

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of March 21, 2019



Message

Dear First Congregational:

First Congregational is a place to belong, a place to heal and a place to love. We can think of our belonging as coming from the understanding that we each belong as members of the Body of Christ. What does it mean to be different, equal and whole as the Body of Christ?

We will be exploring this theme at our Church Retreat this weekend and I invite you to join us (whether in body or in spirit) in praying about our faith community as a reflection of Paul's vision of the Body of Christ described in 1 Corinthians 12. Let's look at verses 12 and 13:

For Christ is like a single body with its many limbs and organs, which, many as they are, together make up one body. For indeed we were all brought into one body by baptism, in the one Spirit, Whether we are Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and that one Holy Spirit was poured out for all of us to drink.

What a beautiful invitation...an invitation to belong. You, me, and so many others (plus those we have yet to meet) all different, all equal, coming together, belonging to the Body of Christ, making us whole.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

March 24th: 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?

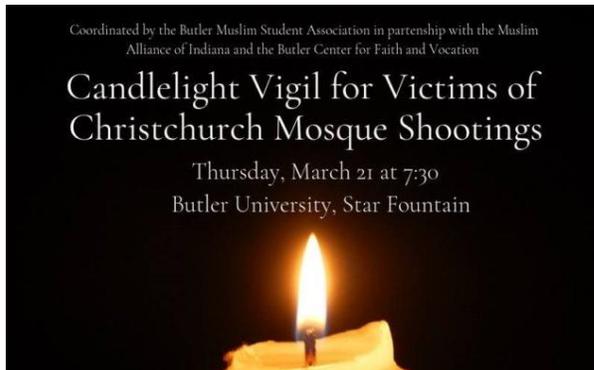
Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund will preach on "Walking Humbly Without Thought."

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-13

What's Happening at FCC

TONIGHT!!! Interfaith vigil for victims of Christchurch killings



Thursday March 21, 2019 @ 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm
Butler University, Star Fountain 4600 Sunset Ave

On Friday, March 15, at least one gunman killed 49 people and wounded more than 40 during Friday prayers at two New Zealand mosques in the country's worst ever mass shooting, which Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern condemned as terrorism.

Please join Butler students Thursday, March 21st at 7:30 PM at the Star Fountain on Butler University's campus.

Program Schedule

- Opening Remarks – Asif Hossain (MSA President)
- Remarks on behalf of the Center for Faith and Vocation (Daniel Meyers)
- Remarks on behalf of the Butler Muslim Student Association (Sara Abusnaneh)
- Remarks on behalf of the Muslim Alliance of Indiana
- Maghrib prayer
- Remarks of behalf of Jewish community (Rabbi Shelly Goldman)
- Remarks on behalf of Catholic Community (Bruce Garrison)
- Remarks on behalf of Hindu community (Rupal Thanawala)
- Remarks on behalf of Muslim Community
- Candle Lighting
- Reading of the victims' names lost in this tragedy
- Moment of Silence
- Closing Remarks – Asif Hossain (MSA President)

NOTE: Attendees can park in the Butler University Parking Garage.



First Congregational Whole-Church Retreat

Different, Equal, and Whole: Coming Together as One

This weekend (March 22--23) we will gather at the Benedict Inn in Beech Grove for our Whole Church Overnight Retreat. Click [here](#) for more info on the retreat schedule.

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)

First

Congregational's Historic Roots in Indy



On **Sunday, April 7**, Marion Harcourt, our most tenured member, will give a presentation during the Adult Ed hour. Following worship, we'll have a light lunch at church and then board a bus for Marion's tour of historic sites connected to FCC's 162

years in Indy. A sign-up sheet is available, and donations to cover the cost of the event are gratefully accepted!

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.

1857 Society

The Society invites all who remember the church in their wills or estate plans, or plan to do so, to the Society's initial annual meeting, to be held at noon on Friday May 3 at Marquette Manor. The lunch meal is complimentary and there will be an outside speaker. Watch for reservation instructions. Commitment forms to join the Society are on the bulletin board inside the entrance to the parking lot. Questions? See Bill Gillette.

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

How do you handle potato peelings and apple cores? Simple composting is best, but if living in an apartment or condo, first wrap all your organic waste together in a newspaper or paper bag. It will decompose more easily than scattered throughout your trash.

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming!



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 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
Tuesday, March 26	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, March 27	1:00 p.m.	Care & Connections Meeting
Wednesday, March 27	2:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, March 27	6:30 p.m.	Calling Circle
Thursday, March 28	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, March 28	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, March 28	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, March 30	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ FCC
Saturday, March 30	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Small Group
Sunday, March 31	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, March 31	11:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Carol Sowle preaching