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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-pistle for the Week of April 4, 2019

Dear First Congregational:

As we move forward into a vibrant new chapter for our congregational life together, we also honor and celebrate our shared past. This Sunday will be a special day to dig deeper into our rich history that spans more than a century and a half as a progressive faith community in Indianapolis. Join us Sunday at 9:45am for Adult Education in the Mayflower Room as we listen to a presentation by Marion Harcourt sharing highlights of our dynamic past.

Then following worship, join us for a light lunch and historical bus tour, with the bus leaving the church at 1:00pm. We will visit historic sites pertaining to our previous building locations.

I look forward to this wonderful time of learning, fellowship, and fun. Hope to see you Sunday!

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Worship

Adult Class - 9:45 a.m.

April 7 - Presentation by Marion Harcourt on the History of FCC in preparation for the FCC History Tour that starts after a pitch-in lunch

Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Walking Humbly Along the Way."
Scripture: Isaiah 43:16-21

What's Happening at FCC

Lenten Breakfast, April 6 & 13, 8:00 a.m.

Please join us for the final two IKC UCC Southeast Association Lenten Breakfasts of the year!

April 6: St. John's UCC, Southport

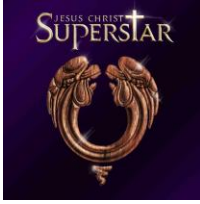
April 13: Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown)

THIS SUNDAY! First Congregational's Historic Roots in Indy



On Sunday, April 7, Marion Harcourt, our most tenured member, will give a presentation during the Adult Ed hour at 9:45. Following worship, we'll have a light lunch at church and then board a bus for Marion's tour of historic sites connected to FCC's 162 years in Indy. This will include a stop at Joy of All Who Sorrow, FCC's building prior to our current location. The bus leaves FCC at 1 pm, and it is a school bus, with seating for 44, so invite friends to join us! A sign-up sheet is available, and donations to cover the cost of the event are gratefully accepted!

Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke



Kick off Holy Week a day early – on **Saturday, April 13**, from 2-4, we'll be showing Jesus Christ Superstar, and encouraging those who want to sing along. Also, you can learn about the Gospel scriptures which most of the songs are based on.

Poems & Stories

The Mental Health Team is asking for people to share poems and stories on the topic of "LGBTQ and Mental Health." We are collecting these through May 19. Booklets will be assembled to give to visitors to our booth at the PRIDE Festival. Entries may be emailed to Brandi Pudlo: bpudlo@knox.edu. If you would like to send a draft for proof-reading before a final copy is printed, please send an email with the draft by May 1st.

1857 Society

The Society invites all who remember the church in their wills or estate plans, or plan to do so, to the Society's initial annual meeting, to be held at noon on Friday May 3 at Marquette Manor. The lunch meal is complimentary and there will be an outside speaker. Watch for reservation instructions. Commitment forms to join the Society are on the bulletin board inside the entrance to the parking lot. Questions? See Bill Gillette.

Update on "Days for Girls" Project



The IN-KY Conference and Outreach & Service project for putting together 100 menstrual hygiene kits for girls in developing countries is well under way. The response has been gratifying. Cutters are preparing fabric, sewers are sewing shields, pads and drawstring bags, and suppliers have been shopping or checking their own stashes. We would welcome more cutters and sewers. **We now have enough Ziploc freezer bags and travel-size soaps thanks to some generous donations!** 120 pairs of panties are on order with donated funds. We still need 22 more pairs or money to buy them. **We have**

received a few sets that are not 100% cotton which we cannot use. If you donated Felina or Calvin Klein brands of this type, please see if you can exchange them. We need 100% cotton, dark but pretty colors, and no bikinis or boy cuts. We expect to receive more fabric donations soon but still may need to purchase some more, likely flannel. So we are still accepting monetary donations designated for "Days for Girls." We also need 50 more wash cloths (good quality, regular size in dark, but pretty colors, also 100% cotton). Kohl's and Target are good sources for those. We'll keep you posted on the progress of the project, and thanks for your support. I will have cut fabric sets for shields to hand off to sewers each Sunday and also prepared flannel. Contact Sue Chapman for ways you can get involved!



Dress for Success

Spring Cleaning? Have gently used professional women's clothes you are no longer wearing? Dress for Success can give them to women who can't afford interview clothes to help them be better prepared when job hunting. Put donations in the cloakroom by the sign. Thanks!

Green Team Tip

No plastic bags! My good intention to take shopping bags along is something I usually remember when I get to checkout without them. I either roll my cart of unbagged stuff to the car and bag them then, or sigh and ask for paper bags.

Food Donations for the Northside Pantry

Donations have been generous and are appreciated. Please keep them coming!

April Mission of the Month: Exodus Refugee

Exodus Refugee is an organization with a chapter in Indianapolis that helps resettle refugees who come to this country legally. Exodus helps our new neighbors meet basic needs, but also provide services including social and medical services, English language training, and employment services. Their goal is to help members of our community achieve self sufficiency in their new home. With the cuts and changes in US immigration policy, there has been a severe cut in funding, but legal refugees continue to arrive.

We ask that you give generously to support their important work that is an action we can

take to answer God's commandment that we love our neighbors as ourselves. Change and dollar bills in the offering plate will be designated for the mission of the month. Larger bills should be put in the "mission offering" envelopes in the pew and put in the offering plate. Checks should have Exodous marked in the memo line and made out to the church. We appreciate your help. Thank you for your support.

Pantry Items of the Month



During March we are collecting the following items: canned ravioli, cereal, soup, pasta and deodorant.

Pastoral Care

While Pastor Sarah is away serving the wider church April 4th - 6th, Pastor Carol can be reached at (317)496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com.

After April 6th, Pastor Sarah can be reached at (386) 478-9012 or at pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

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| Thursday, April 4 | 1:00 p.m. | Men's Lunch |
| Thursday, April 4 | 1:30 p.m. | Lenten Small Group |
| Thursday, April 4 | 7:00 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Saturday, April 6 | 8:00 a.m. | Lenten Breakfast @ St. John's UCC, Southport |
| Saturday, April 6 | 10:00 a.m. | Lenten Small Group in parlor |
| Sunday, April 7 | 9:45 a.m. | Sunday Adult Class |
| Sunday, April 7 | 11:00 a.m. | Worship – New Member Sunday |
| Sunday, April 7 | 1:00 p.m. | FCC's Historic Roots in Indy Tour |
| Tuesday, April 9 | 7:00 p.m. | Lenten Small Group |
| Wednesday, April 10 | 9:30 a.m. | Mindful Movement |
| Wednesday, April 10 | 11:00 a.m. | Music Support Team Meeting |
| Wednesday, April 10 | 2:00 p.m. | Lenten Small Group |
| Wednesday, April 3 | 7:00 p.m. | Trustees Meeting |

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| Thursday, April 11 | 1:30 p.m. | Lenten Small Group |
| Thursday, April 11 | 7:00 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal |
| Saturday, April 13 | 8:00 a.m. | Lenten Breakfast @ Zion Evangelical UCC (Downtown) |
| Saturday, April 13 | 2:00 p.m. | Jesus Christ Superstar Karaoke |