



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, so we use 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 Prayground 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.

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

Pastoral Care: You may reach out to Pastor Sarah for pastoral care, including home visits, hospital visits, home communion, prayer, and conversation. You may reach her by text or phone at (386) 478-9012 or by email at pastorsarah@fcindy.org.

In-Person Office Hours: Shannon (church admin) works in the church office on Tuesdays and Fridays. You may contact her at shannon@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.

May 10, 2026

11:00 AM

We celebrate today's worship leaders:

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

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

Gracelynn Royer (she/her), Family Faith Ministry Leader

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader

Mayflower Singers

Jessica Kramer (she/her), Liturgist

Bread for the World Team: Katie Booth, Judy Fletcher, Jessica Kramer, Karen

Walker, Sandy Wood, Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund and everyone!

*Please speak **bold** words aloud. Stand as you are able for asterisked (*) songs.*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE: *St. Anne*

arr. Baker

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

INTROIT: *Praise the Name of Jesus*

Mayflower Singers

LITANY

Judy Fletcher

One: God of Abundance and Grace, we give thanks for the resources you have entrusted to us in the world.

Many: Thank you for the abundance and possibility of healthy food and clean water for all.

One: God, help us feel the passion to change that 'possibility' to reality.

Many: Help us express that passion and your will in the letters we write, using our power to influence aid for those who are most vulnerable and without power.

One: God, we ask that passion and your will be transmitted in the letters we write to our elected leaders to make ending hunger a priority.

Many: We pray that passion and will to end hunger is felt by our leaders – particularly for children near and far.

One: We ask your continued care and blessing on the children in our lives and all the children in the world.

Many: We trust that you will amplify this effort and that your kingdom will continue to burst forth in the world.

All: In Jesus name we pray, amen.

*SONG OF ACTION: *God Says It's Time*

Sing! Prayer & Praise #216

SHARING THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Royer & Sandy Wood

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 10:13-16

Jessica Kramer

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

MESSAGE: Nourish the Future

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION: *Bread for the World* (See back page)

WE RESPOND

INTRODUCTION TO LETTER WRITING Karen Walker

LETTER WRITING

BLESSING OVER LETTERS Katie Booth

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION: *Growing in Faith* DeMann

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: *Bread for the World* Haugen, arr. Baker

*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: *We Share a Hunger*

Sing! Prayer and Praise #170

BENEDICTION

Bread for the World Team

BLESSING SONG: *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE: *Bread for the World*

Haugen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:13-16

¹³ People were bringing their children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples scolded them for this.

¹⁴ When Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them. It is to just such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ The truth is, whoever doesn't welcome the kingdom of God as a little child won't enter it."

¹⁶ And Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship, and Fun!

Interested in becoming a member of First Congregational? Talk to Pastor Sarah about making First Congregational your church home. Joining the church as a member is a way to grow closer to one another and to God in the spirit of love.

Seeking Gifts for the Acts of Kindness Fund: This is a special fund for our church members facing temporary financial setbacks. Can you make a special gift to the fund that will help individuals in our church family? Contact Wendy Baldwin with questions.

Worship Refreshment Hosting: On Sundays, our custom is to provide snacks and beverages before and after worship in the Parlor. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex, or you can contact Wendy for 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 food 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 – Join our Adult Ed group for thoughtful study and discussion 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 for May to August is related to our Open & Affirming Covenant and includes support for the following organizations: UCC Open & Affirming Coalition, Damien Center, and Indiana Youth Group. Gifts of single dollars and 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: 800-950-NAMI (6264). **The Trevor Project hotline** offers support for LGBTQIA+ youth and families struggling with mental health challenges: 866-4-U-TREVOR (488-7386) and www.theTrevorProject.org

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

MAY 17, 2026 – AFTER WORSHIP

At its April meeting, the Church Council agreed to call a congregational meeting for our members to consider and vote on the following:

The W.I.S.E. Mental Health Team, having received the support of both the Trustee Board and the Church Council, is asking the congregation to support our next step: submitting an application to UCC Disabilities Ministries to become an A2A (Accessible to All) church of the United Church of Christ (UCC). If approved, we will enter into a relationship with the national UCC to engage in an ongoing A2A process, making reasonable and continuing efforts to accommodate people with disabilities. This is a process, not a one-time designation.

The congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2026, following worship. By applying to become an A2A church, First Congregational will be committing to an attitude towards accessibility, both through our physical structure and our practices. For more information about A2A, go to: www.uccdm.org/a2a.

Questions – contact Senior Councilors Wendy Baldwin, Steve Coomer, and/or Jimmy Hodges.

This Week at FCC

Tuesday, 5/12 at 12:30 PM: Pop Up Coffee at Lulu's Coffee & Bakehouse

Wednesday, 5/13 at 7:00 PM: Trustees Meeting (Zoom)

Thursday, 5/14 at 1:00 PM: Building Team (Parlor)

1:00 PM: Men's Lunch

Friday, 5/15 at 1:30 PM: Senior Councilors (Zoom)

Saturday, 5/16 at 9:30 AM: Breath Tone Workshop (Mayflower Room)

Coming Soon!

Sunday, May 17th: **Mental Health Sunday** with Special Guest preacher, Rev. Dr. Milton Keys

Sunday, May 24th: Wear **Red** for **Pentecost Sunday!**

Hunger is rising and children are at risk.

It's time to act.

Hunger is not inevitable. It's a reflection of our priorities and policy choices. We can and must do better.



**WRITE YOUR
MEMBER OF CONGRESS**

to prioritize policies that
eradicate child hunger.

In writing your letter today, you are joining with advocates across your region and the country in an Offering of Letters to advocate for the end of hunger. **Thank you.**

**OFFERING
of LETTERS**

Information Security Breach

We want to alert you that Wednesday morning we learned the church directory information was compromised. Every effort is being made to ensure the security of membership information, however, because of a phishing email, there was a security breach with the church directory.

As always, DO NOT give any personal information or make financial transactions to anyone who contacts you via text, phone call or email pretending to be from the church membership or staff. We ask you to be extra cautious.

We apologize and are making you aware as soon as possible. Please contact Pastor Sarah or Steve Coomer with any questions or concerns.

Blessings,
Pastor Sarah
Steve Coomer, Acting Lead Councilor

Bread for the World

Marty Haugen

F Gm⁷ Dm C/E F B \flat F/A

Re-joice, give thanks for a - bun - dant grace, food on our ta - bles, and
 Hope burns a - new, thru the world's des - pair, when eyes are o - pened and
 Act strong in faith, for God's reign is near; stand up with cour - age, speak

7 Gm⁷ C/E A⁷ Dm Cm⁷ F⁷ B \flat A⁷ Dm

peace with in__ this place. How rich, how wide is our God's em - brace!
 hearts are moved to care, when we can lis - ten and learn to share,
 out and do__ not fear! Now is the time that the world must hear

Refrain

13 B \flat Gm⁷ C C⁷ F/A B \flat Dm⁷

And thru this great, sus - tain - ing love We are bread for the world, bread for the
 then we might fin'ly - ly turn and see
 the task that God has called us to:

20 G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ F Gm⁷ F/A

world, bread for a hun - gry world... May we be bread for the

26 B \flat Dm⁷ G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷ B \flat F

world, bread for the world, bread for a hun - gry world._____