

# M e m b e r s r e s p o n d

## From Travis

Eight years ago the Norvell family arrived in Minneapolis after a three day journey from New Orleans. As I look back on our time together and where I feel God is calling us into the future I want to go back in time to New Orleans.

When I was in New Orleans I saw churches respond to the devastation from Hurricane Katrina in two ways (I was there post-Katrina from 2009-2012). One, I saw churches let fear consume them: they turned inward: they worried about the building, taking care of only their members, and wanted everything to return to normal asap. Two, I saw churches let hope fuel them: they turned outward: they used all of their resources and talents and passion and love for the common good. By taking this approach they won the ministry lottery: they reached new people and renewed their calling as churches in the community.

As we approach our 17th-21st weeks as a scattered congregation I ask us to take the lesson from my time in New Orleans and apply it to our situation today. I offer six ways for us to do this.

### 1. Remaining Flexible, Agile, and Adept.

People ask every day and week, “When will things go back to normal?” Congregational life as we knew it will never be the same, everything from Sunday worship to meetings to gatherings to how we fulfill our mission will be different. Going forward everything will be new(ish); so stay loose, flexible, agile and adept!

### 2. Personal and Home Devotionals

Through our thrice weekly Judson connections email we include opportunities for prayer, poetry, devotions, and music. Because we cannot meet in-person the email has provided a way for us to stay connected and to practice worship at home. I think this practice has been one of the key reasons we are able to function at such a deep level as a congregation during this time. I think this practice is enabling a resurgence of the soul of Judson Church.

### 3. Deeper Engagement

Let us take congregational voting as an example. We used to be happy with 30-40 people participating in a church vote. Since the scattering we have had two ballots and the voting response has been doubled and then some from previous voting measures. Going forward let us find ways to engage the congregation and neighbors at every opportunity!

[continued on page 6]



## Inside this Issue

Officers and Chair people 2020-2021 .....	2
Moderator Letter .....	3
Judson Emergency Fund Update.....	4
New Moderator Letter .....	5
Social Gatherings / Work in the Garden at Judson .....	6
TRUST Updates .....	7
Racial Justice updates .....	8
YouthLink/Homelessness-Youth/Food Shelf.....	10
Covid 19 and Judson Gatherings .....	11

**OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2020-2021****EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Moderator	Laura O'Halloran	Vice Moderator	Monica Lewis
Secretary	Brian Satrom	Treasurer	Bill Forsyth

**FAITH & SPIRIT CLUSTER**

Christian Education		Kristine Revak
Adult Education		*
Congregational Care		Luise Forseth
Hospitality Team Leaders		Sandi Knoche, Polly Schrom*
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*
Textile Group [Formerly Known as Knitting Group]		Sandy Chatfield
Loaves & Fishes		Gretchen Williams
Messenger		Eileen McLaughlin
Marketing Team:		Brad Joern (Organizer)
Spiritual Voyagers		Ron Cottone
Starfish Ministry		Wayne Urbaniak
The Gathering		Kathy Urbaniak
TRUST Reps		Jim ten Bensel
Ushers		Office Manager

The Pastoral Relations committee includes the following people: Joel Frederickson (chair), Greg Lehman, Mary Gustafson, Pam Joern, Leslie Rapp, 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.

## OUTGOING MODERATORS LETTER

Dear Judsonites,

This is my final Messenger article as your Moderator. Each month I have attempted to fill you in on the workings of the Council as well as offered up a bit of my own philosophies of what I think makes Judson relevant. On Tuesday, August 21, 2020, I chaired my last Judson Council meeting and spent some time at the end of the meeting, reflecting on the past year and on the future. In sitting down to write this piece, I thought—“Hey Brad, why re-create the wheel? Why not just tell the readership what you told the Judson Council?” So try to imagine yourself as a Judson Council member and read the following like I am talking to you—because, in reality, the Judson Council doesn’t exist without you.

\*\*\*\*\*

- First, I thank all of you for your engagement in the Judson community —not just the past and the present, but most importantly in Judson’s future. You and your committees have done amazing work with grace in a very challenging environment. As Council members, you have helped each other, and you have helped me to be focused on doing the important generative work that will help Judson grow. Here are some things that you did—I am offering this with a sincere apology, knowing that many other important things that have been accomplished that I am either unaware, forgotten, or don’t have room for here:
- You entered into creative and sincere dialogue about Travis’s challenge to Judson to be “The best, good-enough, 150-worshipping on a Sunday, progressive church in America.” That dialogue resulted in each Council member agreeing to take up this challenge and lead the congregation toward reaching that goal.
- You agreed to lead from a perspective of abundance in all its forms—energy, creativity, connection, spirit, intelligence, finances.
- You gathered information from the congregation to identify key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats that will either enhance or inhibit our ability to meet this challenge. You identified prominent themes in each of these areas to focus our efforts on, and you created some plans to address the top 4-5 items in each area. You authorized the creation of a task force to develop a Judson marketing strategy.
- At the same time, you were fulfilling your role as a committee chair or officer—planning worship, initiating and facilitating ongoing and new educational opportunities, providing care to community members in need of help, greeting and welcoming familiar and new faces, engaging and managing new tenants, addressing property needs, creating and implementing financial plans, hiring and managing staff, planning and executing stewardship campaigns, and much more.
- When things seemed to be rolling smoothly toward the spring, our world changed. You came together and made hard decisions about suspending services at Judson, about the importance of staying in community, about meeting community needs, about moving forward in the community on key projects and other Judson business. You did all of this with intentional, abiding grace.

Second, I encourage all of you to continue working to fulfill the challenge we agreed on.

- I urge you to recognize and celebrate that even during our suspension—positive things have been happening as a result of the work you and others have been doing. Progress toward growth has happened.
- One day we will return to a time when it is safe to gather again at Judson, but let’s face it, even when we lift the suspension and gather again, much will have changed. I urge you to help the congregation channel all that is the same, and all that is different, and all that might be uncomfortable into something even more beautiful.
- I encourage you to recognize a “new” Judson community—consisting of the regulars that we all know and love but also of those we don’t know but who have tuned-in and even contributed to Judson’s work during COVID-19. These folks should not be forgotten once re-gathering occurs. [cont. on page 4]

[continued from page 3]

- I encourage you to keep helping people discover that they want to be a part of the Judson community. Launch the marketing strategy task force.
- Keep working on the items we identified out of the SWOT work. There is really good stuff there—but it needs time and space to be fleshed out and implemented. It doesn't have to happen all at once. Pick 2-3-4 items to implement. Feel the success of that. Then, move on to the next things on the list.

Third, on a personal level, thank you for supporting me over the last year. I feel really good about what we accomplished together. I especially appreciate that we were all able to respectfully dialogue together, to encourage each other, and to seek common ground on challenging issues. I appreciate that you didn't sit back and simply accept some of the crazy ideas I brought to the meetings, but rather considered and offered alternatives so that we could find better solutions. A good team does that routinely and gracefully.

Finally, I am very grateful for the support and engagement of staff. Travis, you have been a true leader and partner in our collective efforts. Carolyn, your voice has been a fresh contribution to our work, and Eileen, you have been rock solid in supporting the work of the Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

Okay—back to the current time. Thank you, Judsonites, for your support of the Judson Council's work. It has been a true privilege to lead the Judson Council this past year. Thank you for “showing up” in surprising ways even when we could not—and still can't—meet as a congregation. Thank you for being open to new ways of being Judson in the future. And thanks in advance for the support I know you will give Laura O'Halloran (incoming Moderator) and the Judson Council during the rest of the 2020-2021 year.

With sincere thanks,

Brad Joern

Judson Moderator (until August 1)

### THE JUDSON EMERGENCY FUND

Here is the guiding principle of the Fund as approved by the Judson Church Council:

“The Judson Emergency Fund will have a two-fold purpose. The first, to collect and disburse funds to the Judson community members who are experiencing difficulty due to COVID 19. The second to collect and disperse funds within Minneapolis to help organizations, non- profits, and local businesses who are helping to feed, house, and heal people after the event emanating from George Floyd's death. Distribution of the funds will be managed cooperatively by a team consisting of the Pastor, a member of the Judson Congregational Care Committee, and the Moderator. Additional oversight will be managed by having the church administrator prepare the checks to be signed by the Judson Financial Secretary. Requests will come to the Pastor and be discussed with the other team members before a final decision is made. At the very least, each month, a report will be included in the Messenger, to the Judson Council and other donors, detailing disbursements. (with privacy concerns taken into consideration.)”

Funds collected thus far: \$36,695

Disbursements for Judson community needs: \$2,420.

Disbursements for broader community needs: \$29,275

\$18,195 Appetite for Change (parent organization of Breaking Bread Cafe) They are providing over 1,000 meals a day for families in North Minneapolis.

\$2,500 Calvary Lutheran Church (Food Shelf)

\$2,500 Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Food Shelf)

\$2,080 Green Central PTA (helping Green Central families with rent/utilities/food)

\$1,000 Family in need

\$2,000 We Win Institute (book drop program)

\$1,000 Healing Our City

Balance: \$5,000 (\$5,000 for Judson Community, \$0 for broader community)

If you would like to donate, please indicate on your check or online donation: Judson Emergency Fund.

**INCOMING MODERATORS LETTER**

Dear Judsonites,

This is not how I imagined becoming your Moderator. It's two months after our usual transition period, we are (still) dealing with a Pandemic, and we are in the midst of a racial awakening. Any given year and one of these things would be life-changing/challenging, but we are dealing with all three at once...can I just say that life is sometimes really hard right now?

In last month's Messenger, Brad talked about the cocoon stage that a caterpillar goes through to become a butterfly. I like the NPR Radiolab episode about the Chrysalis stage called "Goo and You" in which they discuss the memories that caterpillars take with them through the goo stage and into the butterfly stage. Brad talked about two sets of DNA and the mysteries that scientists are still discovering. Radiolab poses the question, what of my future self is already in me right now? I would also like to suggest that this mysterious time that we are living in is just that: mysterious. Live into that and be open to the transformation of what is to come. What will you take with you from your old life, what will you let go of? What is Judson willing to take from its old life, and what is it willing to let go of?

On August 1, when my time as Moderator at Judson officially begins, I plan on continuing the work that Brad Joern (our current Moderator) laid out for us. Our SWOT analysis yielded some important information, especially in the "Weaknesses and Opportunities" areas that will be helpful in guiding us into the future. We will also be continuing our four working groups: Youth Homelessness, Climate Justice, LGBTQIA+ and Racial Justice...how might those four groups play into our future? I am currently catching up on reading White Fragility, which the rest of the congregation read last year. If you have not read it, I encourage you to do so. I encourage you to continue reaching out to your fellow Judson community...life is hard for everyone right now. I encourage you to share the message of Judson and the work we are trying to do with your friends and neighbors. I encourage you to fully live in and embrace the mysterious goo transition that we are in, and hopefully, we will come out of this on the other side, having loved our world in a new existence and transformed into something amazing.

I look forward to the unique year ahead. Thanks for coming along on this journey with me.

~Laura O'Halloran, Judson Moderator 2020 to 2021

P.S. I would be remiss for not thanking Brad Joern for all the work that he has done this last year. If you had asked him to predict how this last year was going to go, he would have never thought of this! The year itself has presented challenges to which he was able to navigate us through expertly. He also challenged us to be better, and he kept us moving forward. Under his leadership, I believe we rose to the occasion. Thank you, Brad, for everything you have done this year, for being a leader that I was able to watch and learn from, for allowing me to be a sounding board and for putting into motion a way forward. Ever so humbly, your Vice Moderator.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ENGAGEMENT IN THE CONTINUING MINISTRY OF JUDSON CHURCH**

Results from mail-in ballots to the current voting membership on two issues:

Judson's 2020-2021 slate of officers/committee chairs, and Judson's 2020-2021 revenue/expense budget.

Both issues were accepted by the Judson Council after recommendations by the Vice Moderator, Laura O'Halloran (slate), and the Finance Committee (budget) and were presented to the congregation for approval via mail-in ballot. Based on a voting membership of 141 people, a quorum is represented by 28 (20%) returned individual ballots. Returned ballots were counted separately for each for each of the two issues with the following results:

For the slate of 2020-2021 officers/committee chairs: For the 2020-2021 revenue/expense budget:

84 total votes: 82 votes in favor, 2 votes opposed/ 82 total votes: 78 votes in favor, 2 votes opposed, 2 abstentions

The voting members approved the slate. The voting members approved the revenue/expense budget.

The new slate of officers and committee chairs will assume their duties on August 1, 2020. The revenue and expense budget covers the period June 1, 2020, through May 31, 2021.

[Travis continued from page 1]

#### 4. The Ministry of the Laity

Because of the scattering, we had to decentralize congregational care from something just the pastor and the Congregational Care team did to a practice the entire congregation does. I love it when I call someone, and they say, "So and so-called this week or so and so sent a lovely card." Keep connecting, keep emailing, keep texting, keep calling, keep gathering in socially distanced ways, keep caring. This practice is making a difference and changing lives. If you need help, just ask the Congregational Care team they have great conversation starters and other ideas!

#### 5. Expanding Development (fundraising)

I once read that when congregations share their love and passion with the community in an invitational manner the outside community will respond. We saw this happen when we opened up the Judson Emergency Fund for the broader community. Suddenly, people from all over the nation gave to the fund. We have collected, so far, over \$36,000 and have disbursed over \$36,000 and have disbursed over \$31,000 (we are reserving \$5,000 donors earmarked for Judson members experiencing financial hardship). In just ten weeks, we collected more than we collected all of last year for missions!

#### 6. Broadening the Judson Community

We used to define a Judson member by someone who walked through our doors and lived within an hour or two of 4101 Harriet Ave. Since scattering, our community has grown to include people from all over the US and from different nations. Going forward, we will not be limited to physical proximity, instead going forward, we will simply say: At Judson Church, your name is sacred, you are loved, your life matters and your passion and love and energy are needed.

Going forward, this will be a bit messy, and we will make mistakes, but we will not let fear consume us. And when you feel fear creeping into your soul, we will all say with you, "not today Satan."

I am sure you have others you would like to add to the list! What are they?

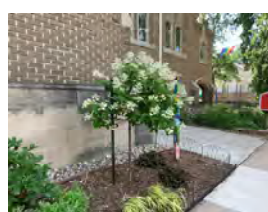
### SOCIAL GATHERINGS IN THE PARK

Are you missing your Judson friends? Do you want to see them in person rather than on Zoom? Each week while the weather cooperates, you will be invited to a short Social Gathering in one of our city parks. The first one was Monday, August 20th, from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Martin Luther King Park. Seventeen folks brought their own chairs and arrived wearing masks until settled 6' apart. Anyone can host a similar event. Just pick a week and let the Balcom's know which week you have chosen to avoid duplication. Eileen will publicize the time, date, and location. Hope to see many of you at these gatherings coming up.



### HAVE YOU SEEN OUR BEAUTIFUL JUDSON GARDENS THIS SUMMER?

A few of us have gathered monthly to weed, water, label, plant, and deadhead our rain gardens. Others have concentrated on the boulevards (edging and mowing) or the alley (sweeping and weeding). Our next session is Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00. After working for a couple of hours, those who want can head over to Beard's Plaisance at Lake Harriet to socially distance and eat our packed lunches. I hope you can make it. Call Barb Balcom with questions – 612-718-9482.





## A New Season

### Rev. Toya Richards tapped to lead TRUST as Executive Director

Rev. Toya Richards, a pastor, faith-based leader, and veteran communications professional, has been hired to guide TRUST into the next phase of its life as an agency committed to community service. Richards, who was unanimously approved as Executive Director by the TRUST Board of Directors, took the helm on June 15. She comes to the position having served as a pastor and associate minister in congregations in Wisconsin and Kentucky, as a denominational leader in both the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Alliance of Baptists, and as an entrepreneur focused on social justice. Richards also has 30 years of experience as a communicator, and her portfolio includes writing and editing positions with the

Lexington (KY) Herald-Leader, the Burlington (VT) Free-Press and the Chicago (IL) Sun-Times.

“I couldn’t be more pleased to join TRUST leadership, staff, congregational partners, and all of our committed volunteers in the vital work that TRUST has been engaged in for 50 years,” Richards said. “I look forward to building on the legacy of those who have faithfully served TRUST to this point, and will work collaboratively to guide the agency into the next season of its life.”

Richards, a native of Louisville, Ky., holds a bachelor of arts degree in journalism from Western Kentucky University and a master of divinity degree from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She is currently working on a doctor of ministry degree, with an emphasis in pastoral care from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. She also is an ordained minister through a congregation affiliated with the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

## A NOTE FROM CLAY GUSTAFSON

Dear Judson community:

I write this to notify you that after over ten years serving as one of Judson’s TRUST representatives, I am resigning from that position. I feel that I’m perhaps becoming a bit stale in this role and that I need to step back before I become moldy! You might have seen my name on the slate of candidates ballot that had been sent out because I neglected to notify Laura O’Halloran of my decision in a timely manner. Typically, a person wouldn’t publicly announce such a decision, but since I feel that TRUST is such a strong component of Judson’s local outreach and mission work, I must publicize this for two reasons:



- I hope to inspire another person to step up and join Jim ten Bensel as Judson’s representatives on the TRUST board. Ideally, a new representative would live in or near the south Minneapolis area served by TRUST. Also, a person of relative youth and energy would be invaluable to TRUST. (I believe, at age 56, that I am the youngest member of TRUST’s board. Not to say that the board is stodgy or boring; they are very dedicated, caring, fun people to know.)
- I want to keep TRUST in the forefront of people’s minds as an important and worthy recipient of Judson’s human and financial resources.

If you think that you might be a fit for the TRUST board, please contact me or Jim and check out the TRUST website to learn more. There is new excitement and energy at TRUST with the hiring of our new Executive Director, Toya Richards. She will be a committed, passionate advocate for TRUST in carrying out its mission. Thank you for the opportunity to represent Judson on the TRUST Board of Directors. Special thanks to Eileen McLaughlin for continually keeping the Judson community informed on all things TRUST.

Clay Gustafson

## UPDATE FROM THE JUDSON BAPTIST RACIAL JUSTICE ACTION TEAM

August 25, 2020

In August, the work of Judson's Racial Justice Team included:

- Sharing self-education opportunities to become better allies for racial justice. Please refer to the Messenger, News Flash emails, or the Judson website for listings.
- Activism for systemic change. We are:
  - ◊ In discussions with representatives of organizations with whom we hope to collaborate or join. We expect to send a recommendation to the Church Council in August.
  - ◊ Reaching out to the Minneapolis police in the 5<sup>th</sup> precinct to arrange for someone to speak at one of our meetings.
  - ◊ Trying to identify and refine the specific niches in which Judson can work most effectively.
  - ◊ Implementing a campaign to help people vote by mail in the November election.
- Community volunteering for relief efforts. Individuals have spent volunteer hours at We Win Institute (providing education and food support for children of color – 3751 17<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. Minneapolis) and the 30-Days of prayer facilitated by Don and Sondra Samuels at Hawthorne Crossing in North Minneapolis.

Current participants of the Racial Justice Team includes Keith Ford, Gayle Foster, Clay Gustafson, Jean Hayes, Lynn Hesse, Brad Joern, Pam Joern, Paul Johnson, Monica Lewis, Karla McGray, Travis Norvell (ex-officio), Leslie Rapp, Scott Simpson, Jim ten Bensel, Beth Waterhouse, Carley Watts, Margot Willett,

You are invited to join this effort. As of August 10, meetings are every other Monday at 10 AM on ZOOM. Contact Leslie Rapp ([leslieirapp@gmail.com](mailto:leslieirapp@gmail.com)) for the link.

### Racial Justice Resources – August 13

The Racial Justice Team has been charged with providing concrete examples and practices to show the way for the broader Judson community to “make the beloved community a reality.” Our intent is to provide a range of educational, reflective, and action-oriented practices bi-monthly. This is our second offering. Past suggestions can be found on the Judson Website under the ACT tab.

Have a resource you'd like to share with folks? Please email Carley Watts, and we will add them to our resource “library.” [carleybwatts@gmail.com](mailto:carleybwatts@gmail.com).

Educational Resources (books, articles, podcasts, films)

- **White Fragility – book and talk**
  - ◊ [https://www.magersandquinn.com/advanced\\_search\\_result?psm=all\\_available&q=title&qw=white+fragility](https://www.magersandquinn.com/advanced_search_result?psm=all_available&q=title&qw=white+fragility)
  - ◊ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45ey4jgoxeU>
- **America's Enduring Caste System by Isabel Wilkerson.** New York Times, August 5, 2020
  - ◊ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/01/magazine/isabel-wilkerson-caste.html>
- **I Am Not Your Negro James Baldwin Documentary** narrated by Samuel L. Jackson on Netflix

Community Actions:

- **Attend 30 Days of Prayer: Healing the Heart of Our City, hosted by Don and Sondra Samuels.** This is a shared public ritual where people of all faiths and goodwill can come together throughout the day for 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silent prayer/meditation. 10 am – 7 pm daily through August 30. 912 W. Broadway Ave. (at Bryant Ave. N. - parking onsite, wear masks, social distancing observed.) <https://www.startribune.com/minnesota-s-30-days-of-prayer-seeks-spiritual-insights-into-police-political-problems/571666632/>



Racial Justice Resources –continued.

Community Actions:

- **Volunteer to help with 30 Days of Prayer: Healing the Heart of Our City.** Sarah Baker is helping to organize and schedule the set-up and take-down (tables, chairs, prayer rugs, etc.). Timeframes are 9:30 - 10:00 am and 7 - 7:30 pm daily. Please email Sarah
- at [sarahcoxbaker@hotmail.com](mailto:sarahcoxbaker@hotmail.com) to get on the schedule. The work takes place outdoors, and there are typically not many people there, so social distancing is easily observed.
- **Request Mail-in Ballot from Secretary of State’s Office.** Voting is our civic responsibility. August is the MN Primary, and November is the general election. Because we don’t know exactly how the COVID pandemic might impact our polling places or our personal comfort in going to the polls in person, we recommend that you apply for an absentee ballot today! <https://mnvotes.sos.state.mn.us/ABRegistration/ABRegistrationStep1.aspx>
- **Attend the Racial Justice “Bridgal”** - The Kingfield Neighborhood invites all to participate in the “bridgal” on the 38th St. Bridge over 35Wevery Tuesday from 4:30 – 5:30. Bring your own sign or help hold a large banner for racial justice.

Reflection Activity:

Take a moment to reflect on what’s above and below the line. Have you ever found yourself thinking or saying or doing some of the things from below the line?

**Overt White Supremacy (Socially Unacceptable)**

Lynching  
Hate Crimes  
Blackface The N-word  
Swastikas Neo-Nazis Burning Crosses  
Racist Jokes Racial Slurs KKK

---

**Covert White Supremacy (Socially Acceptable)**

Calling the Police on Black People White Silence Colorblindness  
White Parents Self-Segregating Neighborhoods & Schools  
Eurocentric Curriculum White Savior Complex Spiritual Bypassing  
Education Funding from Property Taxes Discriminatory Lending  
Mass Incarceration Respectability Politics Tone Policing  
Racist Mascots Not Believing Experiences of BIPOC Paternalism  
“Make America Great Again” Blaming the Victim Hiring Discrimination  
“You don’t sound Black” “Don’t Blame Me, I Never Owned Slaves” Bootstrap Theory  
School-to-Prison Pipeline Police Murdering BIPOC Virtuous Victim Narrative  
Higher Infant & Maternal Mortality Rate for BIPOC “But What About Me?” “All Lives Matter”  
BIPOC as Halloween Costumes Racial Profiling Denial of White Privilege  
Prioritizing White Voices as Experts Treating Kids of Color as Adults Inequitable Healthcare  
Assuming Good Intentions Are Enough Not Challenging Racist Jokes Cultural Appropriation  
Eurocentric Beauty Standards Anti-Immigration Policies Considering AAVE “Uneducated”  
Denial of Racism Tokenism English-Only Initiatives Self-Appointed White Ally  
Exceptionalism Fearing People of Color Police Brutality Fetishizing BIPOC Meritocracy Myth  
“You’re So Articulate” Celebration of Columbus Day Claiming Reverse-Racism Paternalism  
Weaponized Whiteness Expecting BIPOC to Teach White People Believing We Are “Post-Racial”  
“But We’re All One Big Human Family” / “There’s Only One Human Race” Housing Discrimination

Resources for Parents (books to guide discussions about race with children)

- **Antiracist Baby by Ibram X. Kendi.** Antiracist Baby introduces the youngest readers and the grown-ups in their lives to the concept and power of antiracism. Providing the language necessary to begin critical conversations at the earliest age, Antiracist Baby is the perfect gift for readers of all ages dedicated to forming a just society. [https://www.magersandquinn.com/product\\_info?products\\_id=9172718&isbn\\_id=12195621](https://www.magersandquinn.com/product_info?products_id=9172718&isbn_id=12195621)
- **I am Alfonso Jones by Tony Medina.** Graphic Novel In the first graphic novel for young readers to focus on police brutality and the Black Lives Matter movement, as in Hamlet, the dead shall speak--and the living yield even more surprises. Forward by Bryan Stevenson [https://www.magersandquinn.com/advanced\\_search\\_result?psm=all\\_available&qt=title&qw=I+am+alfonso+jones](https://www.magersandquinn.com/advanced_search_result?psm=all_available&qt=title&qw=I+am+alfonso+jones)

**30 Days of Prayer**  
HEALING THE HEART OF OUR CITY

Join us in prayer for the healing our city  
Our communities are experiencing deep and multi-layered trauma. The devastation of COVID-19, when combined with the heinous murder of George Floyd, created a perfect pain storm, with riots, looting, and arson, followed by a steep escalation in violent crime. This has brought us all to a more painful awareness of the alienation of our youth and of ongoing generational and systemic racism. 30 Days of Prayer: Healing the Heart of Our City is a month-long, African American-led collaborative conceived to add a vital spiritual factor to all the strategic thinking, policy proposals and investments being considered.

This is a shared public ritual where people of all faiths and good will can come together throughout the day for 8 minutes and 46 seconds of silent prayer/meditation. These consecutive prayer sessions will take place under a tent located in the Hawthorne Crossings parking lot at the corner of West Broadway Ave. and Bryant Ave. N. in North Minneapolis. Over the course of 30 days, we will collectively grieve our losses, open ourselves to change, and pray for a new future. All are welcome.

In addition to in-person physically distanced prayer, there will be opportunities to interact with the wider community from home by offering prayers, photos, videos and positive messages through social media using the hashtag #healingourcity.

This is a grassroots initiative that will evolve as more people participate.  
For the latest, please visit: [www.healingourcity.org](http://www.healingourcity.org)

July 1-30, 2020  
10am - 7pm, daily  
Hawthorne Crossings  
[www.healingourcity.org](http://www.healingourcity.org)



### DONATIONS NEEDED FOR YOUTH LINK

The Action Group for Youth Experiencing Homelessness has contacted Youth Link recently. The new donor relations and volunteer manager is Angela Deeney. If you have any questions, she can be reached at 612-252-1280 or by email at [deeney@youthlinkmn.org](mailto:deeney@youthlinkmn.org)

They are open and serving youth on a limited basis. They are hoping to start serving hot meals in September. Angela said she will keep us informed of any possible volunteer opportunities in the future.

Right now, they need of the following items: Because of the Coronavirus, these items need to be NEW with TAGS still on.

White undershirts for men (all sizes up through 2XL)

Women's underwear (all sizes)

Women's bras (all sizes)

Shoes (men and women's all sizes)

Socks - (men and women's all sizes)

Jeans, leggings, and joggers (men's & Women's all sizes)

Women's/Men's hoodies (all sizes)

Women's white/black t-shirts (all sizes)

You can also view their list of needs or if you'd rather just purchase some online at <https://a.co/id4KjFA> That link should take you to YouthLink's list of needs on Amazon.

Items can be left at Judson Church, and Kathy Urbaniak will deliver them to Youth Link. Any questions, call Kathy at 612-232-3924.

### YOUTH EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ACTION GROUP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Our action group is planning to regather in the near future, and would love to have some Judson folk join us. We are reconnecting with YouthLink and would like to expand our donations and help to other organizations supporting Youth Experiencing Homelessness. If you know of an organization and would like to support them, please join our group.

We will meet outside if possible and practicing social distancing. Please contact Kathy Urbaniak at 612-232-3924, if you are interested.

### JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF ACCEPTING DONATIONS ON FRIDAYS FROM 9 AM UNTIL 1 PM.

If you can donate any of the following items, please bring them to Joyce Food Shelf on Fridays, or you may bring them to Judson Church, and Jim ten Bensel or Kathy Urbaniak will deliver them to the food shelf.

Most needed items right now:

Diapers - Size 5 and 6

Disinfectant Wipes

Dish Soap

Laundry Detergent (not the big ones, smaller sizes that are easier to carry)

Personal Hygiene items such as deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, etc.



You can also make a monetary donation by sending a check to Judson Church and designate Joyce Food Shelf. Or, you can process an online donation by using Vanco: go to the [judsonchurch.org](http://judsonchurch.org) website, click on "Give," then "DONATE NOW," then put your donation amount in the food shelf box, and then "continue"...

*Thank you for your continued support.*

### OFFICE UPDATE

Eileen is now working five days a week at the church office. However, during August, Eileen will be taking Mondays off as vacation. Her hours are from 9 am to 4 pm. Please feel free to contact her at the office, and if she is not available, please, leave a voicemail or send an email to ([info@judsonchurch.org](mailto:info@judsonchurch.org)). Eileen P.S. Eileen also has a new email address. It is [maceileen50@gmail.com](mailto:maceileen50@gmail.com)

## COVID-19 AND JUDSON CHURCH GATHERINGS

When will the Judson Church building be open again, for worship and/or other gatherings? What safeguards will be implemented, given the Covid-19 situation? What adaptations will be made? How will things be the same? How will they be different?

Good questions.

Pastor Norvell asked Barb and Tom Balcom and Kathy and Wayne Urbaniak to serve as a "Covid-19 Working Group." The four of us met with Eileen and Travis on August 22, and continue to gather information, explore options and do the planning.

First, we discussed present uses occurring at Judson, including Meals on Wheels, taping of Sunday worship services, one of the counselors who rents space, and the Judson office. Eileen and Travis reported the present uses are comfortable for them.

Thinking ahead, Eileen has ordered and received a touchless thermometer, bottles of hand sanitizer, and a supply of masks.

We discussed the protocols and limitations of regathering for worship and other gatherings at Judson. Barb and Tom followed up with specific measuring and laying out of possible church seating, which would ensure social distancing.

We discussed options in place of or in addition to meeting at the church, such as meeting outside, either by Judson or at another location. We gave ourselves assignments for additional information-gathering, planning, and communication.

We concluded with the following specific points:

1. There will be no in-house worship services at Judson in August.
2. We will continue meeting to determine whether September is a possibility.
3. We will begin a weekly "Social Gathering in the Parks"; see the related article.
4. Masks should be worn within Judson, and we should continue to exercise caution.
5. Judson will continue to urge people to encourage one another in a variety of ways.

We look forward to the future with hope and optimism. Judson is doing an outstanding job of on-line worship, reaching out to members and others, and being creative and resourceful in continuing the work of the church. As Pastor Norvell stated, "Sunday morning worship will never be like it was." But the future will present new opportunities for all of us who are blessed by being a part of Judson Church.





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**