



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 hybrid worship service. We invite guests to fill out a visitor card found in the pew holder. Whether you choose to join us online or in-person, we believe we are called together 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.**

***Disclaimer:** Today's worship service is being live-streamed. While the focus will be on the worship leaders, anything you say or do may be on film. If you have any questions or need to ensure you are not on camera for your safety or other reasons, please speak with Pastor Sarah. PastorSarah@fcindy.org

A Message from our Church Council: First Congregational urges vaccinations, encourages masking for those unvaccinated or those at risk, and staying home if feeling unwell. (Based on CDC guidelines and approved by Church Council, April 13, 2022)

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, Ben James

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Larry Eckel, Steve Coomer, Judy Fletcher
Clerk: Janet Selby
Treasurer: Jim Lootens
Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Singers
Liturgist, Cassidy Hall
Worship Leader, Pastor Carol Sowle
Guest Preacher, Rev. Laura Beth Buchleiter

May 15, 2022 **11:00 A.M.**

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE We Can Praise You, God! Unbehagen

INTROIT New Life Mayflower Singers

WELCOME Pastor Carol Sowle

CALL TO WORSHIP

Cassidy Hall

Leader: Jesus commanded: Love one another.

**People: We come to worship the God who is love
that we may learn to love one another.**

Leader: Jesus said: No longer do I call you servants;
now I call you my friends.

**People: We come to worship God
whose friends we are through Christ.**

**ALL: Let us sing praise to God and live in love
and friendship toward the whole human family;
through Jesus Christ.
Amen**

OPENING SONG #477

Pass it On

(See Insert)

THE PEACE

MEDITATION

Peace I Leave with You

DeMan

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

1 John 4:7-12

Cassidy Hall

RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

SERMON

Let Your Yes be Yes and Your Love be Love

Rev. Laura Beth
Buchleiter

SONG

Meet me on the Mountain, by Rev. Laura Beth Buchleiter

WE RESPOND

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

A New Beginning

Mayflower Singers

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from who all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER (from Enfleshed)

Beloved One, come and kindle in us a passion for life. Though struggles may surround, do not let us grow weary of dreaming. Keep us alive to our longings for collective abundance. Until the earth and all its creatures are restored to wholeness and harmony, may we persist in pursuing the lure of your love. Amen.

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.

RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

CLOSING SONG #478

I've Got Peace Like a River

New Century Hymnal

WE GO

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Laura Beth Buchleiter

RESPONSE

Because He Lives

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

There Is a Wideness in God's Mercy

CALLS to SERVE

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

Next Sunday: W.I.S.E. MENTAL HEALTH TEAM BUZZ, Sunday MAY 22nd 1pm (Zoom): Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund has just had a new book published- [*Blessed Youth: Breaking the Silence About Mental Illness with Children and Teens*](#). **In conjunction with Mental Health Sunday May 22nd, the team is planning a Zoom Buzz at 1 p.m. to discuss the book.** You do not have to read the book in order to attend. If you would like to read the book, the team has ordered 10 books that can be borrowed by members of the congregation to read before the Buzz. The books will be available in the Narthex. Please sign out a book on the list beside the books and return it after you are done. We look forward to getting together with many of you on Zoom, hearing from Sarah about her experience writing the book, and discussing its contents. **Questions?** Contact Sandy Wood: csjlwood@att.net

It's almost PRIDE month! A Message from Cassidy Hall: As a LGBTQIA+ woman, it's always pride month for me and I'm **so excited** to be helping our church's efforts to affirm God's truth that all genders and sexualities are beloved by God. To remind the community of our affirming stance, I've created postcards to hand out with our logo which say "God loves you. And so do we" and new shirts for those either walking in the parade or wanting to have a new shirt! If you'd like a new shirt, I need your payment (\$25) and size **by Wednesday, May 25th**. Please either donate via our site making note it is for the Pride shirt or leave the money/check on my desk with the memo "Pride Shirt." **Questions?** cassidy@fcindy.org

Interested in Walking in the PRIDE Parade with FC Indy? This year we are walking with St. Peter's UCC (Carmel). We will be handing out postcards and wearing blue shirts. **The parade is at 10 am on 6/11**, but generally lineup is at 9:30 and it can go until around noon. To sign up, please email wendy.baldwin@travelandleisure.com with your best contact info and intention to walk with FC Indy!

Bread for the World Offering of Letters: Thank you to each of you who has already written or emailed their Senators and Representatives on this year's Bread for the World focus. If you wrote letters at home and plan to attend worship by May 22, please bring them to church and deposit them in the basket on the Narthex table. If not, please mail them yourselves. If you mailed letters or sent emails and have not yet reported them to Cassidy (cassidy@fcindy.org), please do so soon. We want everyone's contacts to count. Our tally will be reported to Indiana Bread before the delegation goes to D.C. in early June.

New Member Sunday is June 5th: Are you interested in becoming a member, curious about the process, or just want more information about membership? Contact Pastor Sarah, pastorsarah@fcindy.org

Hybrid: In-Person and Zoom Adult Education at 10:00 a.m. – On Sunday mornings, join us on In-Person or on Zoom for a gathering time for faith formation.

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

Publications: Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website 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/>

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

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

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MUSIC DESIGNER:

For years I've performed as a pianist/entertainer in many restaurants and clubs. One of the classic practices in this profession is taking requests. Well, I'd like to bring this tradition to the church. As I've lived within the lines of our music licensing for the church during the pandemic since we've now been online, it has been a blast for me to utilize my arranging skills by simply reworking hymns into orchestral pieces with my stamp and style applied. I would like to get a list of everyone's top 5 favorite hymns along with your permission to list your name in the bulletin as "requested by..." I think this would be a fun way together as a church to feel like the everyone is part of the creation of the services. Please email me your requests and permissions (*or if you prefer to be anonymous*) to sbaker@seanbaker.com.
—Sean Baker

A NOTE ON OUR CURRENT COVENANT OUTREACH GIVING

Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our WISE Covenant (May – August) Our current outreach recipients: The Julian Center, The UCC Mental Health Network, and The Trevor Project.



United Church of Christ
MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK™




THE JULIAN CENTER

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

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:


Sunday, May 15	10:00 AM	Hybrid Adult Education (In-Person and Zoom)
Sunday, May 15	11:00 AM	Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) (Dial-in after 2 PM)
Tuesday, May 17	1:30 PM	Circle Book Meeting
Thursday, May 19	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, May 19	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)

Coming soon...



Upcoming Buzz!

A conversation about Mental Health &
Pastor Sarah's new book, *Blessed are the Youth*



May 22nd, 1:00 p.m. on Zoom

Are you considering membership
at First Congregational UCC?

New Member Sunday is June 5, 2022

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BECOME A MEMBER,
EMAIL PASTOR SARAH, PASTORSARAH@FCINDY.ORG

June is Pride Month!

Walk with us in the
Parade on June 11th



loves you. And so do we.

Today's Scripture

1 John 4:7-12

Dear friends, you have already overcome these false prophets, because you are from God and have in you the One who is greater than anyone in the world. As for them, they are of the world; they speak the language of the world, and the world listens to them. But we are from God, and those who know God listen to us. Those who are not of God refuse to listen to us. This is how we can tell the spirit of truth from the spirit of falsehood.

Beloved,

let us love one another

because love is of God;

everyone who loves is begotten of God

and has knowledge of God. Those who do not love have known nothing of God,

for God is love. God's love was revealed in our midst in this way:

by sending the Only Begotten into the world,

that we might have faith through the Anointed One. Love, then, consists in this:

not that we have loved God,

but that God has loved us

and has sent the Only Begotten

to be an offering for our sins.

Beloved,

if God has loved us so,

we must have the same love for one another.

No one has ever seen God.

Yet if we love one another,

God dwells in us,

and God's love is brought to perfection in us.

A Word of God that is still speaking,
Thanks be to God.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



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FCINDY DOT ORG

Pass It On

477

1. It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,
 2. What a won-drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,
 3. I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi-ness that I've found—

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;
 the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;
 on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:
 that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per-i-enced it:
 I'll shout it from the moun-tain top, I want my world to know:

you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.
 you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.
 the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.