



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the First of April. You will find contributions from **Ellen Paul, Dave Siegfried, Rob Brink, Adam Novey, Nick Schweitzer, John Lichtenheld**. 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
Apr 5	Spiritual Roundtable	All attending	War–What is it good for?
Apr 12	U.U. Program	Rob Brink	Visions of the Afterlife - Dreams May Come True
Apr 19	Free Thought Forum	Adam Novey	Converging Cultures at the Portage

We invite you to attend our in-person Sunday programs at our beautiful Park Hall. We have masks available. Childcare is provided each Sunday. Our Sunday programs are also available live on Zoom (see last page info).

Food Pantry, April 8 - Your help is needed

The **Sauk Prairie Area Food Pantry** has moved its 2nd Wednesday distribution inside at **821 Industry Rd.**, Sauk City. The Congregation's next assigned pantry staffing is **April 8 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** We need volunteers. Please RSVP to Ellen, eap313@gmail.com. [For pantry information.](#)

UU Program on Sunday, April 12

Associate Speaker **Rob Brink's** topic will be **What Dreams May Come: Visions of the Afterlife**. From Rob: "Every culture has a dream for the ultimate destiny of the humanity. What do those dreams have in common, and what can we learn from the differences?" **10:10 a.m.** in **Park Hall** and on **Zoom**. The Board will meet at **11:30 a.m.** If you have an issue for us to an address, please email Dave Siegfried, President of the Board at [Dave Siegfried](mailto:Dave.Siegfried@fcsc.org) so that it may be added to the agenda.



This month's **Free Thought Forum** will feature guest speaker **Adam Novey**, **Executive Director** and **Curator** at the **Historic Indian Agency House**. Adam's topic will be **Converging Cultures at the Portage**. The narrow watershed divide between the **Fox** and **Wisconsin Rivers** led to these waterways becoming a major corridor of travel on a continent-wide scale from early times in Wisconsin's Indigenous past. As European cultures became a part of the area's story, this "carrying place" between rivers served as a focal point of intercultural exchange. A substantial mixed Indigenous/European (Métis) community formed at Portage as a result. This community helps illustrate fascinating dynamics of the interactions of cultures in our past, yet this group of people is all but forgotten today.

Join Adam Novey in tracing these Métis families' experiences through turbulent times. Investigate the factors which led to the establishment of an Indian sub-agency—essentially an embassy— between the Ho-Chunk Nation and U.S. government at Portage, and discover how these Métis peoples' lives were interwoven with this story from the 1830s to the present. The program begins at **10:10 a.m.** with brief announcements. Discussion and questions follow the presentation. We usually adjourn after 11:20 a.m. Please join us.

What I Believe Now

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will meet **on Zoom** on the fourth **Monday, April 27**, at **6:30 p.m.** The topic is yet to be determined. Please email **Nick Schweitzer**, jnschweitzer@gmail.com, if you'd like to receive a meeting invitation and list of questions in preparation for the gathering.

Looking to share rental expenses

A quiet, considerate, retired woman artist is seeking to rent a large room area or small studio apartment in the Sauk City/Spring Green area. Her familiarity with the Free Congregation suggests to her that she might find a living space with like-minded people who share her values and interest in art. She has lived in Spring Green for the past 10+ years and has excellent rental references. Please contact **Jen**, 608-438-5356, artcattitude37@gmail.com.

Elevator News

The old elevator was removed March 9-10. Our members installed support beams and widened the elevator door openings over the course of the next two weeks. The new elevator was installed the week of March 23. Our crew finished with dry wall, trim, and insulation. The final inspection by the state is scheduled for the week of April 6 at which time the elevator will be fully operational. The contractor will schedule a demonstration of using the elevator for members soon. John Lichtenheld organized our volunteers; the crew included Steve Chiquoine, Gil Williams, and Wood Weller. Photos by Wood Weller.



The March 22 UU Program drew a large attendance of 42. Associate Speaker David Butler spoke about Christian Nationalism. Photos by Eleanor Chiquoine.

The Cemetery Affairs Committee

CAC welcomes new committee members Wood Weller, Eleanor Chiquoine, and David Eagan.

They join Maria Hansa, Bob Ochsner, Steve Stoddard, David Roberts, and Gigi La Budde.

We are a robust and energetic group! We will miss the contributions - over many years - of John Grotophorst and Michael Whaley.

In coming months, we hope to add an Andrew C. Roll Cemetery “link” to our FCSC website.

We will include cemetery policies and burial guidelines, as well as an on-line form to file intent of burial.

Special thanks to Maria Hansa, who as CAC Treasurer, is probably our busiest member. Maria oversees payment for plots, pays the bills (mostly Glacier Valley Lawn Care), and coordinated our recent zoom meeting (no small task!). Appreciations also to Bob Oschner, perpetual brush-hauler, plot record-keeper, and invaluable connection with local service providers, especially when special needs arise at the cemetery.

We invite you to visit the cemetery, pick up a few fallen branches, and then rest on our new bench, donated by the Ochsner Family Foundation with Carl Oschner facilitating the project. If you have questions, concerns, or suggestions, call or text Gigi La Budde, CAC chair at 608-469-4348. Email: bbf.gigi@gmail.com Looking forward to seeing you at our annual Slotty Road Picnic this summer!

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.

The newsletter publishes 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 at [Newsletter Submissions](#), or use the **Contact Us** form at bottom of the page.

Fritz Parks