



MESSENGER

Message from Travis

The other day I sat on a park bench talking with a young Black man about the state of race relations in Minneapolis. He asked me, "Do you think things are going to change? I don't." On the one hand I want to think the present moment offers us a chance to change for the better. On the other hand, I can already see normal patterns, thoughts, and solutions taking hold. We, people of conscience, the faith community, the Christian community, the Judson community, have to find a way to break the cycle of violence and dehumanization.

I think reparations is a way, not the only way, to start breaking that cycle. Why? My theology professor once said the most theological statement a church produces is its budget! Where we invest and spend our money reveals more about our values than any of our documents or actions. Rev. Kevin Cosby, Senior Pastor of St. Stephen Church & President of Simmons College of Kentucky in Louisville, said, "If white churches want to form relationships with the Black community, then act with your dollars. Hire us, buy our products, use our services, support our institutions."

Author, professor, commentator, and preacher Michael Eric Dyson ends his book Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America with this plea for reparations, "*be creative in transferring a bit of your resources, even if in modest amounts, to deserving and often struggling descendants of the folk who gave this country its great wealth and whose offspring rescued its reputation for democracy.*"

Let us, as a congregation, find and discern a way to help repair the brokenness in our world. Let us, as a congregation, find and discern a way to share our abundance. Let us, as a congregation find and discern a way to link social justice with the Beloved Community.

Lastly, please vote on or by November 3; we owe it to the memories of people that many suffered and died for us to exercise our right to vote. We owe it to people like Rep. John Lewis and Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Love,

Travis

Inside this Issue

Officers and Chair people 2020-2021	2
Moderator Letter	3
Judson Preschool Update / Joyce Foodshelf	4
Assn Welcoming and Affirming meeting	5
Odds and Ends / Social Gatherings / Starfish	6
Month in Review	7
Turn on the lights-Region meeting anti-racism	8
Racial Justice Resources	9
Intergenerational Education Opportunities	10
Covid 19 Working Group update / TRUST Auction ...	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			Keith Ford
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 Rep			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. The deadline is the 20th of each month for the following month.

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

MODERATOR'S LETTER

One of the books I've recently finished reading is Glennon Doyle's newest, *Untamed*. It was honest, raw, and unapologetic. One of the quotes from the book I've been thinking about comes at the end of a chapter discussing how to have difficult conversations with your kids in which she ends by saying, "We can do hard things." The reality is, we ARE doing hard things, and we can keep doing hard things:

We can ask hard questions: At August's Council meeting, we spent a few minutes of our time writing down all of the questions we had for the upcoming year. It was harder than I thought it would be. Not to come up with the questions, but to say them out loud to each other. I cannot speak for the rest of the Council, but naming some of my fears out loud was helpful.

We can love our neighbors whom we don't agree with politically: Check out Sarah Smarsh's article in *The Guardian* on September 17, 2020. It's a lesson in listening to and loving our "enemies." As Christians, this is what we are called to do. (No one said it would be easy).

We can start having conversations about what "reparations" mean and what reparations look like: Other churches have done it, and we can too.

We can continue to do the things necessary to stay healthy: We can continue to wear our masks, wash our hands, and keep safe distances from each other.

We can be vulnerable and admit when we've made a mistake: We can also be vulnerable and say that sometimes we don't know what the "right" answer is because there are no easy answers right now, only difficult choices.

We can keep making art and sharing it with each other: What are you reading, watching, listening to, and making? As we move into the fall and winter months, this is going to be even more important. Let's embrace all of the gifts that art has to offer us.

We can keep showing up: We can keep making phone calls, writing cards, sending texts, sending emails, and praying for each other. Remember, it doesn't have to be big, it just has to be.

We can ask for help: It's okay.

As we move through the fall, let's continue to give grace to ourselves and those around us. Let's continue to listen to the gifts surrounding us in nature as the season turns. Let's continue to lift each other up as we grieve. And let's remember that we are walking through this wilderness period together. We can keep doing hard things Judson.

Humbly,

Laura

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.

JUDSON PRESCHOOL UPDATE

Preschool is back in session! We were so excited to welcome the kids back to school on September 8. While this year will look a little bit different with smaller class sizes and COVID safety measures, many things will stay the same. We'll sing, dance, play, and read every day. Our first two weeks have been filled with learning school routines, seeing old friends, and making new ones. It's going to be a great year!

Anne Krocak, Director

Judson Preschool



"MEAT" THE NEEDS FOR JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF

For the month of OCTOBER, Joyce Food Shelf needs any type of CANNED MEATS. Please bring canned meats: chicken, tuna, chili, salmon, spam, etc., to Judson any time in October that is convenient for you, and Jim TenBensel or Kathy Urbaniak will deliver to Joyce Food Shelf.

Other items needed: baby food, non-dairy milk, and laundry detergent (small bottles).

You may also drop any items off at Joyce Food Shelf at 3041 Fremont Ave. S., Mpls., 55408 between the hours of 9 am and 1 pm on Fridays.

Thank you for your continued support of Joyce Food Shelf.

(See other notice below from Joyce Food Shelf.)



JOYCE FOODSHELF UPDATE

On Monday September 28, 2020, Joyce Uptown Foodshelf is changing to **Client Choice Shopping by appointment**. We value your partnership and want to communicate what these upcoming changes mean so that our partners and clients can stay informed.

The Client Choice model offers each person food choices in a small grocery store-style food shelf. Clients can shop for fresh fruits and veggies, milk, eggs, meat, fish, or poultry, canned veggies, dry cereals, grains, and other staples. We try to stock items for special diet needs. There is no cost to shop Client Choice.

Appointments allow us to maintain health and safety for all in our community. Appointments are available for each household 1-2 times a month, but if clients have emergency needs, they can call us. If clients visit without an appointment, we will have pre-packed bags and boxes ready for pick up. However, these have less food variety, so it's best if clients make an appointment to shop. They can make an appointment at their next visit or call us at 612.825.4431 to schedule. In consideration for all, masks and social distancing are required at each visit. If clients don't have a mask, we will provide one.

We are currently contacting clients to inform them of these changes. If you know anyone experiencing food insecurity, please let them know that we look forward to seeing them. All are welcome at Joyce Uptown Foodshelf!

JOIN US **OCTOBER 3**

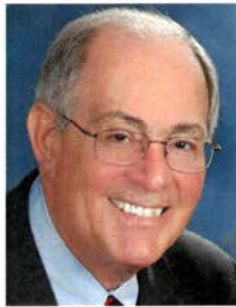
AWAB NATIONAL *Zoom* GATHERING

Do you want to know what's happening with AWAB? Do you want to connect with W&A congregations, ministries, and Baptists from around the country? Looking for ministry ideas? Need encouragement and inspiration?

Then plan to register for AWAB's National Zoom Gathering that will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2020, from 12:00-1:30pm EDT.

Register at <http://bit.ly/AWABZoom2020>.

You'll hear from:



Bob Sittig

AWAB Board Chair,
Seattle First
Baptist Church,
Seattle, WA



**Rev. Dr. Clifford
Matthews, Jr.**

Senior Pastor,
St. Luke's Missionary
Baptist Church,
Charlotte, NC



**Rev. Dr. Marcia
Bailey**

Senior Pastor,
First Baptist Church,
Pottstown, PA



**Rev. Dr. Cody
Sanders**

Senior Pastor,
Old Cambridge
Baptist Church,
Cambridge, MA



Dr. Delane Tew

Baptist Church
of the Covenant,
Birmingham, AL



D.j. Boyd

St. Luke's Missionary
Baptist Church,
Charlotte, NC



Rev. June Joplin

Toronto, Canada

ODDS AND ENDS

- Please follow the [Judson Channel on Vimeo](#) (ctrl-click) so you can receive the latest worship services.
- Please [like Judson Church on Facebook](#). (ctrl-click)
- And please forward [this sign up link](#) (ctrl-click) to your friends and encourage them to sign up for our daily emails.

JUDSON EMERGENCY FUND

You have given generously to the Judson Emergency Fund, we have collected over \$36,000 in donations. If you are experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19, do not hesitate to email or call Travis with a request.

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any updates for the Tree of Life (the Judson Prayer List), either send them to me at (gtnorvell@judsonchurch.org) or send them to Eileen at (info@judsonchurch.org).

DIRECTORY REQUESTS

If you need an updated copy of the Judson Directory, please let Eileen know at (info@judsonchurch.org). You can request a hard copy or a PDF copy sent to you by email.

OFFICE UPDATE

Eileen is now working five days a week at the church office. Her hours are from 9 am to 4:30 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).

SOCIAL GATHERINGS IN THE PARK

NEW DAY, NEW TIME TO GATHER IN THE PARK

For the four weeks in October, weather permitting, we are moving our gathering time to Sunday mornings from 11:00-noon. We will stay in the Martin Luther King Jr. Park, between 41st and 42nd on Nicollet Ave. South. Please bring a chair and wear a mask until we are seated and socially distanced. We have been gathering for a couple of months now in MLK Park. The move to Sunday mornings might extend our season one more month. There is no agenda—just an opportunity to visit; stop by for a few minutes or for the whole hour. Park on Nicollet Avenue, and look for a circle of Judson friends.



Starfish Information—September 2020

Requesters helped: 9 Total Aid: 4,119.25

Rental/utility assistance: \$3,869.25

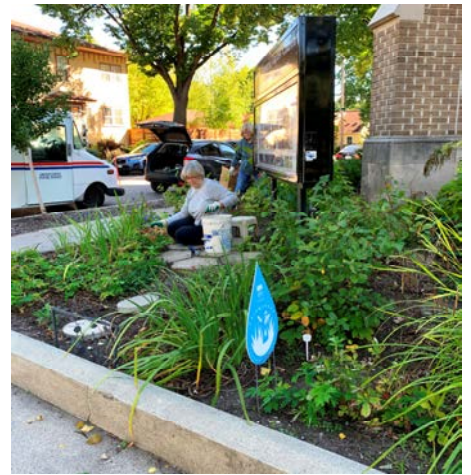
Bus/Gas/Cub/Visa cards: \$250

Monthly budget exhausted: September 8, 2020

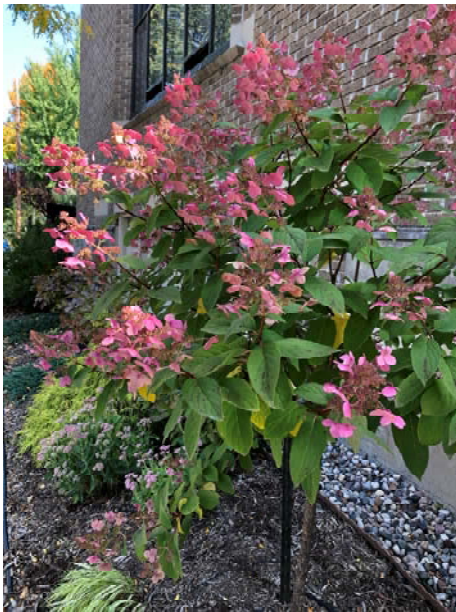
Everything is being done by phone, texting and by email.

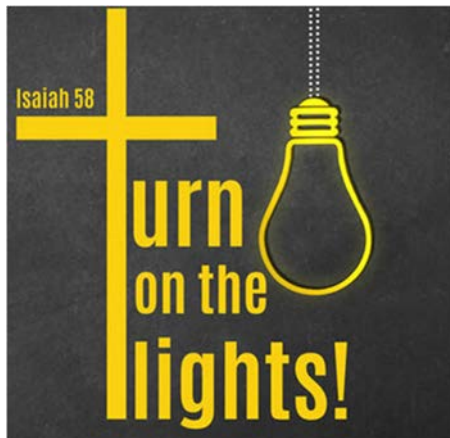
There is no person to person contact so no gift cards given.

MONTH IN REVIEW



Some of the workers at the last garden day. Pictures of the beautiful flowers growing in our rain gardens. Thank you to all who help with making our gardens so beautiful.





"Turn on the Lights!"

Based on Isaiah 58

Part 2: Anti-Racism—October 5-9

There is no registration fee! All of this is made available through the generosity of our donors. Would you like to contribute as well? (Ctrl click) [donate](#)

"Turn on the lights!" Isaiah 58 is full of images and phrases instructing people of faith--us--what it is that God expects of us. Worship is not all about the hymns, candles, and flowers. **It's about justice. Peace. Concern for those society casts aside. Challenge. Growth. Faith.** If we follow

God's commandments about what God wants us to do, then (in the more familiar wording) our light shall break forth like the dawn. In the Message paraphrase, "Do this and the lights will turn on!"

Say their names. The pandemic of racism has been with us for centuries. These are not our first nationwide protests. "How much longer, O God?", we cry? The answer is, as long as it takes. Turn on the lights. Turn the light on systems, on structures, on procedures. Turn the light on actions, thoughts, and behaviors. **How can we and our churches move beyond "not being racist" and into "being anti-racists?" How can we, in all of our diverse beauty as a region, dig deeply into how we are together and how we are called to be in the world to engage in anti-racism?**

"Turn on the Lights," ABCRGR's 2020 Biennial Gathering, continues with a focus in Week 2 of Anti-Racism. You are invited to attend one, some, or all of the webinars available.

These webinars invite us into discussion and reflection on some difficult, and sometimes controversial, topics. We ask that you enter into this week with an open spirit and an interest in learning more.

You must register for each webinar separately to receive the appropriate link. The exception is the "Dwelling in the Word," at noon (Eastern) weekdays. This has a single link at which you may then select which days you'll be attending. If you're unsure, simply select all days to have the appropriate links available to you. *If you participated in this event during Week 1 in September, you will need to register again as this week's Dwelling in the Word has a different link.*

Most webinars will follow the same format as week one, in which we have a presentation and Q&A with a guest facilitator for approximately an hour, and then an optional half-hour conversational session to help better process the topic with other participants on the call.

Please note that this week's webinars are filled with difficult topics on which we may have widely varying viewpoints. The purpose of this week is to have courageous conversations, to learn, to challenge our own assumptions, and to deepen our understanding of all who are part of God's beloved community. May God bless us in this endeavor.

Monday, Oct. 5 is "A Celebration of Beloved Community through Worship"; Tuesday, Oct. 6 is "Reconciling God's Creation in the Midst of a Race Biased Theo-Bio-Praxis"; Wednesday, Oct. 7 is "Reparations: How Daniel Prude's life would have been saved!"; Thursday, Oct. 8 is "Raising an Anti-Racist Generation: Whiteness and the Call of the Church"; Friday, Oct. 9 is "Defund the Police?"; Saturday, Oct. 10 is "Building Bridges Now: Dialogue on Privilege and Race."

[Click here](#) (ctrl click) to see the full description, speakers and links for registration.

RACIAL JUSTICE RESOURCES – SEPTEMBER 2020

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 monthly. This is our fifth offering. Past suggestions can be found on the Judson Website under the ACT tab. **If you have a resource you’d like to share, please email Carley Watts, and we will add them to our resource “library.”** carleybwatts@gmail.com.

Book:

Reading While Black, African American Biblical Interpretation as An Exercise in Hope by Esau McCaulley. Available through Black Garnett Books (MN first black-owned bookstore.)
For a book review go to: [book review](#) (ctrl click)

Television Documentary Series

The African Americans: Many Rivers To Cross, hosted by Harvard scholar Henry Louis Gates Jr. This six-part series guides viewers on a journey across two continents to explore the transition of African Americans. The series airs on Tuesdays on PBS. <https://www.tpt.org/african-americans-many-rivers-to-cross/schedule/>

Podcast:

Nice White Parents, A new podcast from the makers of “Serial Productions,” about the 60-year relationship between white parents and the public school down the block. For more information about the podcast, go to: <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/23/podcasts/nice-white-parents-serial.html>

Listen in, wherever you find your Podcasts (Pandora, Apple, etc.) and look for [nytimes.com/nicewwhiteparents](https://www.nytimes.com/nicewwhiteparents)

Building Relationships Through Actions:

We Win. The Racial Justice Team has been regularly supporting **We Win** by volunteering time monthly to pack and deliver groceries to families on Minneapolis’s north side. You can also help by bringing your paper grocery bags to Judson and put them in the blue plastic box in the arcade marked for We Win. Contact Karla McGray karlamcgray@hotmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

I HEARD YOU SAY, “I WISH THERE WERE SOMETHING I COULD DO.”

Well, here is your opportunity. The action group, “Youth Experiencing Homelessness”, is planning a meeting in the near future, and we need your help. We would like you to join our group and help us connect with youth who are experiencing homelessness. If you know of an organization, a shelter, or other areas where we could support these youth, please contact Kathy Urbaniak at 612-232-3924, and let her know. We will meet outside if possible and practice social distancing, or we will plan a zoom meeting. Thank you for considering volunteering to help.

INTER-GENERATIONAL EDUCATION (ADULT, CHILDREN, AND YOUTH) - CAROLYN KOLOVITZ

Wisdom is not something “haves” impart to “have-nots”; it arises from mutuality, from dialogue and exchange, from listening “with the ear of the heart.” - Nathan D. Mitchell, theologian.

As a church community, we hold diverse (Christian, agnostic, atheist, for ex.) yet progressive worldviews. Judson’s role in spiritual formation is not to teach what one ought to believe concerning God, the Universe, nature, and humanity, but rather to model ways to *ask* the big questions, *seek* meaningful connection, and *knock* at the door to the Sacred. (Luke 11:9)

In that spirit, I will be offering a 3-part series “Spiritual Mentoring” that combines guided reflection, stories, and group sharing to explore how we, as Judson parents, grandparents, friends, and neighbors, can foster vibrant, intergenerational exploration. Join us, and you will gain:

- A clearer picture of wisdom gained from your own spiritual journey
- Age-appropriate ideas and storytelling seeds for mutual sharing
- An understanding of how young people’s mental health benefits from spiritual mentoring

I’ve facilitated this material for several years, and here’s what past participants said:

“The concept of story seeds and sharing stories as ways to connect with our grandkids is excellent, and I liked the use of guided meditation to help me access my thoughts.”

“I appreciated all the ‘light-bulb’ moments as well as the structure for how to implement practices for myself and with the kids.”

Sessions will be via Zoom. Registration is required. The sessions build on each other, so please plan to attend all three. (I am considering recording for those who must miss some – email me if you have an opinion on this) Dates and times are:

Sunday Oct 11 4:00 – 5:00pm

Sunday Oct 18 4:00 – 5:00pm

Sunday Oct 25 4:00 – 5:00pm

If you have questions, special requests, or feedback or to register, email ckolovitz@judsonchurch.org

TRUST AUCTION CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS

Turning 50 is a big deal, and we need you to help us celebrate. In October TRUST Incorporated will mark 50 years of continuous service to South Minneapolis. That means for roughly 18,250 days TRUST staff, partners, volunteers, friends, and a host of others have faithfully collaborated to serve and support, listen and learn from a diversity of individuals who make up the community. It has most definitely been a group effort, and we need just that same coordinated approach as we move into the next 50 years.

One significant way to keep TRUST on course for the future is to join us virtually on Oct. 24 from 5-6 p.m. for the 2020 Great TRUST Auction. Bid on wonderful items, hear personal testimonies of how TRUST serves the community, and enjoy a diversity of entertainment – all from the comfort of your own home or another safe space.

A minimum donation of \$50 for 50 years of service would go a long way, and even if you can’t make the auction, we would still greatly appreciate your gift in celebration. Watch our website for more auction details — www.trustinc.org.



COVID WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Judson's Covid-19 Working Group met again on September 16. Below are some points from that meeting...

1. Judson will continue on-line worship services—and continue its suspension of in-person Sunday morning worship services—at least through the end of 2020.
2. We will continue our Gatherings in the Park, at Martin Luther King Jr. Park, through October. However, the day and time is changing: starting October 11, we will gather in the park at 11:00 on Sunday morning (a change from our previous Monday evening gatherings) weather permitting. These meetings will take advantage of daytime light and warmer temperatures.
3. **Meditation/Communion Service** - Join in a small meditation/communion, in-person gathering at Judson Church on Sunday, October 4th, from 4:00 pm to 4:30 pm. **It is limited to 20 individuals.** We will enjoy organ and piano music by Jim Wentink, share in communion and silent prayer, reflect on several readings, and absorb the beauty of the stained glass windows. Individually packaged communion elements will be used. To Participate: **You must reserve your spot this Friday by noon** by calling or emailing Eileen McLaughlin at the church (info@Judson.org or 612- 822-0649). Wear a mask. Practice the social distancing guidelines outlined by the church. Let's come together safely at Judson!
4. We have continued to work on guidelines for the use of Judson Church during these Covid-19 times. We are gaining more experience and perspective, given the following: weekly taping of worship services, Meals on Wheels' operation out of Judson, Judson preschool having restarted, George Burbie's funeral service, and two meditation times at the end of September. We will be bringing the guidelines to Judson Council at its October meeting.
5. The Covid-19 Working Group's next meeting will be at Judson, at 2:30 on Thursday, October 8. Please contact any of the following people for questions or input: Barb Balcom, Tom Balcom, Eileen McLaughlin, Travis Norvell, Polly Schrom, Karla McGray, Kathy Urbaniak, Wayne Urbaniak.

Looking for a second TRUST Representative

Jim ten Bensel is looking for an individual to serve on the TRUST Board with him. This would fill the void left by Clay Gustafson stepping down. TRUST is the vehicle for Meals on Wheels (based in our basement), Loaves and Fishes, the Parish Nurse, and other projects. All of these projects help keep our older neighbors safe and happy in their homes. Please contact Jim ten Bensel if you are interested. TRUST is celebrating 50 years of service. Also, mark your calendars for October 23, 2020, for the annual TRUST Auction done virtually. More info to come next month. If you would like to donate to TRUST, you can go to their website (trustinc.org), or you can write a check to Judson with TRUST written on the memo line, and it will be sent to TRUST. Thank you Jim ten Bensel





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JUDSON NEWSLETTER

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED