



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: working off site

Friday: 9m – 12pm

Shannon’s Office Hours

Monday: Sabbath

Tuesday: 9am – 12pm

Wednesday: 9am – 12pm

Thursday: working off site

Friday: 9am – 12pm

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

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
Olivia Bradley, Just Peace Intern
Olivia Beeman, Nursery Attendant
Jess Tyler, Nursery Attendant

We celebrate our church leadership:

Alice Rutherford, Moderator
Larry Eckel, Vice Moderator
Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Clerk
Jim Lootens, Treasurer
Cheryl Dillenback, Financial Secretary

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Nancy Dickinson, Worship Leader
Bob Cook, Bell Choir Director
Jesse Wittman, string bass

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.

FEBRUARY 23, 2020

11:00 A.M.

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

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE	Come to Jesus	Blakesley, Hart
INTROIT	A Jubilant Peal	Gelman
WELCOME and PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
CALL TO WORSHIP		Nancy Dickinson
God invites us to come to worship		
We answer God's invitation with our "Yes!"		
The Spirit invites us to come to the holy place and wait for God's gift		
We answer the Spirit's invitation with our "Yes!"		
Jesus invites us to not be afraid and to follow him		
We answer Jesus' invitation with our "Yes"		

*OPENING SONG #1	Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>
*THE PEACE		

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES		
ANTHEM	A Merry Heart	Dobrinski
SCRIPTURE	Exodus 24:12-18 Matthew 17:1-9	Nancy Dickinson
SERMON	What Happens When We Pray	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
SONG #282	Every Time I Feel the Spirit	<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 & PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (from UCC Book of Worship)

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

INTERLUDE

All God's Chillun Got Rhythm

Kahn, Kaper

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

We come here now and bring these gifts.
To you, O God, our praise we lift.
Let these our gifts go back to you,
To share with all this whole world through.

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #286

Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Joyous Acclamation

M.Joy

POSTLUDE

Gavotte

Handel

Following worship, everyone is invited for coffee, refreshments, and conversation in the church parlor.

CALLS to SERVE

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

Lenten Devotionals: For the Beauty of the Earth - Lenten devotionals are available for pick up in the narthex.

Adult Class – Sunday, March 1, 9:45 a.m. – We will begin the "Hope for Creation" DVD series.

Address Directory - We are working on the annual update to our address directory, and plan to have it completed by the end of the month. If you have had a change to your name, address, phone numbers, or email, or if you are not listed in the directory, please contact Shannon at shannon@fcindy.org, and/or make a note of the change(s) on the master copy on the Narthex table, by **TODAY**. Thanks, Wendy Baldwin.

Leap Day Game Night, Feb. 29, 5:30 - 8:00 PM - Everyone is invited to bring a friend to our GAME NIGHT at First Congregational. We will provide snacks, chili, and deserts. Please bring your own beverage for the evening. Childcare will be available but please either sign the sheet at the back of the church or email Bob: bobcook359@yahoo.com by Wednesday, February 26 if you need childcare. Join us anytime during the evening. Games begin at 5:30 and we will eat about 6:30.

February Mission of the Month: Peace Learning Center

The Peace Learning Center is our February Mission of the Month and a valued community partner in just peacemaking. The PLC promotes peace education, valuing diversity and conflict resolution. Consider a generous contribution to our February Mission of the Month, the Peace Learning Center. You could also consider participation in these workshops:

- Implicit Bias: What's Hidden Within
February 26, or April 9 @ 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm or May 13 @ 9:00-1:00 PM \$35
- Restorative Practices Level 1 Workshop
March 10 and April 15 @ 9:30 am - 4:30 pm \$50

Both at *Peace Learning Center @ Eagle Creek Park 6040 DeLong Road Indianapolis, IN 46254* www.peacelearningcenter.org

Pantry Items of the Month - During the month of February, we are collecting: jelly/jam, canned tuna/chicken, pasta, and bar soap.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, February 23	12:00 p.m.	Student Pastor Support Team
Wednesday, February 26	6:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Worship
Thursday, February 27	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, February 27	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, February 29	8:30 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ The Altenheim Community
Saturday, February 29	5:30 p.m.	Game Night
Sunday, March 1	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, March 1	11:00 a.m.	Worship



First Congregational Lenten Immigration Journey

Through the season of Lent, we will explore, reflect, and pray about the biblical and contemporary theme of immigration. What does the Bible say about immigration? What is the Still Speaking God saying to the church today about immigration? What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus in light of the complex realities at the US/Mexico border? Through community worship and small groups, everyone is invited on this Lenten immigration journey. Let's see where this journey leads us.



February 26: Ash Wednesday Worship at 6:30pm

March 2 - March 20: Small Groups

April 5 - April 10 - Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

April 12 - Easter

Lenten Small Groups

One of the ways we plan to gain a better understanding of immigration is through a small group study during Lent. These groups will discuss important elements of immigration as well as look at it from a Biblical lens. ***Sign up sheets are in the narthex.***

Group 1

Host - Susanna-Judith Rae

When - March 1st, 15th, and 28th from 12:30-2pm

Where – at church

Group 2

Host - Nancy Dickinson

When - March 4th, 18th, and April 1st from 10-11:30am

Where – at Nancy's house

Group 3

Host - Alice Rutherford

When - March 2nd, 16th, 30th from 7-8:30pm

Where – at Alice's house

UCC Southeast Association Invites You to Join us:

Lenten Breakfast Series - "God's Open House"

Saturday Mornings at 8:30 am

* **February 29: "Love in the Home"**

The Altenheim Community - 3525 E Hanna Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46237

* **March 7: "Peace in the Home"**

Zion UCC (Troy Avenue) - 8916 E Troy Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46239

* **March 14: "Justice in the Home"**

First Congregational UCC - 7171 N. Pennsylvania St, Indianapolis, IN 46240

* **March 21: "Renewal in the Home"**

St. John (Cumberland) - 11910 E Prospect St, Indianapolis, IN 46239

* **March 28: "Unity in the Home"**

Methodist Hospital (Downtown) - 1701 N Senate Ave, Indianapolis, IN 46202

* **April 4: "God in the Home" (with Communion)**

Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown) - 603 N New Jersey St, Indianapolis, IN 46202

Today's Scripture

Exodus 24:12-18

¹² God said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction."

¹³ So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

¹⁴ To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵ Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶ The glory of God settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day God called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the God's glory was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

Matthew 17:1-9

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him.

⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, "This is my Own, my Beloved; with whom I am well pleased; listen to him!"

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear.

⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid."

⁸ And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Chosen One has been raised from the dead."



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