



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the March 15 Newsletter, devoted almost entirely to the developing COVID-19 Pandemic. Our newsletter is published 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

Other Useful Links:

[Unsubscribe to Newsletter List](#) use the form below newsletter links.

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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.

My usual Park Hall hours are Tuesday and Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and by appointment. Please let me know if I can be of assistance. Park Hall Voicemail: 608.643.3131

Fritz Parks, Editor.

Corona Virus Cancellation News

The Free Congregation will cancel Park Hall public programs for 4 weeks, extending through April 19, 2020. **Cancelled are the March 22, April 4, and April 12 programs. The Pledge Dinner is cancelled.** The **Work Day on Sunday March 29** will take place for able-bodied members. We request that those at risk do not attend.

The Board of Directors will meet to re-evaluate on April 19. Public events will likely not resume until advised by the authorities. We are exploring remote video/sound programming that could keep us all connected during this difficult time. We're hoping to have that up soon.

The March 29 Work Day will take place but is not open to the public. We request that those at risk do not attend.

Watch this box for newsletter updates. Our website Upcoming Sunday page, website calendar, and Facebook events will be updated weekly.

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

Date	Program	Speaker	Topic
Mar 22	Program Cancelled		Von Humboldt Program
Mar 29	Work Day	No childcare, for able-bodied, those not at risk	
Apr 5	Roundtable Cancelled		

Watch our website calendar, Newsletter, and Facebook for up to date information on schedule changes in response to COVID-19. We will update weekly.

President's Corner March 16, 2020

You won't see me around for a while. After taking a train to Florida, and travelling home by air and bus, I am self-isolating. Although I took latex gloves and hand sanitizer and I feel fine, I am not past the incubation stage and one can't be too careful! Which brings me to the subject of the Park Hall response to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

The Board met on Sunday morning, March 15. We have determined that we will close Park Hall until late April at which time we will look at the situation again.

We will work on a plan to keep us virus free at the Hall whether we stay open or close for a while. This could include not shaking hands or giving hugs, sanitizing surfaces and always using the dishwasher rather than handwashing. And hand sanitizer and tissues everywhere!

We appreciate your support in this difficult time.

Susan Larkin

Notes and Events from/for Members, Friends and Community

David Roberts has generously donated a Nest remotely controlled **thermostat** for the hall. It is installed and allows the setting to be monitored and adjusted remotely. Please extend thanks to David when you see him.

Joyful Path's Conscious Communication Group is on hiatus in response to the pandemic. Further information at www.JoyfulPath.org or call 608-437-0520.

COVID-19 Recommendation from the Unitarian-Universalist Association (excerpt):

"...we strongly recommend that congregations avoid gatherings of more than 25 people, including worship and religious education, for the time being."

The Free Congregation's COVID-19 response is developing. Watch our website and Facebook for further announcements.

COVID-19 Prevention Steps from Sauk County Public Health (excerpt):

1. Wash your hands with soap and water frequently for 20 seconds each time —Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol is a suitable alternative to soap and water.
2. Avoid touching your eyes, mouth, or nose with unwashed hands.
3. Avoid close (<6 feet) contact with people who are sick.
4. Stay home when you are sick and avoid contact with others. Remind your members of this also!

The Newsletter of the Free Congregation of Sauk County, March 15, 2020

5. Cough and sneeze into a tissue and then throw it away.
6. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects regularly with disinfectant wipes; this includes tables, phones, counters, door knobs, and light switches in reception areas.
7. Avoid large crowds, especially in poorly ventilated rooms.
8. Avoid touching things like elevator buttons, door handles, light switches & handrails with your bare skin.

<https://www.co.sauk.wi.us/publichealth>

Wisconsin Department of Health COVID-19 Information

[WI Dept of Health](#)

CDC COVID-19 Information

[CDC Corona Virus](#)

Park Hall Events, by Ellen Paul

This monthly column is where you may follow Park Hall rentals and events. It will be published on the 15th of each month. Our Facilities Coordinator, Ellen Paul will be happy to answer your inquiries about renting. Our website has additional information, fee details, and our Calendar.

Watch our website calendar and Facebook for up to date information on schedule changes in response to COVID-19. To reach Ellen, ph: 608-957-7499, email: ParkHallEvents@gmail.com.