



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the First of February. You will find contributions from **Jenni Walsh, Eleanor Chiquoine** 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
Feb 2	Spiritual Roundtable	All attending	Social Impact of Technology on Youth
Feb 9	U.U. Program	Robin Proud	Madame Restell, Most Hated Woman in NY
Feb 16	Free Thought Forum	Linda Meadowcroft	Ghost Eagles

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; Child Education classes meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Our Sunday programs are also available live on Zoom.

The **Board of Directors** of the Free Congregation will meet on **February 9, 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.

Our **February Free Thought Forum** will convene at Park Hall. Guest Speaker **Linda Meadowcroft** will present a talk about the book *Ghost Eagles*, by Jan Beaver, about the reclamation of a celebrated Ho-Chunk Mound Site. The programs **begins at 10:10 am** with brief announcements. Discussion and questions follow the presentation. We usually adjourn after 11:20 a.m. The public is invited. Childcare is provided. If you cannot attend in person, please join the meeting via Zoom from our website: <https://freecongregation.org/sunday-programs.aspx>. Please join us!

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will meet on Zoom as usual on the fourth **Monday, February 24th, at 6:30 p.m.** Please email **Jenni Walsh**, walshjenni77@gmail.com, if you'd like to receive a meeting invitation and list of questions in preparation for the gathering.

Diane Matzke teaches **Mindfulness Meditation** in the hall, **each Wednesday in February**. Sessions **start at 6:30 p.m.** and last one hour. All welcome. Free will donations accepted.

Our **refrigerator** has failed. Would anyone have an un-used refrigerator/freezer in working order, that you would donate? Contact Administrator Fritz if you can help.

As we have done since 1853, we celebrated the birth of Thomas Paine with our **173rd Painesfest Program** and Potluck, on January 19. Paine was an American revolutionary whose writings on liberty, democracy, and the separation of church and state were especially influential among German Free Thought groups. Author of *Common Sense*, he is considered an American Founding Father. First celebrated in January 1853, we commemorate Paine's life every 3rd Sunday of January. Photos by Eleanor Chiquoine.





30 people were in attendance for our '25 Painesfest Program.



Retired State Representative Dave Considine was the Guest Speaker at our Painesfest Program.

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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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.