

April 2022



A TRUST CHURCH



A WELCOMING AND AFFIRMING CHURCH

JUDSON

Memorial Baptist Church

4101 Harriet Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55409

612-822-0649

judsonchurch.org

MESSENGER

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

We are planning to offer a different Palm Sunday-Holy Week-Easter observance/celebration/experience this year. For Palm Sunday, we will hold a parade around the block after worship. For Holy Week, we will have a service of Lamentation for all of the loss and separation of the past two years. Then on April 17th, we will celebrate our first in-person Easter service in two years. We are planning a more than usual festive service, especially in our music with section leaders and a three-piece Celtic band. I think we are going to need this energy entering our third year of the pandemic. I invite you to join me in four key practices as we enter year 3.

Invest in relationships and the health of our congregation. Call, write, email, text those who call Judson their spiritual home. *Be grateful.*

Listen. Listen. Listen. *Be compassionate.*

Make generous assumptions. *Be curious.*

Continue to pray for yourself, for individuals in your life, and pray for Judson Church. *Be intentional.*

Why these four practices? None of us knows for certain what life on the other side of this pandemic will look like for neighbors, families, individuals, or faith communities. I do feel like we are continuing our path toward renewal. Each week I meet someone new or get an inquiry for partnerships. I think we are onto something here at Judson, even if we don't really know what we are doing. But I do know if we invest in relationships, listen, make generous assumptions, and cultivate our inner and corporate lives, we will place ourselves in healthy, tender, and authentic spaces. And healthy, tender and authentic spaces are holy and luminous. They are the kind of spaces we are all looking for.

Peace,
Travis

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41st and Harriet Avenue South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55409

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

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

Dear Friends,

I like to walk three miles a day whenever possible. Now that the weather is so pleasant, everybody's out. Best part of the walk? The grin that lights me up when I see little kids or dogs. I just love the hit of joy I feel with these special creatures, and it creates immediate community. I have yet to get a negative response from the adult companions when I compliment them or interact with their special kids and/or dogs. I almost always get a return smile, even from the crabbiest of faces.

Doug and I have been blessed with knowing many of the children from Judson over the years. We "taught" Sunday School for kids who are now in their 30's with kids of their own! We had lots of adventures and some very deep moments. I will never forget how touched these kids were when we did a ceremonial "washing of the hands" (feet wouldn't have worked with this group!). We went camping, had a girls' slumber party every year, and did a lot of talking and questioning. Doug made great connections with children and youth through music. One of our favorite memories is of the kids writing and performing their own song for the church: "In the Garden of Eden" (to the tune of In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida) using their stage name I. Ron Butterfly. Seriously, this was a talented group!

In 2020, I decided I wanted to get back into the groove with our current crop of kids. I signed up to help with the younger kids for the month of March. I only got to attend one class when everything shut down.

I believe that each of us carries the divine within us. I also believe that children and animals carry an extra-large dose of that divinity. We can all tap into that inner goodness/teacher/divinity within ourselves and as a connection to others if we seek it and pay attention. I am very much looking forward to soon being able to tap into the divinity of our Judson children and youth. Thank you, parents, for sharing your wonderful progeny with the Judson community.

Your moderator,

Monica Lewis



P.S. The picture was taken at one of our girls' sleepovers. Recognize anyone?

STARFISH INFORMATION - MARCH 2022

Requesters helped: 14 with 13 new to Starfish

Rent/Utilities: \$10,092.00

Gift Cards: \$300.00

Total Aid: \$10,392.00

Funds Exhausted: March 4, 2022

**JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF NEEDS
DURING THE MONTH OF APRIL**

Items needed are diapers (any size, but 3-6 is the most popular), baby wipes, dental hygiene products (toothbrushes, toothpaste), feminine hygiene products (tampons, pads), and other personal hygiene products (shampoo, soap, deodorant).

Also, paper grocery bags with handles are needed.

You may drop off items at Judson Church any time that is convenient for you during April, Jim ten Bensel; will deliver the items to Joyce Food Shelf.

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

Monetary donations are also accepted and very much appreciated.

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

Any donations, whether monetary or otherwise, are helpful at this time and greatly appreciated! Thank you for any donations you can make at this time to support JOYCE UPTOWN FOOD SHELF!

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. 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.

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

6. 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

BOOTLEG COUNCIL REPORT*

Judson Council met on February 1, 2022. Here are some highlights:

- "Soft" re-opening of in-person worship on February 13th. Council voted to approve the plan to resume in-person worship with masks and social distancing. We'll also be recording and live streaming the service. There will be child care available.
- Check out Cathy Wurzer on MinnPost, retweeting Travis's Bike Commute Report mornings!
- Work on committee budgets, and the stewardship campaign is starting.
- Spiritual Formation update: we want to show the neighborhood who we are as a spiritual resource and support no matter where people fall on the faith spectrum. We must try to stay nimble with the hope that we will eventually have a committee generating ideas. We should determine what it is that kids really want and need, and not just try to convince them to come to church on Sunday. Carolyn is planning a workshop on being a spiritual presence, where parents could come and figure out what they want to share with their kids about spirituality. There are some great ideas for intergenerational opportunities, but a lot depends on the COVID situation.
- We passed a motion that council supports the Environmental/Climate Justice Group in exploring the congregation's becoming a certified climate justice congregation.
- We passed a motion that endorses the Racial Justice Team to move forward with its exploration of what it would mean for Judson to become an anti-racist church.
- Fifteen Judsonites spent 15+ hours last weekend in an anti-racism training facilitated by Roots of Justice. Exhausting and exhilarating! Stay tuned for their reports.

*A quick summary by your moderator of this month's council meeting. Not from any approved council minutes. Approval happens at subsequent council meeting. Look for next month's BOOTLEG COUNCIL REPORT in other communication from Judson shortly after the March 1, 2022, Council meeting.

SAVE THE DATE! THE JUDSON FUN FAIR '22 IS COMING SOON!

Judson will hold a virtual fundraising event on the evening of May 14, 2022.

There will be entertainment, interesting announcements, and an on-line silent auction. More information will follow soon, but please SAVE THE DATE—

Saturday May 14, 2022.

REFLECTIONS ON RACIAL JUSTICE

by Jim ten Bensel

I grew up at Judson church, an American Baptist church. American Baptist is a denomination in which white people are in the minority.

Growing up at Judson has always been exciting. Judson has been a part of the movement from the beginning, including women in leadership positions. We have led in Baptist life, welcoming the LGBTQIA+ community into full partnership and leadership. Many of us have gone through anti-racism training in the 1990s and the present. We learn to analyze the depths of white power and white supremacy that affect us.

It is said, “music is the universal language, and love is the key.” In my music work at all levels, I get to work with all styles of music and the people who make that music including Jazz, Klezmer, Salsa, Blues, classical, ethnic, and world music.

The last year has been very, very hard on all of us. One thing that we have is our love for each other and ourselves. We on the racial justice team are analyzing and seeking an anti-racist identity that frees us from the “white identity” that continually goes unexamined. In his book “Jesus and the Disinherited,” Howard Thurman says that we need to develop the “beloved community.” This is a loving task, and people who call themselves white need to understand how internalized and institutionalized racism is. We at Judson will continue to study and train, do introspection and organize for the future. Please join us in this endeavor.

TANGLEN STAFFER BUILDS HAND-MADE THRONE FOR SIXTH-GRADE CLASS

It started out as an inside joke, but turned into a demonstration of how student voice and a little collaboration can create an innovative end product. Jacob, a sixth-grader in Dani Hovanetz's classroom, likes to joke around with his favorite teacher. He and the rest of the class have an inside joke with Ms. Hovanetz in which they call her "your majesty"—the class even gave her a name plaque. Jacob didn't think the plaque was enough, so when he heard about another staff member's woodworking skills, he had a bright idea.

Building substitute Chip ten Bensel, or Mr. T—as the kids like to call him—does woodworking in his free time. He has generously built functional bookshelves for a couple of kindergarten teachers, so when he received a new request from Jacob, he went all in.

"I try to foster empowering kids—for them to be empowered by what they do and their actions," Mr. T said.

Jacob said he was surprised to see the end result. The throne is painted purple with gold accents. It has the letter 'H' carved into the back to represent Hopkins and Hovanetz. Mr. T even added a couple of cushions on the seat to make it comfy.



Mr. T revealed the throne to Ms. Hovanetz's class on March 7. The sixth graders oohed and awed and were very excited to see their teacher sit on the throne. Mr. T reminded them that a throne is for someone who is well revered, and Ms. Hovanetz is someone who is well revered by staff and students. The school is located in Minnetonka.

LGBTQIA+ IS NOW JUDSON QUEER ALLIANCE OR JQA

The JQA Team met on March 7 to re-ignite conversation about Judson's awareness of and commitment to being a "Welcoming and Affirming" congregation. The team's current members are Déadra Moore, Joe Moore, Cindy Clague, Polly Schrom, Bob Nelson, and Joyce Nolen.

A smaller group in attendance that evening told our stories that connected us to JQA. We explored exactly what the role of this group will be. We agreed that we wanted Judson's Welcoming and Affirming stance to consist of more than staffing a booth at Twin Cities PRIDE each year. Also, we knew we didn't want to focus solely on "mission," or "fundraising," or "education," expecting that some of each of these may be part of what we do. Mostly, we hope that Judson's Welcoming and Affirming stance is a way of living in our congregation that creates a safe space for all.

To help us explore these ideas, we decided to formulate a pulse survey of the congregation which should be ready and out the first week of April, so please look for that in your email. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 28 at 7 pm via Zoom--Meeting ID: 849 858 1202. Contact Déadra Moore at 651-278-4366 if you'd like to be part of this effort.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

AWARDED TO

Judson Memorial Baptist Church

We truly appreciate your 2021 support of \$3,200 given to the region, the denomination, and to the special missions and ministries inside the American Baptist Churches and beyond.

Blessings to you in your ministry.

Awarded February 2022



Rev. Dr. Sandra L. Hasenauer
Executive Minister ABC/RGR

TRUST INC
PRESENTS

Caritas Vocal Ensemble



A free community concert
of inspiration and hope
benefiting the programs and initiatives
of TRUST Inc.

4:30 P.M.
APRIL 10

HOSTED AT
RICHFIELD LUTHERAN CHURCH

8 West 60th Street
Minneapolis MN 55419



*TRUST INC MOBILIZES COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO
EMPOWER AND SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS*

WWW.TRUSTING.ORG

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 3rd 9:30am - Fifth Sunday in Lent, worship with Communion

April 10th 9:30am - Palm Sunday, neighborhood parade following worship

April 10th 4:00pm Palm Sunday Bicycle Ride - Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Minneapolis) to Cathedral of St. Paul (St. Paul)

April 12th 7:00pm - Holy Week Service of Lamentations (Judson Sanctuary)

April 15th 12pm to 3 - Stations of the Cross via Bicycle, meet at Judson Church.

April 17th 9:30am - Easter Worship (will include the Judson choir along with choral section leaders and a three-piece Celtic band)

April 24th 9:30am - Earth Day Celebration – Judson Preschool & Environmental & Climate Justice Group

May 1st 9:30am - Poet Mary Moore Easter – Worship and second hour reading

May 1st 3:00pm - Minneapolis Trombone Choir Concert

May 14th – Judson Fun Fair '22 (including silent auction) - online

May 22nd – Annual Meeting following Worship

May 22nd 4:00pm – Book Release Celebration for Travis

Westminster Town Hall Forum on Climate Change

The last two Women lead Town Hall Forum talks on Climate Change will be held at noon on Wednesday, April 6, and Wednesday, April 27 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in downtown Mpls. Author Elizabeth Kolbert will give the April 6 talk about people across the globe developing technologies to avert climate change impacts. Colette Pinchon Battle will be the April 27 speaker and discuss climate mitigation and adaptation to advance racial justice. Details for both forums are available from the website: westminsterforum.org. Also, a group from the Environment/Climate Justice Team is planning to attend the April 27th Forum in person and would encourage other Judson community folks to join us. Please contact Larry Jacobson (jacob007@umn.edu) or Sarah Baker (sarahcoxbaker@hotmail.com) if interested.

RACIAL JUSTICE NEWS

In late 2021, Judson members were asked by the Alliance of Baptists (Alliance) to participate in its new THRIVE Project by completing a confidential online survey. The survey is the first step in a 5-year Alliance project aimed at understanding and eliminating structural racism in churches and other religious organizations.

We have recently received the confidential survey results on a combined basis. 21 Judson members completed the survey out of 1,602 total participants. This is a small Judson group, primarily consisting of members of the Racial Justice Team. Our answers likely reflect that bias. With only a few exceptions, our combined responses are generally similar to the combined responses of the other 1,581. Here are a few highlights from the survey. Additional survey information is available if anyone wants to see more.

Judson members tend to think less often about our racial identities than the larger group—likely because, as white people, we don't have to think about our race very often.

Our overall attitudes about the Bible are similar to the comparison group except in one respect—we are less willing to say the Bible is the inspired word of God.

Very similarly to the larger group, we say we are motivated to work toward racial justice; we strongly disagree with the idea that race relations would improve if we stopped talking about it; we disagree with the notion too much blame has been put on white people for the racial injustice in the US; we do not ignore other people's race or ethnicity.

We generally think that things would be better or have no adverse impact for us if things were better for people of color—Hispanic, Black, Asian, Native. We also think things would be worse for us if things were worse for these groups. This is in general alignment with the larger group.

We tend to increase our understanding of racism through reading, watching documentaries, discussing, listening to speakers rather than building inter-racial relationships. This contrasts with the other Alliance members.

As the THRIVE Project moves through its 5-year process, we will receive more information to consider, and there will likely be more opportunities to participate.

RACIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Jean Hayes for April Messenger

Winter School Conclusion

The Judson Winter School concluded on March 15th with a discussion of the PBS documentary, "Freedom Summer," which focused on the experiences of volunteers, organizers, and citizens in Mississippi in the summer of 1964. A thousand White students from well-connected northern universities and families were deployed throughout the state to live with Black families. For ten weeks, the students engaged in three kinds of activity: Voter registration, recruitment to the newly formed Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, and Freedom Schools.

It was one of the bloodiest times of the Civil Rights movement but led to the Voting Rights Act of 1965. The discussion revealed how little most of us knew, until recently, about Freedom Summer and its profound achievements. We talked about the immediate gains that came from the Voting Rights Act, as well as the immediate and sustained backlash.

The backlash to the Civil Rights Act of 1965 was successful – it was gutted in 2013 by the Supreme Court Decision in *Shelby Co. v. Holder*. Since 2013, voting rights for minorities have been significantly restricted in many parts of the country. Today, polarization is severe between factions trying to restrict and factions trying to expand voting rights. Twenty-seven states have pending bills that would further restrict voting rights. Thirty-two states have bills pending that would expand voting rights.

May 1, 2022: Worship Guest Leader and Poetry Reading with Mary Moore Easter

The Racial Judson Team helped arrange for Mary Moore Easter to be part of the worship service, followed by a presentation on May 1, 2022. She is the author of four books of poetry; a Pushcart Prize-nominee; Cave Canem Fellow; veteran dancer/choreographer; and emerita professor of dance at Carleton College. She is the mother of two daughters and has four grandchildren. You will not want to miss hearing her words or experiencing her presence with us.

Other Activities of the Racial Justice Team

Everyone is welcome to participate in the work, which includes:

- Visiting New Beginnings Baptist Tabernacle, 4301 1st Ave. S., as a first step in re-establishing a relationship.
- Exploring collaboration with T.R.U.S.T. Churches related to racial justice initiatives.
- Exploring more ways to work with We Win Institute toward systemic changes in education.
- Scheduling meetings with Judson's other committees to consider ways to work together.
- Reporting on Alliance of Baptists Survey of Judson Attitudes about Race (see Brad Joern's report elsewhere in this Messenger).
- Sharing personal reflections (see Jim ten Bensel's thoughts elsewhere in this Messenger).
- Exploring refugee projects. Recently Allight (formerly known as the American Refugee Committee) noticed that Afghan women do not participate in the social support gatherings that are offered to men and women. We may have an opportunity to help with gatherings for only women and children.
- Following-up from the Roots of Justice Antiracism Training by:
 - Finding ways to share information and reflections with the congregation.
 - Preparing for the teams' summer Retreat and fall workshop about Organizing.

SOLAR PERFORMANCE FROM 1/20/22 TO 2/19/22 (32-DAY PERIOD)



Solar performance from 1/20/22 to 2/19/22 (30-day period)

Listed below is the Judson solar system performance from our March Xcel bill that covers the 30-day period from 1/20/22 to 2/19/22.

The electricity generated by our solar system this 30-day period is nearly double (2,078 vs 1,252 kWh) from that collected the previous month. However, it is still way below the 8,000 to 9,000 kWh monthly levels that is typically collected during the summer months. I'm sure we will see a large increase in the energy collected in next month's report.

Solar Electricity Generated during period = 2,078 kWh

Electricity Used by Judson during period = 17,920 kWh

Electricity Used by Judson from Solar during period = 160 kWh

Solar Electricity put back on grid during period = 1,918 kWh

Solar Credit for period = -----

Xcel Bill for 30-day period = \$2,449.31

Xcel Bill from last year's February bill = \$2,541.02

Submitted by Larry Jacobson, past chair of property

ODDS AND ENDS

PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any updates for the Tree of Life (the Judson Prayer List), either send them to Travis 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!

HAVE SOMETHING FOR THE MESSENGER?

- Email Bryant at bkumlin@judsonchurch.org by the 20th of the month and let him know what you'd like included!



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 APRIL 2022

April 3 Lent V with Communion

April 10th Palm Sunday

Parade following the worship service around the neighborhood

April 17 Easter Sunday

Celtic Trio

Choir

April 24 Earth Day Celebration

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

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
8:30 am--4:30 pm

JUDSON NEWSLETTER

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

Change Service Requested