

[View this email in your browser](#)



[FirstCongregationalUCCIndy](#)



[Forward](#)



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of October 20

Dear Church

How wonderful to be back! Thank you all for the warm welcome back to church following my successful medical leave “pilgrimage.” It was a path into an unknown future, yet God was with us all the whole time. All is well now with my health and I am thankful.

Special thanks to the congregation, staff, lay leaders, guest preachers, and pastoral care support for all of your love and care. I feel so blessed by all of you. The time to fully focus on healing and rest was truly restorative for my mind, body, and spirit. Your get well cards, meals, and prayers surrounded me with healing compassion and kindness. I look forward to continuing our shared ministry.

May we all feel loved by one another and by God.

Blessings,

Pastor Sarah



A MEMORIAL SERVICE WILL BE HELD
AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH AT 1:00 PM

NOVEMBER 28, 1931 ~ SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

THIS SUNDAY

ADULT ED AT 10AM! Join us at church this Sunday at 10am for a time of conversation, community, and curiosity. Note, Adult Ed is no longer hybrid and will now be in-person only!

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

THIS SUNDAY, CROP WALK: This is the 53rd year for the CROP Walk in Indianapolis, and FC Indy has participated in each one. The CROP Walk works to raise money to “end hunger one step at a time”, and the challenge continues to increase. This year, participating groups are asked to have their own CROP “Walk”, and here is the plan for our church:

-On Sunday, 10/23, we will have a symbolic CROP walk around the church’s neighborhood. It will begin following worship, and last about a half hour. Please join us for this symbolic walk.

-You can contribute by making out a check to the church and designating it for CROP, or you can make online donations directly to our CROP “team” at <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2022/team/first-congregational-ucc-3>

-If you would like to participate in the walk, register at this site or sign up in the Narthex.

We're asking you to join us - with your steps and your donations - to provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them, and help improve food insecurity in communities around the world. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin.

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/> **Note:** Cash donations of \$1.00 or less are counted as donations to the current Covenant Outreach. Cash of \$5.00 or more should be put in pew envelopes with a designation of Pledge/Contribution, Covenant Outreach, or the specific charity. Unless designated, cash over \$5.00 will go to the church budget.

Remembering Bill Gillette. You can read his Obituary here. A memorial service will be held at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7171 N. Pennsylvania St, Indianapolis, Ind., 46240, on Friday, October 28, at 1:00 pm.

The Upcoming Buzz (on Zoom) with the WISE Mental Health Team: Helen and Janet Lynn invite you to join them for the October Buzz on Sunday, October 30th, 2022 at 1:00 pm EST. We will discuss the intersectionality of mental health and spirituality utilizing a "Diversely Inclusive" format which is interactive so we encourage and welcome your participation. You can join us via the church Zoom link below. Diversely Inclusive simply means that we have prepared all of the materials using digitally accessible guidelines. This will allow everyone, including those who are 'differently abled' to have full access to our materials. Please join us and invite others to experience this technology which is growing in practice around the world.
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTk5pcHZlYlB0aEFVUT09>
Meeting ID: 926 449 4206 Password: 7171

Providing Care and Connection with Our Church Family – Cards in the Narthex

If you are worshipping in person, please look for cards to sign in the Narthex. These will be a variety of birthday wishes, get well, or thinking-of-you cards, which we will then send to folks. This is a way to show our love and support for those in our church family. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin

Exterior Doors Task Force – An Open and Shut job. Do you use a door to enter the church? Ah! It is time to find ways to update our doors to provide increased visibility, function for ADA parameters, improved security, and function (as in, improve the ability of each door to open and close and lock). Interested in being part of this dynamic group? Time commitment is limited and field trips to visit other doors will be part of the responsibilities. Contact Judy Brown Fletcher at JKBF@AOL.COM

Tonight, Thursday, October 20, 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

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

Church Leadership and Contact Info:

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

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

Member-at-large: Sandy Wood csjlwood@att.net

CONNECTION & SUPPORT

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

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

Pastoral Care

For pastoral care needs you may contact Pastor Sarah who may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

Pastor Sarah's Sabbath Days are 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)

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

Mental Health Support:

66746.

- **The 988 Lifeline:** 988 is now active across the United States. This new, shorter phone number will make it easier for people to remember and access mental health crisis services. (Please note, the previous 1-800-273-TALK (8255) number will continue to function indefinitely.) Click below to learn more about 988.
- **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 Open and Affirming Covenant (September – December) Our current outreach recipients are Indiana Youth Group, Trinity Haven, and the Damien Center.



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 WEEK AT FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

Ways to Connect for Worship

IN-PERSON!

<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.

How to Access our Zoom Gatherings

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/9264494206?pwd=dmtWbWE5UXRBTK5pcHZlYlBoaEFVUT09>

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.

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.
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

