



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

 @fc_indy  FirstCongregationalUCCIndy  FCINDY DOT ORG

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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 “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, including home visits, hospital visits, home communion, prayer and conversation. She may be reached by text or phone at (386) 478-9012 or pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

In-Person Office Hours: Cassidy (church admin) in office Thursdays. If you need to meet, please contact her at cassidy@fcindy.org

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. Patrick Larracey (he/him), Worship Leader and Preacher

Bonnie Bomer (she/her), Student Pastor

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Handbell Choir

Mike Kessler, Percussion

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Judy Fletcher, Liturgist

***Fiesta is our Student Pastor, Bonnie Bomer's guide dog. Please do not touch Fiesta while she is working and wearing her harness. When her harness is off, Bonnie has invited us to engage with Fiesta and pet her.

September 22, 2024

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Oh, Happy Morning

Maklebust

INTROIT

Make Me a Servant

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #11

Bring Many Names

New Century Hymnal

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 31: 10 - 31

Judy Fletcher

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers



This is what the Spi-rit is sa-ying to the church-es: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Genealogy Legacies

Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey

*SONG OF REFLECTION # 291 O God the Creator *New Century Hymnal*

[footnote: Song from 1977 Indian Youth Conference: Lakota Indian ritual of prayer and fasting; an individual seeks wisdom and communion with "Wakan-Tanka" (the Great Spirit) and may receive healing or new direction in life.]

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION Try a Little Tenderness Woods, Campbell, Connelly

PASTORAL PRAYER

Bonnie Bomer

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

Bonnie Bomer

INTERLUDE

Minuet in G Major

Mozart

DOXOLOGY *Song of Thanks*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

*SONG OF SENDING# 390 Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling *New Century Hymnal*

BENEDICTION – The Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rain fall soft upon your fields,
And until we meet again,
Until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of God's hand.

BLESSING SONG

The Peace of the Earth

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Mazurka In F Major, Op. 68, No 3

Chopin

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

FCC is sending someone to Chautauqua next summer.....will it be you? An anonymous donor has gifted our church with an endowment that will send someone to a week at the Chautauqua Institution in New York. Curious? Interested? For more information, including the team member names who can answer questions, please find the information and application at the bulletin board near the Narthex at church—or the weekly Epistle for electronic copies. Applications are due by September 30.

Ways to Connect & Serve: Interested in participating with a small group at First Congregational? Check out the Connect & Serve cards in the pews, and take one with you, if you like! Looking for an activity that isn't there - contact Wendy Baldwin.

Self-Care & Mindfulness Table in the Parlor: How do you get through times of stress, exhaustion, or depression? The Care & Connection Board is looking for ideas that we can share with our congregation, as well as providing some ways to help provide mindfulness or concentration. Please check out the table set up in the Parlor.

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 Flower Calendar is on the bulletin board by the garden doors. Please sign up for any occasion. The flowers can come from your garden, store or florist. For more information see **Sally Coombs**.

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

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 Mental Health Covenant that includes support for the following organizations: the UCC Mental Health Network and the Julian Center.



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: 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, September 24, 11:30 AM: Staff Meeting**
- **THURSDAY, September 26, 11:45 AM: Women's Lunch**
- **SATURDAY, September 28, 9:30 AM: Caring Crafters**
- **ADULT EDUCATION, SUNDAY, September 29, 10:00 AM: Join us for fellowship and discussion!**
Questions: casowle@gmail.com
- **SUNDAY WORSHIP, September 29, 11:00 AM**

Today's Scripture

Proverbs 31:10-31

What is worth more than a strong and loving wife? She is more precious than jewels; Her husband's heart trusts in her, from which no little gain is drawn. She brings good—not evil—to her house all the days of her life. For she seeks out tools of her trade, and works with willing hands. She is like the merchant ship which brings provisions from far off. She rises before dawn to put into motions the working of the household. After some consideration she buys a field and, with what she has earned, puts in a vineyard. She is up to the demands of labor, and her limbs rise to meet the task. She enjoys the success that comes with hard work, and her lamp burns late at night. She works the spindle in one hand, while holding the distaff in the other. She holds out a hand to the hungry, and opens her arms to the homeless. She prepares her household for snowy weather, for they are all warmly clothed. She makes her own quilts, and dresses in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected in the public square, and takes a seat among the elders. She makes linen garments for the market, and delivers belts to the merchants. Strength and honor are her mien; she rejoices in the future. Her speaking displays her wisdom; words of kindness come from her tongue. She supervises the household well, and does not sit idle. Her children rise up and bless her; her husband, too, says, "thank you. Many women who have done very well, but you excel them all!" Charm deceives, and beauty flees; but she who fears YHWH is worthy of praise. May she be filled with the fruit of her hands; and may her works be extolled in the public square. the song of songs

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

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