

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of June 4, 2020

**ALL in-person church activities are CANCELED
through the end of July.**

Dear First Congregational,

Here is a letter I wrote this week as the President of the Southeast Association:

Greetings of peace and love to you. We live in the shadows of a global pandemic, racial unrest, societal chaos and political division. During these times of significant challenge, our congregations are called to love like Jesus. Thank you for the ways you are adapting and responding, taking church online and taking justice to the streets. I see you leading spiritual formation groups on Zoom, using the chat feature to share prayers, and posting sermons on Facebook. I see you showing up with your masks on to pray at hospital beds and to protest in the streets.

Now is the time to Be The Church in transformative ways. We know that church buildings and

Bibles are not props for a photo opportunity. We know that true and lasting peace takes hard conversations, education, uncomfortable dialogue, and courageous changes to systems oppressing people of color. We know that as followers of Jesus, now is the time to lift our voices in the public square. Black lives matter: George Floyd and Dreajson Reed and Breonna Taylor.

I signed a letter to the mayor of Indianapolis asking for the city to adopt policies and plans that (1) regulate police use of force, (2) enforce police discipline policies, (3) train police in de-escalation and justice, (4) implement group violence intervention recommendations, (5) respond to mental health crisis with treatment, not incarceration, (6) remove unfair protection for officers in law enforcement contracts, and (7) require independent investigations of police violence. You can sign this letter, too, and read more about this interfaith movement here: www.faithinindiana.org.

I invite you and members of your congregation to take action now as followers of Jesus to end anti-black violence, racism, and injustice. Write letters to your local elected officials and let them know that your faith calls you to love your neighbors, especially our neighbors that are victimized and killed because they are black in America. Then take this love of Jesus for our neighbors to the polls and help get out the vote. Join the national UCC movement: Our Faith, Our Vote: <https://www.ucc.org/ourfaithourvote>.

At the Committee on Ministry meeting on June 2, led by God's Spirit, we made a commitment to work on a strategy to require anti-racism training for authorized ministers in the Southeast Association. If we want to change the world, we must begin by changing ourselves first, examining our own prejudices and biases. We plan to bring a proposal for this new requirement to the Southeast Association Annual Business meeting to be held on Zoom on Sunday, August 2 at 3:00pm. Thank you all for the ways you are faithfully showing up to Be The Church. We know God is with us, God's Spirit guides us and the living Christ walks with us, giving us strength and courage for the living of these days.

First Congregational, I ask for your prayers as we seek to include anti-racism training as a requirement for ministry.

With faith,
Pastor Sarah

Soul Care with Pastor Sarah - Join us on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** for a time to check-in, reflect on Richard Rohr's weekly meditations, and to pray together.
Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/494018938?pwd=a3BrdnNyVWxEZaUtFMUgwek1CVFpYQ1U9>

FC Emergency Fund - The FC Emergency Fund seeks to support your housing, food, and medical needs if you find yourselves unemployed or underemployed. You can send a check to the church with "emergency fund" on the memo or make a donation on the church website. To request funds for you or your family, please contact me by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

Upcoming Buzz

Following worship on **June 14**, join us on Zoom for another opportunity to gather in fellowship virtually. Our focus will again be on how we are navigating through the coronavirus crisis as a community of faith. The Comeback Team will share our deliberations, along with some of the guidance we regularly receive from the national UCC and the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. We also want to hear thoughts, questions, and concerns from everyone as well, so please plan to join in with video, audio, or just a phone. And feel free to enjoy lunch as we chat! - Alice Rutherford, Moderator

Worship

Sunday Adult Education, 9:30 a.m.

Class will meet via

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmfWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVU>
T0

June 7: focus on **Matthew 28:16-20**; "***What opportunities did you have this week to teach someone about Jesus?***" Click [HERE](#) for a guide for this week's study.

Some reflection questions we will explore together are:

1. *Why might some of the disciples doubt the reality of Jesus when they finally see him after the resurrection?*
2. *If you would have been with them, what might have been your response?*
3. *What does it mean to "make disciples"?*
4. *What is your favorite name for God?*
5. *Share a time when your day was interrupted by a word of hope.*
6. *Who in your life might need a word of hope? How might you be an ambassador of hope to that person?*

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Making Anti-Racism Disciples"

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

3 Ways to Connect for Worship

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWV9wqAvPiUKSkEbjav6Zpw>

- YouTube Live Premiere will broadcast at 11am Sunday morning. There will be a countdown before. We highly recommend using the mobile app for more convenience as it will refresh.
- Use this option for live interacting and messaging.
- If using a laptop, you will need to refresh your browser after 11am to click to watch live.

FACE BOOK

https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstCongregationalUCCIndy/posts/?ref=page_internal

- The video will be posted at 11am.
- This is for viewing only. For live interacting and commenting, please use the YouTube option.

DIAL-IN

- Dial **317-204-3862**
- Landline is preferred for clarity.
- If calling with a smart phone, setting your cellular setting to Wi-Fi calling will be clearer.

Zoom into Coffee Hour - Sundays after worship

Please join us for coffee hour at 12:00 p.m. (or immediately after worship)

Zoom

link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT0>

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What's Happening at FC: Support While Physical Distancing

A Letter from CTS to Congregations

Dear Friends of God,

Once again, our nation has come face to face with our systemic racism. We are failing our people. We are not listening to the voices of those oppressed. We need to reform our justice system. We need to reform our police practices. We need to reform our economic system that deepens the impact of racism and dehumanizes our people. We need to reform our hearts. Communities of faith must be part of these reforms. We must put our faith into action. We must rise up and use our voices and our power. **We, at Christian Theological Seminary, believe that congregations can make a difference.**

Our Dean, Dr. Leah Gunning Francis, and Faith in Indiana organized a Processional for Racial Justice on May 31, the Feast of Pentecost, in downtown Indianapolis. As religious leaders and people of faith in the city and the region we gathered and raised our voices in unison with countless others in our city and across the nation over the ongoing racism against black and brown people in our country. On Sunday, hundreds of us enacted a die-in for 8 minutes and 46 seconds, which was how long police officer Derek Chauvin kept his knee on the neck of George Floyd, resulting in his death. During the gathering, we called upon Mayor of Indianapolis, Joe Hogsett, to implement a series of police reforms that would provide equal protection for black and brown people. President Mellott and other members of the CTS faculty, staff, students and alumni were present.

Christian Theological Seminary calls upon all congregations to act in their cities and regions. Demand that your local officials put the appropriate measures in place that will provide justice and equality for everyone. Check out the LIVE FREE Reform Agenda of Faith in Indiana for inspiration. Join with people of other faith traditions and any who are committed to dismantling white supremacy and its destructive power. Organize peaceful protests and demonstrations to compel your local leaders act and lend your support. The gospel of Jesus calls us to speak out and act when justice is denied. When you do, know that you are not alone. We are taking action too.



Racism a deadly virus that white people must help eradicate, UCC panel says

"The virus infecting the killers of Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd and other Black people in America is much older than COVID-19. It will stop killing people only if society, the church and especially white people focus relentlessly on a cure, over the long haul, using resources that are already available.

Naming the effects of that virus – racism – and how the church can respond were central themes of "The Cross and the Lynching Tree: A Requiem for Ahmaud Arbery," a May 31 United Church of Christ online panel discussion. It was recorded and can be viewed on the UCC YouTube channel.

The urgency of the Sunday-evening conversation was further heightened by the events of the week leading up to it. Thousands of nonviolent demonstrators filled the streets of several U.S. cities, responding to Floyd's death at the hands of Minneapolis police. Curfews were in place in several of those cities, due to property damage by small numbers of people who broke away from the nonviolent protests."

Read more of this article and watch the video [HERE](#).

Resources for Education (provided by the Central Indiana Community Foundation):

Click the link below for recommended books, documentaries, podcasts, and learning journeys that have influenced the staff and our knowledge about race and racism in America:


<https://www.cicf.org/what-we-do/inclusivitycity/tools-for-accountability/>

Mental Health Helpline

Anyone feeling anxiety from the pandemic should be encouraged to call the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline** at 800-985-5990,

or text "TalkWithUS" to 66746. Users will be connected with trained crisis counselors.

The Impact Of Racism On Mental Health:



Feeling disconnected / lonely

Second-guessing things

Decreased hope
(in the future, justice, the government etc.)

Increased "Survival Mode"

Decreased trust

Worry

Feelings of powerlessness
(You can do the right thing and still end up with a horrific outcome)

Increase risk of depression and anxiety


Trauma
(both from the present and triggering past instances / generational trauma)

Existential questioning
"How can the world be so cruel?"

Panic

#BlackLivesMatter

@RealDepressionProject



@realdepressionproject

TODAY! Thursdays for the Soul: Mysticism & Mindfulness, June 4, 3:30pm

This free webinar will offer conversation and practice from some of the leading mystics and mindfulness practitioners in the UCC. Come and listen alongside the Rev. Dr. John C. Dorhauer, Rev. Shannon Abbott, Rev. Dr. John T. Myers, and Rev. Brendan Curran. Come where you are with a willing heart and spirit, and leave grounded and nourished.

Register here:

https://ucc.zoom.us/webinar/register/6415901205529/WN_ZQB7MzluRqCsIEkm3UoNBg?fbclid=IwAR1zb24Ux9fUJpInxx8ex1l8RrP0ybY6S_2YoaLycvMI9XYrYhujGBzMwlg

TODAY! Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays from 5:00 - 6:00 PM, on Zoom

Our weekly SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS gathers on the church's ZOOM from 5:00 to 6:00 pm EVERY Thursday. Pastor Sarah and Pat Larracey will be leading this wonderful WISE program and is OPEN to all with mental illness and those living with mentally ill loved ones. We look forward to greeting each of you with love.

Zoom

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtVbWVlZUxRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Social Support Gatherings through Zoom

- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/4, 5:00 pm**
- **Coffee Hour: Sunday, 6/7, 12:00 pm (or immediately after worship)**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/11, 5:00 pm**

Zoom

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtVbWVlZUxRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

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.

All Zoom gatherings are now monitored to 'admit' attendees, to help prevent "Zomb-bombing".

Need Toilet Paper & Disinfectant?

Even though stores are trying hard to re-stock supplies, it is still difficult to find these items. First Congregational is expecting a shipment in early April from its supplier. We will have 2-ply toilet paper, spray disinfectant, paper towels, and gloves (our supplier is also out of stock of hand sanitizer and wipes). Please contact Wendy Baldwin to arrange delivery. Donations to cover the cost of the supplies will be gratefully accepted.



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/>

June Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

HIPL is an interfaith organization dedicated to advocating for sustainable living and changes to protect God's creation of life on this earth, both human and others. Its mission is to educate

congregations on sustainable living practices that will reduce our carbon footprint, and promote the use of renewable energy resources. The organization is funded primarily from contributions from its member congregations and additional support is always needed to continue the work of improving the care for creation advocated by almost all major religious teachings. Please send a check to the church with MOM: HIPL in the memo line, or donate online at: <http://fcindy.org/online-giving/> (Please designate MOM: HIPL in your online giving).

Support Your Local IN-KY Conference Through Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

The staff of the IKC continue to work tirelessly to support local churches as we all discern best practices and how to get through this time together. Please remember to support the work they do and the many ministries they support through your **OCWM**

Giving at: <https://ikcucc.org/connect/donate/>

Eviction Ministry Donations

The Eviction Ministry is a new ministry of the SouthEast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC. The purpose of this ministry is to offer assistance to those who do not qualify for other state or local assistance programs and without such assistance would be evicted from their homes. Please consider making a donation. **Checks can be made out to: Southeast Association of the IKC UCC.** Please include in the **memo line: "Eviction Ministry."**

Donations can be mailed to the treasurer at:
SE Association Eviction Ministry
Attn: Margie Potter
726 Coach Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Thank you for your generosity!
- Shannon Abbott, Eviction Ministry Team

Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance

Undocumented people are facing challenges during this pandemic. There are groups trying to help them, specifically young people who have D.A.C.A. Four organizations are cooperating in this effort, but it is being administered by IYUA, the Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance. Email or call if you want to donate or volunteer. The email is undocuhoosierfund@gmail.com and the phone number is 317-205-6424.

Feeding Families

Gleaner's and Second Helpings are two of the food banks currently offering food to children

who usually get their meals from school.

Donate to **Gleaner's** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Donate to **Second Helpings** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Staying Connected

FC Facebook page (click [here](#))

"First Congregational Indy Fellowship" group on Facebook (click [here](#)).

Pastoral Care

We are all still here for you and will stay connected. You can contact Pastor Sarah for pastoral care needs at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

Additional Church Support Contacts

Pastor Carol (casowle@gmail.com)

Office Administrator, Shannon (shannon@fcindy.org)

Moderator, Alice Rutherford (alice@caloosaspirt.net)

Vice Moderator, Larry Eckel (lspeckel@comcast.net)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

THREE Ways to Worship on Sunday morning at 11AM:

FACEBOOK

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstCongregationalUCCIndy/posts/?ref=page_in
ternal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstCongregationalUCCIndy/posts/?ref=page_internal)

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clearer.

All in-person events have been canceled through the end of July.

Weekly Calendar

Thursday, June 4	3:30 p.m.	UCC National Event: Mysticism & Mindfulness
Thursday, June 4	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Friday, June 5	10:00 a.m.	PCRC (Pastor Sarah)
Sunday, June 7	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 7	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, June 7	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour
Tuesday, June 9	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care with Pastor Sarah (see <u>above</u> for zoom link)
Wednesday, June 10	5:00 p.m.	WISE Mental Health Team
Wednesday, June 10	7:00 p.m.	Church Council
Thursday, June 11	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, June 11	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, June 14	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 14	11:00 a.m.	Worship
Sunday, June 14	12:00 p.m.	Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 14	12:30 p.m.	Buzz: Q&A + New Member Reception

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of June 11, 2020

As of June 20 through the end of July, First Congregational UCC is closed to all in-person gatherings of more than 10 people at one time. However, gatherings of 10 or less may occur outside, and not in the building. (See additional details below.)

Dear First Congregational,

Inspired by God's call for racial justice and our congregation's historic commitment to equality, justice, and peace, last night the church council voted unanimously to sign onto a resolution calling for the creation of a new IKC Justice and Witness Ministries Task Force. The new task force would develop a conference-wide action plan designed to address racism. The resolution is authored by our sister church, First Congregational, UCC of Elkhart, Indiana, and will be presented to voting delegates at the IKC Annual Meeting June 27. You can read the full resolution [here](#).

I give thanks for the prophetic voice of the people of First Congregational for speaking up for

our faith values. We are called to make anti-racism disciples beginning with ourselves. I am grateful to God to be on the journey with you.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Soul Care with Pastor Sarah - Join us on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** for a time to check-in, reflect on Richard Rohr's weekly meditations, and to pray together.

Here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/494018938?pwd=a3BrdnNyWXEza0tFMUgwek1CVFpYQT09>

FC Emergency Fund - The FC Emergency Fund seeks to support your housing, food, and medical needs if you find yourselves unemployed or underemployed. You can send a check to the church with "emergency fund" on the memo or make a donation on the church website. To request funds for you or your family, please contact me by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

Worship

Sunday Adult Education, 9:30 a.m.

Class will meet via

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVU>
T0

June 14: Wendy Baldwin presents "**Devoted to Generosity**"

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Unashamed of Hope."

Scripture: Romans 5:1-8

3 Ways to Connect for Worship

YOUTUBE

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THIS SUNDAY! Coffee Buzz + New member Reception + Honoring Julie Houston 12:30 p.m.

Grab your lunch and coffee, tea, or a beverage of your choice, and join us on Zoom for our June Buzz Q&A. Our focus will again be on how we are navigating through the coronavirus crisis as a community of faith. The Comeback Team will share our deliberations, along with some of the guidance we regularly receive from the national UCC and the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. We also want to hear thoughts, questions, and concerns from everyone as well, so please plan to join in with video, audio, or just a phone.

During this Buzz we will also be accepting new members into our church, and honoring Julie Houston for her years of service at FC. Julie retires at the end of this month, so please take this opportunity to wish her well, and to greet new members of our faith community.

Zoom

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

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



What's Happening at FC: Support While Physical Distancing

Mental Health Helpline

Anyone feeling anxiety from the pandemic should be encouraged to call the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990**, or text **"TalkWithUs" to 66746**. Users will be connected with trained crisis counselors.

TODAY! Men's Lunch, 1:00 p.m. (Zoom)

Please contact Randy Walker at (317) 796-2081 or aa28977rwalker@gmail.com for information.

TODAY! Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays from 5:00 - 6:00 PM (Zoom)

Our weekly SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS gathers on the church's ZOOM from 5:00 to 6:00 pm EVERY Thursday. Pastor Sarah and Pat Larracey will be leading this wonderful WISE program and is OPEN to all with mental illness and those living with mentally ill loved ones. We look forward to greeting each of you with love.

Zoom

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmTWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Social Support Gatherings through Zoom

- **Men's Lunch: Thursday, 6/11, 1:00 p.m.**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/11, 5:00 pm**
- **"Coffee Buzz" Q&A: Sunday, 6/14, 12:30 pm**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/16, 5:00 pm**

Zoom

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmTWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Meeting ID: 926 449 4206

Password: 7171

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To dial in by phone: +1 312 626 6799, Meeting ID 926 449 4206, Password 7171.
All Zoom gatherings are now monitored to 'admit' attendees, to help prevent "Zomb-bombing".

Protocols for outdoor gatherings:

1. Must be scheduled with Pastor Sarah, Shannon Abbott (Admin), and Wendy Baldwin (Bldg Mgr); groups may use any area of the church grounds (such as the patio, parking lot, Memorial Garden) where surface contact is minimized (not the playground for now)
2. Before the gathering, the group leader will receive the protocols to be observed, and make sure attendees are aware of these; the group leader is responsible that the protocols are followed
3. After the gathering, the group leader must send info about who attended to Pastor Sarah and Wendy Baldwin, for contact tracking purposes
4. Limit of 10 people at a time
5. A distance of 6 feet shall be observed between people of different households; no physical contact shall occur
6. Face masks are encouraged
7. People who do not feel well should not attend
8. People should bring their own beverage/water bottle (do not use the church drinking fountains, water, ice, etc)
9. People should bring their own chair
10. Church restrooms should only be used for emergencies, and one will be required to sanitize after its use
11. If entering the building, people are required to sanitize their hands, and disinfect any surfaces where there is contact of more than 3 minutes; use of face masks are highly encouraged.

Food Drive for the Northside Pantry

1. When: Sat, 6/20, from 10 am – 2 pm, and then every other Saturday (7/4, 7/18, 8/1)
2. Where: the outside church patio
3. What: dry and canned goods, as well as personal care items (soap, deodorant, etc)
4. You can also bring your plastic bottle caps and paper for recycling.

Let's help fight poverty and hunger through our food donations. In future communications, we will let you know of particularly desired items. You can also spend a few minutes at the Food Drive to share in fellowship with those there, while maintaining safe distance protocols.

A Letter to the United Church of Christ from the UCC Mental Health Network



The UCC Mental Health Network Board of Directors desires to add its voice to those who in pain and despair are seeking to express their outrage about the murder of George Floyd and the deaths of so many other people of color who have suffered and died because of the violence born of the systemic racism that has pervaded our country for centuries. We join with the many groups and organizations which decry these violent acts, and we commit to working for a seismic shift in our national consciousness that will bring determined actions toward dismantling racism.

We seek to speak and not be silent, as the deep wound in the whole body politic is being made visible throughout our country. The deep roots of the wound of systemic racism are exposed for all to witness at this time. No one is spared. Who cannot recognize it? Only those who turn their backs, harden their hearts and have no empathy. It is the wound that has been festering for centuries and has tentacles that have strangled the metaphoric and actual airways of people of color.

We agree with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) along with the numerous doctors and public health professional organizations that have declared racism to be a public health crisis. NAMI has published a statement saying, "The effect of racism and racial trauma on mental health is real and cannot be ignored. The disparity in access to mental health care in communities of color cannot be ignored. The inequality and lack of cultural competency in mental health treatment cannot be ignored."

In addition, the UCC Mental Health Network aligns ourselves with our thirtieth UCC General Synod in its resolution, "Dismantling Discriminatory Systems of Mass Incarceration in the United States." It "identifies mass incarceration as a critical human and civil rights issue in the U.S. because of its disparate impact on and disenfranchisement of people of color, youth, people with mental illness, and people with limited economic and other resources." The reality is that at least 1/3 of all persons who are in jail have mental health conditions. We raise the call to require police officers to be trained about how to interact with people who have mental health issues. When ignorance about mental illness combines with racism it creates a double

injustice.

Such pain and agony cry out for healing. Such healing is needed, and we need to clearly acknowledge the crushing effects of racism. Such reality has been lived by people of color for generations. Now is the time to acknowledge that reality, to repent for its tenacious grip on us all, and collectively act our way into a new way of being. As we have heard, and now must embody, “there is no peace without justice.”

In a recent panel on anti-racism, a participant asked the question, “What is the difference between a moment and a movement?” A panel member replied, “It is a movement when there is sacrifice.” There are no simple, quick solutions. No band-aid can heal a deep infection. We must listen to those in pain, pay attention to their cries, bring our deepest compassion to supporting those who are hurting and work to find lasting solutions that address the systemic problem causing the pain. We call for a change in police culture where officers are called out and disciplined proportionately for any act of abuse or misuse of power. We must also stand up and speak out against any who continue to oppress people of color and refute those who deny or refuse to acknowledge the real and present issue of racism.

We, *the **Board of Directors** of the UCC MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK*, commit to joining our voices and actions with others who are determined to never “go back to how it has been.” The old is passing away and is crumbling, and the new creation may be dawning and yet to be born. We, as the board of directors of the UCC Mental Health Network, pledge to keep before us at all times the urgent work of dismantling racism as we seek to fulfill our mission which is to reduce stigma and promote the welcome, inclusion, support, and engagement of people with mental illnesses/brain disorders and the families in the life, leadership, and work of congregations. We welcome your voice, your insights, and your commitment as we move toward healing and hope.

Blessings,

Rev. Alan Johnson, *Chair*

Rev. Dr. Rachael Keefe, *Vice-Chair*

Robin Kempster, *Parish Nurse, UCC MHN Secretary*

Hannah Campbell Gustafson, *MDiv, MSW, UCC MHN Treasurer*

Rev. Amy Petré Hill, *Member-at-large*

J. Gilbert Martinez, *MDiv, Member-at-large*

Rev. Jack Abel

Bishop Allyson Abrams, *DMin*

Dr. Vicki K. Harvey

Rev. Dr. Marty Kuchma

Rev. Lisa LeSueur
Rev. Kirk Moore
Rev. Megan Snell
Rev. Shernell J. Edney Stilley
Rev. Dr. Jan Remer-Osborn



Registration is open for our Virtual Annual Gathering 2020

Registration fees this year are \$50 and are for all events.

- **Friday, June 26th** - Agape Love Feast Gathering: 7pm-8:30pm Eastern
- **Saturday, June 27th** - *Educational Workshops*: 9am-10:15am Eastern & 10:30am-11:45am Eastern & *Conference Business Meeting*: 2pm-3:30pm Eastern
- **Sunday, June 28th** - **Conference Wide Virtual Worship**: 3pm Eastern

[Register Here](#)

Proposed WISE Resolution

This year we will vote on the resolution submitted to the Conference Board of Directors in February by the WISE Mental Health Team of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference. You can read the resolution by clicking the button.

[Read the WISE Resolution](#)



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/>

June Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

HIPL is an interfaith organization dedicated to advocating for sustainable living and changes to protect God's creation of life on this earth, both human and others. Its mission is to educate congregations on sustainable living practices that will reduce our carbon footprint, and promote the use of renewable energy resources. The organization is funded primarily from contributions from its member congregations and additional support is always needed to continue the work of improving the care for creation advocated by almost all major religious teachings. Please send a check to the church with MOM: HIPL in the memo line, or donate online at: <http://fcindy.org/online-giving/> (Please designate MOM: HIPL in your online giving).

Support Your Local IN-KY Conference Through Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

The staff of the IKC continue to work tirelessly to support local churches as we all discern best practices and how to get through this time together. Please remember to support the work they do and the many ministries they support through your **OCWM**

Giving at: <https://ikcucc.org/connect/donate/>

Eviction Ministry Donations

The Eviction Ministry is a new ministry of the SouthEast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC. The purpose of this ministry is to offer assistance to those who do not qualify for other state or local assistance programs and without such assistance would be evicted from their homes. Please consider making a donation. **Checks can be made out to: Southeast Association of the IKC UCC.** Please include in the **memo line: "Eviction Ministry."**

Donations can be mailed to the treasurer at:

SE Association Eviction Ministry

Attn: Margie Potter

726 Coach Rd.

Indianapolis, IN 46227

Thank you for your generosity!

- Shannon Abbott, Eviction Ministry Team

Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance

Undocumented people are facing challenges during this pandemic. There are groups trying to help them, specifically young people who have D.A.C.A. Four organizations are cooperating in this effort, but it is being administered by IYUA, the Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance. Email or call if you want to donate or volunteer. The email

is undocuhoosiertund@gmail.com and the phone number is 317-205-6424.

Feeding Families

Gleaner's and Second Helpings are two of the food banks currently offering food to children who usually get their meals from school.

Donate to **Gleaner's** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Donate to **Second Helpings** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Staying Connected

FC Facebook page (click [here](#))

"First Congregational Indy Fellowship" group on Facebook (click [here](#)).

Pastoral Care

We are all still here for you and will stay connected. You can contact Pastor Sarah for pastoral care needs at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

Additional Church Support Contacts

Pastor Carol (casowle@gmail.com)

Office Administrator, Shannon (shannon@fcindy.org)

Moderator, Alice Rutherford (alice@caloosaspirt.net)

Vice Moderator, Larry Eckel (lspeckel@comcast.net)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

THREE Ways to Worship on Sunday morning at 11AM:

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWV9wqAvPiUKSkEbjaV6Zpw>

- YouTube Live Premiere will broadcast at 11am Sunday morning. There will be a countdown before. We highly recommend using the mobile app for more convenience as it will refresh.
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FACE BOOK

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DIAL-IN

- Dial **317-204-3862**
- Landline is preferred for clarity.
- If calling with a smart phone, setting your cellular setting to Wi-Fi calling will be clearer.

Weekly Calendar

Thursday, June 11	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, June 11	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Sunday, June 14	12:30 p.m.	Coffee Buzz Q&A + New Member Reception & Honoring of Julie Houston
Tuesday, June 16	1:30 p.m.	Book Circle
Tuesday, June 16	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care with Pastor Sarah (see announcement <u>above</u> for zoom link)
Wednesday, June 17	7:00 p.m.	Witness & Welcome
Thursday, June 18	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Sunday, June 21	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 21	11:00 a.m.	Worship (YouTube, FB, & Dial In)
Sunday, June 21	11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour

 [FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)

 [Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of June 18, 2020

As of June 20 through the end of July, First Congregational UCC is closed to all in-person gatherings of more than 10 people at one time. However, gatherings of 10 or less may occur outside, and not in the building. (See additional details below.)

Dear First Congregational,

How is God inviting us to be the hands and feet of Jesus today? In this historic time of pandemic and racial justice uprising where we are witnessing “public lynchings and state sanctioned violence against black bodies,” we are invited to mark the official end of slavery in the U.S. and recognize the rich history and heritage of African-Americans. First Congregational is invited to join with the wider church for tomorrow’s national United Church of Christ “June Tenth Freedom Day.” This online event is free and open to all members and friends of the United Church of Christ. Friday from noon to 1:30pm, we will engage in a time of remembrance, education, celebration and calls to action. To learn more about the event, click on this

page: https://www.ucc.org/news_juneteenth_observances_invite_entire_ucc_to_recall_slavery_s_end_commit_to_action_06102020

I believe that we can be the hands, feet and voice of Jesus today by working together to end racism. This event tomorrow kicks off a four year campaign within the UCC racial justice ministries. Join me and register here:

https://www.ucc.org/ucc_church_wide_event_juneteenth_2020

May God guide us in the ways of justice and love.



Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Soul Care with Pastor Sarah - Join us on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** for a time to check-in, reflect on Richard Rohr's weekly meditations, and to pray together.

Here is the Zoom link:

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

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.

Worship

Sunday Adult Education, 9:30 a.m.

Class will meet via

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUj0>

June 21: focus on **Matthew 10:24-39**, ***"When do you need courage from God?"***

Click **[HERE](#)** for a printable guide.

Some reflection questions we will explore together are:

1. *What is the opposite of fear?*
2. *If you were afraid and someone told you to stop being afraid, would that work? Why or why not?*
3. *How effective are people when they are afraid?*
4. *How does it make you feel to know you might be rejected because of your faith?*
5. *When we are committed to Jesus Christ, how might rejection help strengthen faith?*

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "Don't Be Afraid."

Scripture: Matthew 10:24-39

3 Ways to Connect for Worship

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWV9wqAvPiUKSkEbjav6Zpw>

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DIAL-IN

- Dial **317-204-3862**
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Coffee Hour, 11:45 a.m. (or immediately after worship)

Zoom

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

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



What's Happening at FC: Support While Physical Distancing

Mental Health Helpline

Anyone feeling anxiety from the pandemic should be encouraged to call the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990**, or text **"TalkWithUs" to 66746**. Users will be connected with trained crisis counselors.

TODAY! Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays from 5:00 - 6:00 PM (Zoom)

Our weekly SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS gathers on the church's ZOOM from 5:00 to 6:00 pm EVERY Thursday. Pastor Sarah and Pat Larracey will be leading this wonderful WISE program and is OPEN to all with mental illness and those living with mentally ill loved ones. We look forward to greeting each of you with love.

Zoom

Link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmTWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

This Saturday! Food Drive for the Northside Pantry

1. When: **Sat, 6/20, from 10 am – 2 pm**, and then every other Saturday (7/4, 7/18, 8/1)
2. Where: the outside church patio
3. What: dry and canned goods, as well as personal care items (soap, deodorant, etc)
4. You can also bring your plastic bottle caps and paper for recycling.

Let's help fight poverty and hunger through our food donations. In future communications, we will let you know of particularly desired items. You can also spend a few minutes at the Food Drive to share in fellowship with those there, while maintaining safe distance protocols.

THIS SUNDAY! PRIDE Festival: Sunday, June 21, 2:00 – 9:00 p.m.

First Congregational will have a one minute video in this year's PRIDE festival, which will be a virtual event held on SUNDAY, JUNE 21 from 2:00 to 9:00 pm. Note that this is a new day than previously advertised.

To watch Virtual Pride, google: [IndyPride.org/Live](https://www.indypride.org/live)

Even though you might be asked to click a box for tickets, this is not necessary; however, you can make a donation to PRIDE through that link.

We will also make the video available through our [facebook](#) page and [website](#).

Social Support Gatherings through Zoom

- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/18, 5:00 pm**
- **Coffee Hour: Sunday, 6/21, 11:45 a.m. (or immediately after worship)**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/25, 5:00 pm**

Zoom

Link: <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.

All Zoom gatherings are now monitored to 'admit' attendees, to help prevent "Zomb-bombing".

Notes to First Responders

Hey, folks, don't forget Chuck the Monkey's (Pat's friend who gave the Message for All ages on Sunday) invitation to draw a picture or write a note of thanks to our dedicated first responders! We want to express our appreciation for all they have done to help us through the pandemic. Take a picture of your creation and email it to Sean Baker at sbaker@seanbaker.com. We will make a video to share online with our local first responders. You can also mail your creation directly to the church and it will also be shared. Let's all chip in to this effort to share our love with our local heroes! Please share by Monday, June 22.

NEW!!! Protocols for outdoor gatherings:

1. Must be scheduled with Pastor Sarah, Shannon Abbott (Admin), and Wendy Baldwin (Bldg Mgr); groups may use any area of the church grounds (such as the patio, parking lot, Memorial Garden) where surface contact is minimized (not the playground for now)
2. Before the gathering, the group leader will receive the protocols to be observed, and make sure attendees are aware of these; the group leader is responsible that the protocols are followed
3. After the gathering, the group leader must send info about who attended to Pastor Sarah and Wendy Baldwin, for contact tracking purposes
4. Limit of 10 people at a time
5. A distance of 6 feet shall be observed between people of different households; no physical contact shall occur
6. Face masks are encouraged
7. People who do not feel well should not attend
8. People should bring their own beverage/water bottle (do not use the church drinking fountains, water, ice, etc)
9. People should bring their own chair
10. Church restrooms should only be used for emergencies, and one will be required to sanitize after its use
11. If entering the building, people are required to sanitize their hands, and disinfect any surfaces where there is contact of more than 3 minutes; use of face masks are highly encouraged.

UCC Webinar: Protest during a Pandemic - Wednesday, June 24, 1:00 PM

Instead of becoming suppressed by the pandemic, the spirit of justice has arisen with fierce determination and become embodied in countless ways. This webinar will reflect upon how protest has manifested itself during this time and the lessons that can be learned for communities of faith dedicated to answering the unrelenting call of justice. Three panelists will share what they have learned: Sophia Benrud from the Black Visions Collective in Minneapolis, Lindsay Harper from Arm-in-Arm in Atlanta, and Austin Choi-Fitzpatrick from the University of San Diego.

Register by clicking [HERE](#).



Attend IKC Annual Gathering Sunday Worship for Free!

On Sunday, June 28, we'll have a live-streamed worship service that is open to ALL people, even if you have not registered for IKC Virtual Annual Gathering 2020. Details about how to participate in worship are forthcoming.

FC's own Sean Baker will be a part of the Annual Gathering Worship Team!

Even though Sunday worship is free and open to all, there's a lot of great stuff happening on Friday and Saturday. Learn more and register for the IKC 2020 Virtual Annual Gathering by clicking the button below! This year [Annual Gathering registration](#) is only \$50 and the entire event is being held virtually through online platforms in order to safeguard our community's health.

Register for IKC Annual Gathering 2020 by clicking [HERE](#).

Share Your Music With Us

On Friday evening at our virtual Annual Gathering, we'll have a virtual Love Feast during which we'll come together in a meaningful way to celebrate our community.

To make it even more meaningful, we'd like to feature your musical talents! If you have, or would like to create, video or audio recordings of your congregation's musical gifts, we'd love to share them with the Conference. All music video or audio recordings (perhaps a virtual choir performance or a special acoustic solo, or whatever kind of musical creation you like to make) should be sent to Rev. Janna Meyers at rev.janna.meyers@gmail.com.

Thanks for sharing your musical talents with us!



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June Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

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Attn: Margie Potter

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Indianapolis, IN 46227

Thank you for your generosity!
- Shannon Abbott, Eviction Ministry Team

Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance

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Feeding Families

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Staying Connected

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"First Congregational Indy Fellowship" group on Facebook (click [here](#)).

Pastoral Care

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

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Weekly Calendar

Thursday, June 18	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Saturday, June 20	10:00 a.m.	Food Drive (at FC – outside)
Sunday, June 21	11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 21	2:00 p.m.	PRIDE Celebration
Tuesday, June 23	1:00 p.m.	Worship & Design Team
Tuesday, June 23	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care with Pastor Sarah (see announcement <u>above</u> for zoom link)
Thursday, June 25	11:30 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, June 25	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, June 25	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Friday, June 26	1:00 p.m.	Worship & Design Team
Sunday, June 28	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 28	11:00 a.m.	Worship (YouTube, FB, & Dial In) – ONA Sunday
Sunday, June 28	11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 28	3:00 p.m.	IN-KY Conference Annual Community

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

 FirstCongregationalUCCIndy

 Forward



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of June 25, 2020

Through the end of July, First Congregational UCC is closed to all in-person gatherings of more than 10 people at one time. However, gatherings of 10 or less may occur outside, and not in the building. (See additional details below.)

Dear First Congregational,

“C” is for covenant. First Congregational is a covenant people. We are bonded by our trust in one another and our trust in God. Our covenant extends beyond our local congregation into the Southeast Association and the Indiana Kentucky Conference. Together with over 30 other Conferences we make up the United Church of Christ, just under 1,000,000 members and 5,000 congregations. This weekend we will celebrate our covenant and enjoy fellowship through an online, virtual IKC Annual Gathering. I encourage you to make time in your schedule to participate in the events, including a worship service Sunday afternoon at 3:00pm on this YouTube channel: <https://bit.ly/YouTubeIKC>. You can download a printable Annual Gathering Worship bulletin here: <https://files.constantcontact.com/8206d75f001/bd71cbd8->

[2ec7-423e-a4ce-bc/4aecU/82U.docx](#). Special thanks to our Music Designer Sean Baker who is helping to provide music for the online worship service, so we know it will be excellent.

I want to highlight that our congregation's voice is being heard as part of two resolutions coming before the voting body. The first is a resolution to adopt a WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged) for mental health covenant for the IKC, with Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey serving in an important leadership role to bring this resolution before the collective body. His will be one of the voices speaking on behalf of the resolution, sharing how meaningful it is for our congregation to be WISE for mental health. The other resolution coming before the voting body calls for the IKC to begin the work of becoming an anti-racist Conference. Our church council unanimously voted to add First Congregational as a supporting congregation. You can read the full text of both resolutions here: <http://ikcucc.org/app/uploads/2020/05/IKC-WISE-Resolution-PDF.pdf> and <http://ikcucc.org/app/uploads/2020/05/Resolution-on-Systemic-Racism-in-the-Indiana-Kentucky-Conference-Final.pdf>.

I am grateful that we are in covenant with other followers of Jesus who believe in justice and seek to love like Jesus. I look forward to this new way to Be the Church as the IKC through our virtual gathering. I hope to "see" you there!

	REGISTER THROUGH JUNE 26 AT NOON		ANNUAL GATHERING 2020 LIVING GOD'S ECONOMY
HTTP://IKCUCC.ORG/EVENTS/2020-ANNUAL-GATHERING/			
	AGAPE LOVE FEAST FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 7:00-8:30 PM EDT		
	WORKSHOP SESSION 1 SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 9:00-10:15 AM EDT Option A: Clergy Mental Health Workshop (only for clergy), led by Rev. Megan Snell Option B: Legal Considerations, Copyright, & the Implementation of Online Worship, led by Heather E. Kimmel		
	WORKSHOP SESSION 2 SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 10:30-11:45 AM EDT Option A: How to Become a WISE for Mental Health Congregation, led by Rev. Amy Petré Hill Option B: Spiritual Formation through Online Church, led by Samantha Barrett		
	RESOLUTION ON SYSTEMIC RACISM: DISCUSSION SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 12:15-1:15 PM EDT Led by Rev. Izzy Harbin, Lakota Iron Rope, and Rev. John Jackson		
	BUSINESS MEETING SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2PM-3:30 PM EDT		
	RETURN TO WORSHIP: DIALOGUE SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 4-5 PM EDT Led by Jill Olinger, President, IKC Board of Directors & Kent Gilbert, IKC Moderator		
	WORSHIP SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 3 PM EDT Free-to-all online worship through IKC YouTube Channel: https://bit.ly/IKCYouTube		

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah

Soul Care with Pastor Sarah - Join us on **Tuesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m.** for a time to check-in, reflect on Richard Rohr's weekly meditations, and to pray together.

Here is the Zoom link:

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

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Worship

Sunday Adult Education, 9:30 a.m.

Class will meet via

Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTK5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

Sunday Worship, 11:00 a.m.

Pastor Sarah will preach on "The Rejected and Thirsty Savior."

Scripture: Matthew 10:40-42

3 Ways to Connect for Worship

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWV9wqAvPiUKSkEbjav6Zpw>

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Coffee Hour, 11:45 a.m. (or immediately after worship)

Zoom

link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTK5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>

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

What's Happening at FC: Support While Physical Distancing

Mental Health Helpline

Anyone feeling anxiety from the pandemic should be encouraged to call the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline at 800-985-5990**, or **text "TalkWithUs" to 66746**. Users will be connected with trained crisis counselors.

TODAY! Women's Lunch Bunch, 11:45 a.m.

All women of the church are invited to get together once a month at **11:30 a.m.** via Zoom for lunch, friendship and fellowship. For questions or more information please contact Sue Chapman at (317) 259-1806 or carolsuech59@gmail.com.

TODAY! Men's Lunch, 1:00 p.m.

This lunch and discussion gathering for men of First Congregational is meeting via Zoom. They meet every other Thursday at **1 p.m.** Please contact Randy Walker at (317) 796-2081 or aa28977rwalker@gmail.com for information.

TODAY! Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays from 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Our weekly SPIRITUAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS gathers on the church's ZOOM from 5:00 to 6:00 pm EVERY Thursday. Pastor Sarah and Pat

Larracey will be leading this wonderful WISE program and is OPEN to all with mental illness and those living with mentally ill loved ones. We look forward to greeting each of you with love.

Zoom

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

Social Support Gatherings through Zoom

- **Women's Lunch Bunch: Thursday, 6/25, 11:45 am**
- **Men's Lunch: Thursday, 6/25, 1:00 pm**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 6/25, 5:00 pm**
- **Coffee Hour: Sunday, 6/28, 11:45 a.m. (or immediately after worship)**
- **Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health: Thursday, 7/2, 5:00 pm**

Zoom

Link: <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.

All Zoom gatherings are now monitored to 'admit' attendees, to help prevent "Zomb-bombing".

NEW!!! Protocols for outdoor gatherings:

1. Must be scheduled with Pastor Sarah, Shannon Abbott (Admin), and Wendy Baldwin (Bldg Mgr); groups may use any area of the church grounds (such as the patio, parking lot, Memorial Garden) where surface contact is minimized (not the playground for now)
2. Before the gathering, the group leader will receive the protocols to be observed, and make sure attendees are aware of these; the group leader is responsible that the protocols are followed
3. After the gathering, the group leader must send info about who attended to Pastor Sarah and Wendy Baldwin, for contact tracking purposes
4. Limit of 10 people at a time
5. A distance of 6 feet shall be observed between people of different households; no physical contact shall occur
6. Face masks are encouraged
7. People who do not feel well should not attend
8. People should bring their own beverage/water bottle (do not use the church drinking

ountains, water, ice, etc)

9. People should bring their own chair

10. Church restrooms should only be used for emergencies, and one will be required to sanitize after its use

11. If entering the building, people are required to sanitize their hands, and disinfect any surfaces where there is contact of more than 3 minutes; use of face masks are highly encouraged.



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/>

June Mission of the Month: Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light

HIPL is an interfaith organization dedicated to advocating for sustainable living and changes to protect God's creation of life on this earth, both human and others. Its mission is to educate congregations on sustainable living practices that will reduce our carbon footprint, and promote the use of renewable energy resources. The organization is funded primarily from contributions from its member congregations and additional support is always needed to continue the work of improving the care for creation advocated by almost all major religious teachings. Please send a check to the church with MOM: HIPL in the memo line, or donate online at: <http://fcindy.org/online-giving/> (Please designate MOM: HIPL in your online giving).

Support Your Local IN-KY Conference Through Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM)

The staff of the IKC continue to work tirelessly to support local churches as we all discern best practices and how to get through this time together. Please remember to support the work they do and the many ministries they support through your **OCWM**

Giving at: <https://ikcucc.org/connect/donate/>

Eviction Ministry Donations

The Eviction Ministry is a new ministry of the SouthEast Association of the Indiana-Kentucky Conference of the UCC. The purpose of this ministry is to offer assistance to those who do not

quality for other state or local assistance programs and without such assistance would be evicted from their homes. Please consider making a donation. **Checks can be made out to: Southeast Association of the IKC UCC.** Please include in the **memo line: "Eviction Ministry."**

Donations can be mailed to the treasurer at:
SE Association Eviction Ministry
Attn: Margie Potter
726 Coach Rd.
Indianapolis, IN 46227

Thank you for your generosity!
- Shannon Abbott, Eviction Ministry Team

Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance

Undocumented people are facing challenges during this pandemic. There are groups trying to help them, specifically young people who have D.A.C.A. Four organizations are cooperating in this effort, but it is being administered by IYUA, the Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance. Email or call if you want to donate or volunteer. The email is undocuhoosierfund@gmail.com and the phone number is 317-205-6424.

Feeding Families

Gleaner's and Second Helpings are two of the food banks currently offering food to children who usually get their meals from school.

Donate to **Gleaner's** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Donate to **Second Helpings** by clicking on the link [here](#).

Staying Connected

FC Facebook page (click [here](#))

"First Congregational Indy Fellowship" group on Facebook (click [here](#)).

Pastoral Care

We are all still here for you and will stay connected. You can contact Pastor Sarah for pastoral care needs at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

Additional Church Support Contacts

Pastor Carol (casowle@gmail.com)
Office Administrator, Shannon (shannon@fcindy.org)
Moderator, Alice Rutherford (alice@caloosaspirt.net)

Vice Moderator, Larry Ecker (lspeckel@comcast.net)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

THREE Ways to Worship on Sunday morning at 11AM:

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWV9wqAvPiUKSkEbjav6Zpw>

- YouTube Live Premiere will broadcast at 11am Sunday morning. There will be a countdown before. We highly recommend using the mobile app for more convenience as it will refresh.
- Use this option for live interacting and messaging. You must have or create a user account and be logged in to message live.
- If using a laptop, you will need to refresh your browser after 11am to click to watch live.

FACE BOOK

https://www.facebook.com/pg/FirstCongregationalUCCIndy/posts/?ref=page_internal

- The video will be posted at 11am.
- This is for viewing only. For live interacting and commenting, please use the YouTube option.

DIAL-IN

- Dial **317-204-3862**
- Landline is preferred for clarity.
- If calling with a smart phone, setting your cellular setting to Wi-Fi calling will be clearer.

Weekly Calendar

Thursday, June 25	11:45 a.m.	Women's Lunch
Thursday, June 25	1:00 p.m.	Men's Lunch
Thursday, June 25	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Friday, June 26	1:00 p.m.	Worship & Design
Friday, June 26	2:00 p.m.	1857 Society
Friday – Sunday, June 26 – 28		IKC UCC Annual Gathering

Sunday, June 28	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, June 28	11:00 a.m.	Worship – ONA Sunday (YT, FBL, Dial in)
Sunday, June 28	11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour
Sunday, June 28	3:00 p.m.	IKC UCC Community Worship (IKC UCC YouTube)
Tuesday, June 30	1:00 p.m.	Worship & Design Team
Tuesday, June 30	5:00 p.m.	Soul Care with Pastor Sarah (see announcement <u>above</u> for zoom link)
Wednesday, July 1	6:30 p.m.	Calling Circle
Thursday, July 2	5:00 p.m.	Spiritual Support Group for Mental Health
Friday, July 3	1:00 p.m.	Worship & Design Team
Sunday, July 5	9:30 a.m.	Sunday Adult Class
Sunday, July 5	11:00 a.m.	Worship w/ guest preacher, Rev. Chad Abbott, IKC Conference Minister (YT, FBL, Dial in)
Sunday, July 5	11:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour

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