



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 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
Media Technician, David Clark and Ben James

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Alice Rutherford, Steve Coomer, Larry Eckel
Clerk: Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey
Treasurer: Jim Lootens
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Dillenback

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Larry Boggs (Bing Crosby)

Sean Baker (Piano)

Mike Kessler (Percussion)

Jesse Wittman (Bass)

Rev. Worth Hartman, Liturgist

December 26, 2021

11:00 A.M.

GATHERING CHEER

WELCOME

Pastor Carol Sowle

OPENING SONG #154

Go Tell it on the Mountain

New Century Hymnal

HOLIDAY CHEER

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:41-52

Rev. Worth Hartman

SERMON

Out of the Mouths of Babes...

Pastor Carol Sowle

HOLIDAY CHEER

WE RESPOND

A MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER

Pastor Carol Sowle

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 forever. Amen.

WE GO

CLOSING SONG #125 Angels We Have Heard on High *New Century Hymnal*

BENEDICTION Pastor Carol Sowle

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. Baker

CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

TODAY! Adult Education at 10:00 a.m. – On Sunday mornings, join us in the Library for a gathering time for faith formation.

No Coffee Hour– As a reminder there is no coffee hour until the county turns blue.

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.

REMINDER: CALLING ALL WRITERS, POETS, AND THINKERS!

The FC Indy Blog is here, “Pew Reflections”: Please email your submissions to Cassidy (cassidy@fcindy.org) anytime to be shared on the blog on any topic. We are accepting prayers, meditations, poems, prose, short stories, and more!

Questions about what the blog is or how it functions? Check out <http://fcindy.org/blog/newblog/> or email Cassidy.

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. All requests for financial support will be confidential and your privacy will be honored and respected. 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

Please contact our office admin to join Zoom Gatherings: cassidy@fcindy.org

GIVING

We seek to love and to share our joy.

We offer care, give thanks and praise, when Christ is present among us all.

We know the world's a mission field, needing forgiveness, justice and hope.

Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Open and Affirming Covenant. We have been an Open and Affirming Church since 1994.

Our current outreach recipients: Indiana Youth Group, Damien Center, and Trinity Haven



THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Sunday, December 26	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (In-person only–Library)
Sunday, December 26	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in only at 2pm)
Sunday, December 26	Reminder	No Coffee Hour
Thursday, December 30	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, December 30	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Saturday, January 1		HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Sunday, January 2	10:00 a.m.	Adult Education (In-person only–Library)
Sunday, January 2	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in only at 2pm)
Sunday, January 2	Reminder	No Coffee Hour

Today's Scripture

(The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward.)

Luke 2:41-52

The parents of Jesus used to go every year to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when Jesus was twelve, they went up for the celebration as was their custom. As they were returning at the end of the feast, the child Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, unbeknownst to Mary and Joseph. Thinking Jesus was in their caravan, they continued their journey for the day, looking for him among their relatives and acquaintances.

Not finding Jesus, they returned to Jerusalem in search of him. On the third day, they came upon Jesus in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. All who heard Jesus were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When Mary and Joseph saw Jesus, they were astonished, and Mary said, "Son, why have you done this to us? You see that your father and I have been so worried, looking for you." Jesus said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know I had to be in my Abba's house?"

But they didn't understand what he told them. Then Jesus went down with them to Nazareth and was obedient to them. Mary stored these things in her heart, and Jesus grew in wisdom, in years and in favor with God and people alike.



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***Thank you for joining us in the celebration
of giving and receiving the love of Christ***

We are grateful for your generosity as you consider your end of year gifts in supporting the ministry of First Congregational United Church of Christ

Ways to Give:

- Checks can be mailed to the church at 7171 N. Pennsylvania Street Indianapolis, IN 46240
- You can give online at **fcindy.org/online-giving**