



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

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 “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 **Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey** while **Pastor Sarah is away from November 25-30**, including home visits, hospital visits, home communion, prayer and conversation. Pat may be reached at (317) 625-6801 or plainandfancy1963@att.net.

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. Sarah Lund (she/her), Worship Leader and 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

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.

November 24, 2024

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Holy, Holy, Holy

INTROIT

God's Love Endures Forever Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #304 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name *New Century Hymnal*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE	Revelation 1:4b-8	Judy Fletcher
ANTHEM	Imagine	Lennon
MESSAGE	Imagine Together: Eternal love	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
*SONG OF REFLECTION #300	Jesus Shall Reign	<i>New Century Hymnal</i>

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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

Mayflower Singers

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Jimmy Hodges

OFFERING AND BLESSING OF PLEDGES

INTERLUDE

Spirit of the Living God

*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 #209 A Song Must Rise *Sing! Prayer & Praise*

BENEDICTION

BLESSING SONG God's Love Endures Forever Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE It Is Well with My Soul

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

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.

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, The Julian Center, and GenderNexus.



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

NORTHSIDE FAITH COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH AT 7:00 PM
AT ST. LUKE'S UMC MIDTOWN CAMPUS
6185 GUILFORD AVE., INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46220

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, November 26, 11:00 AM: Student Pastor Supervision**
- **TUESDAY, November 26, 11:30 AM: Staff Meeting**
- **THURSDAY, November 28, HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**
- **SATURDAY, November 30, 9:00 AM, Hanging of the Greens**
- **ADULT EDUCATION, SUNDAY, December 1, 10:00 AM: Join us for fellowship and discussion! Questions: casowle@gmail.com**
- **SUNDAY WORSHIP, December 1, 11:00 AM, In-person and Online**

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace and peace to you, from the One who is, who was, and who is to come, from the seven spirits before the throne and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the Firstborn from the dead, sovereign of the rulers of the earth. To Christ—who loves us, and who has freed us from our sins by the shedding of blood, and who has made us to be a kingdom of priests to serve our God and Creator—to Jesus Christ be glory and power forever and ever! Amen. Look! Christ is coming on the clouds for every eye to see, even those who pierced Jesus, and all the peoples of the earth will mourn over Christ.

So be it! Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says our God,
“who is, who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

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

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Imagine Together: What Might Generosity Look Like for You?

By Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson

When I was a first-year student at Union Theological Seminary in New York, I had world renowned theologian Dr. James Cone

as my professor for Systematic Theology. In our first class I remember him saying: “We all do theology. Theology is God-talk.” A theology of money is God-talk about money.

CONSIDER YOUR PLEDGE AS A PERCENT OF YOUR MONTHLY INCOME.

Annual Income	Monthly Income	2%	3%	4%	5%	10%
20,000	1,667	33	50	67	83	167
25,000	2,083	42	63	83	104	208
30,000	2,500	50	75	100	125	250
35,000	2,917	58	88	117	146	292
40,000	3,333	67	100	133	167	333
45,000	3,750	75	113	150	188	375
50,000	4,167	83	125	167	208	417
60,000	5,000	100	150	200	250	500
75,000	6,250	125	188	250	313	625
100,000	8,333	167	250	333	417	833
125,000	10,417	208	313	417	521	1042
150,000	12,500	250	375	500	625	1250
200,000	16,667	333	500	667	833	1667

On average, Americans give 2% of their income to charity. Giving even 1% more of annual income to charity would be transformative for our congregation and other organizations doing good in our community.



Conversations about money are taboo in our society. We reluctantly talk about the cost of items we purchase; we are hushed in our conversations about money; and silent in discussing our investments or what we earn.