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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Epistle for the Week of September 1

THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH: Seminarian Preacher Vickey Allen of St. Peter's UCC with Worship Leader Rev. Lisa K. Anderson!

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4TH



SEMINARIAN VICKEY ALLEN

WITH WORSHIP LEADER,
REV. LISA K. ANDERSON

FCINDY.ORG

A Reflection from enfleshed: An Adaptation of Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, A Season for All Things:

For everything, there is a season.

Very little is as simple as “good” or “bad.”

It is more often a question
of who and of when,
a why or a how.

There are times to birth new things.

There are times to welcome death.

There are times to plant seeds for those to come
and times for harvesting the long labor of others.

There are times when destruction is necessary, or at least unavoidable, and there are
times when healing is possible.

There are times to create art and times to tear it down.

There are days where only weeping will do; others for laughing. Some days we can only
mourn, others we dance. We ebb and flow our way in community.

There are times for seeking a way through the impossible, and other times for accepting our losses.

There is a time to hold on and a time to let go.

There are times when some of us need to be silent
and times when the rest of us must speak.

Love has its time and hate has its place.

Conflict must be accepted;

and peace welcomed in due time.

May we listen our way into and out of each season,
with Wisdom as our guide,
forcing nothing outside of its time,
receiving everything for what it is,
trusting Love's companionship,
laboring toward liberation together.

CURRENT PASTORAL CARE COVERAGE:

8/25-9/2 Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net
and his cell is (317) 417-0806.

9/3-9/11 Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey. His email is plainandfancy1963@att.net
and his cell is 317-625-6801.

Coming Soon **FAMILIAR FACES OF FC INDY**
FOR WORSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE AUGUST 25 – OCTOBER 14

REV. ELIZABETH PRICE **REV. LANCE MULLINS** **PASTOR CAROL SOWLE** **REV. WORTH HARTMAN**

A PASTORAL UPDATE FOR AUGUST 25-OCTOBER 14TH:

Pastor Sarah is on Medical Leave from August 25–October 14. Please join with us in prayer for Pastor Sarah and her family during this time.

designated representative of the congregation which is the chair of the personnel committee, Karen Walker. Karen can be reached at email: karen.e.d.walker@gmail.com or cell (317) 319-8950.

While on medical leave August 25–October 14, Pastor Sarah will not be leading, attending, participating, facilitating, or contributing to any activities, meetings, events, or gatherings of the church or on behalf of the church. The medical leave is a doctor prescribed designated time away for Pastor Sarah from church duties, responsibilities, and obligations.

Please do not send emails to Pastor Sarah during this time as she will not be monitoring that account - personal notes of encouragement and good wishes are encouraged to be mailed to Pastor Sarah's Home (Address in Directory). Please watch for other opportunities to provide support or contact Karen Walker.

We celebrate our talented community and church and look forward to hearing from the following during worship services:

Sunday 9/4 - Seminarian Preacher Vickey Allen of St. Peter's UCC with Worship Leader Rev. Lisa K. Anderson

Sunday 9/11 – Pastor Carol Sowle

Sunday 9/18 – Rev. Elizabeth Price

Sunday 9/25 – Pastor Carol Sowle

Sunday 10/2 – Rev. Elizabeth Price

Sunday 10/9 – Preacher Rev. Peter Frye with Worship Leader Rev. Lance Mullins

Sunday 10/16 - *Pastor Sarah is back!*

During this time you can reach out to the following for pastoral care needs:

8/25-9/2 Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net and his cell is (317) 417-0806.

9/3-9/11 Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey. His email is plainandfancy1963@att.net and his cell is 317-625-6801.

9/11-9/15 Pastor Carol Sowle. Her email is casowle@gmail.com and her cell phone is (317) 496-9732.

9/16-9/17 Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey. His email is plainandfancy1963@att.net and his cell is 317-625-6801.

9/18-9/23 Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net and his cell is (317) 417-0806.

9/23-9/25 Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey. His email is plainandfancy1963@att.net and his cell is 317-625-6801.

10/1-10/14 Rev. Elizabeth Price. Her email is eprice235@gmail.com and her cell phone is (317) 727-0940.

WELCOMING JUST PEACE INTERN, DELANEY BEH!



Hello! My name is Delaney Beh (they/them), and I am a senior philosophy and religious studies student at Butler University. Born and raised in Columbus, Ohio, I am now a full-time Indiana resident, as my family joined me out here shortly following my first year in college. As a member of the University Honors Program and President of Butler's Philosophy Club, I strongly value service, scholarship, and good conversation. I hope to bring these values together as First Congregational's Just Peace Intern for the Fall 2022 semester and utilize the opportunity to create a space where community members can bravely discuss their present anxieties and aspirations at this intersection of peace and justice.

I sought out this internship because I personally feel a call to ministry,

would enthusiastically affirm and support me in my call. Through many visits and a lot of research, I am beyond grateful to have found the United Church of Christ and am currently a member at St. Peter's UCC in Carmel. In anticipation of entering seminary next year, I am excited for the opportunity to work within a UCC congregation and further discern my call.

I greatly look forward to my time with First Congregational!

Dates of Internship: Sunday, August 28 through Sunday, December 11
Oversight of Internship from Rev. Worth Hartman while Pastor Sarah is on medical leave.

THIS SUNDAY

ADULT ED IS BACK! 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, 2PM Dial In)

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.

MORE AT FC

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

1857 Society Annual Luncheon: The 1857 Society of the First Congregational Church is holding its annual luncheon for members and prospective members on Friday, September 16th at Noon at the church. There will be a catered lunch. The 1857 Society was created in October, 2018 in order to increase the endowment of First Congregational Church and secure its ministries for the future. The purpose of the 1857 Society is to

serves to enable members and friends to witness the value of First Congregational Church in their lives and secure its ministries. If you can attend this gathering of committed members of First Congregational Church please RSVP with a number attending to Randy Walker, Chair of the First Congregational Church Foundation; either call 317-796-2081 or email aa28977rwalker@gmail.com.

Tonight, Thursday, September 1st, 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: Steve Coomer (Lead), s.coomer@sbcglobal.net, Judy

Fletcher jkbfb@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 while Pastor Sarah is on Medical Leave (August 25-October 15), please take note of the dates above or here:

8/25-9/2 Rev. Worth Hartman. His email is worthgrover@sbcglobal.net and his cell is (317) 417-0806.

9/11-9/15 Pastor Carol Sowle. Her email is casowle@gmail.com and her cell phone is (317) 496-9732.

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9/23-9/25 Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey. His email is plainandfancy1963@att.net and his cell is 317-625-6801.

9/25-9/30 Pastor Carol Sowle. Her email is casowle@gmail.com and her cell phone is (317) 496-9732.

10/1-10/14 Rev. Elizabeth Price. Her email is eprice235@gmail.com and her cell phone is (317) 727-0940.

When Pastor Sarah is not on medical leave, her 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, jkbfa@aol.com Larry Eckel, lspeckel@comcast.net

Mental Health Support:

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

(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!

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.

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>

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.

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