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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of April 4, 2019

Dear First Congregational:

As we move forward into a vibrant new chapter for our congregational life together, we also honor and celebrate our shared past. This Sunday will be a special day to dig deeper into our rich history that spans more than a century and a half as a progressive faith community in Indianapolis. Join us Sunday at 9:45am for Adult Education in the Mayflower Room as we listen to a presentation by Marion Harcourt sharing highlights of our dynamic past.

Then following worship, join us for a light lunch and historical bus tour, with the bus leaving the church at 1:00pm. We will visit historic sites pertaining to our previous building locations.

I look forward to this wonderful time of learning, fellowship, and fun. Hope to see you Sunday!

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 7 - Presentation by Marion Harcourt on the History of FCC in preparation for the FCC History Tour that starts after a pitch-in lunch

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Walking Humbly Along the Way."
Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21

What's Happening at FCC

Lenten Breakfast, April 6 & 13, 8:00 a.m.

Please join us for the final two IKC UCC Southeast Association Lenten Breakfasts of the year!

April 6: St. John's UCC, Southport

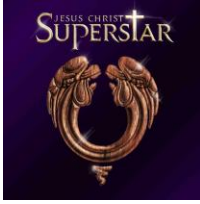
April 13: Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)

THIS SUNDAY! First Congregational's Historic Roots in Indy



On Sunday, April 7, Marion Harcourt, our most tenured member, will give a presentation during the Adult Ed hour at 9:45. Following worship, we'll have a light lunch at church and then board a bus for Marion's tour of historic sites connected to FCC's 162 years in Indy. This will include a stop at Joy of All Who Sorrow, FCC's building prior to our current location. The bus leaves FCC at 1 pm, and it is a school bus, with seating for 44, so invite friends to join us! A sign-up sheet is available, and donations to cover the cost of the event are gratefully accepted!

Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke



Kick off Holy Week a day early – on **Saturday, April 13**, from 2-4, we'll be showing Jesus Christ Superstar, and encouraging those who want to sing along. Also, you can learn about the Gospel scriptures which most of the songs are based on.

Poems & Stories

The Mental Health Team is asking for people to share poems and stories on the topic of "LGBTQ and Mental Health." We are collecting these through May 19. Booklets will be assembled to give to visitors to our booth at the PRIDE Festival. Entries may be emailed to Brandi Pudlo: bpudlo@knox.edu. If you would like to send a draft for proof-reading before a final copy is printed, please send an email with the draft by May 1st.

1857 Society

The Society invites all who remember the church in their wills or estate plans, or plan to do so, to the Society's initial annual meeting, to be held at noon on Friday May 3 at Marquette Manor. The lunch meal is complimentary and there will be an outside speaker. Watch for reservation instructions. Commitment forms to join the Society are on the bulletin board inside the entrance to the parking lot. Questions? See Bill Gillette.

Update on "Days for Girls" Project



The IN-KY Conference and Outreach & Service project for putting together 100 menstrual hygiene kits for girls in developing countries is well under way. The response has been gratifying. Cutters are preparing fabric, sewers are sewing shields, pads and drawstring bags, and suppliers have been shopping or checking their own stashes. We would welcome more cutters and sewers. **We now have enough Ziploc freezer bags and travel-size soaps thanks to some generous donations!** 120 pairs of panties are on order with donated funds. We still need 22 more pairs or money to buy them. **We have**

received a few sets that are not 100% cotton which we cannot use. If you donated Felina or Calvin Klein brands of this type, please see if you can exchange them. We need 100% cotton, dark but pretty colors, and no bikinis or boy cuts. We expect to receive more fabric donations soon but still may need to purchase some more, likely flannel. So we are still accepting monetary donations designated for "Days for Girls." We also need 50 more wash cloths (good quality, regular size in dark, but pretty colors, also 100% cotton). Kohl's and Target are good sources for those. We'll keep you posted on the progress of the project, and thanks for your support. I will have cut fabric sets for shields to hand off to sewers each Sunday and also prepared flannel. Contact Sue Chapman for ways you can get involved!



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional women's clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to women who can't afford interview clothes to help them be better prepared when job hunting. Put donations in the cloakroom by the sign. Thanks!

Green Team Tip

No plastic bags! My good intention to take shopping bags along is something I usually remember when I get to checkout without them. I either roll my cart of unbagged stuff to the car and bag them then, or sigh and ask for paper bags.

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

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

April Mission of the Month: Exodus Refugee

Exodus Refugee is an organization with a chapter in Indianapolis that helps resettle refugees who come to this country legally. Exodus helps our new neighbors meet basic needs, but also provide services including social and medical services, English language training, and employment services. Their goal is to help members of our community achieve self sufficiency in their new home. With the cuts and changes in US immigration policy, there has been a severe cut in funding, but legal refugees continue to arrive.

We ask that you give generously to support their important work that is an action we can

take to answer God's commandment that we love our neighbors as ourselves. Change and dollar bills in the offering plate will be designated for the mission of the month. Larger bills should be put in the "mission offering" envelopes in the pew and put in the offering plate. Checks should have Exodous marked in the memo line and made out to the church. We appreciate your help. Thank you for your support.

Pantry Items of the Month



During March we are collecting the following items: canned ravioli, cereal, soup, pasta and deodorant.

Pastoral Care

While Pastor Sarah is away serving the wider church April 4th - 6th, Pastor Carol can be reached at (317)496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com.

After April 6th, Pastor Sarah can be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, April 4	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, April 4	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, April 4	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 6	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ St. John's UCC, Southport
Saturday, April 6	10:00 a.m.	Lenten Small Group in parlor
Sunday, April 7	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 7	11:00 a.m.	Worship – New Member Sunday
Sunday, April 7	1:00 p.m.	FCC's Historic Roots in Indy Tour
Tuesday, April 9	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, April 10	9:30 a.m.	Mindful Movement
Wednesday, April 10	11:00 a.m.	Music Support Team Meeting
Wednesday, April 10	2:00 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Wednesday, April 3	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting

Thursday, April 11	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, April 11	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 13	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)
Saturday, April 13	2:00 p.m.	Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of April 11, 2019

Dear First Congregational:

I encourage each of us to take time to come together as a church family for the various Holy Week worship opportunities. We will explore the passionate side of Jesus as a leader of a movement for justice on Palm Sunday, then gather for a soup dinner with the Lord's Supper as we remember the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion on Thursday, experience ecumenical Good Friday worship and finally, meet again to rejoice in the resurrection on Easter Sunday. Our experience of walking humbly with God through Lent leads us to an empty tomb. Where will God lead us from there? Come and let's find out together.

~Holy Week Worship~

April 14: Palm Sunday the Passionate Jesus for Justice at 11am

April 18: Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner with Communion in the Mayflower Room at 6:30pm, followed by Worship in the sanctuary

**April 19: Good Friday Ecumenical worship at 11am followed by luncheon at
Castleton United Methodist Church**

April 21: Easter Sunday Celebration with Handel's Messiah at 11am

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Special Meeting Called for Sunday, April 28th, 2019

Greetings! As Moderator and on behalf of the Council, I am authorized by the Constitution to convene a special meeting of the Congregation. It will occur immediately after 11am worship on Sunday, April 28th.

First Congregational member and current Worship and Faith Board Chair, Lianna Campos, has volunteered to assume the duties of Vice Moderator. The Council has approved this; but our Bylaws state that Council vacancies must be filled by vote of the congregation.

All told, we can consider and dispense with this issue quickly. I urge you to take time to consider this issue, and if you are able to attend on April 28th ready to do your best for First Congregational UCC.

Thank you,
Richard Gibson
Moderator
First Congregational UCC

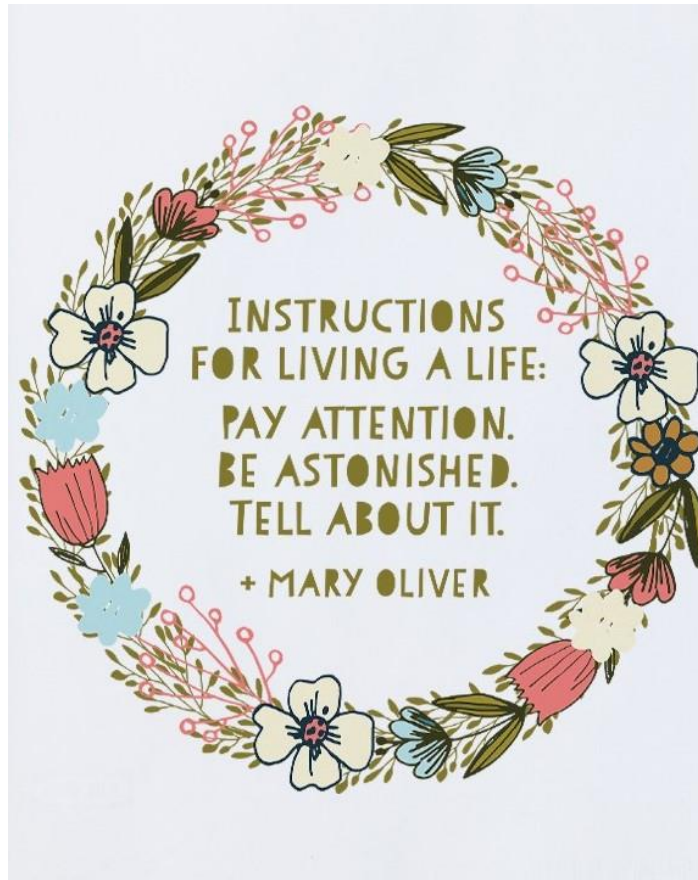
Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 14 - Brainstorm on how/what the Adult Ed class contributes to our Just Peace Church work, and what might we do?

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Walking with Jesus with Humility & Love."
Scripture: Luke 19:28-40

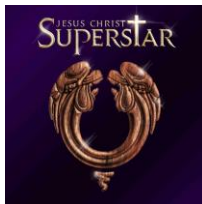


What's Happening at FCC

Lenten Breakfast, April 13, 8:00 a.m.

Please join us for the final IKC UCC Southeast Association Lenten Breakfast of the year at Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)!

Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke - Saturday, April 13, 2:00-4:00 p.m.



Many of us are familiar with Jesus Christ Superstar, but as I learned recently at my Lenten small group, many of us are not familiar with it at all.... It's a rock opera from 1970 by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice of the events of Holy Week, with a particular focus on Judas' perception of Jesus and the events of the time.

Come to First Congregational on Saturday from 2-4 pm to see what it's all about. We'll be showing the movie, and you can sing along with it, if you are so inclined. We'll also have available the scripture passages that many of the songs and plot are based on.

For me personally, it has deeply formed much of how I view what happened during that period of time by its often irreverent and comical depictions, but resulting in touching and tragic results from humans being so human. It is so meaningful to me that I regularly play the CD (and sing along) in my car during the Lenten season.

We'll be in the downstairs Mayflower Room; **if you arrive after 2 pm, be sure to use our keypad code – 1957 – to join us.** Light refreshments will be served, and there will be plenty of fun and fellowship – bring some friends!

- Wendy Baldwin

Sew Day for Days for Girls Service Project - April 22, 9:30 a.m. - Noon



Sewers, cutters, and workers needed for a church sew day on Monday, April 22nd from 9:30-noon in the Mayflower room. The Indiana/Kentucky UCC conference has challenged each member church to make 100 sets of kits that allow young women to attend school while they are menstruating. We are well underway, but now need workers. Bring your sewing machine, rotary cutters and mats, sewing shears, or just yourself and we will put you to work on this worthy project. Please let Sue Chapman (carolsuech59@gmail.com) or Linda Lupton (lklupton@aol.com) know if you are available to help on this day or are able to work at home.

Also needed:

- * 22 more pairs of 100% cotton dark/bright color panties (girls 12/14 briefs)
- * dark/brightly colored flannel (for pads – we are making 800 pads!)
- * 50 more 100% cotton, dark/bright color wash cloths
- * monetary donations to cover expenses for fabric/supplies.

Thanks for making a difference in the lives of young women in developing nations.

Poems & Stories

The Mental Health Team is asking for people to share poems and stories on the topic of "LGBTQ and Mental Health." We are collecting these through May 19. Booklets will be assembled to give to visitors to our booth at the PRIDE Festival. Entries may be emailed to Brandi Pudlo: btudlo@knox.edu. If you would like to send a draft for proof-reading before a final copy is printed, please send an email with the draft by May 1st.

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The Society invites all who remember the church in their wills or estate plans, or plan to do so, to the Society's initial annual meeting, to be held at noon on Friday May 3 at Marquette Manor. The lunch meal is complimentary and there will be an outside speaker. Watch for reservation instructions. Commitment forms to join the Society are on the bulletin board inside the entrance to the parking lot. Questions? See Bill Gillette.



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional women's clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to women who can't afford interview clothes to help them be better prepared when job hunting. Put donations in the cloakroom by the sign. Thanks!

Green Team Tip

My mother was a child of the Depression. What she did with paper towels: After wiping up water spills, hang or spread them on any convenient surface to dry, then use them again. If wiping up something dirty on table or counter, dry them again and store them under the sink. Use them once more, third time if you're lucky, to clean up spills on the floor. Only after that may you throw them away, preferably with full honors. Humming "Taps" as you do so is commendable, but not strictly necessary.

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

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

April Mission of the Month: Exodus Refugee

Exodus Refugee is an organization with a chapter in Indianapolis that helps resettle refugees who come to this country legally. Exodus helps our new neighbors meet basic needs, but also provide services including social and medical services, English language training, and employment services. Their goal is to help members of our community achieve self sufficiency in their new home. With the cuts and changes in US immigration policy, there has been a severe cut in funding, but legal refugees continue to arrive.

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Pastoral Care

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, April 11	1:30 p.m.	Lenten Small Group
Thursday, April 11	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 13	8:00 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)
Saturday, April 13	2:00 p.m.	Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke
Sunday, April 14	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 14	11:00 a.m.	Worship – Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 14	12:15 p.m.	Outreach & Service Meeting
Tuesday, April 16	1:30 p.m.	Circle IV
Thursday, April 18	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch

Thursday, April 18

6:30 p.m.

Maundy Thursday Soup &
Worship

Thursday, April 18

7:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal

Friday, April 19

11:00 a.m.

Good Friday Ecumenical Worship
@ Castleton UMC

Sunday, April 21

9:45 a.m.

Sunday Adult Class

Sunday, April 21

11:00 a.m.

Worship – Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 28

12:15 p.m.

Congregational Meeting

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for Holy Week 2019



Dear First Congregational:

As we move through Holy Week together, I invite us to think about the humility that Jesus' shows in this part of his journey. He enters into Jerusalem not on a war horse, but a lowly colt. He eats a humble meal with his disciples and then experiences humiliation of arrest, conviction and execution. Jesus experiences what is unimaginable and what ultimately causes his death...hatred and fear that still cause suffering today. As we move through Holy Week, we pause in these hard places to realize that our humble journey often takes us to the cross, to places of suffering. May we be reminded that we are not alone and that we are loved.

Join us Thursday at 6:30pm for a soup supper followed by the Lord's Supper in the parlor, and then a service of Tenebrae in the sanctuary as we hear the story and remember the humble walk of our Savior, Jesus the Christ.

Easter is coming....but first we pause and remember the cross.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

~Holy Week Worship~

April 18: Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner with Communion in the parlor at 6:30pm, followed by Worship in the sanctuary

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Thank you,
Richard Gibson
Moderator
First Congregational UCC

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 21 - Exploring Resurrection Part 1 - the Traditional View. We will read a reflection

from Shawnthea Monroe, who is the senior minister of Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights, Ohio. Her reflection was published in Christian Century, March 10, 2016.

Easter Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Do We Believe the Things We Have Seen and Heard?"

Scripture: John 20:1-18

What's Happening at FCC

Sew Day for Days for Girls Service Project - April 22, 9:30 a.m. - Noon



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- * monetary donations to cover expenses for fabric/supplies.

Thanks for making a difference in the lives of young women in developing nations.

Mindful Movement - Wednesday, April 24, 9:30am



In yoga, there is a common phrase, “root down to rise up.” In Mindful Movement, we practice this intention as we root down through the remembrance of the Lenten season and celebrate the joy of the risen Christ during the season of Easter. The promise of the resurrection brings renewal, rebirth, and a reconnecting with the wholeness that is found when you unite mind, body, and spirit with the One God who promises to be with us in both the desert and in the resurrection.

- Mindful Movement is a *donation-based class*.
- Please wear loose, comfortable clothing.
- We have a limited number of yoga mats available. If you have one, please bring it, but if you don't, please don't let that stop you from coming. We've got you covered.
- Chairs are also available for those more comfortable participating in a chair.

Join Creative Worship Design!

Did you like our Palm Sunday service with its drama, music, and “protest rally” focus? The Creative Worship Design Team hopes so. This team works together to develop and execute creative worship as a way to broaden the scope of our Sunday morning worship experiences. We'd love to have anyone with an interest join us! Our **next meetings will be on Thursdays – April 25, May 2, and May 16 – all at 5:30 PM**. We're now beginning to work on Pride Sunday (June 2) and Pentecost (June 9), and we're looking for a variety of creative ideas. Experience has shown us that the more ideas thrown into the mix the better the outcome. Participation with the team for only one Sunday is certainly welcomed, so there's no requirement to “sign up” for the indefinite future. Come and join us as you feel called. Contact Pastor Sarah for more info.

Dine Out for Life - Thursday, April 25



Dine Out, Fight AIDS

Dine Out for Life is celebrating 25 years of raising funds for the Damien Center on Thursday, April 25. Please google "Dine Out for Life 2019, Indianapolis" for a list of restaurants that donate 25% or 50% of their food sales that day. Eat out for lunch, dinner or both for a good cause.

Annual Spring Work Day – Saturday, April 27, 9:30-noon

Spring Work Day



Please join us for fellowship and sweat equity on Saturday, 4/27, for our annual spring yard cleanup. There will be mulch to spread, weeds to pull, undergrowth to trim, and whatever else is needed to help spruce up our grounds. This is a great way to give to the church, share camaraderie, and have a great feeling of accomplishment. The more, the merrier, and we'll find a task for you, no matter what your experience level is! Please bring your favorite outdoor work tools, especially gloves. Contact Wendy Baldwin if you are interested in coming.

Ending Hunger—What's God Got to Do with It? April 29, 7-8:30 p.m.



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

At this Bread for the World event (at North United Methodist Church), Rev. Dick Hamm explores how hunger advocates can help our elected officials understand how policies and priorities can help end hunger and also explores the Biblical basis for advocacy. Check-in is from 6:45 -7:00 p.m. The event is free. Please register so they know how many to expect at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/changing-the-systems-whats-god-got-to-do-with-it-tickets-59889096901>

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Green Team Tip

Try taking a Navy (also known as European or Asian) shower! Wet yourself down, turn off the water and lather up, then turn the water back on to rinse off. It's just like leaving the water running while brushing your teeth—why waste what you're not using? (This week's Green Tip is from Sandy Wood. If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

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Thursday, April 18	6:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Soup Dinner & Worship
Friday, April 19	11:00 a.m.	Good Friday Worship @ Castleton UMC
Saturday, April 20	10:00 a.m.	Bell Choir
Sunday, April 21	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 21	11:00 a.m.	Easter Worship
Monday, April 22	9:30 a.m.	Days for Girls Sew Day
Tuesday, April 23	9:00 a.m.	Foundation Meeting
Wednesday, April 24	9:30 a.m.	Mindful Movement
Wednesday, April 24	5:00 p.m.	Mental Health Team Meeting
Wednesday, April 24	6:30 p.m.	Calling Circle
Thursday, April 25	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, April 25	5:30 p.m.	Summer Series Planning Meeting
Thursday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Green Congregations Meeting
Thursday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, April 27	9:30 a.m.	Annual Spring Work Day
Sunday, April 28	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, April 28	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, April 28	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Meeting
Sunday, April 28	12:30 p.m.	Worship & Faith Meeting

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of April 25, 2019

Dear First Congregational:

As we continue to listen to the Still Speaking God and to be open to trying new things as the Body of Christ, one of the things we experimented with was to meet in small groups during Lent. I participated in the small group that met at Marquette Manor (see photo of our group) and cherished our time together. We hope to continue to experiment with small group gatherings in the future. As we seek to deepen our connections and grow in Christ's love, we discover joy in relationship. God shows up in the sharing of stories, in the laughter and the tears.



I continue to be grateful and joyful to serve as your senior pastor. Thank you for the ways you support and encourage our ministry together. I look forward to seeing where God leads us next.

With Resurrection hope,
Pastor Sarah

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Thank you,
Richard Gibson
Moderator
First Congregational UCC

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 28 - Exploring Resurrection Part 2 - the Progressive Christian view. We view a video and discuss an article from Marcus Borg.

Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "What's Giving You Life These Days?"

Scripture: John 20:19-31

What's Happening at FCC

Join Creative Worship Design!

Did you like our Palm Sunday service with its drama, music, and "protest rally" focus? The Creative Worship Design Team hopes so. This team works together to develop and execute creative worship as a way to broaden the scope of our Sunday morning worship experiences. We'd love to have anyone with an interest join us! Our **next meetings will be on Thursdays – April 25, May 2, and May 16 – all at 5:30 PM**. We're now beginning to work on Pride Sunday (June 2) and Pentecost (June 9), and we're looking for a variety of creative ideas. Experience has shown us that the more ideas thrown into the mix the better the outcome. Participation with the team for only one Sunday is certainly welcomed, so there's no requirement to "sign up" for the indefinite future. Come and join us as you feel called. Contact Pastor Sarah for more info.

Dine Out for Life - Thursday, April 25



Dine Out, Fight AIDS

Dine Out for Life is celebrating 25 years of raising funds for the Damien Center on Thursday, April 25. Please google "Dine Out for Life 2019, Indianapolis" for a list of restaurants that donate 25% or 50% of their food sales that day. Eat out for lunch, dinner or both for a good cause.

Annual Spring Work Day – Saturday, April 27, 9:30-noon

Spring Work Day



Please join us for fellowship and sweat equity on Saturday, 4/27, for our annual spring yard cleanup. There will be mulch to spread, weeds to pull, undergrowth to trim, and whatever else is needed to help spruce up our grounds. This is a great way to give to the church, share camaraderie, and have a great feeling of accomplishment. The more, the merrier, and we'll find a task for you, no matter what your experience level is! Please bring your favorite outdoor work tools, especially gloves. Contact Wendy Baldwin if you are interested in coming.

Picnic with the Meridian Hills Cooperative School - THIS SUNDAY, April 28, 12:30-3:30pm



Bring your picnic basket and blanket and join us on the playground this Sunday for an afternoon of fun!

We will have crafts, games, face painting, and a freshly spruced-up playground for the whole family to enjoy. Tea and cookies will be provided. Please bring your own picnic if you would like any additional refreshments.

Hope to see you there! - Linda Foley, Preschool Director

Ending Hunger—What's God Got to Do with It? April 29, 7-8:30 p.m.



breadfortheworld
HAVE FAITH. END HUNGER.

At this Bread for the World event (at North United Methodist Church), Rev. Dick Hamm explores how hunger advocates can help our elected officials understand how policies and priorities can help end hunger and also explores the Biblical basis for advocacy. Check-in is from 6:45 -7:00 p.m. The event is free. Please register so they know how many to expect at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/changing-the-systems-whats-god-got-to-do-with-it-tickets-59889096901>

Poems & Stories

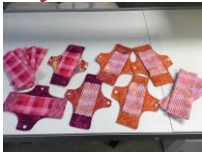
The Mental Health Team is asking for people to share poems and stories on the topic of "LGBTQ and Mental Health." We are collecting these through May 19. Booklets will be assembled to give to visitors to our booth at the PRIDE Festival. Entries may be emailed to

Brandi Pudlo: bpudlo@knox.edu. If you would like to send a draft for proof-reading before a final copy is printed, please send an email with the draft by May 1st.

1857 Society

The Society invites all who remember the church in their wills or estate plans, or plan to do so, to the Society's initial annual meeting, to be held at noon on Friday May 3 at Marquette Manor. The lunch meal is complimentary and there will be an outside speaker. Watch for reservation instructions. Commitment forms to join the Society are on the bulletin board inside the entrance to the parking lot. Questions? See Bill Gillette.

Days for Girls Update



We had a great work day on Monday, April 22nd for our Days for Girls kits. Although the counting, sewing, cutting, pressing was a blur of activity I think we made an additional 30 pads 12 shields and 6 bags. We also prepped lots of bags, shields and pads to take home and sew.

Here is where we are with our goal of 100 kits:

- Soap-complete
- wash cloths-complete
- plastic bags-complete
- panties-need 17 more? (Sue will order when we get more \$\$ donated)
- shields-72 complete, 74 cut and ready to sew, and another pile of fabrics & PUL ready to cut, so we should be able to complete the 200 needed.
- pads-183 done, another 200+ in prep. **This is where we need the most help!!!!**
(We need a total of 800!)
- drawstring bags -17 completed, 13 cut and ready to sew

Thank you all for your contributions (time, talent, financial). We have until **late May to finish**. Can we try to have our work at home completed by **May 12th** and bring to church so we can have another reckoning on where we need to go?

Thanks again! - Linda Lupton



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional women's clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to women who can't afford interview clothes to help them be better prepared when job hunting. Put donations in the cloakroom by the sign. Thanks!

Green Team Tip

When recycling tin cans take a moment to make a slit in the label, peel it off and put it in the paper recycling bin. (This week's Green Tip is from Linda Lupton. 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!

April Mission of the Month: Exodus Refugee

Exodus Refugee is an organization with a chapter in Indianapolis that helps resettle refugees who come to this country legally. Exodus helps our new neighbors meet basic needs, but also provide services including social and medical services, English language training, and employment services. Their goal is to help members of our community achieve self sufficiency in their new home. With the cuts and changes in US immigration policy, there has been a severe cut in funding, but legal refugees continue to arrive.

We ask that you give generously to support their important work that is an action we can take to answer God's commandment that we love our neighbors as ourselves. Change and dollar bills in the offering plate will be designated for the mission of the month. Larger bills should be put in the "mission offering" envelopes in the pew and put in the offering plate. Checks should have Exodous marked in the memo line and made out to the church. We appreciate your help. Thank you for your support.

Pantry Items of the Month



During March we are collecting the following items: canned ravioli, cereal, soup, pasta and deodorant.

Pastoral Care

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Thursday, April 25	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, April 25	5:30 p.m.	Summer Series Planning Mtg
Thursday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Indianapolis Green Congregations Meeting
Thursday, April 25	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, April 27	9:30 a.m.	Annual Spring Work Day
Sunday, April 28	12:15 p.m.	Congregational Meeting
Sunday, April 28	12:30 p.m.	Worship & Faith Meeting
Sunday, April 28	12:30 p.m.	Picnic w/ Meridian Hills School
Tuesday, April 30	3:30 p.m.	Care & Connection
Tuesday, April 30	7:00 p.m.	Bread for the World Meeting
Wednesday, May 1	9:30 a.m.	Mindful Movement
Wednesday, May 1	7:00 p.m.	Trustees Meeting
Thursday, May 2	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, May 2	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, May 5	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, May 5	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, May 5	12:15 p.m.	Summer Series Planning Mtg