



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 – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Friday – working off site	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.

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
Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall

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 serving in worship today:

Wendy Baldwin, Worship Leader
New Creation Ensemble (Sean Baker, Julie Houston, Alice Rutherford)
Mike Kessler, percussion
Jesse Wittman, string bass

SEPTEMBER 1, 2019

11 A.M.

*Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.
Asterisk (*) indicates those who choose to may stand.*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE	Praise God's Name	Reinhardt, arr. S. Baker
INTROIT	Come, Now Is the Time to Worship	Doerksen, arr. S. Baker
WELCOME and OPENING PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

***CALL to WORSHIP**

We gather to worship God, giving thanks for all of Creation

Thank you God for the rain and the rainbows

We gather to worship God, giving thanks for gifts of today

Thank you God for music and prayer

We gather to worship God, giving thanks for God's unconditional love

Thank you God for loving each one of us—no matter what—we are loved

*OPENING SONG #86	When Morning Gilds the Skies	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>
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***THE PEACE**

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

SPECIAL MUSIC	I Will Listen	Paris, arr. S. Baker
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SCRIPTURE	Jeremiah 2:4-13
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SERMON	Protect the Environment Says the Prophets	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
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SONG #31	All Things Bright and Beautiful	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>
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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 God in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one. Amen.**

OFFERING MEDITATION

Make Me A Servant

Willard, arr. S. Baker

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.

*Guests, please fill out a **Connect Card** found in the pew holders so that we might learn more about you. The cards may also be used to for prayer requests that will be shared through our weekly prayer chain. Please place Connect Cards in the offering plate.*

*DOXOLOGY (778) and OFFERING PRAYER

**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.**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG #187 Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary *Sing! Prayer & Praise*

INVITATION and SHARING COMMUNION

*All are welcome to the table, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey.
We celebrate with juice and two types of bread, including gluten free.*

COMMUNION MEDITATION As the Grain Was Scattered Clyde, arr. S. Baker

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #28 For the Beauty of the Earth *New Century Hymnal*

*BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

POSTLUDE Deep Within Our Hearts Liberatore, arr. S. Baker
*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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Wednesday, September 4	10:00 a.m.	Care & Connections
Wednesday, September 4	11:00 a.m.	Witness & Welcome
Wednesday, September 4	5:00 p.m.	Just Peace Team
Wednesday, September 4	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
Thursday, September 5	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, September 5	6:00 p.m.	In Harmony
Thursday, September 5	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, September 8	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, September 8	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, September 8	12:15 p.m.	Green Lunch
Sunday, September 8	2:00 p.m.	Spiritual Explorers Labyrinth Walk @ Second Presbyterian

CALLS to SERVE

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

Adult Class – Sept 8 - finish "Conclusion: The Anxious Bench" from *Anxious To Talk About It* and debrief.

Spiritual Explorers Labyrinth Walks - FCC's second 2019 labyrinth-walking experience will be on **September 8** at Second Presbyterian Church, 7700 N. Meridian St., **following FCC's Green Team's 12:15 lunch**. Persons who attend the Green Lunch, as well as those who do not, can all meet at **2:00** at Second Pres to walk the outside labyrinth.

Choir Rehearsals - Hello FCUCC folk! Hope everyone is having a good summer. The choir will be starting back up soon. Rehearsals are on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 PM beginning Sept 5th. Our first Sunday service is September 8th with the usual pre-service rehearsal time of 10:15 AM. We welcome new members. If anyone is interested in joining the choir, please email Julie at juliehouston@comcast.net. We would love to have you join us!

Advent Alternative Worship - Are you interested in joining a creative group to plan and implement an Alternative Worship experience for Advent? Do you want to plan a series of small group studies/experiences? Large group sessions that might include yoga, guided meditation,

massage, Reiki, Franksense and Myrrh? Something else? Any and all creative people welcome! Please see Elizabeth Price after Sunday worship or email her at eprice235@gmail.com.

Green Lunch on Sunday, September 8th - On Sunday September 8th, the Green Team will host a lunch featuring foods with a low carbon footprint. The lunch will include salad, soup, an entree and dessert. During the meal, diners will get tips and advice about cooking and eating sustainably. We want a good count to we prepare the right amount, so please RSVP at your earliest convenience to Rich Gibson, hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.

Green Team Tip – It always takes time for shower water to warm up. In the winter especially, it takes about 2 gallons of water. Catch the water in a bucket! Use it to water plants, wash hands, or flush the toilet. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

Around a Table - Would you like to build connections with other members outside of worship? Those interested will be placed in groups to get together for meals or snacks over a 4 month period. We will then repeat with new sign ups and new groups! If interested, please complete the enclosed sign up sheet and return it to church (basket in the narthex) by September 22. Please contact Karen Walker (317-319-8950 or Karen.e.d.walker@gmail.com) for any questions or help with sign up.

September Buzz: Witness to the Southern US Border, Sunday, September 22, 12:30 p.m.

Witness can take many forms and for this event, Jill Olinger, member of St. Peter's UCC in Carmel, and President of the Indiana Kentucky Conference, will share stories of a personal journey of more than 10,000 miles and taken over 10 weeks in early 2019 along the US/Mexico border. The stories will be shared and conversation will be guided based on the UCC's 3 Great Loves: Love of Children, Love of Neighbor, and Love of Creation.

CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk, Sunday October 6th - Walk, sign-up, donate or sponsor a walker by going to www.crophunger/walk.org/Indianapolisin/FCindy or see Sally Coombs for more information.

September Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

HIPL is an interfaith organization dedicated to advocating for sustainable living and changes to protect God's creation of life on this earth, both human and others. Its mission is to educate congregations on sustainable living practices that will reduce our carbon footprint, and promote the use of renewable energy resources. They were instrumental in helping us start and maintain

the study and work process that has led to our efforts to decrease our church's carbon foot print with changes to our lighting and now the installation of a photovoltaic system that will allow the church to capture part of its energy from a renewable source. The organization is funded primarily from contributions from its member congregations. Please support them with the September Mission of the Month.

Pantry Items of the Month - During September we are collecting the following items: bread, baking mixes, canned vegetables, and deodorant.

Today's Scripture (NRSV Translation)

Jeremiah 2:4-13

⁴Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

⁶They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?"

⁷I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination.

⁸The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

⁹Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children.

¹⁰Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing.

¹¹Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit.

¹²Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord,

¹³for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.



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