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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of January 16, 2020

Dear First Congregational,

This coming Sunday evening, January 19 at 6pm we have a special opportunity to gather with other Christians to pray for unity. I'm honored to be the preacher for this worship service hosted by Zion Evangelical UCC. I'd love to see you there as my "Amen Corner"!

Annual Prayer Service for Christian Unity

"They Showed Us Unusual Kindness" (Acts 28:2)

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund, Preacher

hosted this year by

Zion Evangelical United Church of Christ

602 North New Jersey Street, Indianapolis

6:00 p.m., January 19, 2020

with participating Christian denominational leaders and an ecumenical choir.

Come with an "unusual act of kindness" to share in a paper prayer chain to be displayed during the service.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

In January, Adult Ed will study "Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture; Walter Brueggemann on Confronting Today's 'Pharaohs'."

Jan 19 - "Moral Coherence in a World of Power, Money and Violence."

Sunday Worship Service, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will be preaching on "Fight for the Powerless."

Scripture: Psalm 40:1-12

Celebration of Four-Way Covenant, This Sunday, January 19th

During worship, we will celebrate our covenant with the Rev. Worth Hartman, his employer - Westminster Village, the SouthEast Association, and our congregation.



What's Happening at FC

(See [January Colony](#) for monthly announcements and further details.)

Prayer Note

Please continue to pray for Sandy Wood, Cassidy Hall, Shannon Abbott, and other delegates from the IKC that are at the border trip.



Thank you for all of your donations to the border!

Choir Rehearsal TONIGHT!

The FC Choir rehearses on Thursdays 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

Join us on the 3rd Friday of each month – **1/17, 6:30ish**: We meet at 6:30ish at **Keystone Art Cinema** in the Fashion Mall at Keystone, and 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

The Book Circle will meet at **1:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, January 21** at the home of Rita Hummel. We will begin discussing Joan Chittister's book *The Time Is Now*. For further information, contact Sue Chapman at (317) 259-1806 or carolsuech59@gmail.com.

Annual Meeting, January 26th (after worship)

It's amazing! It's wonderful! It's the highlight of the church (governance) year! It's the Annual Meeting, after services on Sunday, January 26! Come one, come all: Members, visitors with a hankering to see how a congregation does business, anyone, everyone! Bring a dish for the pitch-in lunch, and don't worry about what to do with the kids. We'll have the nursery workers staying through the meeting so you have options galore!

Annual Board Retreat - Saturday, February 8, 9:00a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The newly elected Boards will meet in the Mayflower Room on Saturday morning,

February 8th, from 9:00am - 12:00pm. New members will get indoctrination and training in Board activities and responsibilities. The Boards will elect their officers; e.g., Chair, Board representative, and secretary/recorder

“Around a table” – Fellowship, Fun, & Food

For the first go around, we had 3 groups of people who have been getting together for 4 months – some for meals, some for desserts, and lots of talking and fellowship! Now it is time to sign up for the next round – to meet monthly March through June. It doesn’t matter if you participated or not the first time – sign up for this next round! We will be changing the groups around – the idea is to be in fellowship and get to know different people – so the more the merrier! **If interested, please click [here to complete the sign up sheet](#) and return it to church by February 16.** Presented by Care & Connections board – please contact Karen Walker (317-319-8950 or karen.e.d.walker@gmail.com) or Wendy Baldwin (317-319-0806 or wendy.baldwin@rci.com) for any questions or help with sign up.

The Green Team wants YOU!

The Green Team could use more members! Fresh off our success in getting solar panels installed, we have fresh ideas for 2020--but could use some help dragging them across the finish line. If you have any interest in joining up to help, please contact any of us, particularly Rich Gibson, Nancy Dickinson, Bill Gillette, Ann Leatherman or Katie Booth

Green Team Tip

Plan ahead and thaw frozen foods in the refrigerator instead of on the counter or microwave.



Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming! We are grateful to the Meridian Hills Nursery School and Kindergarten who has joined us in donating and delivering food to the pantry.

January Mission of the Month: Indiana Youth Group

In 1987 the Indiana Youth Group was founded by two volunteers in order to provide a safe space for social gatherings for self identified LGBTQ+ high schoolers. IYG has grown from a group of about a dozen youth to a social service agency providing resources for almost 1,000 youth and their families. Our donations to IYG help assure that the mission of IYG

will expand throughout Indiana and act as a witness to FCC's UNA commitments.

Pantry Items of the Month

During the month of January, we are collecting: noodles, muffin mix, cereal, shampoo

Pastoral Care

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, January 16	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, January 16	7:00 p.m.	Indianapolis Green Congregations Meeting
Sunday, January 19	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, January 19	11:00 a.m.	Worship & Celebration of Ministerial Covenant with Rev. Worth Hartman
Sunday, January 19	12:30 p.m.	Worship & Faith
Sunday, January 19	6:00 p.m.	Christian Unity Worship @ Zion Evangelical UCC (N. NJ St)
Tuesday, January 21	1:30 p.m.	Book Circle @ Rita Hummel's home
Thursday, January 23	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, January 23	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, January 26	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, January 26	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, January 26	12:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting