



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 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. 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

Bonnie Bomer (she/her), Student Pastor

Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director and Video Designer

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Wendy Baldwin, 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.

January 26, 2025

11:00 AM

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

H. Mancini

INTROIT Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child

Mayflower
Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SONG OF PRAISE #8

Praise to the Living God

*New Century
Hymnal*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE	1 Corinthians 12:12-31a	Wendy Baldwin
SCRIPTURE RESPONSE		Mayflower Singers
MESSAGE	Shining God's Light on Superiority	Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund
*SONG OF REFLECTION #36	The Body Is One	<i>Sing! Prayer and Praise</i>

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

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 We Are Members of Christ's Body B. Polman

*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 #413 By Gracious Powers *New Century
Hymnal*

BENEDICTION Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG Let It Shine Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE By Gracious Powers

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

TODAY: Join us for the January 26 Congregational Annual Meeting and Pitch-in!

Indoor Work Day - Saturday, Feb 1, 9:30-Noon: Please join me to do some "spring cleaning" on the top floor of the church. We'll focus on the Choir Room, as well as touching up the other rooms on that floor. Questions? Contact Wendy Baldwin, wbaldwinindy@gmail.com

The WISE Mental Health Team is sponsoring a Zoom Buzz on **Sunday Feb 9th at 1 p.m.** about the national United Church of Christ initiative to have churches become A2A- Accessible to All. This initiative includes those who have physical and other disabilities that might interfere with their ability to attend worship services or other activities at church. This initiative aligns with our Open and Affirming and WISE covenants. Come find out from experts around the country what A2A is and how it can be implemented. Ask questions and get answers about accessibility. Use the church Zoom link in our epistle or bulletin to connect for this informative meeting. See you then!

Worship Refreshment Hosting: On Sundays, our custom is to provide snacks and beverages before and after worship in the Parlor. It is a time of connecting and community building. Wendy Baldwin has typically hosted this time, except when she is travelling and then a handful of others fill in. Wendy would like to have a break from doing this weekly, and so we are hoping more people will be willing to 'host'. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or contact Wendy. Also let her know if you would like more info and/or some 'training' on this process. Thanks for participating in this treasured ministry!

The Faith Formation Team is being reactivated. Your church needs you! Please indicate your interest by contacting Gini Coomer, chair of the Worship and Faith Board: coomerg6343@gmail.com. We meet on Zoom.

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 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: 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)

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The body is one, even though it has many parts; all the parts—many though they are—comprise a single body. And so it is with Christ. It was by one Spirit that all of us, whether we are Jews or Greeks, slaves or citizens, were baptized into one body. All of us have been given to drink of the one Spirit. And that Body is not one part; it is many. If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” does that make it any less a part of the body? If the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” would that make it any less a part of the body? If the body were all eye, what would happen to our hearing? If it were all ear, what would happen to our sense of smell? Instead of that, God put all the different parts into one body on purpose. If all the parts were alike, where would the body be? They are, indeed, many different members but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, “I do not need you,” any more than the head can say to the feet, “I do not need you.” And even those members of the body which seem less important are in fact indispensable. We honor the members we consider less honorable by clothing them with greater care, thus bestowing on the less presentable a propriety which the more presentable do not need. God has so constructed the body as to give greater honor to the lowly members, that there may be no dissension in the body, but that all the members may be concerned for one another. If one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members share its joy. You, then, are the body of Christ, and each of you is a member of it. Furthermore, God has set up in the church, first, apostles; second, prophets; third, teachers; then miracle workers, healers, assistants, administrators and those who speak in tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles or have the gift of healing? Do all speak in tongues, or do all have the gift of interpretation of tongues? Set your hearts on the greater gifts.

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

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