



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 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**. **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.**

Pastor Sarah's Office Hours

Monday: Sabbath
Tuesday: 9am – 12pm
Wednesday: 9am – 12pm
Thursday: 9am – 12pm
Friday: working off site

Shannon's Office Hours

Monday: Sabbath
Tuesday: 9am – 12pm
Wednesday: 9am – 12pm
Thursday: 9am – 12pm
Friday: 9am – 12pm

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
Office Administrator, Shannon Abbott
Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker
Choir Director, Julie Houston
Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall
Just Peace Intern, Grace Langford
Olivia Beeman, Nursery Attendant
Jess Tyler, Nursery Attendant

We celebrate our church leadership:

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

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Sue Chapman, Worship Leader
Jesse Wittman - String Bass
Michael Beck – Percussion

The flowers on the altar are from the Larson family in celebration of Ceil and the late Don Larson 69th anniversary.

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. Preschool age and younger may use the nursery or children of all ages are invited toward the front using the Prayground 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.

JANUARY 5, 2020

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

11 A.M.

*Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.*

Asterisk () indicates those who choose to may stand.*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Overture of Carols in VistaVision! Trad., arr. Baker

INTROIT Light Of the World K. Crawford

WELCOME and OPENING PRAYER Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*CALL to WORSHIP Sue Chapman

God's light gives light to all the Earth

We give thanks for the light of God

God's light gives energy that is good for the Earth

We give thanks for the light of God

God's light give hope for the future of the Earth

We give thanks for the light of God

OPENING HYMN #165 Love Came Down at Christmas *New Century Hymnal*

*THE PEACE

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM O Magnum Mysterium Evan Ramos

O magnum mysterium,

Et admirabile sacramentum,

Ut animalia viderunt

Dominum Tatum

jacentum in praesepio.

O magnum mysterium. Amen.

O great mystery,

And wonderful sacrament,

That animals should see

the newborn Lord

lying in a manger.

O great mystery. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 5:16 Sue Chapman

Ephesians 5:8

SERMON

“God’s Good Light”

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

HYMN #164

Arise, Your Light is Come

New Century Hymnal

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. In the power and presence of God we share your joy/prayer.

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kin-dom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we also have forgiven those who sin against us. Do not let us enter into temptation, but rescue us from the evil one. For yours is the kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

MUSIC OF LIGHT

Mancini, Kusik, arr. Baker

BLESSING LITANY FOR SOLAR PANELS

Ann Leatherman

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 and OFFERING PRAYER

To you O God we here do raise
our song and gifts of thankful praise.
The Christmas Child protect from harm,
and keep all children safe and warm.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN #345 Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (vs 1 & 2) *New Century Hymnal*

INVITATION and SHARING COMMUNION

*All are welcome to the table, no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey.
We celebrate with juice and two types of bread, including gluten free.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WE GO

*CLOSING HYMN #524 This Little Light of Mine (vs 1, 2, & 3) *New Century Hymnal*

*BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Light Of the World K. Crawford

POSTLUDE God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen Trad., arr. Baker
*Please remain seated for the postlude or leave the sanctuary quietly. Everyone is invited for
coffee, refreshments, and conversation in the church parlor.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, January 5	12:30 p.m.	PCRC (Pastor Carol)
Wednesday, January 8	11:00 a.m.	Worship Design Team
Wednesday, January 8	5:00 p.m.	Mental Health Team
Wednesday, January 8	7:00 p.m.	Joint Trustees & Church Council
Thursday, January 9	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, January 9	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Sunday, January 12	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, January 12	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, January 12	12:30 p.m.	Buzz & Pitch-In: Inclusive Language

CALLS to SERVE

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

Nursery Care - Life is thriving in our Prayground, and we are expanding our ministry offerings to our young ones by opening up the Nursery! We welcome our new nursery attendants, Olivia and Jess, who will be with us Sunday from 10:30-12:30 to care for our children. We need volunteers to join her! If you are interested in being a volunteer in the nursery, please contact Lianna Campos at lcampos33@gmail.com or 317-954-1601. The sign-up sheet is in the narthex.

TODAY! Assembling Kits for the Border - Please join the Outreach & Service Board in the narthex after church TODAY to help assemble the hygiene kits that will be taken by our delegation to the Southwest border later this month. Extra hands will make light work. Thank you.

TODAY! Unhanging of the Greens - After worship service, please help with "Unhanging of the Greens." Any questions ask Sally Coombs.

Sunday Adult Class, 9:45 a.m. – In January, Adult Ed will study "Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture; Walter Brueggemann on Confronting Today's 'Pharaohs'."
Jan 12 - "The Prophets as Uncredentialed Purveyors of Covenant"

Inclusive Language Buzz with Pitch-In Lunch, Sunday, January 12, 12:30 p.m. - Worship and Faith is hosting a Buzz on the use of Inclusive Language in our worship services. We will have a panel discussion with members of our congregation on January 12 after worship. You are invited to bring a dish and voice your experience of the recent changes we have made in our use of scripture, doxology, and prayer.

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 – Looking for smart ways to recycle Christmas cards? Three organizations re-use the fronts of Christmas cards for crafts (Zionsville Public Library, Boone County Senior Services) or for re-sale (St Jude's Ranch for Children). The latter cannot use Hallmark, American Greetings, or Disney cards. Contact Janet Selby for more information at 317 873 9539. (If you want to share a green habit, please send it to hoot.gibson.tds@gmail.com.)

January Mission of the Month: Indiana Youth Group - In 1987 the Indiana Youth Group was founded by two volunteers in order to provide a safe space for social gatherings for self identified LGBTQ+ high schoolers. IYG has grown from a group of about a dozen youth to a social service agency providing resources for almost 1,000 youth and their families. Our donations to IYG help assure that the mission of IYG will expand throughout Indiana and act as a witness to FCC's ONA commitments.



Today's Scripture

Matthew 5:16 (Inclusive Bible)

In the same way, your light must shine before others so that they may see your good acts and give praise to your Abba God in heaven.

Ephesians 5:8 (NRSV)

⁸For once you were darkness, but now in God you are light. Live as children of light—



Angela Hsieh/NPR