



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 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**.

Pastor Sarah's Office Hours

Shannon's Office Hours

Monday – Sabbath	Monday – Sabbath
Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Wednesday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Friday – working off site	Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Pastoral Care:

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

We celebrate the team of people called to serve on 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
Just Peace Intern, Grace Langford

We celebrate the team of people elected to lead our church:

Rich Gibson, Moderator
Lianna Campos, Vice Moderator
Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Clerk
Jim Lootens, Treasurer
George Meier, Financial Secretary

We celebrate those leading us in worship today:

Gini Coomer, Worship Leader

The flowers on the altar are from Wendy Baldwin.

*As long as the river flows and as long as the green grass grows
And as long as the sun will shine, so will it always be.
And as high as the raven flies and as long as the moon will rise
And as long as a winter night, so will it always be.
And as long as the deer will run and as long as the stars will shine
And as bright as the eastern sky, so will it always be.
And as long as the Spirit lives and as long as the eagle soars
And as long as the cold wind blows, so will it always be.*

*And from the dark of night before the morning light,
The giant eagle with his outspread wings, pulls back the eastern sky.
As long as the sun will shine, as long as the deer will run,
As long as the eagle soars, so shall it always be.*

SCRIPTURE

Luke 16:19-31

Gini Coomer

SERMON

A Living Room Conversation with Rev. Dr. Chris Davies

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

SONG # 187

Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary

Sing! Prayer & Praise

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 & LORD'S PRAYER (New Zealand version)

Eternal Spirit,

Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In time of temptation and testing, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

OFFERING of GIFTS and TITHES

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 (778)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done;

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

WE GO

*CLOSING SONG #476

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Amen

Anonymous

POSTLUDE

Heal the World

Michael Jackson

Please remain seated for the postlude or leave the sanctuary quietly. Everyone is invited for coffee, refreshments, and conversation in the church parlor.



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. You 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.

CALLS to SERVE

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

Sunday Adult Class, Sunday, October 6 - Curious about what being a W.I.S.E. church might mean for First Congregational? This week we will discuss what it means to be W - Welcoming and I - Inclusive. The team will also discuss our newly created draft covenant, our commitment to mental health and potential plans.

NEXT SUNDAY! CROP (Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty) Walk- Sunday, October 6th
Let's continue to HELP END HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME by being a walker, sponsoring a walker, donating through church at www.crophunger/walk.org/Indianapolisin/FCindy or by check payable to CWS/CROP. Additional information at the CROP WALK table in the narthex or see Sally Coombs, sallysews73@gmail.com or call 317-446-2853.

Thinking about making First Congregational your church home? We would love to welcome you into membership. We are planning our next New Member Sunday, November 10th, so let Pastor Sarah know if you are interested or have questions.

Choir Rehearsals – Rehearsals are on Thursday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. We welcome new members. If anyone is interested in joining the choir, please email Julie at juliehouston@comcast.net. We would love to have you join us!

Green Team Tip - Don't forget to adjust your thermostat and turn your water heater temperature down when leaving on vacation. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

September Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

HIPL is an interfaith organization dedicated to advocating for sustainable living and changes to protect God's creation of life on this earth, both human and others. Its mission is to educate congregations on sustainable living practices that will reduce our carbon footprint, and promote the use of renewable energy resources. They were instrumental in helping us start and maintain the study and work process that has led to our efforts to decrease our church's carbon foot print with changes to our lighting and now the installation of a photovoltaic system that will allow the church to capture part of its energy from a renewable source. The organization is funded primarily from contributions from its member congregations. Please support them with the September Mission of the Month.

Pantry Items of the Month – During September we are collecting the following items: bread, baking mixes, canned vegetables, and deodorant.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, September 29	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Chat w/ Rev. Chris Davies
Sunday, September 29	3:00 p.m.	Ecclesiastical Council w/ Shannon Abbott @ St. Peter's UCC – Carmel, IN
Wednesday, October 2	11:00 a.m.	Witness & Welcome
Wednesday, October 2	4:30 p.m.	Just Peace Team
Wednesday, October 2	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
Thursday, October 3	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, October 3	6:00 p.m.	In Harmony
Thursday, October 3	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, October 6	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, October 6	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, October 6	12:15 p.m.	Worship & Faith
Sunday, October 6	1:00 p.m.	Crop Walk

Today's Scripture (NRSV Translation)

Luke 16:19-31

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

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