



MESSENGER

Message from Travis

As we start re-gathering as a faith community, I see more and more each day the way the pandemic has transformed all of us. We have changed in many ways. The kids and youth are all three feet taller than the last time we saw them. Some of us are a little less sure on our feet than we were a year and a half ago. And all of us are grieving.

I feel like each Sunday, we start to unwind, slowly, the tight ball of our emotions as we sit with one another, sing with one another, and pray with one another.

At the same time, we are learning how to integrate online worship with in-person worship, developing a mid-week online service (parts of which are taken from the Sunday service), and reaching out and getting to know the online community.

All of these ventures will take time, mistakes, experiments, mess-ups, and wonderful discoveries. Let us be patient and gentle with one another. Assume positive intent, say I'm sorry, say thank you, give someone your undivided attention, and pray for each other. For a year and a half, we were taught to fear other people, and it will take time to unlearn this. But I am confident God is moving and working through each and every one of us.

Peace,
Travis



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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2021-2022
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Moderator	Monica Lewis	Vice Moderator	Joel Frederickson
Secretary	Brian Satrom	Treasurer	Bill Forsyth

Building Use/Communications	Steve Hirsch
Congregational Care	Luise Forseth
Finance	Bill Forsyth
Missions	Keith Ford
Outreach & Engagement	Brad Joern
Personnel	Jeff O'Halloran
Property	Clay Gustafson
Spiritual Formation	Kristine Revak
Worship	Polly Schrom

OTHER GROUPS

Welcoming & Affirming	Rich Olson
Judson Historian	Tom Balcom
Judson Preschool Board	Sandy Chatfield, Carolyn Kolovitz, Susan Mason, Polly Schrom*
Textile Group [Formerly Known as Knitting Group]	Sandy Chatfield
Messenger	Eileen McLaughlin
Marketing Team:	Brad Joern (Organizer)
Spiritual Voyagers	Ron Cottone
Starfish Ministry	Wayne Urbaniak
The Gathering	Kathy Urbaniak
TRUST Rep	Karla McGray, Jim ten Bensel
Ushers	Office Manager

The Pastoral Relations committee includes the following people: Mary Gustafson (chair), Joel Frederickson, 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.

MODERATOR'S LETTER

Firstly, Whew! The 2020-2021 church year of Judson Memorial Baptist Church is officially in the record books.

Many of you might remember that I took over as Vice-Moderator on June 1, 2019, fully signing on board to Brad Joern's vision of how he wanted to move forward as the Moderator. That vision included studying, reimagining, and envisioning a way to continue growing. What did that look like? How do we need to evolve? What gifts do we offer to a larger Kingfield community and beyond? And how do we tell our neighbors about the gifts that we offer?

In October of 2019, Terry Larkin came to Council to talk about being prepared for a disaster and how communication is even more important during those times. I don't know if he had some sort of 6th sense about what was about to come or not, but it seemed pretty prophetic (although I would like to point out that pandemic was not on the list of disasters that he presented).

In March of 2020 Council voted to suspend all in-person worship with the hope that it would only be a 2-week suspension. How quaint those ideas seem now.

On August 1, 2020, I took over as Moderator two months later than normal. It could have been easy to operate as if we were all "on a break," but I believed (and I still do) that this big shake-up on a global scale was/is an opportunity. An opportunity for what? To break free of some habits, to learn new things, to continue that reimagining of our future, to dream, to startle, to live into the questions, and to see things from a different perspective (how many of us still want a Sunday worship once or twice a year where we can watch in our pajamas?). A pandemic is not what we asked or hoped for, but it allowed us to continue the work that we started in a big way.

In March 2021, the Marketing task force (which had been voted on by the Council in the summer of 2020) presented their findings at our monthly Council meeting. We were excited and energized by their work and presentation. You, the congregation, said "Yes" to some of that work when you voted in May on the budget and the hiring of a Communications/Marketing staffer and again this last month when you voted "Yes" to a reorganization of the committee structure, which includes a new committee called Outreach and Engagement. You will continue to hear more about the work of this committee as we go along, but you may read the 12-page report that the Marketing task force presented to Council on Judson's website.

At our last Council meeting with myself as Moderator on the 20th of July, 2021, we had our first in-person meeting together. We celebrated by sharing a meal together and thanking God/The Universe for allowing us to be present with each other. I had the Council listen to part of a speech that Ray Suarez gave in 2019 on the future of religion in America (that speech was re-aired on MPR Presents, June 28 if you would like to listen to it. I would also say that his speech goes hand in hand with the work we've been trying to do for the past 2 years). I passed out Thank You gifts and charged this Council with continuing the work that we've already started.

Going forward, my hope is that each committee will continue looking ahead. We have so much to offer people, including (but not limited to) an intergenerational experience, a place to be a community, a place to practice active listening and respectful dissent, and a place to be known, heard, and valued. Judson is a thoughtful, thriving, creative community, and there is much, much more room at the table.

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A few last words. Going forward, we are in the very capable hands of Monica Lewis, who will be taking over as Moderator on August 1, 2021. She said, "Yes," during a pandemic and wants to continue the work that began a couple of years ago, which continues to make me hopeful for Judson's future. I have been ever so grateful for all of her support and wisdom throughout this year. I would like to thank Council for showing up month after month, guiding us into the future, and being patient with me as I took over leadership via Zoom. Last, but not least, I would like to Thank You, the greater Judson Community. I couldn't have done this year without you.....no way, no how. I thought I was only adding Moderator to my list of new tasks, but it turned out that I also added 6th Grade, 4th Grade Special Needs, and 2nd Grade teacher to that list. You have been flexible and forgiving with me as we have navigated this extraordinary year together, and whether or not you wished we had handled in-person worship differently than we did, you respected Council's decisions. For that, I am so very grateful. When so many things have been divisive this year, thank you for not making this one of them. For all of the big and little ways that you have supported this community during this historic year - Thank You. From the bottom of my heart. If in-person is the way you plan on worshipping with us, I look forward to seeing you back at 41st and Harriet on September 12, 2021.

Ever so humbly,
Laura O'Halloran
Out-going Moderator

MAHJONG IS BACK AT JUDSON

Thursday evenings at 7 pm, a group of people get together to play Mahjong at Judson, in the Ann Judson Room. We usually play from 7 to 8:30 or 9. If you are interested in learning to play or need a refresher, there are a couple of people in the group who are willing to work with you. If you are interested, please let Barb Balcom know at barb.balcom@yahoo.com.

THE TUB IS BACK

We don't know what happened to the tub we had been using to collect grocery sacks, but a new one is ready for action. Judson collects clean, used grocery sacks, and delivers them to local food shelves, saving the food shelves money to buy more food. To pitch in, place your reusable sacks or plastic bags in the yellow-topped tub under the Harriet Avenue arcade.

THE VOTES ARE IN

Here are the results of the vote taken by mail in July 2021.

The first vote was recommendations from the Judson Council for the slate of nominees for officers and committee chairpersons. The vote totals are 87 yes and one abstention.

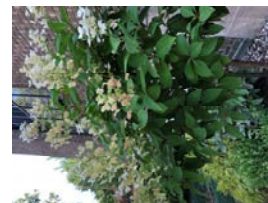
The second vote was for a change in the committee and cluster structure. The vote totals are 85 yes, 2 no, and 1 abstention.

The new officers are Monica Lewis, moderator; Joel Frederickson, vice-moderator; Brian Satrom, secretary; and Bill Forsyth, treasurer.

JUDSON RAIN GARDENS WOULD LOVE SOME RAIN!

I'm sure your gardens would love some rain too. It has been a challenge to keep our Judson gardens happy, but so far, so good. We are lucky to have a dedicated group of volunteers who tend them monthly all summer and even pitch in with watering in-between.

We have had three work sessions in May, June, and July. The next one is planned for Wednesday, August 11th, starting at 9:00 a.m. Please join us. No experience is necessary. We weed, rake, mow, water and trim. Tools and yard bags are provided. Come for the camaraderie and stay if you can for a picnic lunch over at Lake Harriet. Contact Barb Balcom with questions, 612-718-9482.



JUDSON IS A CPR TRAINING SITE

Once a week, CPR classes are being taught at Judson Church in the Providence Room. The classes are every other Thursday at 6 pm and every other Saturday morning at 9 am. Here is some information on the classes if you are interested.

Our courses teach participants the critical skills and knowledge needed to respond to and manage an emergency in the first few minutes until emergency medical services arrive. All of our courses are based on the American Heart Association Guidelines for CPR and ECC. We offer courses for both medical and non-medical providers. The student must demonstrate proficiency in CPR and AED skills. Upon successful completion of skills testing, students will receive an American Heart Association certificate.



Key Features and Benefits

The Course includes:

- First aid basics (including scene safety, finding the problem, and calling for help)
- Medical emergencies (including actions for choking, breathing problems, and shock)
- Injury emergencies (including actions for bleeding, broken bones, and burns)
- Environmental emergencies (including allergic reactions for bites and stings)
- Adult, Child, Infant CPR AED
- Advanced Airway
- Rescue Breathing

We are an American Heart Association training site. Our website is www.cprcode.com, and our email is info@cprcode.com.

THE SPIRIT OF JUDSON
CARL A. APPELQUIST MAY 15, 2016

Judson Church has been an important part of my life for many years, and when I say “Judson Church,” I mean you, the people of Judson. Some of the best friends of my lifetime, I first met right here in this building. The first time I said a few public words in this sanctuary was 52 years ago, and my inner voice tells me this will be my last time, my valedictory. While I am still able physically and mentally, I want to thank you for your friendship, your fellowship, your goodwill, your Christian love, and prayers through joy and pain, and your smiles, your laughter, and your hugs for Doris and me and our kids over this last half-century.

In this life, each of us is on a unique, authentic, personal journey to places we have never been before; we never arrive; we are always moving, always in transit; each day is new with new challenges, new opportunities. Nothing stays the same. We came to Judson because we knew that in a beautiful, complicated but troubled, and sometimes crazy world, we needed a spiritual foundation for our journey. In the true spirit of welcoming and affirming, you accepted us with open arms, as Jesus would, just where we were in our journey. You did not ask us to sign any creeds or theological statements, and you did not ask us to give up our personal identity to become part of the group. Our Baptist soul freedom, our free will, our private conscience, and our personal responsibility were all respected. You did offer the love, support, and challenge of this family of humble, imperfect human beings, trying to become Christians, sometimes doubters, sometimes dissenters, but always truth seekers. We found that if you want to live your life with meaning, purpose, and value (and who doesn't?), then Judson is a good connection. It's not the only church of its kind in town, but it's rare. You won't be anonymous here. You might be asked to be moderator next year. If you want to get lost in the crowd, you have to choose a mega-church.

When the integrity and credibility of many institutions are questioned, Judson is a locally autonomous intimate family institution you can trust. We are not an appendage of a hierarchical ecclesiastical empire from afar. From its Baptist beginning in 1909 here in the farmland of south Minneapolis as a social gospel community resource, Judson's leading characteristics have always been freedom of thought, democratic fellowship, and high spiritual purpose. It is awesome to think of the thousands of people—literally thousands—who have been helped on their journey through life by the loving ministry of the people of this church.

The Judson congregation has always been a varied collection of people of diverse religious and cultural backgrounds, races, and sexual orientations, including all kinds of Protestants, many Catholics, and even some Jewish friends whom I remember maintained their synagogue connections in St. Paul in the 1970s while participating here. They learned spiritual truths from us, and we learned spiritual truths from them. There probably is not enough authoritarianism here for any hard-core fundamentalists to feel the comfort of eternal security. But among American Baptists, there are always born-again pietists, evangelicals, conservatives, moderates, liberals, and sometimes a few Unitarians, maybe a few curious Muslims. Our bumper sticker declares inclusively, “God Bless the Whole World, No Exceptions!”

These diverse individuals bring a variety of experiences, skills, and convictions to Judson. Happily, at least in my memory, as a developing work in progress, we have always respected and honored our differences, and we have always celebrated our agreements to accomplish our goal of enrichment of the individual soul. When we finish a business meeting, we are still friends, and we've had a few laughs. Fortunately, we've always been blessed with some comedians in our midst, not too many, but a few. Unlike politicians, we actually like each other, and we believe compromise and cooperation are not signs of weakness and sin.

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On a personal note—once upon a time, I was a young man with the whole world ahead of me. Now I am an old man, 89 in a few days, in the twilight of my life. As written in Ecclesiastes, everything has a season—a time to be born, a time to flourish, and a time to die. I have no desire to live my life over again, but occasionally a bit of nostalgia reminds me of a special happiness in the past. When I visit Doris in the nursing home, hold her hand and tell her that I love her, we both remember the euphoric warm glow of being young and falling in love for the first time. We know that special moment will not come again for us, but once upon a time, it did, 72 years ago, and that memory is like a bouquet of fresh roses in winter. We know that true love changes and grows but never dies.

Today I see the calendar, and I know my season. I am not sad or lonely; I am not afraid of the future; I am calm (most of the time). I accept the past, and I have a sense of an appropriate approaching completion and closure. My family and my friends are a huge consolation and comfort for me. I have tried, not always successfully, but I have tried to live in tune with my understanding of God's purpose for my life, including my responsibilities to my family, my friends, my church, my community, and my country. My life has not always been a bed of roses, of success and happiness, but I know now, looking back, that I have been surrounded by love since before my birth and all along my journey. I know I have been lucky. God has been kind to me, and I have not suffered unfairly from the fickle finger of fate. Today it is well with my soul. I say that not in pride, but in humility and gratitude. My mind is a kaleidoscope of thankful memories, including my family and all the people I have known and loved, you Judson friends who are still here, and those who have departed. In my reverie, I see their smiling faces, I hear their voices and their laughter, and they are with me once again in spirit, and I bless their memory. I know you have those good memories, too.

Being a mere mortal, I do not fully comprehend the nature of God. Now I see through a glass darkly. The anthropomorphic view of God as a judgmental old man with a long white beard sitting on a throne seems to be far too small, too provincial, too tribal. I do not expect to meet that small God in paradise. Fortunately, my faith reminds me that the Bible says, among many wise and mystifying things, that God is a spirit.

Instinctively, from my heart and soul and mind, I understand and embrace that Spirit God, a benevolent power far above me, creating and controlling overall this magnificent, spectacular Universe, a universe not possible by mere chance or chaos or accident. When you see a sunrise, that is the proof. Here I see no conflict with modern scientific knowledge. I also believe that Spirit God is within us humans and that love, honor, integrity, truth, justice, and righteousness do triumph, not always immediately, but always ultimately. I believe in a loving, forgiving, and accepting Spirit God who will welcome my spirit and yours into eternity, so when the call comes, knowing that our life here has been worthwhile and that someone loves us, as we love them, we can fly away with courage and grace—and maybe a little style. We can look forward to a fascinating new adventure in eternity to places we have never been before.

In the meantime, when I get up in the morning and look in the mirror, I say to the old guy, "Ok, Carl, let's find some joy and happiness today, and let's spread it around to everyone we meet."

Finally, Judson friends, let me say again, I cherish you in my heart, and I pray for your well-being and your happiness. Thank you for being who you are—yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

TRUST INC. UPDATES

We would like to welcome LeRoy Weibel to the TRUST, Staff! LeRoy will work closely with Sandy Parnell, Program Coordinator of the Grocery Transportation Program.



We have our fleet of drivers, now we need the riders. Do you know someone who is able to shop independently but can't get to the store? The Grocery Transportation Program provides rides to and from the grocery store for Rider's age 60+ or living with a disability. Assistance carrying groceries is offered. Contact Sandy 612.721.5786.

While enjoying the warm days of summer we know the next season is near. TRUST Chore Program is recruiting workers for Fall clean-up. Contact Program Coordinator Ama Asantawaa 612.827.6150.

Please use [ctrl click] to open links

Hazardous Waste Collection

Hennepin County is collecting household hazardous waste for residents to safely and properly dispose of unwanted household and lawn and garden products including paints, chemicals, fluorescent bulbs, batteries and fuels. Residents must wear masks and remain in their vehicles. 9am-4pm July 30-31 at Anthony Middle School and 9am-4pm August 13-14 at South High School.

I-35W, will the construction ever end?

Yes! 35W will be up and running by September 10. Crews will continue to construct storm water storage tanks along 2nd Ave between 42nd St and 40th St. NB I-35W will be closed 10pm Friday, July 30 – noon on Saturday, July 31. [Updates](#)

Do the Zipper Merge

When you encounter a construction zone where a lane will be closed, perform the zipper merge. A zipper merge occurs when motorists use both lanes of traffic until reaching the defined merge area, and then alternate in a "zipper" fashion into the open lane. Check out the [instructional video](#) from MnDOT.

Spending time in July

7/24-8/8 Celebrate cultures from around the world Valleyfair's Grand Carnivale [Buy tickets.](#)

7/28 - 8/1 and 8/4 - 8/8 Dinosaurs: Land of Fire and Ice at MCM. [Tickets](#)

7/29 Target Field Station movie night – Raya and the Lost Dragon

7/31 Classic Car and Train Show at MN Transportation Museum

7/31 Community BBQ & Bake Sale 11:00-4:00 [preorder here](#)

National Farmers Market Week

Will be celebrated August 1-7 in communities across the country. Minnesota will wrap up the week of celebration at a public event on Saturday, August 7 at the Midtown Farmers' Market. [Info](#)

Cycling 101 at Longfellow Park

MPRB Police will be on hand to do their Bike Rodeo which teaches kids how to ride safely. Mechanics will be on hand for tutorials. And live BMX demos and big air show come with this program. Program runs between 5-7 pm July 28th. [Register here](#)

Covid-19 Update

Red Hot Shots is a vaccine incentive program through SSCO, Red Hot Art, and Hennepin County. Everyone aged 12 and up who receives a free COVID-19 vaccine (administered by Black Nurses Rock) at Red Hot Friday will get cash, free RHA food & art vouchers, and a chance to win up to \$300! Learn more about [Red Hot Friday](#)

TOUR OF THE ROSE GARDEN BY LAKE HARRIET

On Sunday, July 11, 20 people gathered under the shade trees at the Rose Gardens by Lake Harriet for post-worship donuts. After proper nutrition entered our bloodstream, Andrew Gawboy, head rosarian for the Minneapolis Park Board, gave us a guided tour of the gardens.

Andrew is an amazing guide, totally in love with the rose gardens and full of wonderful ideas and information about growing roses and permaculture.



Starfish Information—June 2021

Requesters helped: 10 Total Aid: \$5,721.27

Rental assistance: \$2,100.00

Utilities/Car Repair Assistance: \$2,971.27

Bus/Gas/Food/ cards: \$650

Funds exhausted: June 17, 2021.

AUGUST NEEDS JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF

1. Diapers (all sizes for children and adults) and wipes.
2. Toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, and toilet paper.
3. Cleaning Products and laundry detergent.

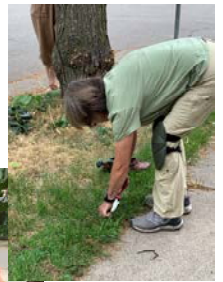
Please drop off items at Judson Church at any time convenient for you during August. Jim TenBensel or Kathy Urbaniak will deliver the items to Joyce Food Shelf. Food donations may be dropped off at Joyce Food Shelf, 3041 Fremont Ave S., on Fridays from 9-1 pm.

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated. You may send a check to Judson Church and designate Joyce Uptown Foodshelf, and the office will get it to them. Or you can process an online donation by using Vanco: go to the judsonchurch.org website, click on "MAKE A DONATION," then put your donation amount in the food shelf box, then "continue."

Volunteers are also needed. You can sign up to volunteer on their website: joyceuptownfoodshelf.org and school dow to "Joyce Volunteer Sign Up Here! They are constantly updating their volunteer needs, so please check back if the sign-up is full. Thank you for your continued support of Joyce Food Shelf.

MONTH IN REVIEW

Garden work on Wednesday, July 14, 2021



Judson at the Pride Festival. This year the Pride Festival was held the weekend of July 17-18 at Loring Park. Judson and University Baptist again shared a booth.



The Judson Allstars Jazz Group played at the first in-person worship on July 11, 2021



22 people attended the choir rehearsal on Wednesday, July 21, 2021.



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 \$43,675 in donations. We have given out \$39,808 to help out people and the community. 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). *[ctrl click]*

DIRECTORY REQUESTS

If you need an updated copy of an updated 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. If you have changed your address, phone number, or new email, please contact the church office.

OFFICE UPDATE

Eileen is working five days a week at the church office. Her hours are from 8:30 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).

LULU JOHNSON'S BLOG

We wish blessings on Lulu's travel and study. Lulu is on her **Fulbright Scholarship** in Seoul, South Korea. [She will blog about her experience here](#). *[ctrl click]*

CHURCH CALENDAR ON WEBSITE

-If you have a Judson gathering (a meeting or an event), please let Eileen in the office know so we can put it on the [Judson Church Calendar](#). *[ctrl click]* Again, this is another tool to share with others the good news of this congregation. We are doing lots of good work; let's not cover up that light!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Calvary Lutheran Church's food shelf (on the corner of 39th St. and Chicago Ave in South Minneapolis) is in need of volunteers. This past year we supported the food shelf and their work. If you would like to volunteer, please [go here to signup](#). *[ctrl click]* Volunteers are needed every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday for a variety of tasks.



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JUDSON NEWSLETTER

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED