



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*No matter who you are, or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

www.fcindy.org
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46240

@FirstCongregationalUCCIndy

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome home! We celebrate being a Just Peace making church with an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the LGBTQ community since 1994.

We welcome first time guests and include **all ages** in our worship service. We believe we are called by Jesus to be a transforming presence for God in the world. We are a place to **belong**, a place to **heal** and a place to **love**.

Pastor Sarah's Office Hours

Shannon's Office Hours

Monday – Sabbath Day	Monday – Sabbath Day
Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Tuesday – Out of Office
Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Wednesday – Out of Office
Thursday – Out of Office	Thursday – Out of Office
Friday – Out of Office	Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care:

Pastor Sarah can be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at pastorsarah@fcindy.org. While Pastor Sarah is away serving the wider church April 4 – 6, please contact Pastor Carol at (317) 496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com for pastoral care needs.

We celebrate the team of people called to serve on our church staff:

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle
Office Administrator, Shannon Abbott
Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker
Choir Director, Julie Houston
Bell Choir Director, Bob Cook

We celebrate the team of people elected to lead our church:

Rich Gibson, Moderator
Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Clerk
Jim Lootens, Treasurer
George Meier, Financial Secretary

We celebrate those serving in worship today:

Sue Chapman, Worship Leader

MARCH 31, 2019

11 A.M.

*Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.*

Asterisk () indicates those who choose to may stand.*

Headphones are available for those who may need assistance. Please see an usher.

WE GATHER

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Come to the Banquet

Fay White

Beautiful Things

Michael & Lisa Gungor

WELCOME

Pastor Carol Sowle

*CALL to WORSHIP

Sue Chapman

Be glad in our GOD and rejoice, O righteous ones. Shout for joy,
all you upright in heart.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Therefore, we worship our God, and rejoice.

In Christ, we become as a new creation. Everything old has passed away.
See how God makes things new.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven and whose lives become new.

Through our worship, we praise God who makes us new.

*OPENING SONG # 202 O God How We Have Wandered

*UNISON PRAYER with MOMENT OF SILENCE for personal reflection

**O God, with gladness and expectation, we gather in this space today.
For you are the one who makes all things new. You are the one who satisfies our
hunger and restores our soul. In this holy space, help us, your daughters and
sons, to know that you always love us. Through our worship today, help us to
know that if we stray away from you, you are always ready to receive us with
open arms. Prepare our hearts as we worship you to welcome and embrace all
of your children as you do us. With gladness and expectation we pray, in Jesus'
name. Amen.**

THE PEACE

Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke - Kick off Holy Week a day early – on **Saturday, April 13**, from 2-4, we'll be showing Jesus Christ Superstar, and encouraging those who want to sing along. Also, you can learn about the Gospel scriptures which most of the songs are based on.

Update on “Days for Girls” Project - The IN-KY Conference and Outreach & Service project for putting together 100 menstrual hygiene kits for girls in developing countries is well under way. The response has been gratifying. Cutters are preparing fabric, sewers are sewing shields, pads and drawstring bags, and suppliers have been shopping or checking their own stashes. Still Needed:

- More cutters and sewers.
- 22 more pairs of 100% cotton dark/bright color panties (briefs), girls 12/14.
- Dark/brightly colored flannel (for pads – we are making 800 pads!)
- 50 more 100% cotton, dark/bright color wash cloths.
- Monetary donations to cover expenses for fabric/supplies.

I will have cut fabric sets for shields to hand off to sewers each Sunday and also prepared flannel. See Sue Chapman for other ways you can help.

Green Team Tip – Where do you set your thermostat? As we transition from cold weather to cool, test yourself every day. Try turning the heater off and opening windows on nice days. If it's cool outside, try setting the thermostat a degree or two cooler than normal, and put on a sweater if it helps. Make it a daily practice!

March Mission of the Month: One Great Hour of Sharing - Each year brings new disasters in the US and around the world. OGHS has partnerships with local organizations ready for rapid response. OGHS also works with Church World Service to support refugee resettlement and to advocate for refugees and asylum seekers. This is the most important Special Offering of the UCC and one of the “5 for 5” offerings we at FCC have long been committed to support. Please be generous in your support. Use the special pew envelopes or put the notation “OGHS” on your check.

Pantry Items of the Month - During March we are collecting the following items: spaghetti, rice, juices, peanut butter.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Tuesday, April 2	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, April 3	2:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, April 3	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
Thursday, April 4	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, April 4	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, April 4	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 6	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ St. John's UCC, Southport
Saturday, April 6	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Small Group in parlor
Sunday, April 7	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 7	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, April 7	1:00 p.m.	FCC's Historic Roots in Indy

Today's Scripture (NRSV Translation)

Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-32

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³So he told them this parable:
^{11b}"There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.'" ²⁰So he set

off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"



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