



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 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.

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 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.

July 5, 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
Reed Sprunk (he/him), Media Technician
Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader
Mayflower Singers
Wendy Harrison (she/her), Liturgist

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE: *My Country 'Tis of Thee* S.F. Smith

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

INTROIT: *Dwell in Unity* Mayflower Singers

CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 45) Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

One: In joy and gladness, enter the presence of the Holy One who loves all creation. Worship the Holy One!

All: The voice of the Holy One is powerful and gracious, loving and challenging, compassionate and convicting.

One: In joy and gladness, receive the fresh wind of the Spirit who ignites our hearts and connects us to one another. Worship and be filled with the Holy Spirit!

All: The voice of the Holy Spirit gives wisdom, discernment, comfort, and confirmation.

One: In joy and gladness, follow the path of the Embodied One. Worship God With Us!

All: The voice of God With Us models for us what to say and how to live. Praise God!

*SONG OF UNITY: *How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies*
New Century Hymnal #594

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Royer

You Will Be Found from “Dear Evan Hansen” Pasek & Paul

Even when the dark comes crashing through,
When you need a friend to carry you,
When you're broken on the ground,
You will be found.

So, let the sun come streamin' in,
'Cause you'll reach up, and you'll rise again.
Lift your head and look around.
You will be found.

SHARING THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

UNISON PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

God of all nations and all peoples, bless us as we gather in your name. Open us to vessels in building your kingdom and spreading the good news of life and liberty. Be with us in this time and place as we come before you from different perspectives. Some come in a spirit of celebration. Others bring lament and despair. All of us benefit from the power of transformed lives, individually, relationally, and communally. We pray in the assurance that new life is available. We ask for the strength, courage,

and persistence to seek your kingdom, peace, justice and righteousness in any and all circumstances and for all people and creation. Amen.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 11: 28-30

Wendy Harrison

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Mayflower Singers

MESSAGE: *Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor, Your Huddled Masses
Yearning to Breathe Free*

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION: *O Come to Me, You Weary*

New Century Hymnal #484

WE RESPOND

COMMUNION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION: *I Am Available to You*

A. Cáceres

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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: *Because of Who You Are*

Munizzi

*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: *Softly and Tenderly* (v. 1, 2)

New Century Hymnal #449

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

BLESSING SONG: *Dwell in Unity*

Mayflower Singers

POSTLUDE: *God Bless America*

I. Berlin

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11: 28-30

²⁸ “Come to me, all you who labor and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon your shoulders, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart. Here you will find rest for your souls, ³⁰ for my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

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

Opportunities for Giving, Sharing, Fellowship, and Fun!

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!

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.

Ann & Steve Leatherman's 50th Anniversary Party Ann and Steve would like to invite our church family to stop in at an open house celebrating our 50 years of marriage on Saturday, July 11, from 2:00 to 5:30 PM. Please RSVP to Ann with a text to 317-752-3109 if you plan on attending so we can get a count. No gifts please, just the pleasure of your company.

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.

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.



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

This Week at FCC

Tuesday, July 7

12:30 PM Pop-Up Coffee with Pastor Sarah at Lulu's Coffee & Bakehouse

Wednesday, July 8

11:00 AM Mental Health Team

7:00 PM Trustees

Thursday, July 9

1:00 PM Book Circle

1:00 PM Men's Lunch

Friday, July 10

1:30 PM Senior Councilors

Saturday, July 11

2:00 PM Ann & Steve Leatherman's 50th Anniversary Party

Sunday, July 12

12:15 PM Outreach & Service Board

12:15 PM Garden/FCC Grant Team