



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

@FirstCongregationalUCCLndy

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 – at UCC General Synod	Monday – at UCC General Synod
Tuesday – at UCC General Synod	Tuesday – at UCC General Synod
Wednesday – at UCC General Synod	Wednesday – at UCC General Synod
Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Friday – working out of the office	Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care:

While Pastor Sarah is serving the wider church at the UCC General Synod through June 26, Pastor Carol can be reached at (317) 496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com. After this date, Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

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

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

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

We celebrate those leading us in worship today:

Wendy Baldwin, Worship Leader - Jesse Wittman, String Bass - Mike Kessler, Percussion
Jessica Kramer, Vocal - Brandi Pudlow, Vocal

The flowers on the altar are in celebration of Ginny and Bill Gillette's 62nd wedding anniversary.

JUNE 23, 2019

11 A.M.

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

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

WE GATHER

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Sheep May Safetly Graze

J.S.Bach

WELCOME

Pastor Carol Sowle

*CALL to WORSHIP from Psalms 42 & 43

Wendy Baldwin

Come, all you whose souls thirst for the living God.

We come in search of help and hope.

Come, you who are acquainted with grief or oppression.

We come bearing our doubts, our wounds, and our fears.

Come, you who are in need of good news.

We come in search of joy, truth, and light.

Come and find refuge in God your rock.

Let us again praise the One who is our help and our hope.

*UNISON PRAYER with MOMENT OF SILENCE for personal reflection

O God, you hear our call of pain when we are blown about by storms within and without. You hear us when we are driven to distraction by inner voices that pile up worries and stir up confusion. Quiet our minds, dear Jesus. Bring peace to our spirit and calmness to our bodies, that we might sit at your feet, restored to our right mind and enfolded into this community of faith. In the midst of so many concerns and demands of this world, help us to hear your voice of love. Give us courage to go and tell what you have done for us. Be with us. With gratitude we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.

WE PROCLAIM

*OPENING SONG # 10

The Presence of Our God is Here

Sing! Prayer & Praise

THE PEACE

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC

Amazing Grace

Arr. by L. Van Camp

SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:26-39

Wendy Baldwin

SERMON

Who You Gonna Call?

Pastor Carol Sowle

SONG # 316

We Limit Not the Truth of God

New Century Hymnal

WE RESPOND

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

*We invite those who desire to share a joy or concern. Please share your name so that people might get better acquainted. In the power and presence of God **we share your joy/prayer.***

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father or Our Mother or Our Creator or Our Sacred Presence, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

INTERLUDE

House on the Beach

Mancini

OFFERING of GIFTS and TITHES

CALL TO OFFERING and SERVICE

We invite those who desire to share a service opportunity to do so briefly if the announcement is not in the bulletin. Please see the "Calls to Serve" for volunteer opportunities. Place connect cards in offering plates.

*DOXOLOGY (778)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, you bless us, you know us, you accept us completely, just as we are. In gratitude, we seek to follow Jesus through acts of service, tithes, and offerings. Multiply and use our

offerings and us to bring the word and healing touch of Jesus to this place and throughout the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #62

Come, Share the Spirit

New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Carol Sowle

POSTLUDE

Our Christ Ascends

T. Kendall

Please remain seated for the postlude or leave the sanctuary quietly. Everyone is invited for coffee, refreshments, and conversation in the church parlor.

To the parents of our young children: God put the wiggle in children, please don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. You are invited toward the front using the Playground if you like. Keep children engaged by quietly explaining the parts of the service, actions of the pastor, worship leaders, and musicians. Sing, pray, and speak the responses; children learn worship behavior by copying you. The way we adults welcome children in church directly affects how they respond to the Church and to one another. Let all ages know that they are at home in this house of worship. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

To the members of our congregation: The presence of children is a gift to our church and to our community. They remind us that we are to share and pass on our faith. It is a gift to have children among us. Please welcome our children and encourage their parents with a warm smile.

Thank you.

CALLS to SERVE

"Here am I; send me!" Isaiah 6:8

Adult Class – Sunday, June 30, 9:45 a.m. – will continue to read and discuss "Anxious to Talk About it: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully About Racism."

Buzz and Pitch-In, June 30th, following worship - Reflect on the Playground. Come with your thoughts, questions and feedback about our experiment with a space in our sanctuary where all ages can gather to experience worship. We started the Playground the first Sunday of Advent and we want to hear from you.

Spiritual Explorers, Sunday, July 7, 12:15 PM (in the library) - FCC Spiritual Explorers will discuss which spiritual practices to focus on in coming months, such as silence, gratitude, poetry, journaling, music, and ways God is calling us. All are welcome!

Green Team Tip – Put your electronic devices to sleep. Unplug them at the end of the day; even better, turn off the power strip if they're plugged into one. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

June Mission of the Month: Damien Center - Founded in 1987, the Damien Center is the oldest and largest organization in Indiana addressing the health needs of individuals with HIV. Currently the Damien Center serves over 4,000 individuals affected by HIV/AIDS through a comprehensive and innovative approach to HIV care and prevention.

Even though we hear of the many achievements in medications used to treat HIV here are a couple statistics to keep in mind. In the general population, 1 out of every 6 persons infected with HIV does not know it. 51% of youth between the ages of 13 – 24 who are living with HIV, have never been tested. Let's help keep HIV testing and education accessible to Central Indiana through our support of the Damien Center.

Pantry Items of the Month - During June we are collecting the following items: pudding mix, jello, canned vegetables, soup and toothpaste.

United Church of Christ General Synod, June 21-25 - You are invited to join First Congregational members and staff Lianna Campos, Pastor Sarah Lund and Shannon Abbott at the United Church of Christ General Synod, June 21st-25th! The *Breaking the Silence Sunday Resolution*, co-sponsored by First Congregational, will be included in the Synod's agenda for discussion and vote. The text of the motion is included on the next page. Go to ucc.org to find the link for live streaming.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, June 27	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, June 27	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Sunday, June 30	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 30	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, June 30	12:30 p.m.	Buzz: Playground Feedback w/light pitch-in lunch

Supporting Survivors Of Rape and Sexual Violence Through An Ongoing Church-Wide Observance of Break The Silence Sunday (BTSS): A Prudential Resolution

TEXT OF THE MOTION

WHEREAS, in the more than thirty years since General Synod Fourteen the church has made little progress in truly supporting survivors of rape and sexual violence;

WHEREAS, survivors of rape and sexual violence are hesitant to come forward and share their stories with clergy or congregations because of theologies that perpetuate, glorify, or even encourage suffering and that advocate quick and uncomplicated forgiveness;

WHEREAS, the church often perpetuates the victim blaming and shaming, mirroring the painful doubt and disbelief survivors face in the wider society, and contributes to the rape culture in which we all live;

WHEREAS, due to the intensely personal nature of the crimes, the relationships that often exist between perpetrator and victim, and the challenges of the criminal justice system, the scope of rape and sexual violence is difficult to measure.

WHEREAS, it is estimated that every ninety-eight seconds someone in the United States is sexually assaulted¹;

WHEREAS, the most conservative statistics estimate that one in every six women and one in every thirty-three men in the United States will be the victim of an attempted or completed sexual assault in their lifetime and that an estimated 63,000 children are sexually abused each year.

WHEREAS, we are in the midst of a cultural transformation, in the United States and around the world, with the *#metoo* movement empowering survivors to come forward and share their stories of rape, abuse, sexual harassment, and other sexual violence;

WHEREAS, with the testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee by Dr. Christine Blasey Ford during the confirmation hearings for Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh, the United States has clearly seen the challenges survivors face in coming forward with their stories, particularly after many years of carrying those stories in silence;

WHEREAS, the backlash many survivors face after telling their stories often forces them back into silence and fear, and frequently complicates or damages healing already accomplished;

WHEREAS, the scriptural testimony of Genesis (1.26-27, 5.1-2, and 9.6) along with Psalm 8.38, James 3.9 and others affirm that humanity is created in the very image of God;

WHEREAS, in Judges 19 the story of rape and violence ends with a clear call to the faithful to, "Consider it, take council, and speak out" (Judges 19.30);

WHEREAS, in numerous healing stories in the Gospels (Matthew 9.20-22, Mark 5.25-34, Mark 10.46-52, Luke 17.11-19, Luke 18.35-43) Jesus, reaching out to those in need who have come to him for healing and hope, declares "your faith has made you whole", recognizing that the speaking the truth of our stories can save us;

WHEREAS, the scriptural testimony of 2 Corinthians 5.17 declares that through faith in Jesus Christ we are all a new creation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Thirty Second General Synod calls upon the national church leadership, Conferences, Associations, and local churches to speak out in support of survivors of rape and sexual

violence, offer care to individuals, including silent supportive witness in courtrooms, and advocate for sexual violence prevention education;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the national setting of the United Church of Christ add a yearly observance of Break The Silence Sunday (BTSS) to its calendar with the suggested date of the fourth Sunday of April so as to occur within national sexual assault awareness month;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local churches be invited to participate in a yearly observance of Break The Silence Sunday, honoring within their worship contexts the stories and struggles of survivors of rape and sexual violence, and encourage such an observance in the ecumenical community;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that all settings of the United Church of Christ be encouraged to educate clergy and laity on how to support survivors of rape and sexual violence including trauma-informed care, and to advocate on behalf of those not yet ready to speak openly so that the voices of survivors do not speak alone.

Today's Scripture (NRSV Translation)

Luke 8:26-39

²⁶ Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me" — ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" He said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

