

 FirstCongregationalUCCIndy

 Forward



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of March 14, 2019

Message

Dear First Congregational:

As we feel the raindrops, and we remember the embrace of sunshine that draws us into spring, we anticipate experiences of growing in our love. Lenten small groups are underway, the Whole Church Retreat is coming up (there's still time to sign up!), and each day God invites us to walk with the divine.

The Whole Church Retreat, Friday, March 22—Saturday, March 23 will be filled with FUN and FELLOWSHIP. Here's a peek at the schedule: click [here](#).

May we continue to be encouraged by God's outpouring of love for each one of us...and share that love with others.

With hope,

Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

March 17th: Esther

Enter into an exotic and fanciful Persian kingdom with a dim witted king, defiant queen, an evil, genocidal commander and loyal uncle. How can the beautiful and courageous Esther avert disaster for her people?

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund will preach on "Walking Humbly and Winging It."

Scripture: Luke 13:31-35

What's Happening at FCC

Lenten Small Groups



Lent

This Lenten season, you are invited to join a short-term small group. The small groups will meet 4 times over the course of Lent, and will explore and experience ancient spiritual practices. You may sign up for the small group that meets your scheduling and location needs in the narthex.

Saturdays at 10am (3/9, 3/16, 3/30, 4/6): in the church parlor.

Tuesdays at 7pm: (3/12, 4/2) at Aniseh & Jimmy's home, (3/26 & 4/9) at the Greene's home.

Wednesdays at 2pm (3/13, 3/27, 4/3, 4/10): at the home of Rich Gibson.

Thursdays at 1:30pm. (3/14, 3/28, 4/4, 4/11): at Marquette Manor.

If you are unable to be a part of one of these sessions due to scheduling, and would like to participate, please sign up with preferred days, times, and locations, and we will see if we can make arrangements. You may also inquire about and/or sign up for a small group by contacting Lianna Campos at lcampos33@gmail.com or 317-954-1601.

Lenten Breakfast Series

**SOUTHEAST ASSOCIATION (IKC)
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

2019 LENTEN BREAKFASTS
Saturday Mornings at 8 am

“Living Under Tension”

MARCH 9: St. John UCC, Cumberland
“Believe in a Higher Spiritual Reality”

MARCH 16: Immanuel UCC
“Draw on the Power of Prayer”

MARCH 23: The Altenheim
“Our Deep Need for Community”

MARCH 30: First Congregational UCC
“When Means Determine Ends”

APRIL 6: St. John's UCC, Southport
“Keep Faith in Human Possibilities”

APRIL 13: Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)
“Becoming Christ's Disciples”
(With Communion)

Cabaret at FCC, March 16, 7:00 p.m.



Famous Indianapolis cabaret diva Jeannie Logan teams up with Sean Baker the Music Maker to present an evening of hilarious original cabaret. This show is vaudeville for the mensa set! Lyrics fly fast and furious in this tour de force authored by New York composer & lyricist R. George Winters.



First Congregational Whole-Church Retreat

Different, Equal, and Whole: Coming Together as One

Are you like me and have procrastinated in filling out the registration form for the All Church Retreat? It begins around 5 pm on Friday 3/22 and runs through Saturday 3/23 at 4 pm. It will be at the Benedict Inn in Beech Grove. Pick up a registration form in the narthex or download the .pdf here: [2019 FCC Retreat Registration Form](#).

I need to turn in our total counts for meals and rooms by this Friday, so it is very important to let me know the following by noon, Friday 3/15:

1. Yes, I/we are attending
2. If you want to spend the night at the Benedict Inn
3. What meals you will be attending: Friday dinner at 5:30, Saturday breakfast at 8 am, Saturday lunch at noon

The fee for the event is \$35 per person, and you can pay later. Also, if you are not coming due to the cost, financial assistance is available.

The planning team is working on fun and meaningful activities for the retreat, so hope you can come!

Please let me know by this Friday – Thanks, Wendy

Join in the “Days for Girls” Project



The I-K Conference and Outreach & Service project has begun. We have been challenged to put together 100 menstrual hygiene kits for girls in developing countries, where the lack

of such supplies forces girls to miss school during their periods. Lots of helpers are needed to meet our goal. We need sewers, tracers of patterns and cutters of fabric, suppliers of the fabrics required, and people to buy such things as panties, washcloths, Ziploc freezer bags, travel size soaps, and twill tape for the drawstrings on the bags. Check out the poster and clipboards in the narthex for printed directions, specific requirements for items, and signing up. You may also contribute money for others to make purchases. Just put "Days for Girls" in the notation line of your check or on the Special Offering envelope. If you are buying supplies yourself and want them considered "in-kind" donations, save your receipts to turn in. For questions, contact Sue Chapman, Sally Coombs, or Shannon Abbott. Completed kits will be turned in no later than May 30 in time for the I-K Conference Annual Gathering.



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to people who can't afford interview clothes to help them be better prepared when job hunting. Put donations in the cloakroom by the sign. Thanks!

Green Team Tip

As you begin spring housecleaning, take a survey of your home. Substitute chemical cleaners with non-toxic ones. Many good ideas can be found in The Humble Art of Zen Cleaning.



March Mission of the Month: One Great Hour of Sharing

Each year brings new disasters in the US and around the world. When you give to OGHS, you are there helping right away because 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.

Pastoral Care

Pastor Sarah can be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, March 14	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group @ Marquette Manor
Thursday, March 14	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, March 16	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ Immanuel UCC
Saturday, March 16	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Small Group in parlor
Saturday, March 16	7:00 p.m.	Cabaret Show @FCC
Sunday, March 17	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, March 17	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, March 17	12:15 a.m.	Creative Worship & Green Team Meeting
Tuesday, March 19	9:30 a.m.	Mindful Movement
Thursday, March 21	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, March 21	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday-Saturday, March 22-23		Whole Church Retreat @ Benedict Inn
Saturday, March 23	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ the Altenheim
Sunday, March 24	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, March 24	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, March 24	12:30 p.m.	Worship & Faith Meeting