



# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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



FirstCongregationalUCCIndy



FCINDY DOT ORG

www.fcindy.org  
317.257.5397

7171 N. Pennsylvania St.  
Indianapolis, IN 46240

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

# Welcome to your Spiritual Home!

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

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.

We welcome all who worship with us today and include **all ages** in our hybrid worship service. We invite guests and members to fill out a Welcome/Prayer card found in the pew holder, and put it in the offering plate. Children are invited to play quietly in the “playground” at the front of the church, or use a “Quiet Bag” found in the Narthex.

**\*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 please speak with our minister.

**Pastoral Care:** Sabbatical Pastors, the Rev. Diane and the Rev. Jerry Zehr will be available for Pastoral care July–October. You can reach them in the following ways:

**Diane:** [dianezehr@gmail.com](mailto:dianezehr@gmail.com) • 317-414-1047

**Jerry:** [Jerryzehr1@gmail.com](mailto:Jerryzehr1@gmail.com) • 317-551-8455

**In-Person Office Hours:** Cassidy (admin) is in office 9-12 on Thursday, meeting with the Zehrs by appointment.

Out of concern for community health, we request that you remain up to date with your vaccinations.  
Mask as needed. Please stay home if you feel unwell.

**We celebrate our worship leaders today:**

Rev. Jerry Zehr (he/him), Preacher

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

‡ New Creation Ensemble, Sean Baker, Julie Houston, Alice Rutherford

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Rev. Elizabeth Price, Liturgist

In worship this Sunday you are invited to write your prayer concerns on the colored index cards in the pew pockets and hand them to either Pastor Diane or Pastor Jerry. They will include your prayer concerns in the pastoral prayer each week and pass them on to our prayer team for ongoing prayers through the week. You can also fill out a prayer card at any time and leave it in the designated basket in the narthex.

**August 6, 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**

INTROIT Come, Now Is the Time-There Is Room For All Doerksen, Harding  
*Entering Into the Sacred*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Jerry Zehr

\*SONG OF PRAISE #29 God's Grace *Sing! Prayer and Praise*

\*SHARING THE PEACE

One: Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

SPECIAL MUSIC You Are Here M. C. Unbehagen

COME AS A CHILD

Rev. Jerry Zehr

SPECIAL MUSIC

Keep the Planet

A. Rutherford, S. Baker

## WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:2-3

Rev. Elizabeth Price

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Your Word

Alexander Gondo

MESSAGE

Be Childlike:  
Rediscovering Joy, Curiosity, and Wonder in Adulthood

Rev. Jerry Zehr

ANTHEM

Let the Children Come to Me

Sean Baker

## WE RESPOND

COMMUNION

SPECIAL MUSIC

Communion Song

Barry McGuire

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Jerry Zehr

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (from UCC Book of Worship)

Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Metta Prayer

Trad. Buddhist

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

Song of Thanks

Joel & Russell Nagy

\*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below:**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

\*SONG OF SENDING #294

Deep Within Our Hearts

*Sing! Prayer and  
Praise*

\*BENEDICTION

*Blessing*

Rev. Jerry Zehr

BLESSING SONG

One Body in Christ

O.I. Cricket Harrison

‡ *All New Creation Ensemble arrangements by Sean Baker*

## Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

**Sunday Mornings at 10:00 AM** – Several options are available on Sundays before worship. Join our Adult Ed group for thoughtful study and discussion (upstairs at church). Or go to choir practice to rehearse for that morning's singing; all skill levels welcome!

**Spiritual Support Group, Thursdays at 5:00pm (Zoom)** – This group openly invites anyone seeking spiritual care concerning well-being.



**Thank You for Your Financial Gifts!** Our Current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our WISE Covenant. Our current outreach recipients are: UCC Mental Health Network, The Julian Center, and the Trevor Project. Gifts of single dollars, or those designed to Covenant Outreach, are divided evenly to these groups, unless otherwise specified. Also, your pledge or undesignated gifts are greatly appreciated to support the mission and ministries funded by First Congregational's operating budget. You can place gifts in the offering plate, mail a check to the church, or give online at [www.fcindy.org](http://www.fcindy.org)

### **Mental Health Support:**

**The 988 Lifeline:** 988 is now active across the United States. (call or text) **National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI.ORG):** information and referral services: 1-800-950-NAMI (6264) **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)

## **THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:**

Tuesday, August 8	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday, August 9	7:00 PM	Trustees
Thursday, August 10	1:00 PM	Men's Lunch
Thursday, August 10	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)
Friday, August 11	6:30 PM	NAMI Support Group
Sunday, August 13	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, August 13	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)

## Today's Scripture

### Matthew 18:2-3

Jesus called for a little child to come and stand among them. Then Jesus said, “The truth is, unless you change and become like little children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

ONE: A Word of God that is still speaking.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

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



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