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## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

### Epistle for the Week of June 30

#### Dear Church,

There are many different reasons why people come to church for Sunday worship. I look forward to Sundays because I know my soul is nurtured by worship. Worship reminds me of God's gentle presence in our lives, as both a force for good and a Spirit of love.

About worship, United Church of Christ minister Mary Luti says, "Our need to worship is recurring, just as the struggle against injustice is recurring. By devoting ourselves to worship time and again, we learn the persevering character of that struggle. We practice the doggedness that God eternally brings to the divine mission, so that whenever and wherever Love makes demands, the chances are better we'll show up too, and do what justice requires."

I totally agree. That's why worship is ongoing, it's lifelong. As long as I am alive, I will seek to worship the God of love. I'm so glad I am part of our church, a place where we can worship and grow in God's love.

#### Blessings,

Pastor Sarah

**Messages from Church Council Regarding Covid:** CAUTION: Marion County COVID-

those at risk, and staying home if feeling unwell. (Based on CDC guidelines and approved by Church Council, April 13, 2022)



**Bereavement Note:** Please hold in prayer and love Larry and Susan Eckel who are grieving the death of Larry's mother, Eleanor, who died peacefully at home on Sunday, June 26. Eleanor was a member of First Congregational and we give God thanks for her life. More information will be provided in the future regarding plans for a memorial service.

## 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 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

God's peace to our world, our nation, and our community. Questions? Contact Alice Rutherford [alice@caloosaspirt.net](mailto:alice@caloosaspirt.net) or Sandy Wood [csjlwood@att.net](mailto:csjlwood@att.net)

**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

**Today, Thursday, June 30, 11:45AM,** Women's Lunch Bunch.

**Tonight, Thursday, June 30, 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](mailto: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](mailto:lspeckel@comcast.net), Steve Coomer, [s.coomer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.coomer@sbcglobal.net), Judy Fletcher, [jkbfaol.com](mailto:jkbfaol.com)

**Care and Connections:** Wendy Baldwin, [wendy.baldwin@travelandleisure.com](mailto:wendy.baldwin@travelandleisure.com), Karen Walker, Sue Chapman, and Carol Sowle

**Outreach and Service:** Nancy Dickinson, [dickinson.nls@gmail.com](mailto:dickinson.nls@gmail.com), Worth Hartman, and Steve Leatherman

**Trustees:** Steve Coomer [s.coomer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:s.coomer@sbcglobal.net), Wendy Baldwin, Bill Gillette, and Judy Fletcher

**Worship and Faith:** Aurelia Glennan-March, [ahoftmarch@gmail.com](mailto:ahoftmarch@gmail.com), Cristy James, and Alice Rutherford

**Clerk:** Janet Selby, [janet.selby@gmail.com](mailto:janet.selby@gmail.com)

**Financial Secretary:** Sue Chapman, [carolsuech59@gmail.com](mailto:carolsuech59@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Jim Lootens, [lootens.jb@gmail.com](mailto:lootens.jb@gmail.com)

## CONNECTION & SUPPORT

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

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

#### **Pastoral Care**

Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or [pastorsarah@fcindy](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy).

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](mailto:casowle@gmail.com))

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

Lead Councilor: Judy Fletcher (Lead), [jkbfaol.com](mailto:jkbfaol.com) Larry

Eckel, [lspeckel@comcast.net](mailto:lspeckel@comcast.net), Steve Coomer, [s.coomer@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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

***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](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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Thursday, June 30	11:45 AM	Women's Lunch Bunch
Thursday, June 30	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group
Sunday, July 3	10:00 AM	Patio Psalms and Prayers
Sunday, July 3	11:00 AM	Hybrid Worship (in-person and on YouTube)

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