



Worship in person at 9:30 am Sunday mornings—Masks required.

MESSENGER

What a year 2021 was.

I am entering 2022 with a well of gratitude and thankfulness and positivity.

What is the source of my feel-goodness? YOU!

We are ending the year in a healthy position. Our engagements throughout the week are higher than pre-pandemic times. By engagements I mean: in-person worship + live streaming + online content + email + social media interactions. Our finances continue to remain strong. There is great energy in our focus groups. And we are rethinking spiritual formation for all ages.

We keep thinking/hoping we are almost back to normal then the virus adapts and evolves. Until we get through this season, know and trust that Judson Church will be here for you. Together let us encourage our friends, neighbors, co-workers, family members to get their vaccines and boosters, to wear their masks and be safe.

Peace,
Travis



Inside this Issue

- Officers and Chair people 2021-2022 2
- Letter from the Moderator 3
- Covid Update..... 5
- Judson Building Taskforce 7
- Racial Justice Winter School 9
- Racial Justice Advent Update 10
- Property Update..... 12
- From Carolyn..... 13
- Letter from Bryant..... 14

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	Carolyn Kolovitz, Kristine Revak
Worship	Polly Schrom

OTHER GROUPS

Welcoming & Affirming	Rich Olson
Marketing & Communications	Bryant Kumlin
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	Bryant Kumlin
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 bkumlin@judsonchurch.org. 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

It helps to know you're not alone. We are all sick and tired of the stress and anxiety brought on by the pandemic. We're going into the darkest part of the year. The news is mostly bad and depressing. I was reading through some of my paperwork and found Brad Joern's "Short and Long-term Goals for Judson." First on the list was "Help the congregation heal from the lingering effects of COVID, racial unrest, and other oppressive/depressive forces at work."

How do we do that? I attended the anxiety workshop put on by Joel Frederickson and actually remember some of it. The words "curiosity" and "kindness" stand out. Curiosity: rather than obsessing with something, repeating the loop over and over, we ask ourselves a question. For example, instead of stressing out over how crowded the post office will be, ask yourself, "What interesting conversations might I have with the clerk or other customers? How can I start one?" Kindness: don't beat yourself up. Recognize that these really are tough times and that you need to be kind to *yourself*.

Of course, sometimes we get snapped out of our funks in unexpected ways. Like recognizing the twinkling eyes of Shirley Doyle in the checkout lane at the Co-op and imagining her infectious smile under that mask. Recognize those moments. I feel better already!

Your Moderator
Monica Lewis



Starfish Information—November, 2021

Requesters helped: 7 Total Aid: \$4,150.93

Utilities, Rental Assistance: \$3,700.93

Bus/Gas/Food cards: \$450.00

Funds Exhausted: November 18, 2021

Joyce Uptown Foodshelf needs diapers (any size, but 3-6 is most popular) baby wipes, dental hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste), feminine hygiene products (tampons), and other personal hygiene products (shampoo, soap, deodorant).

Also, ramen is needed.

Any donations, whether monetary or otherwise, are helpful at this time and greatly appreciated!

You may drop off items at Judson Church any time that is convenient for you during the month of January and Jim TenBensel will deliver the items to Joyce Food Shelf.

Or you may drop off items at 3041 Fremont Ave. S., Minneapolis., MN 55408 as they are accepting FOOD AND NON-FOOD DONATIONS ON FRIDAYS FROM 9 A.M. UNTIL 1 P.M.

You may send a check to Judson Church and designate "Joyce Food Shelf." Or, you can process an online donation: go to judsonchurch.org, website, click on "MAKE A DONATION," then put your donation amount in the food shelf box, and click continue.

COVID TASK FORCE UPDATE

COVID GUIDELINES FOR JUDSON WORSHIP and other large gatherings, such as concerts

January 2022

1. As the signs posted on the Judson Church entrances state...

If you have any of these symptoms, go home, stay away from other people, and contact your health care provider: Fever or feeling feverish; Chills; A new cough; Shortness of breath; A new sore throat; New muscle aches; New headache; New loss of smell or taste.

2. Masks are required at worship services and other large gatherings at Judson.

3. Worship and event leaders (Travis, Carolyn, worship leaders, musicians) will wear masks, but may temporarily remove them when speaking / performing.

4. We encourage people to fellowship outside after the service / event.

5. The first few pews will remain vacant. The sanctuary remains marked for social distancing, with alternate pews roped off.

6. Adjustments so far have worked well, and will continue: using the small individual containers for communion; the practice of shared prayer requests; one offering basket in the back; masks and hand sanitizers available at several spots.

7. We are thankful that the vast majority of Judson people have been vaccinated; we continue to strongly encourage getting vaccinations.

8. Continue to check Judson emails for ongoing updates and reminders. We will continue to be cautious and flexible at Judson.

Below are additional general points related to use of Judson at other times.

1. Wear masks upon entering and exiting the church. Be especially mindful of this when preschool children are present.

2. Each small group meeting at church can use its judgment as to whether to continue to wear masks during that meeting.

3. We continue to strongly recommend getting vaccinations.

Judson's Covid-19 Task Force members are: Eileen McLaughlin, Travis Norvell, Polly Schrom, Karla McGray, Barb and Tom Balcom, and Kathy and Wayne Urbaniak, Jackie Thureson is joining the task force, as a representative of Personnel Committee. Dawn Martin and Susan Mason serve as resource people to the task force. We thank all who have been using Judson Church, for the excellent cooperation and sensitivity.

Wayne Urbaniak

COUNCIL CORNER

SUMMARY OF OUR LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Thanks to Laura O'Halloran for this idea to help keep folks informed about Council's meetings.

Ideas for bringing to life our Judson Invitation *Bring your Hopes. Bring your Doubts. Feed your Soul*: education/discussion sessions, stories from congregants, banner, intentional use

Updates: received Knopf gift of \$45,000, Christmas cards sent, applied to be climate justice congregation with MNIPL, doing household drive for immigrants, update employee handbook, plan for heat pumps and building maintenance, anxiety workshop and Advent event successful

New ideas: open church for prayer/meditation during jury deliberation on remaining officers in Floyd trial, start task force to make church building more inviting (see Keith Ford), start open conversations and energize around marketing/communication report (see Monica Lewis)

What it means to be successful on social media: see report by O&E (Outreach and Engagement), tell people who we are and inspire them to think of us, do email and media posts, list events in Kingfield newsletter, determine how people want to communicate with us, make it easier to participate online, make land acknowledgment statement more prominent



"MAKE BUILDING INVITING" TASK FORCE STARTED

Create a task force to study, evaluate, and recommend modifications to make the exterior of Judson more informative and more inviting.

3-5 people perform a 2-3 month study

Look at entryways, signage, informational boards, lighting, grounds, etc. Compare to other churches and gathering places.

Possible questions to ask:

- How easy is it for me to know how to get in the building? What if I am handicapped?
- Are the entrances inviting? Well lit? Easy to recognize and open?
- Is the signage clear and visible from the street? Is it attractive? What is missing?
- What else could cause people to stop and engage?
- Does the exterior adequately reflect our Judson Invitation of "Bring your hopes. Bring your doubts. Feed your soul."?
- What improvements could be made to the playground?
- What improvements/changes would you recommend?
- Large or small?
- Short-term or long-term?
- Easy or hard?
- How could the wider community be involved?
- In the study?
- In the solutions?

The foregoing is consistent with recommendation 6 in the Marketing/Communication strategy report of March 2021. Thanks to Brad Joern for the foregoing. Keith Ford is the point person.

kjff11@gmail.com



Desmond Tutu
1931-2021

With a heavy heart, Judson joins many around the world celebrating the life of Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and mourning his departure. Archbishop Tutu fought for justice in the face of Apartheid, and reconciliation in the face of systemic racism.

While there is always more that can be said of him, we choose to honor his legacy by living into his lesson; to never choose neutrality in situations of injustice, and to always add kindness to the world.



Live the Legacy Martin Luther King Jr “Day of Service” Cold Weather Kit Packing Event

Join others in the community with a service event that honors the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Together, people of all ages, are invited to pack cold weather kits for our neighbors. These kits will be distributed to those in need during the cold weather months. There will be a few speakers from the community and a special area for children to create “cards of kindness” to be packed into each kit.

DATE: January 15, 2022

TIME: 10:00 a.m. – noon

HOST LOCATION: Richfield Lutheran Church, 8 W 60th Street, Mpls MN 55419
(across from CUB Foods on Nicollet)

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: This event is for all ages and all abilities – masks required

QUESTIONS OR TO PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT, CALL TRUST Inc 612-827-6159

RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM WINTER SCHOOL

Due to concerns about COVID, the documentaries and discussions (sponsored by the Racial Justice Team) have been moved to the third Tuesday evenings on Zoom. Instructions for accessing each program will be sent to you.

To access the program, and all other resources the Racial Justice Team provides, go to our Link Tree and click on the Racial Justice Team Resource button!

<https://linktr.ee/JudsonChurch>

Tuesday, January 18th 7 PM – Blood Memory. This video is about North America's Indian Adoption Era when nearly one-third of Native children were removed and placed in white homes. The video exposes underlying issues and refers to modern-day cultural issues of suicide, split families, separated families, found families, early death... all so real and not "fiction" in the reservation communities. How can we as a viewing group pay close attention to, and learn from the mention of these issues? The video shows "other ways of knowing" such as the vision or memory that shows up in the sweat. Some take it seriously, some don't. Do we? How would we be different if we really believed that visions could come to us through ceremony or a sweat lodge? How can we show the deepest respect for this other way?

Tuesday, February 15th 7 PM - Slavery By Another Name. This is a 90-minute documentary that challenges one of Americans' most cherished assumptions: the belief that slavery in this country ended with the Emancipation Proclamation.

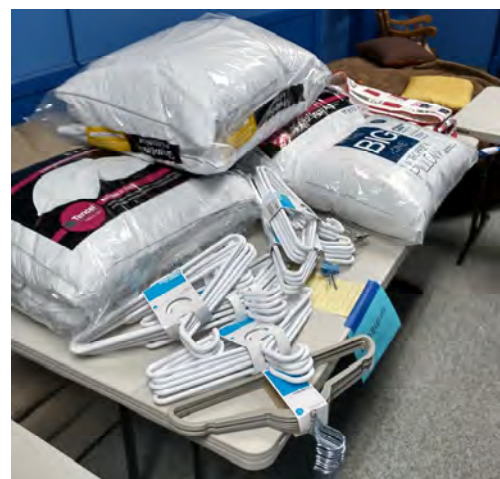
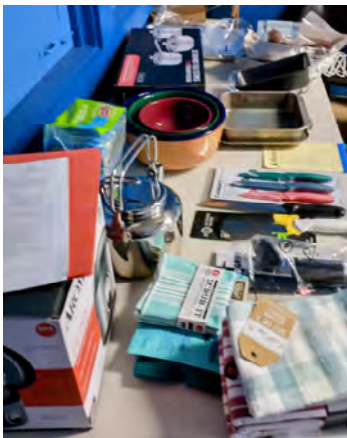
Tuesday, March 15th 7 PM – Freedom Summer. In 1964, a new plan was hatched by Bob Moses, a local secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. For ten weeks, white students from the North would join activists on the ground for a massive effort that would do what had been impossible so far: force the media and the country to take notice of the shocking violence and massive injustice taking place in Mississippi.

RACIAL JUSTICE TEAM'S ADVENT ACTION PROJECT

The Racial Justice Team's Advent Action Project of collecting donations to support a refugee family arriving in our city in 2022 was a success! Our thanks to everyone in the Judson community who donated a new or gently used household item or donated a financial gift to the project. We were able to collect everything from the required list of items and, as of this writing, most of the wish list items as well.

We anxiously await word of the arrival date of the family and plan to deliver the items you so generously made possible to the International Institute in time to welcome the family to their Minnesota home.

Special thanks to Eileen for setting up the donation button on the website, to Bryant for getting the word out and to everyone on the RJ team who organized, shopped, packed and delivered our donations.



Terry, Tom, and Willie put decorated wreaths at Ft Snelling Cemetery on Friday, December 17th



SOLAR PERFORMANCE FROM 10/18/21 TO 11/16/21 (29-DAY PERIOD)

Listed below is the Judson solar system performance from our December Xcel bill that covers the 29-day period from 10/18 to 11/16.

Our solar system, as of Dec 20, 2021 has generated just shy of 49,000 kWh since last spring's activation on April 29th. Maybe more importantly we have also saved almost 36 tons of CO₂ emission!!

Solar Electricity Generated during period = 3,199 kWh

Electricity Used by Judson during period = 6,720 kWh

Electricity Used by Judson from Solar during period = 960 kWh

Solar Electricity put back on grid during period = 2,239kWh

Solar Credit for 32-day period = ————

Xcel Bill (includes Credit) for 32-day period = \$1187.73

Xcel Bill from last year's November bill = \$1525.83

Submitted by Larry Jacobson, past chair of property



CONGREGATIONAL CARE PREPARES CHRISTMAS CARDS

FROM CAROLYN

Happy New Year Everyone!

My title at Judson Church has officially changed to Spiritual Formation Director.

By focusing my work on the spiritual journey of all ages in our community, young people – who are still my priority - are positively impacted by our shared experiences. For example, the guided meditations I facilitate on Sundays are a great point of connection for all ages after the service. I've had wonderful conversations with kids and adults about what the meditations sparked in them – and I hope this continues!

I invite all of you to use the meditations as conversation starters with people of different ages in the pews around you, or with your loved ones on the car ride home. Share what came up for you and ask others what images or ideas came up for them.

If you'd like to talk about your own spiritual musings and questions or have ideas for the congregation, please reach out to me. I've been happily meeting with some folks individually, as well as facilitating a monthly spirituality circle. (The group is at capacity, but I can start a second group if more people are interested) The best way to reach me is email: Ckolovitz@JudsonChurch.org. You can also text or call my cell 612-987-8779 after 10 am. Mondays, Thursdays or Fridays are the best days to reach me.



A WORD FROM BRYANT

Hello everyone! I wanted to take some time to write a little more directly to you now that I've been at Judson for a few months. I'm settling in and enjoying getting to know Judson the Community, and Judson the People!

My job comes with many tasks that are all geared towards helping Judson speak - I am here to amplify Judson's voice, not to speak for Judson. I wanted to take a moment to tell you a bit about how I do that using Judson's social media presence.

We have two main social media platforms at the moment - Facebook and YouTube. We also have Instagram and Twitter accounts, though those are not used as heavily. And, of course, we have our Website! These are all part of how I help Judson the Organization speak to Judson the People, as well as the outside world.

Part of what I do here in the office is make sure that the content we create and produce follows a set of guidelines. We don't just want to bombard our followers with junk, we want to create content that gives you a reason to come seek it out. To make that possible, the Outreach and Engagement committee has come up with a set of "Social Media Goals." Whenever we put content on the internet, we do so to accomplish these goals - we want to Entertain, Educate, Remind, and Inform Judson, and the world, in a way that is both Relevant and Inspiring. We want Judson's digital presence to be a place you can come to wherever you are and whenever you need it. Of course, this doesn't replace the normal physical church activities at all! Instead we hope to have a solid digital presence so that you can be more able to connect with the physical church as well. This is why our digital spaces will continue to publish events, reminders, and live streams of Sunday worship.

We've also been working on streamlining the process of having events at Judson. If you have an idea for an event or activity, let Polly or Monica know, and then send me an email letting me know too so we can figure out what your communications and technology needs are. I want every event to be a success!

I am eager to get to know you all and hear your ideas for Judson's communications. Please never hesitate to reach out to me at bkumlin@judsonchurch.org, we can find a time to meet in person, digitally, or just exchange emails to talk. Also if you're interested in learning more about social media, the internet, and what they mean for Church, I will be hosting monthly conversations at Judson where we can all learn about the future together starting on January 30th.

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.

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.

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!



Bring Your Hopes, Bring Your Doubts, Feed Your Soul.



HOW TO STAY CONNECTED TO JUDSON ONLINE

Check out Judson's Linktree for a quick access to our digital presence:

www.linktr.ee/JudsonChurch

If you're not signed up for the weekly emails, click the button to sign up! Email is a great way to get a constant update of what we do here at Judson and how to stay involved.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY 2022

January 2nd - Online worship on YouTube
Zoom coffee hour 10:30am.

January 9th - Online worship on YouTube

January 16th - Martin Luther King, Jr Sunday

January 23rd - Worship in the Spirit of Taizé
Personal Reflection: Susan Mason

January 30th - Bring Your Hopes

*****Subject to change due to COVID, see website for up to date schedule*****

Published monthly by
Judson Memorial Baptist Church

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

Carolyn Kolovitz
Director of Spiritual Formation
ckolovitz@judsonchurch.org

John De Haan, Director of Music
dehaa006@umn.edu

Rich Olson, Welcoming & Affirming Minister
rolson@judsonchurch.org

Bryant Kumlin, Marketing & Communications, Editor
bkumlin@judsonchurch.org

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

JUDSON NEWSLETTER

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

Change Service Requested