



# 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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**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 “playground” at the front of the church, or use a “Quiet Bag” found in the Narthex.

**\*Disclaimer:** Our worship services are 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.

## Warning! Scam alert!

Do not give any financial information from requests via email or text solicitations. These are scams and not from the church!

**Accessibility:** Please see an usher if you'd like a listening device. We also have a variety of fidgets in the playground to support neurodiversity. Don't hesitate to let an usher know if there's something else you're in need of!

**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](mailto:pastorsarah@fcindy.org)

**In-Person Office Hours:** Cassidy (church admin) in office Thursdays. To meet, please contact her at [cassidy@fcindy.org](mailto: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), Preacher & Worship Leader

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

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Gracelynn Norgaard (she/her), Children & Youth Faith Formation Leader

Mayflower Singers

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Scott Semester, Liturgist

**July 20, 2025**

**11:00 AM**

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

## **WE GATHER**

PRELUDE

I Believe In One God

Kimball

INTROIT

Come, Sweet Justice

Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*SONG OF INVOCATION #137    Come, Sweet Justice    *Sing! Prayer  
and Praise*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Norgaard

## **WE ENCOUNTER**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 15:1-5

Scott Semester

MESSAGE

Into the Deep Under a Big Tent

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

\*SONG OF REFLECTION #575    O for a World    *New Century Hymnal*

## WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION

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

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

O God of Love, O God of Peace

\*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.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## WE GO FORTH AND PROCLAIM

\*SONG OF SENDING #170 We Share a Hunger *Sing! Prayer  
and Praise*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG

Come, Sweet Justice

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

What a Mighty God We Serve

# Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!

**Thanks to everyone who contributed shawls for the upcoming General Synod!**

**JOIN US TODAY AFTER WORSHIP! Vision Team is sponsoring a pitch in /Buzz session at 12:15**, right after church, to explain the new e-Connect program, our responsibilities, those of the congregation, and those of Pastor Sarah. Think of this as the planting, nurturing, and harvesting a garden. We are in this together. We look forward to sharing this information and working with everyone for the gain of all.

**TODAY! July 20 is a busy day at First Congregational Church.** In addition to Pastor Sarah's continued series of sermons dealing with the General Synod topic of "Into the Deep," The Worship and Faith Board and the Personnel Committee are pleased to announce the launch of the new Faith Ministry program. Leader, Gracelynn Norgaard, will be sharing a Message for all Ages and then will be starting her first time with our children in the Playground. Please plan to join us for this exciting new program launch and then stay for the pitch in. All are welcome.

**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. In the past, Wendy Baldwin has handled this when she is in town, but 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.

**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.

**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!

**Children's Faith Formation Class** – After each Sunday's service, up front in the Playground, there will be a short Bible lesson for all children. Please grab a cup of coffee and visit while your children get together to learn about Jesus and the Old Testament stories that he knew.



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! The Covenant giving organizations for May through August 2025 are the UCC Open and Affirming Coalition, Damien Center, and the Indiana Youth Group. 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](http://www.fcindy.org).



DAMIEN CENTER



### **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**

Psalm 15:1-5

Who has the right to enter your tent, YHWH, or to live on your holy mountain? Those who conduct themselves with integrity and work for justice, who speak the truth from their heart and do not use their tongues for slander, who do not wrong their neighbors and cast no discredit on their friends, who look with contempt on the corrupt but honor those who revere YHWH, who always keep their promises even when it hurts, who don't demand interest on loans and cannot be bribed to exploit the innocent. If people do these things, nothing can ever shake them.

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



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