



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the Fifteenth of April. You will find contributions from Susie Tatone, Glen Johnson, Gilbert Williams, Ellen Paul, SP Against Hunger, SP Healthcare Foundation, Lynne Roberts, and Diane Matzke. 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 20	Free Thought Forum	Gilbert Williams	Modern American Agriculture
Apr 27	U.U. Program	David Butler	Climate Change
May 4	Spiritual Roundtable	All present	The Press: Democracy's 4th Estate

We invite you to attend our in-person Sunday programs at our newly restored Park Hall. We have masks available. Childcare is provided each Sunday.

Our Sunday programs are also available live on Zoom.

Highlights from April 13 Board Meeting

The main priorities for the Board are raising **funds for our Annual Pledge drive** and **replacing the elevator**. Our annual pledge drive covers operating expenses for our fiscal year, so your donations are much appreciated. The Buildings and Grounds Committee has researched companies that can replace our elevator and we have determined that we need to raise \$75,00.00. We have contacted past donors for the Main Hall renovation and plan to research potential grant opportunities. The Board is also looking for ways to promote Park Hall, so have decided to join the Baraboo and Spring Green Chambers of Commerce. We are currently members of the Sauk Prairie Chamber. We are planning to have more of a presence at local family-friendly events across Sauk County, so hope to see you out and about this summer!

Mindfulness Teachings are led by **Diane Matzke, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m., in Park Hall.** People are welcome to join at any time. We are an inclusive, non judgmental group.

From the Stewardship Committee

A heartfelt thank you goes to all of our members who have completed their pledges for the upcoming 2025-26 fiscal year!! As of this writing less than half of our members have pledged, and we are less than halfway to our dollar pledge goal. For those who missed the pledge potluck, our annual expenses now are a bit more than \$1000/member. If you have not had a chance to chat with Fritz or Glen yet about your intentions for your contribution of record, please find time to do so. We will need to propose an annual budget prior to our annual meeting of the congregation and knowing the amount we can count on from pledges is the foundation of this budgeting effort. Glen can be contacted at 608-963-9773 or gjohnson@rucls.net. Fritz can be contacted at freecongregation@icloud.com. Thanks so much, Glen

We are currently in "fund raising mode" to replace our ancient elevator with one that actually goes up and down. John Lichtenheld has solicited bids, and it appears we need to have \$75,000 to purchase a new elevator. Our Capital Projects Fund has roughly 1/3 that amount, so we need to raise in excess of \$50,000. Please help us keep our beautiful Park Hall accessible to all of our members and visitors. If you are able to contribute, please send your check to Free Congregation of Sauk County, PO Box 664, Sauk City, WI 53583, and make a note in the memo For The Elevator Fund. Thanks again, Glen

Park Hall grounds are in need of a **Spring Pick Up**. Gil Williams has organized a cleanup party for **this Friday, April 18**, from **10:30 a.m. to noon**, followed by lunch out somewhere. Please bring rakes and gloves. We could use a mower or two for mulching. Gil earthdogghw@gmail.com, ph 608-574-6656.

Our congregation's rotation at the **Food Pantry** will be **Saturday, April 19**. We need volunteers from **9:00 a.m. until 10:45 a.m.** The Pantry is at **821 Industry Dr.** in **Sauk City**; please park on the street on the south side of the driveway. Let **Ellen Paul** know that you will help: eap313@gmail.com or phone 608-963-8451.

Please mark your calendar for **this Sunday's Free Thought Forum**. Member **Gilbert Williams** will be our guest speaker. Topic: **An Old Man Looks at American Agriculture**. In the midst of our uncertain world, Gil will discuss the current situation behind the nation's food supply both the bad and the good. The program will **start at 10:10 a.m.**, on **April 20**, in **Park Hall** and on **Zoom** (instructions are on the last page).

6:8 Sauk Prairie Against Hunger will host a **Night of Hope for the Hungry, Friday, April 25**, starting at **6:00 p.m.**, at **821 Industry Road, Sauk City**. There will be a Cook Off: (soup, bread, dessert), a Silent and Live Auction, and a cash bar.

Medication Take Back Day, Saturday, April 26, 9:00 a.m. to noon. Free, no registration. New location **SP Police Department, 640 13th St. Prairie du Sac**. Sponsored by the SP Healthcare Foundation. Packing instructions for medications: [Med Take Back Day](#).

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will meet **on Zoom** as usual on the fourth **Monday, April 28**, at **6:30 p.m.** The topic will be: **Letting Go**. 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.

The **Board of Directors** of the Free Congregation will meet on **May 11 at Park Hall at 11:30 a.m.** If you have an issue for us to an address, please email Susie Tatone, President of the Board at statone01@gmail.com so that it may be added to the agenda. The meeting will also be on Zoom

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.

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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