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 [Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of April 11, 2019

Dear First Congregational:

I encourage each of us to take time to come together as a church family for the various Holy Week worship opportunities. We will explore the passionate side of Jesus as a leader of a movement for justice on Palm Sunday, then gather for a soup dinner with the Lord's Supper as we remember the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion on Thursday, experience ecumenical Good Friday worship and finally, meet again to rejoice in the resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our experience of walking humbly with God through Lent leads us to an empty tomb. Where will God lead us from there? Come and let's find out together.

~Holy Week Worship~

April 14: Palm Sunday the Passionate Jesus for Justice at 11am

April 18: Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner with Communion in the Mayflower Room at 6:30pm, followed by Worship in the sanctuary

**April 19: Good Friday Ecumenical worship at 11am followed by luncheon at
Castleton United Methodist Church**

April 21: Easter Sunday Celebration with Handel's Messiah at 11am

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Special Meeting Called for Sunday, April 28th, 2019

Greetings! As Moderator and on behalf of the Council, I am authorized by the Constitution to convene a special meeting of the Congregation. It will occur immediately after 11am worship on Sunday, April 28th.

First Congregational member and current Worship and Faith Board Chair, Lianna Campos, has volunteered to assume the duties of Vice Moderator. The Council has approved this; but our Bylaws state that Council vacancies must be filled by vote of the congregation.

All told, we can consider and dispense with this issue quickly. I urge you to take time to consider this issue, and if you are able to attend on April 28th ready to do your best for First Congregational UCC.

Thank you,
Richard Gibson
Moderator
First Congregational UCC

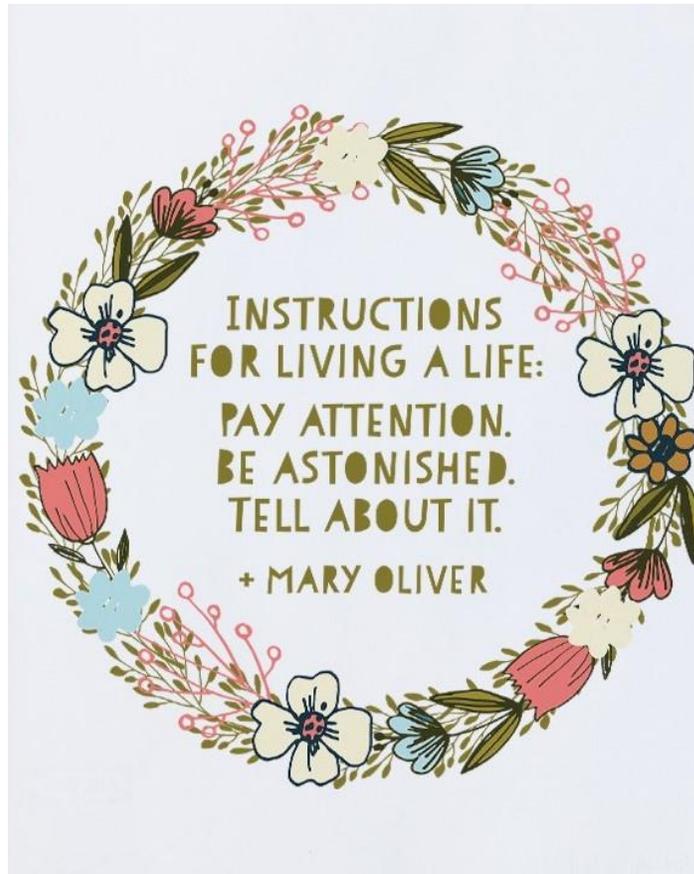
Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 14 - Brainstorm on how/what the Adult Ed class contributes to our Just Peace Church work, and what might we do?

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Walking with Jesus with Humility & Love."
Scripture: Luke 19:28-40

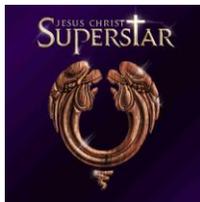


What's Happening at FCC

Lenten Breakfast, April 13, 8:00 a.m.

Please join us for the final IKC UCC Southeast Association Lenten Breakfast of the year at Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)!

Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke - Saturday, April 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m.



Many of us are familiar with Jesus Christ Superstar, but as I learned recently at my Lenten small group, many of us are not familiar with it at all.... It's a rock opera from 1970 by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice of the events of Holy Week, with a particular focus on Judas' perception of Jesus and the events of the time.

Come to First Congregational on Saturday from 2-4 pm to see what it's all about. We'll be showing the movie, and you can sing along with it, if you are so inclined. We'll also have available the scripture passages that many of the songs and plot are based on.

For me personally, it has deeply formed much of how I view what happened during that period of time by its often irreverent and comical depictions, but resulting in touching and tragic results from humans being so human. It is so meaningful to me that I regularly play the CD (and sing along) in my car during the Lenten season.

We'll be in the downstairs Mayflower Room; **if you arrive after 2 pm, be sure to use our keypad code – 1957 – to join us.** Light refreshments will be served, and there will be plenty of fun and fellowship – bring some friends!

- Wendy Baldwin

Sew Day for Days for Girls Service Project - April 22, 9:30 a.m. - Noon



Sewers, cutters, and workers needed for a church sew day on Monday, April 22nd from 9:30-noon in the Mayflower room. The Indiana/Kentucky UCC conference has challenged each member church to make 100 sets of kits that allow young women to attend school while they are menstruating. We are well underway, but now need workers. Bring your sewing machine, rotary cutters and mats, sewing shears, or just yourself and we will put you to work on this worthy project. Please let Sue Chapman (carolsuech59@gmail.com) or Linda Lupton (lklupton@aol.com) know if you are available to help on this day or are able to work at home.

Also needed:

- * 22 more pairs of 100% cotton dark/bright color panties (girls 12/14 briefs)
- * 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.

Thanks for making a difference in the lives of young women in developing nations.

Poems & Stories

The Mental Health Team is asking for people to share poems and stories on the topic of "LGBTQ and Mental Health." We are collecting these through May 19. Booklets will be assembled to give to visitors to our booth at the PRIDE Festival. Entries may be emailed to Brandi Pudlo: btudlo@knox.edu. If you would like to send a draft for proof-reading before a final copy is printed, please send an email with the draft by May 1st.

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.



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional women's clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to women 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

My mother was a child of the Depression. What she did with paper towels: After wiping up water spills, hang or spread them on any convenient surface to dry, then use them again. If wiping up something dirty on table or counter, dry them again and store them under the sink. Use them once more, third time if you're lucky, to clean up spills on the floor. Only after that may you throw them away, preferably with full honors. Humming "Taps" as you do so is commendable, but not strictly necessary.

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

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

April Mission of the Month: Exodus Refugee

Exodus Refugee is an organization with a chapter in Indianapolis that helps resettle refugees who come to this country legally. Exodus helps our new neighbors meet basic needs, but also provide services including social and medical services, English language training, and employment services. Their goal is to help members of our community achieve self sufficiency in their new home. With the cuts and changes in US immigration policy, there has been a severe cut in funding, but legal refugees continue to arrive.

We ask that you give generously to support their important work that is an action we can take to answer God's commandment that we love our neighbors as ourselves. Change and dollar bills in the offering plate will be designated for the mission of the month. Larger bills should be put in the "mission offering" envelopes in the pew and put in the offering plate. Checks should have Exodous marked in the memo line and made out to the church. We appreciate your help. Thank you for your support.

Pantry Items of the Month



During March we are collecting the following items: canned ravioli, cereal, soup, pasta and deodorant.

Pastoral Care

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, April 11	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, April 11	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 13	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)
Saturday, April 13	2:00 p.m.	Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke
Sunday, April 14	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 14	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 14	12:15 p.m.	Outreach & Service Meeting
Tuesday, April 16	1:30 p.m.	Circle IV
Thursday, April 18	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch

Thursday, April 18	6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Soup & Worship
Thursday, April 18	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, April 19	11:00 a.m.	Good Friday Ecumenical Worship @ Castleton UMC
Sunday, April 21	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 21	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Easter Sunday
Sunday, April 28	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Meeting