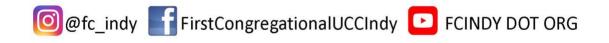


FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

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 LGBTQAAI+ 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 "prayground" 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 • 317-414-1047 **Jerry:** 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 Jacob Smith, String Bass Mike Kessler, Percussion Mayflower Singers Ben James (he/him), Media Technician Cristy James, Liturgist

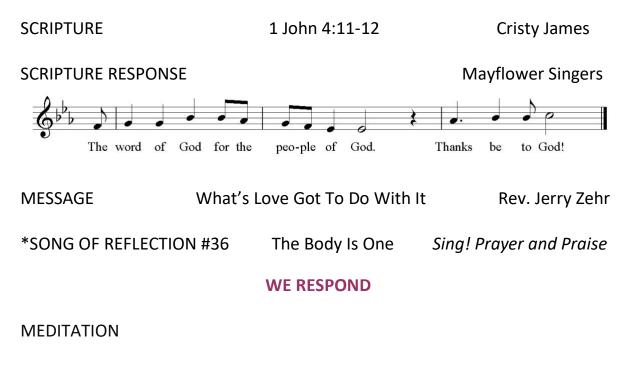
In worship this Sunday you are invited to write your prayer concerns on the colored index cards in the pew pockets and hand them to either Pastor Diane or Pastor Jerry. They will include your prayer concerns in the pastoral prayer each week and pass them on to our prayer team for ongoing prayers through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

August 27, 202311:00 AMPlease speak the bold-printed words in unison.Asterisk (*) indicates those who choose to may stand in body/spirit.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE	Just a Closer Walk with Thee	e arr. Baker
INTROIT Entering Into the Sacred	Repeat the Sounding Joy	Mayflower Singers
WELCOME AND ANNOUN	CEMENTS	
*SONG OF PRAISE #27	One In Christ	Sing! Prayer & Praise
*SHARING THE PEACE One: Peace be with you. People: And also with you	1.	

WE ENCOUNTER



JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

Amen

Mayflower Singers

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

Love and Justice

*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!

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING #188	Say It! Sing It!	Sing! Prayer	r and Praise
*BENEDICTION Blessing			
BLESSING SONG	As You Go, Tell the W	/orld	arr. Baker
POSTLUDE Music for Sending Forth	It is Well With My S	oul	arr. Baker

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Cards to Our Church Family – Please sign the cards on our "card stand", for those celebrating birthdays, or in need of prayers.

Food Donations to Northside Pantry – Help those with hunger insecurity by bringing donations of canned or boxed food, and place in the baskets in the Narthex.

The WISE Mental Health Team is seeking input from the congregation's youth and their families (middle school age through high school) about starting a youth group in which there would be opportunities to connect with other youth, have fun together, do service projects and learn more about faith. Please contact Larry Eckel, 317-445-9351 lspeckel@comcast.net or Sandy Wood 317-225-6206 cspilwood@att.net if interested. Thanks!

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. Contact Pastor Sarah at **pastorsarah@fcindy.org**, or 386-478-9012.



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant, and the recipients are Exodus Refugee, Peace Learning Center, Family Promise, and Faith in Indiana. 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

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**

Tuesday, August 29	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)		
Thursday, August 31	5:00 PM	Spiritual Support Group (Zoom)		
Sunday, September 3	10:00 AM	Adult Education		
Sunday, September 3	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB)		

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

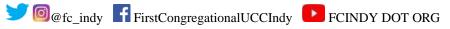
Today's Scripture

1 John 4:11-12

Beloved, if God has loved us so, we must have the same love for one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet if we love one another, God dwells in us, and God's love is brought to perfection in us.

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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