



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	Monday – Sabbath
Tuesday – continuing education	Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday – continuing education	Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Thursday – continuing education	Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Friday – working off site	Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care: While Pastor Sarah is participating in continuing education through the Princeton Seminary Iron Sharpens Iron Conference from October 20th – 24th, Pastor Carol may be reached at (317) 496-9732 or at casowle@gmail.com. When Pastor Sarah returns, she 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
Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall
Just Peace Intern, Grace Langford

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:

Rev. Elizabeth Price, Worship Leader
Sam Withrow, Percussion
Fred Withrow, String Bass

OCTOBER 20, 2019

11 A.M.

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

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee Beethoven, arr. Baker

INTROIT Come Dearest Lord Rev I. Watts

WELCOME and PRAYER Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*CALL to WORSHIP Rev. Elizabeth Price

Beautiful are the works of God!

Beautiful also is the diversity of God's people!

Beautiful is the mind of God!

Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!

Beautiful is the heart of God!

Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!

God made the heaven and the earth!

To God be the glory forever and ever.

*OPENING SONG #71 Rejoice, You Pure in Heart (verses 1-3) *New Century Hymnal*

*THE PEACE

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM Lean on Me Bill Withers Arr. Mark Hayes

Sometimes in our lives we all have pain, we all have sorrow.

But if we are wise, we know that there's always tomorrow.

Lean on me, when you're not strong

And I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on.

For it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need

Somebody to lean on.

*Please swallow your pride, If I have things you need to borrow.
For no one can fill those of your needs that you won't let show.*

*You just call on me neighbor, when you need a hand,
We all need somebody to lean on.
I just might have a problem that you'll understand,
We all need somebody to lean on.*

*Lean on me, when you're not strong and I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on.
For it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on.*

*If there is a load you have to bear that you can't carry,
I'm right up the road, I'll share your load, if you'll just call me.*

SCRIPTURE	Genesis 32:22-31	Rev. Elizabeth Price
SERMON	When Wrestling Leads to Blessing	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
SONG #71	Rejoice, You Pure in Heart (verses 4-5)	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

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. Loving God **hear our prayer.***

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Do not let us enter into temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INTERLUDE	Spirit of the Living God	Iverson, arr. Baker
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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 (785)

We give you but your own, what e'er the gift may be;

All that we have is yours alone, we give it gratefully.

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #393

Blessed be the Tie that Binds

New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen

H. Savage

POSTLUDE

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

Trad., arr. Baker

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



At First Congregational we recognize God as a loving, creating, all-encompassing Spirit who is not limited by usual human boundaries. Therefore, we practice the use of inclusive, expansive, and non-gendered language when speaking of and to God.

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

TODAY!!! October Buzz & Luncheon: W.I.S.E. Mental Health - Join the Mental Health Team for a Luncheon and short Buzz after worship. We will present the W.I.S.E. (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) covenant (see below) the team has been working on and ask for your input. We will also discuss how becoming a W.I.S.E. congregation might affect our church and its activities. Come join us for food, fellowship and discussion.

Sunday Adult Class, Sunday, October 27, 9:45 a.m. – Student Pastor Cassidy Hall will be leading and will continue to explore more on the topics of Black Theology and Womanist Theology, including some readings.

Thinking about making First Congregational your church home? We would love to welcome you into membership. We are planning our next New Member **Sunday, November 10th**, so let Pastor Sarah know if you are interested or have questions.

Choir Rehearsals – Rehearsals are on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. 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!

Green Team Tip – Are the earth's resources ours to take and use just for fun and for profit? What responsibility do we have for future generations? (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

Technical Difficulties - Our Office Administrator's email is currently unable to send or receive emails. As we continue work to resolve this problem, Shannon has set up a temporary email: shannonfcindy@gmail.com. Please use this email to send any announcements, committee minutes, or other administrative correspondence. If you have already sent announcements for the upcoming Colony, bulletins, or Epistles, we ask that you please resend them to this new, temporary email account. We will let you know when her other email is up and running again (hopefully soon). Thank you for your cooperation and patience.

Thank You! - Over the past couple of weeks, some much needed transformations have occurred in some of the rooms on the second floor of First Congregational. BIG THANKS to the hardworking team of FC members who moved furniture, painted, and coordinated the carpet installation in the church office, the library, and in Meagan's office (the tree room/former children's library). We are grateful for your service to our community!

October Mission of the Month: Neighbors In Need - Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives. As we continue to hear about this administration's injustices at the southern border our JWM are giving special consideration to projects focusing on assisting our immigrant neighbors and communities. Grants are available to empower local churches to support these justice issues. Please give as generously as you can. Thank You. (source: www.ucc.org)

Pantry Items of the Month – During October we are collecting the following items: pudding and Jello mix, rice and beans, canned soup, paper towels.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, October 20	12:30 p.m.	Buzz Luncheon: W.I.S.E. Mental Health Covenant
Wednesday, October 23	6:30 p.m.	Calling Circle
Thursday, October 24	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, October 24	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, October 26	10:30 a.m.	Bell Choir
Sunday, October 27	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class w/ Cassidy Hall
Sunday, October 27	11:00 a.m.	Worship w/ Rev. Nathan Wilson preaching

Today's Scripture (Inclusive Bible Translation)

Genesis 32:22-31

²² In the course of the night, Jacob arose, took the entire caravan, and crossed the ford of the Yabbok River. ²³ After Jacob had crossed with all his possessions, he returned to the camp, ²⁴ and he was completely alone. And there, someone wrestled with Jacob until the first light of dawn. ²⁵ Seeing that Jacob could not be overpowered, the other struck Jacob at the socket of the hip, and the hip was dislocated as they wrestled. ²⁶ Then Jacob's contender said, "Let me go, for day is breaking." Jacob answered, "I will not let you go until you bless me." ²⁷ "What is your name?" the other asked. "Jacob," he answered. ²⁸ The other said, "Your name will no longer be called 'Jacob,' or 'Heel-Grabber,' but 'Israel'—'Overcomer of God'—because you have wrestled with both God and mortals, and you have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked "Now tell me your name, I beg you." The other said, "Why do you ask me my name?"—and blessed Jacob there. ³⁰ Jacob named the place Peniel—"Face of God"—"because I have seen God face to face, yet my life was spared." ³¹ At sunrise, Jacob left Peniel, limping along from the injured hip.



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