



# 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. Pat Larracey (he/him), Preacher & Worship Leader  
Sean Baker (he/him), Music Director, Video Designer  
Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader  
Gracelynn Norgaard (she/her), Family Faith Ministry Leader  
Sarah Finnicum (she/her), Just Peace Intern  
Mayflower Singers  
Mike Kessler, Percussion  
Jacob Smith, String Bass  
Ben James (he/him), Media Technician  
Ann Leatherman, Liturgist

**September 28, 2025**

**11:00 AM**

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

## **WE GATHER**

PRELUDE Across the Universe Lennon & McCartney

INTROIT Let It Be (Intro) Mayflower Singers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*SONG OF INVOCATION #345 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence  
*New Century Hymnal*

SHARING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## **WE ENCOUNTER**

ANTHEM Let It Be Lennon & McCartney, arr. S. Baker

SCRIPTURE Psalm 27:1-6, 1 Timothy 6:11-12 Ann Leatherman

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Gracelynn Norgaard

MESSAGE My Love Push Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey

\*SONG OF REFLECTION #408

All My Hope on God Is Founded  
*New Century Hymnal*

## WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION

Imagine

J. Lennon

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

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING

INTERLUDE

All You Need Is Love

Lennon & McCartney

\*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 #438

When Peace, Like a River

*New Century*

BENEDICTION

BLESSING SONG

Let It Be (Reprise)

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE

Eleanor Rigby

Lennon & McCartney

## **Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship & Fun!**

**DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 30TH!** Chautauqua Institution in Western New York - applications are now being accepted for a week' retreat there in summer 2026!

**SEPTEMBER 30:** Next Robin Run Gathering from 1:30-2:30 PM for fellowship, fun, and gathering time with Pastor Sarah.

**Children's Faith Formation every Sunday in the sanctuary** **Prayground after worship:** After each Sunday's Message for All Ages, the children are invited to go to The Tree House Room on the second floor for faith formation experience for all children led by Gracelynn. Please meet your child in the Tree House Room after worship.

**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!



Thank You for Your Financial Gifts! The Covenant giving organizations for September to December 2025 are the UCC Mental Health Network, GenderNexus, and Indy Action Coalition. 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).



**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 27:1-6**

YHWH, you are my light, my salvation—whom will I fear?  
You are the fortress of my life—of whom will I be afraid?  
When my enemies attack me, spreading vicious lies about me  
wherever they go, they, my adversaries and foes, will stumble and fall.  
Though an army mounts a siege against me, my heart will not fear;  
though war break out against me, I'll still be confident.  
One thing I ask of you, YHWH, one thing I seek:  
that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life,  
to gaze on your beauty and to meditate in your Temple.  
You will keep me safe in your shelter when trouble arises, you will hide  
me under the cover of your Tabernacle—you'll set me on a rock, high  
and out of reach. Then I'll be able to hold my head up, even with my  
enemies surrounding me. I will offer in your Tabernacle sacrifices of  
great joy—I'll sing and make music to you, YHWH!

### **1 Timothy 6:11-12**

But you are to flee from these things. As one dedicated to God, strive to  
be a person of integrity and piety, filled with faith and love, patience and  
gentleness. Run the great race of faith. Take firm hold of the everlasting  
life to which you were called when, in the presence of many witnesses,  
you made your good profession of faith.