



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the **First of May**. You will find contributions from **Nick Schweitzer**, **Kim Reilly**, **Ellen Paul**, **Pema Antoniotti**, **UU Midwest Conference**, **SP Blood Drive**, and the **German Music Recital**. I think you will find them interesting. Please let me know if I can be of assistance. My Park Hall hours are Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and by appointment. Park Hall Voicemail: 608.643.3131 **Fritz Parks**

Upcoming Sunday Programs (10:10 a.m.)

Date	Program	Speaker	Topic
May 5	Spiritual Roundtable	All attending	Acts of Kindness & Connection
May 12	U.U. Program	Pema Antoniotti	A Journey to India
May 19	Fruhlingsfest Program	Dr. Kim Reilly	Reproductive Rights: Past & Present

Our Sunday programs are all accessible live on Zoom. Please see the Zoom instructions on the last page.

Notes and Events from/for Members, Friends and Community

The **Board of Directors** of the Free Congregation will meet on **May 12**, at **Park Hall** at **11:30 a.m.** If you have an issue for us to an address, please email **Nick Schweitzer**, **President** of the Board at jnschweitzer@gmail.com so that it may be added to the agenda. The meeting will also be on Zoom.

From our Treasurer, Glen Johnson: Just as April showers bring May flowers, April pledges bring May budget work. Before the Stewardship Committee can begin the process of creating a working budget for the congregation's 2024-25 fiscal year, it is very necessary to understand how much we can count on member pledges. If you have not yet made your pledge wishes known, please contact Glen at gjohnson@rucls.net or Fritz at freecongregation@icloud.com. And as always thanks for your generosity.

Pema Antoniotti will present **A Journey to India** at our **May 12 U.U. program**. Tsunma Pema will share highlights from her recent trip to India, in which she attended the first gathering of the **Alliance of Nonhimalayan Nuns**, met Jetsunma Tenzin Palmo (Cave in the Snow), and received a blessing from **HH Dalai Lama**. As usual, she presents us with ideas of how insights from these activities are relevant to our own spiritual journeys. The program starts at 10:10 a.m., will include a children's story and music from Karlos Moser. Please join us at Park Hall or on Zoom.

We celebrate the passing of Winter each year with our **Fruhlingsfest Holiday**. Our **172nd Fruhlingsfest** will welcome Guest Speaker **Dr. Kim Reilly**, on **May 19**, for a presentation on **Reproductive Rights: Past & Present**. Dr. Reilly suggests this article as preparation for her talk: [Misuse of History in WI Abortion Ban](#) The program starts at **10:10 a.m.** and a **Potluck Dinner** will follow. Open to all, childcare provided. Please join us in person or on Zoom.



The **Sauk Prairie Community Blood Drive** will take place **Monday, May 20**, from **12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**, at **St. John's Lutheran Church, Prairie du Sac**. For an appointment, call **800-733-2767**.

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will meet **on Zoom** as usual at **6:30 p.m.** on the fourth **Monday, May 27**. The topic will be: **Our Favorite Conspiracy Theories**. Please email [Nick Schweitzer](#) if you'd like to receive the material and the zoom invitation.

Over the past couple of months, the **Personnel Committee** conducted an **evaluation of our Associate Speakers: Penny Andrews, Pema Antoniotti, Rob Brink, David Butler, and Robin Proud**. We received 10 written responses. The majority of responses said they enjoyed the variety, and supported continuing all of them as speakers in the future. We are indeed lucky to have all of them enrich our Sunday mornings.

The **Iva Laughlin Fund** supports **elder U.U. lay persons** with needs such as eyeglasses, hearing aids, food assistance, dental expenses, medical treatment, and housing assistance. The Midwest UU Conference administers this program. Please contact Fritz for assistance for yourself or for a member in need.



Congratulations to member Valerie Rung who married Megan Krotzman on April 13 at Park Hall.



Park Hall Events, by Ellen Paul

Recent Events

April 6- Park Hall DJ-ed Community Dance was held. Thanks to members & friends who helped at the dance: Wood and Melanie Weller, Jenni Walsh, Ruthann Corrao, Kathi Kemp, Chelsey Larson, David Roberts, Susie Tatone, and Kristy Torres. We earned \$85 (from donations, beverages and snacks). Attendees appeared to have a great time and many asked us to have more dances in the future. Contact Kathi Kemp and Ruthann Corrao to help with future dances.

April 12-13, 2024- Member Valerie Rung's and-Megan Krotzman's rehearsal and wedding was held. It was a beautiful and meaningful wedding. Guests made frequent comments to me about the beauty of the Hall. I shared our pamphlets and history with many.

The Sauk Prairie Theatre Guild held their annual Spring Comedies at the Hall, April 26-28. We are so happy they continue to use the Hall for these performances and provide the opportunity for community/attendees to see our Hall.

Upcoming Events

May 12, 2024- Recital of German Music, strings and vocalists- 3pm – See the poster below.

May 22- Pioneer Day- 4th graders tour our Hall as part of their Wisconsin History Curriculum. John Rigby has volunteered to help. Contact Ellen to volunteer.

October 5-14- Offshoot of the Farm/Art D'Tour – We will need volunteers for tour visitors to the Hall. Contact Ellen to volunteer..

November 1-2- Carlson-Mitchell rehearsal, wedding, reception (possible dance after reception)

November 28- Corrao Family Thanksmas

December 14- Habich/Mundt Family Christmas Party

December 21- Celebration of the Season- An FCSC Event- More details coming soon!

December 28, 2024- Meyer Family Christmas Party



FCSC members braved the chilly and windy weather to assist at the **Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry** on **April 20**. Front row, from left: **Natasha Frost, Gigi La Budde**. Back row, from left: **John Frost, Nola Frost, Judy Ettenhofer, Michael Whaley**, Food Pantry employee **Jamie Breunig**, and **Ellen Paul**.

Highlights of the FSCS Board Meeting- April 14, 2024
By Secretary Ellen Paul

Administrator Report by Fritz Parks

Sound system- Working well but may require another speaker(s) at side or back
Elevator continues to give trouble. Ellen expressed her security concerns. Elevator
repair company has been contacted.

Facilities Coordinator Report- Ellen Paul

Reviewed proposed changes to the Park Hall Rental Fees and Policy
Photo Contest will be offered to high school or other students for photo of Park
Hall and prize. Kathi Kemp will coordinate..
Farm/Art d'Tour Sat-Sun Oct. 5-6 and then Thur-Sun Oct. 10-14. Volunteers will
be needed. Additional programming at the Hall is possible (cooking
demonstration followed by a dinner presented by the chef?). Possibly another
offering as well.

Treasurer/Stewardship

A report on pledge progress was presented by Fritz.
Discussed purchase of cleaning supplies at Piggly Wiggly instead of Ace Hardware.
Ellen will compare prices and report back to the Board.

Volunteer Committee- Kathi, Nick, Ellen

Book Club – Kathi, low attendance at first meeting. Future of club is uncertain.
Food Pantry – Ellen April 20th is the FCSC's date to be present at the SP Area Food
Pantry. Ellen now has a full contingent.

Personnel Committee- chair Nick Schweitzer

Speaker Evaluation recently completed; results will be shared with the Associate
Speakers

Hall Portraits Committee - chair Nick Schweitzer

Mary Wollstonecraft's portrait is completed, ready to be framed and hung

New Business:

Cow Chip gatekeeper shifts- we can do 9-5 Saturday, with two- hour shifts, sign up
coming soon.

No Mow May. We will observe a modified No Mow May, mowing just the Parking
during May.

Nominations for next year Board members & Officers discussed. Official slate to be
determined. Nominations and self-nominations will be sought from the
membership. Nick is coordinating..

Bylaws revision committee- Nick, Dave, and Ellen volunteered to serve.

Fritz will investigate a process to accept credit cards at congregation point-of-sale
events. Perhaps Venmo, Paypal, or Square?

Next meeting: May 12, 2024 11:30 am. All are welcome!!!

The Newsletter of the Free Congregation of Sauk County, May 1, 2024



A Recital of German Music
including works of
Schubert
Schumann
Wolf

**In the
wonderful month of
MAY**

with
Anne Horjus
Deanna Horjus-Lang
Danielle Hudson
James Ian Nie
John Pickart
Patricia Nielsen

3:00pm Sunday, May 12th
Tickets \$20 - Students and Seniors \$15
Free Congregation - 307 Polk Street - Sauk City



On April 28:
The offering featured the song **Turn, Turn, Turn**, lead by **Nick Schweitzer, Kathi Kemp, and Gilbert Williams**, accompanied by **Karlos Moser**.

How to join our Zoom Sunday Programs.

1. Go to the Sunday Programs tab of our website:
<http://www.freecongregation.org/sunday-programs.aspx>
2. Refresh the browser page.
3. Click the “**Join Our Zoom Meeting**” link in RED TEXT.

The “**Join Our Zoom Meeting**” link will not be visible until 15 minutes before our meeting; typically this is 9:55 a.m. for a 10:10 a.m. meeting. Early birds will see the option to “**Join a Practice Zoom Meeting**”. Refreshing the page after 9:55 a.m. should reveal the active meeting link.

Instructions to join the meeting by telephone are on this same web page.

We publish twice a month to our website. We email announcements to our list as each issue appears online. If you no longer desire email reminders, feel free to tidy up our email list with an unsubscribe message. Keep our website bookmarked for future use.

FreeCongregation.org our website homepage

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I welcome your submissions to this newsletter. Send your events, announcements, photos, and recipes to me. [Newsletter Submissions](#) use the Contact Us form at bottom.