



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:

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

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: Steve Coomer, *Larry Eckel, Alice Rutherford
Clerk: Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey
Treasurer: Jim Lootens
Financial Secretary: Cheryl Dillenback

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Guest Preacher - Rev. David Finnegan-Hosey
Music - Mayflower Quartette, New Creation Ensemble
W.I.S.E. Mental Health Team – Sandy Wood, Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey, Larry Eckel, Marion Harcourt, Christy James, Doug James

TIME OF SILENCE AND PEACE Psalm 46: 10

“Be still, and know that I am God!”

OPENING HYMN # #289 Come Forth, O Love Divine *New Century Hymnal*

OUR MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT GROUP

Rev. Dr Patrick Larracey

WE PROCLAIM

SPECIAL MUSIC

Our Christ Ascends

Todd Kendall

SCRIPTURE

Acts 1: 1 - 11

Marion Harcourt

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

SERMON

“Alone?”

Rev. David Finnegan-Hosey

SERMON RESPONSE

Metta Prayer

Mayflower Quartette

WE RESPOND

LITANY OF NAMING (written by Rev. Alan Johnson)

Sandy Wood
and Larry Eckel

On this Mental Health Sunday, we join in this Litany of Naming.

AS A CONGREGATION WE ARE GLAD TO LIFT UP OUR VOICES

**AND OUR SPIRITS TO BREAK THE SILENCE THAT OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN
WE ARE CONFRONTED WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.**

As a faith community, we name the gifts and the often unnamed experiences which come to those who live with a mental illness such as major depression, bipolar disorder, anxiety disorder, schizophrenia, and eating disorder. We name:

THE HOPE WHICH UPHOLDS OUR SPIRIT THROUGH HONEST SHARING.

The Pain when people turn away because of fear;

THE COURAGE TO SPEAK IN A SAFE PLACE THE WAY THAT JESUS SPOKE TRUTH WITH LOVE.

The Strength from being with others who listen compassionately;

The Isolation that comes when no one knows what to say;

THE REALIZATION THAT MENTAL ILLNESSES AND BRAIN DISORDERS CAN BE MANAGED;

The Exhaustion that comes with living with a mental illness as well as for those who are caregivers;

THE WELCOME OF MENTAL HEALTH AS PART OF OUR CHURCH'S MINISTRY AND OUTREACH;

The Wisdom that comes when we come educated about mental health;

The Spirituality that comes when we walk alongside those who show resilience and vulnerability in their lives affected by mental illness;

WE RECEIVE THESE GIFTS THAT WE HAVE NAMED, THOSE WHICH ARE WELCOMED AND THOSE THAT ARE CHALLENGES. WE COME BEFORE YOU, OUR GOD, KNOWING WE ARE NOT ALONE AND THAT YOU WILL SHOW US A WAY TO BE AND LIVE. IN THE NAME OF JESUS, WE PRAY. AMEN.

HYMN #471

What a Covenant

SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

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

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Mayflower Quartette

WE GO

CLOSING HYMN #433 In the Bulb There Is a Flower *New Century Hymnal*
BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Patrick Larracey

with Doug and Christy James

The One who created all that is calls us by name and invites us into a life of abundant Love.

**WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD AS GOD'S BELOVED PEOPLE,
BRINGING HOLY LOVE TO ALL WHOM WE MEET.**

Jesus taught us to love one another as fiercely and freely as God loves each of us, with the power that binds us together as the Body of Christ.

WE WILL EMBODY CHRIST BY SHATTERING STIGMA AND WELCOMING ALL, LEAVING NO ONE OUTSIDE.

The Spirit fills us with the Breath of Life and urges us to imagine anew how to be Church in the world today.

WE WILL BREATHE DEEPLY AND MOVE BEYOND WHAT HAS BEEN AND WHAT IS. WE WILL FOLLOW THE SPIRIT AND BRING HOPE AND HEALING TO ALL WHO LIVE IN DESPAIR AND BROKENNESS. WE WILL BE THE CHURCH!

(written by Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe)

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Alleluia

Mayflower Quartette

POSTLUDE

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

arr. Baker

Following worship, everyone is invited to a Buzz on Zoom with our guest, Rev. David Finnegan-Hosey and his book, Christ on the Psych Ward.

CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

TODAY! Coffee Hour, immediately after worship on Zoom

TODAY! Mental Health Buzz on Zoom at 12:30pm – Join us as we hear from the author of *Christ on the Psych Ward*, David Finnegan-Hosey.

A Gift for Cassidy Hall - The Church Council has approved her Support Team’s recommendation for a financial gift — a scholarship for her last semester at CTS - A GIFT FOR CASSIDY ! She will not have time for another internship or job, thus no income as she completes this counseling training.

Send your donations to the church marked “A Gift for Cassidy”. We will award this to Cassidy later in May to allow you time to send your gift for the gift which has been ours through her ministry with First Congregational.

If you have questions, please direct them to Rev. Dr. Patrick Larracey, chair of Cassidy’s Support Team. We plan to “stick with her” through her training and preparation for ordination in the United Church of Christ. Thank you for your support and gift for the future of this maturing UCC pastor.

Vespers (Outdoor/Zoom) on Tuesdays from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Join us for a time of togetherness, Scripture, and sharing of joys and concerns. When weather conditions allow, Vespers will be outdoors at the church at 7 pm. Please bring a lawn chair and wear a mask. We will also try to connect to Zoom for those unable to attend in person. We will NOT meet outdoors if the temperature is below 50 degrees, it’s raining, or winds are greater than 20 mph; you can join us on Zoom.

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pat Larracey at plainandfancy1963@att.net, or 317-625-6801, or Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.

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 by mailing your check to the church or through online giving at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

Outreach & Service - Through May we are supporting the UCC 5-for-5 special offering Strengthen the Church. Please donate generously to this opportunity to support expansion and growth of UCC local congregations. All individual contributions will be added to our budgeted contribution, so let's be a leader in this financial support for our denomination's commitment to the emerging needs of local communities.

Members In Need Fund - The Members In Need Fund is available to support financial needs for any of our church family who find themselves in need. To request funds for you or your family, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

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, May 16	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, May 16	11:00 a.m.	Mental Health Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, May 16	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Coffee Hour
Sunday, May 16	12:30 p.m.	Mental Health Buzz with David Finnegan- Hosey
Tuesday, May 18	7:00 p.m.	Vespers (outside & Zoom)
Thursday, May 20	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch (private Zoom)
Thursday, May 20	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, May 23	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, May 23	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, May 23	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Coffee Hour

***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

Acts 1:1-11

In my earlier account, Theophilus, I dealt with everything that Jesus had done and taught, ² from the beginning until the day he was taken up, after he had given instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³ After the Passion, Jesus appeared alive to the apostles—confirmed through many convincing proofs—over the course of forty days, and spoke to them about the reign of God. ⁴ On one occasion, Jesus told them not to leave Jerusalem. “Wait, rather, for what God has promised, of which you have heard me speak,” Jesus said. ⁵ “John baptized with water, but within a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” ⁶ While meeting together they asked, “Has the time come, Rabbi? Are you going to restore sovereignty to Israel?” ⁷ Jesus replied, “It’s not for you to know times or dates that Abba God has decided. ⁸ You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; then you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and even to the ends of the earth.” ⁹ Having said this, Jesus was lifted up in a cloud before their eyes and taken from their sight. ¹⁰ They were still gazing up into the heavens when two messengers dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “You Galileans—why are you standing here looking up at the skies?” they asked. “Jesus, who has been taken from you—this same Jesus will return, in the same way you watched him go into heaven.”

Priests for Equality. *The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 2442-2443). Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



**Are you ready to get back to
the people and activities you love?**

Your vaccination brings us one day closer
to controlling the pandemic and
reopening Church.

Get your vaccine ASAP!

Register at ourshot.in.gov or call 211.