



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: While Pastor Sarah is away on vacation July 2 – 11, Pastor Carol may be reached for Pastoral Care needs at (317) 496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com.

We celebrate our church staff:

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle
Office Administrator, Shannon Abbott
External Communications Manager, Cassidy Hall
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:

Rev. Shannon Abbott & Rev. Lori Bievenour, liturgists
Pastor Carol Sowle, preacher Mayflower Quartette

July 4, 2021

COMMUNION SUNDAY

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE We'll Understand It Better By and By

INTROIT This Is the Day Mayflower Quartette

WELCOME Pastor Carol Sowle

CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Shannon Abbott
& Rev. Lori Bievenour

This must be the place.
This is the place for connection and growth,
for community and hope.

**This must be the place for questions like,
“Where are you from?” and, “What do you need?”**

For whispers of: “I’ve been thinking of you,”
and, “I’ve been meaning to ask. . .”

This must be the place, because all belong here.

All are welcome here.

All hurt and joy, needs and prayers,
dreams and love, are welcome here.

Today, let’s lean into an invitation for connection.

**Think of one thing that has brought you deep joy this week so that we might
begin our service with joy, gratitude, and connection.**

God is near. Let us worship our God of Covenant and Connection.

OPENING SONG # 26 You Are Welcome Here *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

THE PEACE Rev. Shannon Abbott
Share with those around you a sign of Christ’s peace.

WE PROCLAIM

SCRIPTURE	Mark 6: 1-13	Rev. Shannon Abbott
SCRIPTURE RESPONSE		Mayflower Quartette
SERMON	"Risking Rejection to Make Connections"	Pastor Carol Sowle
SONG #465	Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way (vs. 1-3)	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

WE RESPOND

CELEBRATING HOME COMMUNION		Rev. Shannon Abbott & Rev. Lori Bievenour
SHARING of JOYS and CONCERNS		Pastor Carol Sowle
	<i>We invite those who desire to share a joy or concern.</i>	
INTERLUDE	This Is My Song	Rev. Mary Dicken
PASTORAL PRAYER		Pastor Carol Sowle
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 SONG #465 Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way (vs. 4)

New Century Hymnal

BENEDICTION

Pastor Carol Sowle

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

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 on Zoom

Patio Psalms and Prayers – On Sundays, grab your lawn chair and join us on the patio for an outdoor gathering time for faith formation. We will gather at 9:30AM, open with a welcome, read and reflect on a Psalm, share joys and concerns, and then close with prayer and the Lord's Prayer. We will wrap up by 10:15AM. Please join us for this time of reflection and connection.

Pastor Sarah Vacation - While Pastor Sarah is away on vacation July 2 – 11, Pastor Carol may be reached for Pastoral Care needs at (317) 496-9732 or casowle@gmail.com. Pastor Carol is preaching TODAY, and Lianna Campos is preaching next Sunday, July 11th.

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.

Outreach & Service - The Outreach & Service Board encourages all boards, teams, and committees to complete the Mental Health Team's survey this month or next. The information provided will be beneficial to the team in developing further ministry programming to fulfill our W.I.S.E. for Mental Health covenant.

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/>

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, July 4	9:30 a.m.	Patio Psalms & Prayers (FC patio)
Sunday, July 4	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship w/ Pastor Carol preaching (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, July 4	12:00 p.m.	Zoom Coffee Hour
Wednesday, July 7	7:00 p.m.	Trustees
Thursday, July 8	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, July 8	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, July 11	9:30 a.m.	Patio Psalms & Prayers (FC patio)
Sunday, July 11	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship w/ Lianna Campos preaching (YouTube, FB, Dial In)
Sunday, July 11	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

Mark 6: 1-13

¹ After leaving there, Jesus came into his own town, followed by the disciples.
² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and the many listeners were astonished and said, "Where did he learn all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted, and these miracles that are performed by his hands?" ³ Isn't this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joses and Judah and Simon? Are not his sisters here with us?" They found these things to be stumbling blocks. ⁴ Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometowns and among their own relatives and in their own households." ⁵ And he could work no miracles there, apart from laying his hands upon a few sick people and healing them; ⁶ their lack of faith astounded him. He made the rounds of the neighboring villages instead, and spent the time teaching.

Then Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs, giving them authority over unclean spirits. ⁸ He instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts. ⁹ They were to wear sandals but, he added, "Do not take a spare tunic." ¹⁰ And Jesus said to them, "Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. ¹¹ Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you leave it, shake off the dust from the soles of your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² And so they set off, proclaiming repentance as they went. ¹³ They cast out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Priests for Equality. *The Inclusive Bible* (pp. 2279-2280). 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.