



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**. **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: 9:00am – 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
Olivia Bradley, Just Peace Intern
Olivia Beeman, Nursery Attendant
Jess Tyler, Nursery Attendant

We celebrate our church leadership:

Alice Rutherford, Moderator
Larry Eckel, Vice Moderator
Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Clerk
Jim Lootens, Treasurer
Cheryl Dillenback, Financial Secretary

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund, Worship Leader
Rev. Daniel Meyers, Guest Preacher
Jesse Wittman, string bass
Mike Kessler, percussion

The altar
flowers are in
memory of
Cheryl
Dillenback's
mom, Roberta
Dillenback, for
her birthday
on March 6th.

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.

MARCH 8, 2020

11:00 A.M.

Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.
Asterisk (*) indicates those who choose to may stand.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE	The Lotus Spell	Sean Baker
INTROIT	Cantemos al Creador	Carlos Rosas
WELCOME and PRAYER		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

We come, God of the Journey, a people from different places, different histories, different life experiences.

We come hoping to find companionship for the journey, solidarity for the struggle.

We gather, God of Hospitality, as people of hospitality.

We gather seeking to become a church of extravagant hospitality.

We yearn, God of the Rainbow, for a new way of living and relating... as neighbors not strangers, as family, not 'them and us'.

We yearn to live fully celebrating both the diversity of our human family, and the unity of our call to love and justice.

We hunger, God of Abundant Life, for lives that have meaning and integrity, and for relationships grounded in mutuality and respect.

We thirst for places to bring our doubts, our fears; places to express honestly who we are. We thirst for hope and encouragement as we struggle to follow Jesus in the way of life-risking love.

With the gift of your grace we are nourished.

With the promise of your presence may we be strengthened to be faithful. Amen.

*OPENING SONG #35	No Matter	<i>Sing! Prayer and Praise</i>
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*THE PEACE

Share with those around you a sign of Christ's peace. Please honor others' physical boundaries: handshake or hug with permission, if arms folded over the heart, just a verbal greeting. Also, it is okay to remain seated and focus on inner peace.

WE PROCLAIM

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

ANTHEM

Wade In the Water

Trad. Spiritual, Arr. D Davison

Wade in the water. Wade in the water children.

Wade in the water. God's a gonna trouble the water.

River Jordan is chilly and cold. Chills the body but not the soul.

If you get there before I do, tell all my friends I'm coming' too.

The devil is a liar and a cheater too. You better watch out 'cause he's coming' for you.

Well if I could I surely would, stand on the ground where Moses stood.

Wade in the water. Wade in the water children.

Wade in the water. God's a gonna trouble the water.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 9:1-6

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

SERMON

Better to Receive Rather Than Give: A Meditation on Hospitality

Rev. Daniel Meyers

SONG #394

In Christ There is No East or West

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. Loving God **hear our prayer.***

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.

MEDITATION

Lenten Afterglow

Sean Baker

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

TODAY! Guest Preacher & Lunch after worship - Today, we welcome Rev. Daniel Meyers, director of the Center for Faith and Vocation at Butler University, as guest preacher. A graduate of Willamette University (Oregon) in Biochemistry and Religious Studies, Meyers earned a Master of Divinity at Yale Divinity School, was ordained in the United Church of Christ, and completed a two-year position as Earl Hall Religious Life Fellow in the Office of the University Chaplain at Columbia University. He has served in his current role at Butler University since June of 2015. Daniel supervises the program that partners with our church's Just Peace Internship. Please join us in welcoming him and hearing what he has to share with us. We will have a soup and bread lunch following worship.

Lenten Devotionals: For the Beauty of the Earth - Lenten devotionals are available for pick up in the narthex.

UCC Southeast Association Invites You to Join us: Lenten Breakfast Series - "God's Open House" March 14, 8:30 a.m. - "Justice in the Home" at First Congregational UCC.

Adult Class – Sunday, March 15, 9:45 a.m. – Following Jesus is good for the planet. This is the radical, yet solidly biblical premise of **"Blessed Earth,"** a DVD series that will help us explore sustainable living, reminding us to tend and protect the planet. On March 15th we will study the element of **water**.

Border Information and Vigil- March 10 at 6:30pm - Please join us at **Broadway United Methodist Church** for the second vigil in honor of Jose Antonio Elena Rodriguez. For more information, contact Cyndi Alte at cdalte@aol.com

WISE Mental Health Team – Would you like to join our W.I.S.E. Mental Health Team? We meet the **second Wednesday of each month at 5:00PM**. For more information, talk with Sandy Wood or Pat Larracey.

- Please sign the clipboard in the narthex for the **MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID CLASS, April 18, 7:30 to 4 PM**. This is a great way to build an awareness of mental health symptoms!
- **Sunday, May 17 is W.I.S.E. Mental Health Sunday, AND, the first Spiritual Support Group** for Mental Health & Wellness.

March Mission of the Month: One Great Hour of Sharing - This is one of the five special offerings of the UCC and provides support around the world for disaster relief and community restoration. In 2020, the UCC will use our offering to respond to international disasters, to assist refugees in the United States, and to help communities become more sustainable with programs that help people to help themselves. This offering is our opportunity to share with the people of the world and be present when our love and support are most in need.

Pantry Items of the Month - During the month of March, we are collecting: spaghetti, rice, juices, peanut butter, and bar soap.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Sunday, March 8	12:00 p.m.	Lunch with Rev. Daniel Meyers
Tuesday, March 10	6:30 p.m.	Border Vigil @ Broadway UMC
Wednesday, March 11	5:00 p.m.	WISE Mental Health Team
Wednesday, March 11	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Thursday, March 12	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Saturday, March 14	8:30 a.m.	Lenten Breakfast @ FC
Sunday, March 15	9:45 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, March 15	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, March 15	12:15 p.m.	Student Pastor Support Group
Sunday, March 15	12:30 p.m.	Lenten Group
Sunday, March 15	12:45 p.m.	PCRC w/ Pastor Sarah

First Congregational Lenten Immigration Journey

Through the season of Lent, we will explore, reflect, and pray about the biblical and contemporary theme of immigration. What does the Bible say about immigration? What is the Still Speaking God saying to the church today about immigration? What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus in light of the complex realities at the US/Mexico border? Through community worship and small groups, everyone is invited on this Lenten immigration journey. Let's see where this journey leads us.

March 2 - March 20: Small Groups

April 5 - April 10 - Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

April 12 - Easter

Lenten Small Groups

One of the ways we plan to gain a better understanding of immigration is through a small group study during Lent. These groups will discuss important elements of immigration as well as look at it from a Biblical lens. ***Sign up sheets are in the narthex.***

Group 1

Host - Susanna-Judith Rae (sjrae@iu.edu)

When - March 1st, 15th, and 28th from 12:30-2pm

Where – at church

Group 2

Host - Nancy Dickinson (dickinson.nls@gmail.com)

When - March 4th, 18th, and April 1st from 10-11:30am

Where – at Nancy's house

Group 3

Host - Alice Rutherford (alice@caloosapirit.net)

When - March 2nd, 16th, 30th from 7-8:30pm

Where – at Alice's house

Today's Scripture

Luke 9:1-6 (Inclusive Bible)

¹ Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority to overcome all demons and to cure diseases. ² He sent them forth to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the afflicted. ³ Jesus told them, "take nothing for the journey, neither walking staff, nor travelling bag, nor bread, nor money. Don't even take a change of clothes. ⁴ Stay at whatever house you enter, and proceed from there. ⁵ As for those who don't receive you, leave that town and shake its dust from your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶ So they set out and went from village to village, spreading the Good news everywhere and healing people.

Lenten Reflections for the Week

What was your reaction to last Sunday's scripture and/or sermon? How did you reflect on one or both of those during the week? What will you do on your Lenten spiritual journey this week? Will you need to hold onto today's bulletin to remind you of what you might reflect on and pray about? As we like to say, God is still speaking, so let's continue to listen throughout the week.



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