson and Michael W. Twitty's "The Cooking Gene --a journey through African American culinary history in the Old South."

**SAVE THE DATE – APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup>****Judson's Hospitality/Welcoming/Inviting/Engaging Retreat  
9:30 am to 12:30 pm – Judson Church**

For more than a year, we have been talking about our challenge to become the Best, Good-Enough, 150-on -a-Sunday, Progressive Church in America. Judson Council has been prioritizing the work that needs to be done to meet this challenge, and it is clear – we need to be intentional in our hospitality, welcoming, inviting, and engaging individuals who enter our doors.

Judson Church does a good job of an initial welcome; we need to improve; however, on our secondary welcome. For instance, we do a great job of saying hello but not as good of a job of getting to know one another on a deeper level.

***Please join us on April 4<sup>th</sup> as we consider questions like:***

- How do we initially encounter others? How do others encounter us?
- Do we focus on their needs?
- Do we listen?
- What if Starbucks marketed like a church?
- Are we a welcoming church or an inviting church-what do we want to be?
- How welcoming is our building?
- Is hospitality everyone's responsibility?
- How can we engage beyond the worship service?

We can only meet the challenge to become the Best, Good-Enough, 150-on -a-Sunday, Progressive Church in America if we all play a role. We need you!

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Polly Schrom at [pollyschrom@hotmail.com](mailto:pollyschrom@hotmail.com).

MONTH IN REVIEW



Van Johnson became a member of Judson on Sunday, February 2, 2020. Pictured are Travis Norvell, Van Johnson, Beth Waterhouse, and Sandy Chatfield. Van received a prayer shawl and had a special cake at coffee time. It was also the Chinese New Year. Thank you, Yin Simpson, for the beautiful decorations.



Jazz Sunday, February 23, 2020. Dale Alexander (piano), Jim ten Bensel (trombone), Scott Johnson (sax), Ollie Lyle (bass), John Johnson (sax), and Scott Simpson (drums). Congregation marching around the sanctuary to "When the Saints go Marching In."



Lent is an Old English word meaning Spring. It was a time (40 days, from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, the day before Easter; Sundays do not count) fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Some people dread Lent, others love it, and others just shrug their shoulders at it. We extend to you the invitation to observe this season as a way to refresh your soul, practice a new form of spirituality, or reconnect with your true self. Please consider one or some or all of these opportunities to prepare for Easter.

March 1 <sup>st</sup>	9:30 am	First Sunday in Lent a Worship with Communion
March 4th	6:15 pm	Wednesday Contemplative Service
March 8th	9:30 am	Second Sunday in Lent Worship
	5:00 pm	Sunday Conversations: Howard Thurman film, discussion, and dinner
March 11th	6:15 pm	Wednesday Contemplative Service
March 15th	9:30 am	Third Sunday in Lent Worship.
March.18th	6:15 pm	Wednesday Contemplative Service
March 22nd	9:30 am	Fourth Sunday in Lent, Sondra Samuels guest preacher
	5:00 pm	Sunday Conversations: Howard Thurman film, discussion, and dinner
March 25th	6:15 pm	Wednesday Contemplative Service
March 29th	9:30 am	Fifth Sunday in Lent Worship Service
April 1st	6:15 pm	Wednesday Contemplative Service
April 4th	9:30 am	Judson's Hospitality/Welcoming/Inviting/Engaging Retreat (9:30 am to -12:30pm)
April 5th	9:30 am	Palm Sunday with pre-worship Parade around the neighborhood
April 9th	6:15 pm	Maundy Thursday communion service
April 10th	6:15 pm	Good Friday - stations of the cross and contemplative stations
April 12th	8:00 am	Jazz Breakfast
	9:30am	Easter Worship Service

Published monthly by  
Judson Memorial Baptist Church

**Rev. G. Travis Norvell**, Pastor  
gtnorvell@judsonchurch.org

**Carolyn Kolovitz**  
Coordinator Children and Youth  
ckolovitz@judsonchurch.org

**John De Haan**, Director of Music  
jddehaan@aol.com

**Jim Wentink**, Organist  
jfwenti@gmail.com

**Eileen McLaughlin**, Office Manager  
info@judsonchurch.org

Office: 612-822-0649  
Fax: 612-822-8055  
Email: info@judsonchurch.org  
Hours: Monday-Friday  
8:30 am--4:30 pm

Editor: Eileen McLaughlin

## JUDSON NEWSLETTER

**Judson Memorial Baptist Church**  
4101 Harriet Avenue South  
Minneapolis, MN 55409

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**