



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*No matter who you are, or
where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

www.fcindy.org
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46240

@FirstCongregationalUCCIndy

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Welcome to your Spiritual Home!

We celebrate being a Just Peace making, Green for care of Creation, WISE (Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive and Engaged) for mental health church with an Open and Affirming covenant supporting the LGBTQAAI+ community since 1994.

We welcome first time guests and include **all ages** in our hybrid worship service. We invite guests to fill out a visitor card found in the pew holder. Whether you choose to join us online or in-person, we believe we are called together by Jesus to be a transforming presence for God in the world. We are a place to **belong**, a place to **heal** and a place to **love**. **At First Congregational we recognize God as a loving, creating, all-encompassing Spirit who is not limited by usual human boundaries. Therefore, we practice the use of inclusive, expansive, and non-gendered language when speaking of and to God.**

***Disclaimer:** Today's worship service is being live-streamed. While the focus will be on the worship leaders, anything you say or do may be on film. If you have any questions or need to ensure you are not on camera for your safety or other reasons, please speak with our leadership.

A Message from our Church Council regarding COVID: While we navigate the continuing pandemic, we request that you remain up to date with your vaccinations. Mask as needed. Please stay home if you feel unwell.

–Church Council resolution of November 16th, 2022

Pastoral Care: Pastor Sarah may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (church admin) and Pastor Sarah are in office Thursdays from 9am-12.

We celebrate our church staff:

Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund (she/her)

Pastoral Care Associate, Pastor Carol Sowle (she/her)

External Communications Manager/Office Admin, Cassidy Hall (she/her)

Music Director, Sean Baker (he/him)

Media Technician, Ben James (he/him)

Just Peace Intern, Noah Giddings (he/him)

We celebrate our church leadership:

Senior Councilors: *Judy Fletcher, Steve Coomer, and Bob Cook

Clerk: Alice Rutherford

Treasurer: Jim Lootens

Financial Secretary: Sue Chapman

Building Manager: Wendy Baldwin

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Mayflower Singers

Scott Semester, Worship Song Leader

Alice Rutherford

Wendy Baldwin

Cristy James

Noah Giddings



February 26, 2023

11:00 AM

*Please speak the **bold**-printed words in unison.*

Asterisk () indicates those who choose to may stand in body/spirit.*

WE GATHER

MUSIC FOR GATHERING Roll Down, Justice! M. Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

THE CALL Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

PEACE Noah Giddings

*OPENING HYMN #571 O God of Love, O God of Peace *New Century Hymnal*

WE PROCLAIM

COME AS A CHILD Alice Rutherford

SCRIPTURE Romans 8: 31-39 Wendy Baldwin

PRAYER POEM Cristy James

SERMON Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

WE RESPOND

PETITIONS Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

CALLS to SERVE

“Here am I; send me!” Isaiah 6:8

Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom) – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being. Contact Pastor Sarah at pastorsarah@fcindy.org, or 386-478-9012.

Publications: Bulletins, Sermons, Epistles, and Colony are all available on our website FCIndy.org
How to Access our Zoom Gatherings Please contact our office admin to join Zoom Gatherings: cassidy@fcindy.org

Continue Your Support of First Congregational UCC – Please continue supporting the mission and ministries of your local church by mailing your check to the church or through online giving 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.

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

GIVING

We seek to love and to share our joy.

Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant.

Our current outreach recipients: Exodus Refugee, Peace Learning Center, Family Promise, and Faith In Indiana.

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

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|----------------------|---------------|--|
| Sunday, February 26 | 10:00 AM | Adult Ed (In-Person Only) |
| Sunday, February 26 | 11:00 AM | Sunday Hybrid Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) |
| Sunday, February 26 | After Worship | Buzz and Pitch-In |
| Tuesday, February 28 | 1:00 PM | Staff Meeting |
| Thursday, March 2 | 5:00 PM | Spiritual Support Group (ZOOM) |

Today's Scripture

Romans 8: 31-39

What should be our response? Simply this: “If God is for us, who can be against us?” Since God did not spare the Only Begotten, but gave Christ up for the sake of us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that God will freely give us everything. Who will bring a charge against God’s chosen ones? Since God is the One who justifies, who has the power to condemn? Only Christ Jesus, who died—or rather, was raised—and sits at the right hand of God, and who now intercedes for us! What will separate us from the love of Christ? Trouble? Calamity? Persecution? Hunger? Nakedness? Danger? Violence? As scripture says, “For your sake, we’re being killed all day long; we’re looked upon as sheep to be slaughtered.” Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of God who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, neither heights nor depths—nor anything else in all creation—will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus, our Savior.

A Word of God that is still speaking, thanks be to God.

Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible. Sheed & Ward. Kindle Edition.



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Worship Notes:

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FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, ENRICHMENT

Lenten Breakfast Series

Join us for breakfast
each Saturday during
Lent for a delicious
meal, wonderful
fellowship, and
spiritual enrichment.

- **Saturday Feb. 25 9am: St John UCC (Cumberland)**
11910 E Prospect St, Indianapolis, IN 46229
- **Saturday March 4th 9am: Friedens UCC**
8300 S Meridian St, Indianapolis, IN 46217
- **Saturday March 11th 9am: First Congregational UCC**
7171 N Pennsylvania St, Indianapolis, IN 46240
- **Saturday March 18th 9am: St. Peters UCC**
3106 E Carmel Dr, Carmel, IN 46033
- **Saturday March 25th 9am: Immanuel UCC**
402 Prospect St, Indianapolis, IN 46225
- **Saturday April 1st 9am: Zion Evangelical UCC**
603 N New Jersey St, Indianapolis, IN 46202



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