

[View this email in your browser](#)[FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)[Forward](#)

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of June 23

That's why I recommend that we enjoy ourselves, for there is nothing better under the sun for people other than to eat, drink, and be merry. Then we'll have joy along with our toil during the days of life God gives us under the sun.

Ecclesiastes 8:15



Dear Church,

As the summer days unfold before us, I wonder how we might be intentional about making more time to be playful. I believe God created us to enjoy this life, even as we work hard to make the world a more just world for all. Jesus often took time to rest and pray in his ministry as recorded in the Gospels. I am guessing he took time to play as well. It's just that those stories didn't get written down.

How can our faith walk with God include times of joy, laughter, peace, and play? What if you and God scheduled a "play-date"? What might that look like? Perhaps watching a funny movie or going to the zoo or revisiting favorite board games from your childhood?

I pray that this summer the playfulness of creation might bless you in surprising and joyful ways. May our spirits be renewed through the gift of relaxing enough

Enjoy this life! (Ecclesiastes 8:15).

Blessings,

Pastor Sarah

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)



THIS SUNDAY

Hybrid Sunday Adult Education, 10:00 AM (In-Person and on Zoom), June 26: Facing Threats/The Habits of Jesus. This is a reflection from the Visual Faith curriculum that uses images to help spark insight. The reflection scripture is Matthew 8:23-27. A link to the reflection is [here](#).

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

A Continued Call to Action: Thank you to those who wrote letters in support of sensible gun legislation last Sunday. The table and writing materials in the narthex will again be available this Sunday for more letters, as gun violence continues unabated. Note that digital letters to lawmakers are also welcome, and information for contacting national and local officials through their websites is available at the table. Please take a few moments – this Sunday and other Sundays in the future – to write a letter to help bring God’s peace to our world, our nation, and our community. Questions? Contact Alice Rutherford alice@caloosaspirt.net or Sandy Wood csjlwood@att.net

Thank You for Your Support of First Congregational UCC: Please continue

MORE AT FC

Patio Psalms and Prayers is Back! "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. The selected Psalm will be noted each week in the epistle, and handouts will be available. Come for the psalm, come for the prayer, come for the pleasure of one another's company.

Today, Thursday, June 23, 1:00 PM, Men's Lunch.

Tonight, Thursday, June 23, 5:00 PM (Zoom): Spiritual Support Group.

The Church Blog! There have been a couple new blog posts you can read on [our church blog here](#). Remember to submit your writing to me anytime! cassidy@fcindy.org.

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.

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

Clerk: Janet Selby, janet.selby@gmail.com

Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman, carolsuech59@gmail.com

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

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

Pastoral Care Associate: Pastor Carol (casowle@gmail.com)

Office Administrator & External Communications Manager: Cassidy Hall (cassidy@fcindy.org)

Lead Councilor: Judy Fletcher (Lead), jkbfaol.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

Acts of Kindness Fund - Members can make requests for use of this fund to assist themselves or others in our church family who might not ask for 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

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=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlBoaEFVUTo9>
Meeting ID: 926 449 4206

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.

Thursday, June 23	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, June 23	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, June 26	10:00 AM	Hybrid Adult Education (In person and on Zoom)
Sunday, June 26	11:00 AM	Hybrid Worship (In person and on YouTube)

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

Indianapolis, IN 46240

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

First Congregational UCC Indy · 7171 N. Pennsylvania St. · Indianapolis, In 46112 · USA

