



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

@FirstCongregationalUCCLndy

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome to your Spiritual Home!

We celebrate being a Just Peace making,
Green for care of Creation, WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive,
Supportive and Engaged) for mental health church with
an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the
LGBTQAAI+ 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.**

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

External Communications Manager/Office Admin, Cassidy Hall

Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker

Just Peace Intern, Allison Welz

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Steve Coomer, Larry Eckel, Alice Rutherford

Clerk: Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey

Treasurer: Jim Lootens

Financial Secretary: Cheryl Dillenback

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Quartette

Plymouth Players

Cristy James, liturgist

Allison Welz

Cassidy Hall



September 26, 2021

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Open Our Eyes

Keli

INTROIT

Make Me A Servant

Mayflower Quartette

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

MISSION MOMENT

Indiana Youth Group

Allison Welz

OPENING SONG #216

God Says It's Time

Sing! Prayer and Praise

MOMENT OF PEACE

Allison Welz

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE	Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22	Cristy James
SCRIPTURE RESPONSE		Mayflower Quartette
SERMON	Lead With Love	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
SONG #58	Spirit of Love	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

WE RESPOND

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS Cassidy Hall
We invite those who desire to share a joy or concern.

MEDITATION Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

PASTORAL PRAYER (From Enfleshed) Cassidy Hall
Living Christ, you protect young people fiercely. If we are young, may we feel deeply your delight in us just as we are. If we are no longer young, may we live in a way that honors our truest childhood self. Thank you for the open-heartedness of children and the creative power of adolescents. Amen.

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (from UCC Book of Worship) Cassidy Hall
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 forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

WE GO

CLOSING SONG #199

Go Make A Diff'rence

Sing! Prayer and Praise

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

POSTLUDE

Will the Circle Be Unbroken?

CALLS to SERVE

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

TODAY! Patio Psalms and Prayers at 9:30 a.m. – On Sunday mornings, grab your lawn chair and join us on the patio for an outdoor gathering time for faith formation. **Psalm 17**

TODAY! Virtual Coffee Hour! - While we are not gathering in-person, we will have “Coffee Hour” on **Zoom** immediately following online worship.

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pat Larracey at plainandfancy1963@att.net, or 317-625-6801, or Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.

Outreach & Service – Thanks to all who supported our food/donation drive yesterday. A good time was had by all, and our donations to Northside Pantry and Exodus express our concern for our neighbors.

Another opportunity to assist in welcoming Afghan refugees can be found at [Team Rubicon | Afghan Resettlement \(teamrubiconusa.org\)](http://TeamRubicon.org). Here you can find a list of immediate needs of refugees already at Indiana’s Camp Atterbury, along with an Amazon Wishlist for quick provision of needed items.

Mark your calendars for not one but two Buzzes! **On October 3 we'll hear from Allison Welz, our new Just Peace Intern**, about her experiences in Myanmar. She has much to share to educate and inspire us. **On October 10 we'll hear from Kelsey Kennedy, Host Homes Program Coordinator for Trinity Haven**, one of our Covenant Outreach ministries from September through December. Please plan to attend both of these opportunities (on Zoom) to learn and serve.

Buzz with Just Peace Intern, Allison Welz – Sunday October 3rd, 12:30pm
I will be talking about my trips to Myanmar, how they have impacted my faith, sharing pictures, and how people can learn more/support! -Allison Welz

Publications - Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website: www.fcindy.org

Continue Your Support of First Congregational UCC - Please continue supporting the mission and ministries of your local church by mailing your check to the church or through online giving at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

Members In Need Fund - The Members In Need Fund is available to support financial needs for any of our church family who find themselves in need. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

National Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) (press 1 for veterans, 2 for Spanish)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Information HelpLine provides information and referral services. 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) and www.nami.org.

The Trevor Project hotline offers support for LGBTQIA+ youth and families struggling with mental health challenges at 1-866-4-U-TREVOR (488-7386) and www.theTrevorProject.org

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlY1B0aEFVUT09> Meeting ID: 926 449 4206 Password: 7171

If you click on the URL, you should not need to enter in the Meeting ID and Password. To dial in by phone: +1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID 926 449 4206, Password 7171.

This Week at FC Indy:

Sunday, September 26	9:30 a.m.	Patio Psalms & Prayers (FC patio)
Sunday, September 26	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, September 26	12:00 p.m.	Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)
Sunday, September 26	1:00 p.m.	Faith in Indiana Meeting, hosted by Steve Leatherman (FC Patio)
Sunday, September 26	5:00 p.m.	Sermon Reflections (Zoom)
Monday, September 27	7:00 p.m.	Faith in Indiana Meeting, hosted by Alice Rutherford (on Zoom)
Thursday, September 30	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch (Zoom)
Thursday, September 30	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, September 30	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Sunday, October 3	9:30 a.m.	Patio Psalms & Prayers (FC patio)
Sunday, October 3	11:00 a.m.	World Communion Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, October 3	12:00 p.m.	Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)
Sunday, October 3	12:30 p.m.	All-Church Buzz with Just Peace Intern, Allison Welz (Zoom)



Are you ready to get back to
the people and activities you love?

Your vaccination brings us one day closer
to controlling the pandemic and
reopening Church.

Get your vaccine ASAP!
Register at ourshot.in.gov or call 211.

Marion County "color"	Indoors	Outdoors
Blue, positivity is decreasing	Masks are <u>optional for vaccinated people</u> , and <u>required for unvaccinated</u>	Masks are <u>not required</u>
Blue, positivity is increasing	Masks are <u>encouraged for vaccinated people</u> , and <u>required for unvaccinated</u>	Masks are <u>not required</u>
Yellow	Masks are <u>required for all</u>	Masks are <u>encouraged for vaccinated people</u> , and <u>required for unvaccinated</u>
Orange	Building is <u>closed</u> for in-person gatherings	Masks are <u>required for all</u>
Red	Building is <u>closed</u> for in-person gatherings	No church-sponsored outdoor gatherings

Current Marion County "color status": **ORANGE**

Today's Scripture

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Ahasuerus and Haman arrived at Esther's banquet. The next day, as they were drinking their wine, Ahasuerus said, "What do you desire, Esther? Anything you say will be given to you." Esther replied, "My sovereign, if I have found favor in your eyes and if it be your wish, I ask you to spare my life, and the lives of my people. That is what I desire most. For we, my people and I, have been condemned to be destroyed, slain and turned into chattel—ourselves and our children. Had you merely intended to make us slaves, I would have said nothing. All this has been told to me by a reliable source. Our enemy brings shame upon the imperial court." Ahasuerus said, "Who is this person who would dare do such a thing?" Esther replied, "Our enemy is this scoundrel Haman."

...

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs, said, "I have seen it myself. Haman has prepared a gallows for Mordecai—the very person who gave you true information. The gallows stands in front of Haman's house and is seventy-five feet high." Ahasuerus declared, "That is where Haman will hang. So Haman was hung on the gallows that he had built for Mordecai. Only then was Ahasuerus' anger abated.

...

Mordecai wrote down all these things in a scroll and sent copies to all the Jewish communities throughout the empire of Ahasuerus, both far and near, telling them that they should keep the fourteenth and fifteenth day of Adar, the days that they vanquished their enemies. They were to commemorate the entire month of Adar, for it was in that month when their lot had been changed from sorrow to joy. They were told to observe these days with celebrations and feasts, giving gifts of food to friends and to the poor.

(The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2650-2651). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition)

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