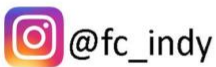




FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*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 “pryground” 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: You may reach out to Pastor Sarah for Pastoral Care. She may be reached at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (church admin) in office 10:30 am-1:30 pm and Pastor Sarah is available 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.

Masks can be found in the narthex.

We celebrate our worship leaders today:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund (she/her), Preacher

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Tony Roberts, Special Guest

WISE Mental Health Team: Sandy Wood, Helen Walsh, Larry Eckel, Jake Kern

Linda Lupton, Liturgist

MENTAL HEALTH SUNDAY!

April 14, 2024

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

FANFARE

This is the Day

OPENING VIDEO

Draw the Circle Wide

arr. Baker

INTROIT

New Life

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Psalm 66)

Jake Kern

One: No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are invited here today to bless and to praise God.

Many: We will let the sound of God's praise be heard, loud and clear, from every one of us.

One: Somehow, despite all the pitfalls along the way, all the trials and tribulations in each of our lives, God has kept us among the living.

Many: We have been confined and burdened; we have walked through fire and water; we have been tested to the max, but now we have become as true as silver.

One: God has heard me, because in my heart I cherish truth and not wickedness.

Many: God hears us all and continues to love us with a steadfast and undying love.

Unison: Together let us praise God!

*SONG OF CENTERING #393 Blessed Be the Tie That Binds *New Century Hymnal*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

MENTAL HEALTH TESTIMONY

Tony Roberts

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:36b-48

Linda Lupton

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

This is what the Spir-it is say-ing to the church-es: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Joyful Minds

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

SPECIAL SONG

Nothing

Helen Walsh

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION

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

Mayflower Singers

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

arr. Baker

*DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

The Resurrection now has come.

Christ's justice work must still be done.

These gifts we bring are for that goal,

To share and care for every soul.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

You have given us the gift of your child, Jesus Christ, so that we might all know the one true God. Everything we have been given has the purpose of shaping us be of one heart and mind with Christ, and so we offer what we have to you. Bless these honest gifts as we bring them, that we all might do the work of God. AMEN.

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

CLOSING PRAYER		Larry Eckel
*SONG OF SENDING #471	What a Covenant	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>
MENTAL HEALTH BLESSING		Sandy Wood
BENEDICTION		Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
BLESSING SONG	New Life	Mayflower Singers
POSTLUDE	Leaning On the Everlasting Arms	

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship and Fun!

Forming a New Social Media Team: Would you be interested in serving on a new Social Media Team? In conjunction with Pastor Sarah, this group will work with our Website & Communications Manager, Cassidy Hall, to gather content, provide feedback, and make recommendations on messaging through First Congregational's various social media outlets. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pastor Sarah or Lead Councilor Bob Cook. You can also sign up on a sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

Finding New Homes for Our Unwanted “Stuff”: For the past few months, we have been working on clearing out closets and storage areas, uncovering a lot of items that the church no longer needs. Now we want to find new homes for this “stuff”. It is currently available to our church family, and we will feature it on **Sunday 4/14, Saturday 4/20 from 9:30-noon, and Sunday 4/21**. If you would like any of these items, please help yourself and make a donation for them either online, by check, or by cash, with a notation of “Stuff”. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin.

Youth Group: Join the FC Indy Youth Group, meeting Fridays from 6:30-8:30PM. We will have pizza and games and be a safe space for middle school and high school students.

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.

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!

Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! Our current Covenant Outreach focus is related to our Just Peace Covenant that includes support for the following organizations: Exodus Refugee Immigration, the Peace Learning Center, and Family Promise.



Gifts of single dollars, or those designated to Covenant Outreach, are divided equally 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 in 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

THIS WEEK AT FC INDY:

Tuesday, April 16	3:00 PM	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Tuesday, April 16	7:00 PM	Youth Group Planning Meeting
Wednesday, April 17	1:30 PM	Circle Book Club
Wednesday, April 17	7:00 PM	Church Council
Thursday, April 18	1:00 PM	Men’s Lunch
Friday, April 19	6:30 PM	Youth Group
Saturday, April 20	9:30 AM	Members “Stuff Sale”
Sunday, April 21	10:00 AM	Adult Education
Sunday, April 21	11:00 AM	Worship (In-Person, YouTube, FB) Pastor Carol Preaches!
Sunday, April 21	After Worship	Members “Stuff Sale”

Today's Scripture

Luke 24:36b-48

Jesus actually stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." In their panic and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. Jesus said to them, "Why are you disturbed? Why do such ideas cross your mind? Look at my hands and my feet; it is I, really. Touch me and see—a ghost doesn't have flesh and bones as I do." After saying this, Jesus showed them the wounds. They were still incredulous for sheer joy and wonder, so Jesus said to them, "Do you have anything here to eat?" After being given a piece of cooked fish, the savior ate in their presence. Then Jesus said to them, "Remember the words I spoke when I was still with you: everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the psalms had to be fulfilled." Then Jesus opened their minds to the understanding of the scriptures, saying, "That is why the scriptures say that the Messiah must suffer and rise from the dead on the third day. In the Messiah's name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of all this.

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



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