



## From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the Fifteenth of August. You will find contributions from **Nick Schweitzer, Susie Tatone, Philip Matthew, Ellen Paul, SP Conservation Alliance, Kathi Kemp, Melanie Weller, and Hope House**. 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
Aug 18	Free Thought Forum	Philip Matthews	Wormfarm Institute Farm/Art DTour
Aug 25	U.U. Program	Rob Brink	TBA
Sept 1	Spiritual Roundtable	all attending	Biblical Role of Women

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. 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 **September 8 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](mailto:statone01@gmail.com) so that it may be added to the agenda. The meeting will also be on Zoom.

**What I Believe Now**, our monthly adult discussion group, will meet as usual by Zoom on the fourth Monday of the month, **August 26**, from **6:30 to 8 p.m.** This month's topic will be **Lying: Moral and Ethical Questions**. Please email Jenni Walsh, [walshjenni77@gmail.com](mailto:walshjenni77@gmail.com), if you'd like to receive the questions, quotations, and the Zoom invitation.

Please join us this **Sunday, August 18**, for our **Free Thought Forum** program. Our guest speaker will be **Philip Matthews, Program Director for the Wormfarm Institute**. The program will be held in Park Hall and on Zoom; starting time is **10:10 a.m.** Childcare is provided.

From Philip Matthew:

Punctuating the Landscape Every other year, Wormfarm Institute invites thousands of rural residents and urban visitors to come closer to the land we all depend on. The Farm/Art DTour is a free, self-guided excursion by car, bike, or buggy through 50 miles of rural Sauk County, Wisconsin's working farmlands, punctuated by site-responsive artworks, pasture performances, roadside poetry, educational Field Notes, and local food markets. Along the way, DTourists discover the innovations and challenges of our farmers, artist-led community engagement, and rural people making their livelihoods in a changing economy and environment. Join Philip Matthews, Wormfarm's director of programs, to learn more about what to expect at this year's DTour (October 5-14) and to hear how this ten-year creative placemaking project has enriched Southwest Wisconsin's collective ecosystem, by integrating culture and agriculture and bridging the rural-urban divide.



For over a decade, Philip has led site-specific projects in performance, language and collaborative art. Prior to joining Wormfarm's team in 2020, he organized projects at the Pulitzer Arts Foundation in St. Louis including (with Ballroom Marfa) Marfa Dialogues/STL, a program series which invited scientists, artists, civic leaders and activists to seek solutions to Midwestern climate issues. A poet from eastern North Carolina, he is the author of two books.

### **Be Part of FCSC's Appearance at Cow Chip**

We are committed to being a presence at this year's Cow Chip Festival by being a gatekeeper at the **Lincoln Avenue gate to the grounds at Marion Park in PdS from 9-5**. There is a sign-up for two-hour slots.

Our task is simple! To greet people as they enter and when they depart, to remind them that alcohol is not to be taken out of the park. We are not to be confrontational at all. If they chose to leave with alcohol, that's their concern. They could be ticketed as this is a PdS ordinance. The Village of PdS requires that there be gatekeepers!

The Cow Chip Committee will provide us with a canopy and two chairs. We will provide a table and our FCSC materials. You may work in twos or alone.

In addition to creating visibility, FCSC will make \$20 per hour (even if two are on a shift, it's still \$20 per hour.) So we have a chance to make \$160 for FCSC.

Right now there are two people signed up for 9-11, and one person for 3-5p. Other open slots are 11-1 and 1-3.

Please contact Ellen Paul at [eap313@gmail.com](mailto:eap313@gmail.com) or text or call 608-963-8451. Thank you!

Mark your calendars! Our 5th Sunday program on **September 29** will be a trip to **Devil's Lake State Park**. Watch this space for more information.

**Sauk Prairie Community Acceptance Now (SP CAN) Sponsors October 4th Community Read and Events.** The topic of this year's SP CAN Community Read and accompanying activities is **Adult Mental Health**. This year's book selection is *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. There will be two book discussion groups, **October 8, 1 pm** at the George Culver Community Library and **October 17, 6:30 pm**, at the Ruth Culver Community Library. Books for the Community Read are free and may be picked up after September 2 at either local library. There are also two panel discussions scheduled. One is on **Suicide Prevention, October 21, 6:30 pm**, at the Ruth Culver Community Library and the other is on **Mental Health Resources October 28, 6:30 pm**, at the George Culver Community Library. In addition there will be a film screening of *The Hours* **October 24, 6 pm**, at the Ruth Culver Community Library. Find SP CAN on FB for more information.

The **Sauk Prairie Conservation Alliance** is hiring a part-time Executive Director to lead this grassroots conservation group into its next phase. The Alliance promotes and supports collaborative conservation on the 7,400-acre former Badger Army Ammunition Plant lands ("Badger Lands") in southern Wisconsin through ecological restoration, education, recreation and research. The Executive Director actively participates in the Sauk Prairie community through outreach events, business partnerships and Chamber membership. Visit [Exec. Dir. Job Opening](#).

From **Melanie Weller** and the **Portraits in the Hall Committee**: The Free Congregation of Sauk County will **dedicate and install a portrait of Mary Wollstonecraft at the 10:10 a.m. service on September 1, 2024**. In 1792 she was a "relentless champion" of the rule of reason and women's rights to an equal education. She was a philosopher, feminist, author, and war correspondent during the French Revolution. Among her authored pieces are, 'The Rights of Men', written in 1790, and 'The Vindication of the Rights of Women', in 1792. We honor Mary Wollstonecraft as exemplifying our values at Park Hall; equality among all peoples. We invite all to our dedication, and discussion of Mary Wollstonecraft's championed ideas and concerns, still with us more than 200 years later.

**Hope House** will facilitate the award-winning, evidence-informed *Stewards of Children* training on **Thursday, September 19, from 5:30 p.m.-8:30 pm** in the dining room at **6:8 in Sauk City**. *Stewards of Children* teaches adults practical actions they can take to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. Participants watch videos, complete workbook questions, and engage in discussion. 6:8 will be providing a light supper, or you can bring your own food and beverage if you prefer. Questions? Contact Jess at Hope House at [JessicaR@HopeHouseSCW.org](mailto:JessicaR@HopeHouseSCW.org) or phone 608-356-9123 x106. To register for this free training, please visit [tinyurl.com/3d67xk3d](https://tinyurl.com/3d67xk3d).

### **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](http://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.