

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of October 17, 2019

Dear First Congregational,

Our mental health team is hard at work preparing the congregation to vote to become a WISE (Welcoming Inclusive Supportive Engaged) congregation at our January annual meeting. This Sunday we will discuss the draft WISE covenant at the Buzz session after church. Please join us for this important conversation. If you cannot be with us on Sunday please email your thoughts to me or the co-leaders of the WISE team Sandy Wood and Pat Larracey.

Thank you for being a community of faith that is open to growing and changing in response to the needs around us. This is what it means to Be The Church.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

Student Pastor Cassidy Hall will be leading and will discuss more about her experience in the intersection of filmmaking and spirituality, including sharing some of her work.

Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "When Wrestling Leads to Blessing."

Scriptures: Genesis 32:22-31



THIS SUNDAY!!! October Buzz & Pitch-In Luncheon: W.I.S.E. Mental Health Covenant, 12:30 p.m.

Join the Mental Health Team for a pitch-in luncheon and short Buzz after worship on Sunday October 20th. We will present the W.I.S.E. (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) covenant 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.



What's Happening at FC

(See October Colony for monthly announcements and further details.)

!TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES!

Our Office Administrator's email is currently unable to send or receive emails. This began

right before she went on vacation, so any emails you have sent to her over the past 2 1/2 weeks have not been received. 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.



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!

TONIGHT! In Harmony: A Community Singing Group, 6:30 p.m. (Mayflower Room)

"In Harmony" is a non-auditioned, non-performing, intergenerational singing group for ALL voices. It will meet twice a month on Thursdays, from 6:30-7:30 pm, in the Mayflower Room. The dates are 10/3, 10/17, 11/7, and 11/21. A small fee will apply, with the bulk going to support First Congregational. This group will include people from outside our church, and is also open to anyone in our church family. For general questions, contact Wendy Baldwin or Bob Cook.

TONIGHT! Choir Rehearsals, 7:00 p.m.

The choir is back! 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!

TOMORROW! Friday Night at the Movies, October 18th, 6:30ish

Join us on the third Friday of each month at 6:30ish at Keystone Art Cinema in the Fashion Mall at Keystone. We'll decide which film(s) to see, get refreshments, and socialize. Then, after the movie, hang out at the Indie Lounge for more fellowship. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin.

Impromptu Outdoor Work Day, THIS SATURDAY, October 19th, 9AM-Noon

Please join us from 9:00-ish until Noon-is this Saturday as we spruce up the outdoor

grounds of FC. Contact Wendy Baldwin at (317) 319-0806 for more details.

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.)



Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

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

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.

Pastoral Care

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

While Pastor Sarah is participating in continuing education at 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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, October 17

1:00 p.m.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, October 17

6:30 p.m.

In Harmony

Thursday, October 17	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, October 17	9:00 a.m.	FC Outdoor Work Day
Saturday, October 19	10:30 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, October 19	1:00 p.m.	IKC Borderland Trip Planning Meeting
Sunday, October 20	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class w/ Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall
Sunday, October 20	11:00 a.m.	Worship
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