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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of July 14

Epistle Update: Pastor Sarah is away this week with her family for their annual summer reunion in Wisconsin. This is a time for rest, renewal, fun, and play. We give thanks for sabbath time for Pastor Sarah and pray for her time away. We are also thankful that Pastor Carol will be enjoying some time away for vacation as well.

We give thanks for the leadership and ministry of Cassidy Hall (preached July 10), Elizabeth Price (preaching July 17), and Worth Hartman (covering pastoral care). Our congregation is filled with gifted and talented staff, lay leaders, and clergy. What a blessing to be a church that is supportive of one another, living into our covenants of honoring mutual support, care, and faithfulness.

We thank God for our congregation and how we value the generous sharing of our gifts of time, talents, and treasures, all for the glory of God.

Messages from Church Council Regarding Covid: CAUTION: Marion County COVID-19 rates are increasing. **Masking encouraged.** (Church Council, 5/11/22)

First Congregational urges vaccinations, encourages masking for those unvaccinated or those at risk, and staying home if feeling unwell. (Based on CDC guidelines and approved by Church Council, April 13, 2022)

LOVE

SCIENCE

VACCINES

**REV. ELIZABETH PRICE**

GUEST PREACHER, JULY 17

FCINDY.ORG

This Sunday! We welcome guest preacher, Rev. Elizabeth Price! She is a Chaplain/Educator, Massage Therapist, Reiki Master Practitioner, ordained UCC Minister, and proud member of FC Indy!

A Message from Larry and Susan Eckel and Family: We wish to thank the many members of the congregation who have expressed their condolences upon the recent death of Larry's mother, Eleanor Backman. Your kindness and

THIS SUNDAY

Sunday Patio Psalms and Prayers: "Patio Psalms and Prayers" returns for the month of July while Adult Ed takes a break. At 10 AM, bring your lawn chair, your sunglasses and meet on the patio to reflect together on a selected Psalm. This is a great opportunity to share with one another in an outdoor natural setting, although depending on the weather, we may meet inside.

Hybrid Worship: In-Person, Online, and Dial-In Sunday Worship, 11AM (YouTube, FaceBook, 2PM Dial In)

A New Call to Action: Beginning this Sunday we will be writing letters in support of reproductive rights. State and local officials need to hear from YOU! Add your voice for justice! Help bring God's Just Peace to our world, our nation, and our community! Write a letter in the Narthex at your convenience.

Thank You for Your Support of First Congregational UCC: Please continue supporting the mission and ministries of your local church by mailing a check to the church or through online donations at <http://www.fcindy.org/online-giving/>

MORE AT FC

Calling all Knitters, Crocheters, Sewers, and Crafters! The Indiana/Kentucky Conference of churches have been asked to make prayer shawls for the participants in next year's UCC Synod to be held in Indianapolis in June. Many years ago, we had a similar group from the church that met once a month to craft together and we thought this would be fun to resurrect our creative talents. **We will meet at the church at 9:30 on the 4th Saturday of each month between now and then (weather and Covid restrictions permitting).** We do have some yarn and patterns, but you are welcome to devise your own method (knitting, sewing, crocheting, quilting, chain mail is right out). **Please let Linda Lupton know of your interest in joining the group (lllupton@aol.com, 765-621-5763). Our first meeting will be August 27th at 9:30 am.**

Calendar Correction: This month's Church Council meeting will be on July 20th at 7:00 PM.

Tonight, Thursday, July 7, 5:00 PM (Zoom): Spiritual Support Group.

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.

A graphic with a yellow background and teal accents. At the top, the text "FC INDY CALL TO ACTION" is written in large, bold, blue letters with a drop shadow. Below this, in black text, it says "On Sunday July 17 & 24th you can write a letter at church in support of reproductive rights." and "State and local officials need to hear from YOU!". At the bottom, there is a collage of three images: a person writing in a notebook, a person writing in a notebook next to a laptop, and a person writing in a notebook. Below the collage, the text "FCINDY.ORG" is written in bold, blue letters with a drop shadow.

FC INDY CALL TO ACTION

On Sunday July 17 & 24th you can write a letter at church in support of reproductive rights.

State and local officials need to hear from YOU!

FCINDY.ORG

Church Leadership and Contact Info:

Senior Councilors: Larry Eckel (Lead) lspeckel@comcast.net, Steve Coomer, s.coomer@sbcglobal.net, Judy Fletcher, jkbfb@aol.com

Care and Connections: Wendy Baldwin, wendy.baldwin@travelandleisure.com, Karen Walker, Sue Chapman, and Carol Sowle

Outreach and Service: Nancy Dickinson, dickinson.nls@gmail.com, Worth Hartman, and Steve Leatherman

Trustees: Steve Coomer s.coomer@sbcglobal.net, Wendy Baldwin, Bill Gillette, and Judy Fletcher

Worship and Faith: Aurelia Glennan-March, ahoftmarch@gmail.com, Cristy James, and Alice Rutherford

Treasurer: Jim Lootens, lootens.jb@gmail.com

CONNECTION & SUPPORT

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

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

Pastoral Care

***For pastoral care needs while Pastor Sarah is away on vacation July 7-17, please contact the Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net and his cell is (317) 417-0806. Other times of year, Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

Pastor Sarah's Sabbath Days: Mondays & Saturdays

The congregation covenant with Pastor Sarah to provide 2 days per week for personal rest and family renewal. On Mondays and Saturdays, Pastor Sarah is not available unless it is a pastoral emergency. Thank you for honoring this sacred gift of Sabbath time for our Pastor and her family.

Additional Church Support Contacts

***For pastoral care needs while Pastor Sarah is away on vacation July 7-17, please contact the Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net and his cell is (317) 417-0806.
Pastoral Care Associate: Pastor Carol (casowle@gmail.com)
Office Administrator & External Communications Manager: Cassidy Hall (cassidy@fcindy.org)
Lead Councilor: Judy Fletcher (Lead), jkbfaol@aol.com Larry Eckel, lspeckel@comcast.net, Steve Coomer, s.coomer@sbcglobal.net

Mental Health Support:

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Disaster Distress Helpline:** 1-800-985-5990, or text “TalkWithUs” to 66746.
- **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

help. These gifts can help support financial needs, as well as help with ride-share transportation, shovel or plow snow, pay an unexpected expense, etc. Honoring the dignity of the recipient, all requests for use of this fund will be confidential, and privacy will be respected. To request funds or gifts, please contact Pastor Sarah by email pastorsarah@fcindy.org or cell (386) 478-9012.

A NOTE ON OUR CURRENT COVENANT OUTREACH GIVING

Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our WISE Covenant (May – August) Our current outreach recipients: The Julian Center, The UCC Mental Health Network, and The Trevor Project.



United Church of Christ
MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK™



THE JULIAN CENTER

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Ways to Connect for Worship

IN-PERSON!

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6jXD7FGtLYodcjF3uVgK4PMTZJUv3sa3>

- YouTube Live broadcasts at 11am..
- Use this option for live interacting and messaging. You must have or create a user account and be logged in to message 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 (available after 2PM)

- 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.

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmTWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlBoaEFVUT09>

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