



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**.

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.

Pastor Sarah’s Office Hours

Monday: Sabbath
Tuesday: 9am – 12pm
Wednesday: 9am – 12pm
Thursday: 9am – 12pm
Friday: working off site

Shannon’s Office Hours

Monday: Sabbath
Tuesday: 9am – 12pm
Wednesday: 9am – 12pm
Thursday: 9am – 12pm
Friday: 9am – 12pm

Pastoral Care: Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386)478-9012 or

We celebrate 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
Olivia Beeman, Nursery Attendant

We celebrate our church leadership:

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

Flowers today are in memory of Richard Dickinson, a faithful member of First Congregational Church for forty years.

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Steve Coomer & Bob Cook, Worship Leaders
Rev. Ayanna Garrett, liturgical dancer

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. Preschool age and younger may use the nursery or children of all ages 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.

NOVEMBER 17, 2019

11 A.M.

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

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

WE GATHER

GATHERING INTROIT	Giving	Mancini
WELCOME and PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
*OPENING SONG #4	Joyful, Joyful	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>
*THE PEACE		

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

CONFESSION LITURGY	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Loving God, you created us to be in harmony with all of Creation	
Forgive us for the ways we have harmed Creation	

Gentle Spirit, you guide down paths of peacemaking
Forgive us for the ways we have not followed the way of peace, in thought, word and deed

Healing Christ, you show us the way to wholeness
Forgive us for the ways we have caused division and make us One

SCRIPTURE	Isaiah 11:1-9	Steve Coomer
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SACRED TEXT	Fight of Two Wolves	Steve Coomer
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ANTHEM	Forgiveness	West, arr. Baker
<i>Show me how to love the unlovable</i>		
<i>Show me how to reach the unreachable</i>		
<i>Help me now to do the impossible</i>		
<i>Forgiveness, forgiveness</i>		
<i>Help me now to do the impossible</i>		
<i>Forgiveness</i>		

*It'll clear the bitterness away
It can even set a prisoner free
There is no end to what its power can do
So let it go and be amazed by what you see through eyes of grace
The prisoner that it really frees is you*

SACRED TEXT

Fight of Two Wolves

Bob Cook

MESSAGE OF REFLECTION

"I Forgive You"

Rachelle Ferrell

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

& Rev. Ayanna Garrett

*It doesn't really matter what you did anymore.
It doesn't really matter what you did it for,
Or who you did it to... I forgive you, I forgive you,
I forgive you – totally completely now.
What a freedom just releasing from my heart,
From my mind and soul!*

*It doesn't really matter whether or not I understand.
It doesn't really matter whether or not you're still the one.
I still love you... and I forgive you, I forgive you,
I forgive you – totally completely now.
What a freedom just releasing from my heart,
From my mind and soul!
I no longer want to hold on
To that which doesn't make me strong.
And I don't wanna care no more 'bout what's right or wrong.
I just wanna be whole again; I want to be free again; want to be me again;
I just want to heal.*

*I'm so tired of being in pain.
I just want to be whole again... so I forgive you, I forgive you,
I forgive you – totally completely now.
What a feeling just releasing from my heart,
From my mind... and soul!*

WE RESPOND

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYER OF JESUS

Loving 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.

GENEROSITY MOMENT

Wendy Baldwin

CALL TO OFFERING and SERVICE

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.*

*FORGIVENESS DOXOLOGY

O Holy God, help us forgive
As Jesus taught us how to live.
Take these our gifts of love we bring.
Forgiveness is our offering.

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #205

Dance Into Joy

Sing! Prayer and Praise

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

POSTLUDE

Giving

Mancini

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

We are grateful to welcome back the Rev. Ayanna Garrett to First Congregational UCC. While in in seminary, Rev. Garrett served as student pastor and taught dance at FC. She currently serves as the Associate Director of Recruitment at Chicago Theological Seminary.

CALLS to SERVE

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

TODAY! Hoosier Village Alternative Gift Event, 1:30-4:00 p.m. (in the HV Chapel) - This event is an alternative to the commercialization of Christmas. You and your family members will have the opportunity to make donations in a loved one's name to one or more not-for-profit agencies that provide a variety of needed services in Marion and Boone counties. If you are unable to attend, you may pick up order forms in our narthex for absentee participation. Questions? Contact Sue Chapman, chair of Outreach & Service Board.

Circle IV, Tuesday, November 19th, 1:30 p.m. - The Book Circle will finish discussing *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry. They will meet at the home of Sue Chapman, so please contact her for more information and directions to her home.

Adult Class, Sunday, November 24, 9:45 a.m. – Just Peace Intern, Grace Langford will lead us as we take a look at the 2019 Hunger Report from Bread for the World. The report this year is called "Back to the Basics" and focuses on five key aspects: nutrition, gender, fragility, climate, and livelihoods. We will discuss each of these key aspects in the context of the world and local community.

Nursery Care - Life is thriving in our Playground, and we are expanding our ministry offerings to our young ones by opening up the Nursery! We welcome our new nursery attendant, Olivia, who will be with us every Sunday from 10:30-12:30 to care for our children. We need volunteers to join her! If you are interested in being a volunteer in the nursery, please contact Lianna Campos at lcampos33@gmail.com or 317-954-1601.

Annual Stewardship Campaign – Devoted to Generosity

Our fall annual campaign to identify funding and resources for our 2020 ministries is in progress.

Pledge materials have been sent to you, and are also available in the Narthex.

Our stewardship theme, "Devoted to Generosity", will be a focus during the worship services on 11/17, culminating in Generosity Sunday on 11/24. Pledges can be turned in on any of those Sundays, with a deadline of November 30, to help us with our planning for 2020. All pledges will be confidentially recorded by Financial Secretary. Small balloons will be added to the sanctuary

for each pledge received, to designate our thanks for the generosity of those responding.

On Generosity Sunday, 11/24, everyone is invited to attend a simple luncheon following worship (not a pitch in). There will be fun activities and singing, as we give thanksgiving for the generosity



of our church family, displayed in so many ways that touch so many people's lives. Please RSVP to Wendy Baldwin, the church office, or use the signup sheet in the Narthex. Thank you for all of the generous ways that you give to the church and to the world, as we explore this theme through November!

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 – If you have a computer, have you adopted paperless bills with paperless payments? (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

November Mission of the Month: Family Promise - This month our Mission of the Month is Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis, the organization that serves families in crisis by providing short term housing while helping them to find permanent housing and providing skills that will help clients keep jobs and manage finances. FCC has been affiliated with Family Promise, formerly known as Interfaith Hospitality Network, for over 25 years. Please give generously to support the important service Family Promise provides to homeless families in our city.

Pantry Items of the Month - During November we are collecting the following items: fruit cocktail, spaghetti sauce, quick oats, and tooth paste.



THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, November 17	12:30 p.m.	PCRC w/ Pastor Sarah
Sunday, November 17	1:30 p.m.	Worship & Faith Meeting
Tuesday, November 19	1:30 p.m.	Circle IV Book Group
Wednesday, November 20	6:30 p.m.	Calling Circle
Thursday, November 21	6:30 p.m.	In Harmony
Thursday, November 21	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, November 24	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class w/ Grace Langford
Sunday, November 24	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, November 24	12:00 p.m.	Generosity Lunch & Celebration

Today's Scripture (Inclusive Bible)

Isaiah 11:1-9

¹ Then a shoot will sprout from the stump of Jesse; from Jesse's roots, a branch will blossom: ² The spirit of YHWH will rest on you— a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and strength, a spirit of knowledge and reverence for YHWH. ³ You will delight in obeying YHWH, and you won't judge by appearances, or make decisions by hearsay. ⁴ You will treat poor people with fairness and will uphold the rights of the land's downtrodden. With a single word you will strike down tyrants; with your decrees you will execute evil people. ⁵ Justice will be the belt around this your waist— faithfulness will gird you up. ⁶ Then the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and the leopard will lie down with the young goat; the calf and the lion cub will graze together, and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear; their young will lie down together. The lion will eat hay like the ox. ⁸ The baby will play next to the den of the cobra, and the toddler will dance over the viper's nest. ⁹ There will be no harm, no destruction anywhere in my Holy mountain; for as water fills the sea, so the land will be filled with knowledge of YHWH.



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