



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 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:
leadership:**

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle
Office Administrator, Shannon Abbott
Music Designer/Organist, Sean Baker
Student Pastor, Cassidy Hall
Secretary

We celebrate our church

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

OCTOBER 25, 2020

11:00 A.M.

WE GATHER

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

CALL TO WORSHIP

God is the hope of people laboring for freedom.

God is a refuge in times of uncertainty.

Even in struggle, Her offerings are an abundance.

Her grace calls us down from seats of unjust power.

She unveils the heavens within and around us.

She sets before us feasts of beauty and possibility.

Come and gather with joy. God longs to draw near.

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

Sustaining One, these are serious times. We feel the significance of the coming days and weeks. We hold in mind and heart beloveds, neighbors, and all who feel vulnerable. In our anxieties, our fears, and our longings, bring your peace that enables courage, and plant us firmly in your love that will not be overcome. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Share with those around you a sign of Christ's peace.

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:34-46

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

MESSAGE

“The Heart of the Matter”

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

WE RESPOND

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

We invite those who desire to share a joy or concern.

PASTORAL PRAYER & PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (*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

BENEDICTION

In days filled with uncertainty, we hold fast to the truths that ground us. We keep our hearts set upon all that is just. All that is freeing. All that deepens our connections and commitments to one another. If we choose to follow, Love will lead us. May this be our prayer and our practice, today, this week, and all of our days.

Following worship, everyone is invited for Coffee Hour via Zoom.

CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

TODAY! Coffee Hour, immediately after worship followed by Book Buzz at 12:30 p.m. - Please join us for a discussion focused on chapters 8 - 11 of *I'm Still Here*, by Austin Channing Brown. These chapters touch more on our history as well as current systems - such as the criminal justice system as seen through Austin's experience with her cousin Dalin and others. All are welcome to participate in these discussions. Only 3 sessions left!

Soul Care with Pastor Sarah: Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. - Join us for our weekly “Soul-Care with Pastor Sarah” a time for church members to check-in and to pray together. *Please note this is a different Zoom link from others used by FC:*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84830474505?pwd=Ny9oeE84a0lpcTUrWHU2dUhFVUZZQT09>

Outdoor Vespers Service – Tuesdays, 6:30-7:00 p.m. – Each Tuesday evening, you can join us on the church patio for a quiet time to be together, ponder scripture, and share our joys and concerns. Bring a chair and face mask as we spend some precious time with one another, and practice our love by keeping distant and wearing face coverings. Note: if the weather is threatening, the event will be cancelled, since we cannot run into the building to take cover.

Wellness Wednesdays, 10:30AM (See Zoom Link below) – Next Wednesday, October 21, we will nurture our spiritual wellness through embodied morning prayers. This Zoom session will be recorded for posting on the FC Facebook page and website.

Spiritual Support Group - Every Thursday, 5 - 6pm (See Zoom link below) - Led by Pastor Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund and Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey - We openly invite anyone seeking spiritual care for their well-being. We covenant with care

givers for those with mental health challenges and needing emotional health support (burned-out, fearful, emotional, stigmatized or having disorders). All is confidential. You do not have to be alone with your struggles or journey.

The Mission of the Month for October: Neighbors In Need

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. Contributions can be mailed to the church or donated online. Please give generously to this important ministry.

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 at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

FC Emergency Fund - The FC Emergency Fund is available to support housing, food, and medical needs for any of our church family who find themselves unemployed or underemployed due to Covid-19 impacts. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012. To make a donation, send a check to the church with "emergency fund" on the memo or make a donation on the church website.

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 First Congregational

Sunday, October 25	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, October 25	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube Live)
Sunday, October 25	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour (immediately after worship)
Sunday, October 25	12:30 p.m.	Book Buzz
Tuesday, October 27	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care with Pastor Sarah
Tuesday, October 27	6:30 p.m.	Outdoor Vespers Service
Wednesday, October 28	10:30 a.m.	Wellness Wednesday
Thursday, October 29	11:45 a.m.	Women’s Lunch Bunch
Thursday, October 29	1:00 p.m.	Men’s Lunch
Thursday, October 29	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, November 1	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, November 1	11:00 a.m.	Communion Sunday Worship – outside in person
Sunday, November 1	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour (immediately after worship)

***All events are on Zoom unless indicated otherwise.**

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Meeting ID: 926 449 4206 Password: 7171

If you click on the URL, you should not need to enter in the Meeting ID and Password.

To dial in by phone: +1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID 926 449 4206, Password 7171.

Today's Scripture

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert on the Law, attempted to trick Jesus with this question: ³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment of the Law is the greatest?” ³⁷ Jesus answered: “ ‘You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ “That is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ The second is like it: ‘You must love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments the whole Law is based—and the Prophets as well.” ⁴¹ While the Pharisees were gathered around him, Jesus asked them this question: ⁴² “What do you think about the Messiah? Whose descendant is the Messiah?” They said, “David’s.” ⁴³ Then Jesus asked, “Then how is it that David, inspired by the Spirit, calls the Messiah ‘Sovereign’? For he says, ⁴⁴ ‘The Most High said to my Sovereign, “Sit at my right hand until I place your enemies under your foot.”’ ⁴⁵ “If David calls the Messiah ‘Sovereign,’ how can the Messiah be a descendant of David?” ⁴⁶ No one could reply, and from that day on no one dared ask him any more questions.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible (pp. 2250-2251). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



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