



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: working off site
Thursday: Office Closed
Friday: Office Closed

Shannon’s Office Hours

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

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

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| 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 We celebrate our worship leaders today: Marion Harcourt, Worship Leader | <i>The altar flowers are given by Marion Harcourt: “In remembrance of family members who were at Mayflower or FCC before me: Moses Stuart and Anna Jane Griffith Whitehead; Herbert L and Lavinia Conner Whitehead and their 5 children, including from my mother Helen, who married John L Goldthwaite.”</i> |
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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 10, 2019

GENEROSITY SUNDAY

11 A.M.

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

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

WE GATHER

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| PRELUDE | Thanksgiving Theme | Guaraldi, arr. Baker |
| INTROIT | They Asked “Who’s My Neighbor” | Jan Wesson |
| WELCOME and PRAYER | | Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund |
| *CALL to WORSHIP | | Marion Harcourt |
| Today is a gift, let us open our hearts to God’s love | | |
| We open our hearts to God | | |
| Now is the time to give God thanks and praise | | |
| We gift thanks and praise to God | | |
| This is the moment to devote ourselves to generosity | | |
| We devote our lives to generosity with gladness of heart | | |
| *OPENING SONG #421 | We Gather Together | <i>New Century Hymnal</i> |
| *THE PEACE | | |

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

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| ANTHEM | Let All Things Now Living | Welsh Melody, Arr. K Davis |
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Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving To God the Creator triumphantly raise.

Who fashioned and made us, protected and stay’d us Who guideth us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o’er us, the light goes before us A pillar of fire shine forth in the night.

Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished As forward we travel from light into light!

God’s law God enforces, the stars in their courses, The sun in its orbit, obediently shine.

The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, The deeps of the ocean proclaim the Divine.

*We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing, With glad adoration a song let us raise.
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving To God in the highest hosanna and praise.*

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| SCRIPTURE | Colossians 1:11-20 | Marion Harcourt |
| SERMON | “Devoted to Generosity” | Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund |
| SONG #419 | Now Thank We All Our God | <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 & THE PRAYER OF JESUS

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.

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| INTERLUDE | Closer | Mancini, arr. Baker |
| CELEBRATION AND DEDICATION | 1857 Society | William Gillette |

GENEROSITY MESSAGE

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

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 #423

Great Is Your Faithfulness

New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

They Asked “Who’s My Neighbor”

Jan Wesson

POSTLUDE

Grateful

Tomaszek, 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.



CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

Annual Stewardship Campaign – Devoted to Generosity

Our fall annual campaign to identify funding and resources for our 2020 ministries wraps up this week. Pledge materials have been sent to you, and are also available in the Narthex. Generosity Sunday, 11/24, is the end of our Annual Campaign, where we have the opportunity to bless the pledge gifts we are receiving. Everyone is invited to attend a simple lunch 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. Thank you for all of the generous ways that you give to the church and to the world! To help with our planning, we ask that all pledges, as well as Time & Talent cards, be turned in by December 1.



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.

Hanging of the Greens, Saturday November 30th, 10:00AM-12:00 p.m. - Please come help decorate the church for the Advent Season. Any questions, email Sally Coombs at sallysews73@gmail.com or call 317-446-2853.

Advent Devotionals – Advent devotionals are available in the narthex. Please take one as we reflect during the season of waiting.

Adult Class, Sunday, December 1, 9:45 a.m. – For December, the Adult Ed class will move through the Advent Season by taking up the first four sessions from *Hallelujah: The Bible and Handel's Messiah*, a curriculum from Kerygma. We will be listening to parts of *Handel's Messiah*, and engaging with the scriptural references. Come and be awed!
Dec 1 – (led by Pastor Carol) "*Comfort, Comfort My People*" (2 Kings 17-19; Isaiah 40:1-1; 1:21-31; John 10:1)

Just Peace Buzz with Pitch In Lunch, Sunday, December 1, 2019, 12:30 p.m. - The Just Peace Church Team invites you to this important presentation and discussion. We will hear from our Just Peace Intern, Grace Langford, who has been with us for three months studying our just peace process. She has summarized the findings of eleven just peace surveys, interviewed current and past team members and others involved in our just peace efforts and observed how we are doing in our first year as an official Just Peace Church. Join us for this time of discernment and receiving parting gifts from our Just Peace intern, Grace.
Also, join us for **Advent wreath making** during and after the Buzz (1 wreath per family).

Check it out! - Church Women United on December 2, 9:30 -11:30 a.m. - CWU (Church Women United) will be meeting at our church on Monday, Dec 2 from 9:30 - 11:30. At the meeting December 2, the focus is on Human Rights. All are welcome to attend - there will be light refreshments and a short service (with participation from our Carol Sowle), and we will be collecting articles and donations for the Julian Center – (suggested items include: towels, washcloths, adult blankets, fitted twin sheets, deodorant, lotion, bars of soap, baby care items and umbrellas).

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 – When using the oven for pie baking, turkey baking and other holiday use, leave the oven door open for a few minutes and let the warmth help heat the house. (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

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| Sunday, November 24 | 12:30 p.m. | Generosity Celebration |
| Thursday, November 28-29 | | Church Office Closed |
| Sunday, December 1 | 9:45 a.m. | Sunday Adult Class |
| Sunday, December 1 | 11:00 a.m. | Worship: First Sunday of Advent |
| Sunday, December 1 | 12:30 p.m. | Just Peace Buzz Pitch-In & Advent Wreath Making |

Save the Dates for the following upcoming Special Services:

- **December 15th, 11:00 am – Lessons and Carols**
- **December 20th, 6:30 pm – Blue Christmas Service**
- **December 24th, 7:00 pm – Christmas Eve**

Today's Scripture (Inclusive Translation)

Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ By the might of God's glory you'll be endowed with the strength needed to stand fast and endure joyfully whatever may happen. ¹² Thanks be to God for having made you worthy to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light! ¹³ God rescued us from the authority of darkness and brought us into the reign of Jesus, God's only begotten. ¹⁴ and it is through Jesus that we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ Christ is the image of the unseen God and the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in Christ were created all things in heaven and on earth: everything visible and invisible, thrones, dominations, sovereignties, Powers—all things were created through Christ and for Christ. ¹⁷ Before anything was created, Christ existed, and all things hold together in Christ. ¹⁸ The church is the body; Christ is its head. Christ is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, and so Christ is first in every way. ¹⁹ God wanted all perfection to be found in Christ, ²⁰ and all things to be reconciled to God through Christ—everything in heaven and everything on earth—when Christ made peace by dying on the cross.



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