



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 19, 2026

11:00 AM

We celebrate today's worship leaders:

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

Gini Coomer (she/her), Guest Music Leader

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

Ben James (he/him), Media Technician

Scott Semester (he/him), Worship Song Leader and Liturgist

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

WE GATHER

PRELUDE: *Fantasia in d minor*

Mozart

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

INTROIT: *Praise to the Living God (vs. 1)*

New Century Hymnal #8

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

One: We gather in the Spirit of God's love to know the warmth of love,

All: To have the assurance that someone cares,

One: To be confident of our worth,

All: To be bold to love in return,

One: To be blessed with grace,

All: To be accepted as we are:

One: This is to know a bit of God.

All: Then let us worship our God.

*SONG OF PRAISE: *We Gather Together*

New Century Hymnal #421

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Gracelynn Royer

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

May God make us brave. May God root us in our own and others' absolute belovedness. May God grant us a vision for beloved community and lead us with care and boldness on the sacred path toward that dream. Amen.

WE ENCOUNTER

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 44:6-8

Scott Semester

MESSAGE: *Our Sacred Ground*

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

*SONG OF REFLECTION: *Be Now My Vision*

New Century Hymnal #451

WE RESPOND

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MEDITATION: *La Pastorale*

Burgmueller

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.

OFFERING

INTERLUDE: *Variations on a Pasiello Theme*

Beethoven

*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

CHAUTAUQUA BLESSING

*SONG OF SENDING: *The Church's One Foundation*

New Century Hymnal #386

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund

POSTLUDE: *Ballade*

Burgmueller

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 44:6-8

This is what YHWH says – Israel's Ruler and Redeemer, YHWH Omnipotent: "I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. Who is like me? Let them declare their proof and set it out before me: let them predict things long before they happen, let them announce future events! Have courage! Don't be afraid! Didn't I proclaim and foretell this long ago? You are my witnesses! Is there any god apart from me? Is there any other Rock? I know of none!"

(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.

Open Table Dinner and Fellowship: All members are invited to attend an Open Table Dinner at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, July 22. A main course will be provided, and you can bring anything else you would like to share for a pitch-in. This will be a fun social activity along with members from The Garden.

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



I am the first and I
am the last; apart
from me there is no
God. Who is like me?
Isaiah 44



This Week at FCC

Sunday, July 19

12:15 PM Worship & Faith Board

Tuesday, July 21

10:00 AM Library Team

Wednesday, July 22

6:00 PM Open Table Dinner

Thursday, July 23

11:45 AM Women's Lunch

1:00 PM Men's Lunch

Friday, July 24

1:30 PM Senior Councilors

Saturday, July 25

9:30 AM Caring Crafters

Sunday, July 26

11:00 Worship with worship leader Rev. Dr. Pat Larracey and
guest preacher Bonnie Bomer

