



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the Fifteenth of January. I hope you will find it 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
Jan 26	U.U. Program	Rob Brink	TBA
Feb 2	Spiritual Roundtable	All attending	New Generations and Technology
Feb 9	U.U. Program	Robin Proud	Madame Restell

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.

Don't miss joining us on **Sunday, January 19, 2025**. As we have done 172 times since 1852, our **Painefest Holiday Program** will celebrate the birth of Thomas Paine, 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*, Paine is considered an American Founding Father. First celebrated in January 1853, we commemorate Paine's life every 3rd Sunday of January. Our guest speaker will be former **Representative Dave Considine**. He plans to discuss political correctness, rank choice voting, term limits, electoral college and Senate filibuster, and can we influence our government values? The program will **begin at 10:10 am** with an invitation to be seated, followed by brief announcements. Comments and discussion will follow the presentation. We usually adjourn by 11:20 a.m. On this holiday event, we will have a potluck meal downstairs after the program. Childcare is provided. The program will be on Zoom at <https://freecongregation.org/sunday-programs.aspx>.

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will meet on Zoom as usual on the fourth **Monday, January 27, at 6:30 p.m.** January's topic is **Helping Others**. 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.

For the Painesfest Potluck on January 19, we suggest the following foods by last name:

S-Z desserts

L-R entree dishes

A-K salads

Free Congregation of Sauk County Facilities Coordinator Job Hiring

The Facilities Coordinator is a Free Congregation employee with the following responsibilities.

- Serve as the contact person for all rental inquiries.
 - Meet with the rental requestor(s) at the Hall for a tour, discussion of the rental contract, and to answer questions.
 - Complete the contract with renters, take their deposits, and complete any other contractual items.
- Be a positive and welcoming presence for the use of FCSC facilities (Park Hall and its grounds, and the Andrew Roll meeting hall and grounds) by the community and Free Congregation of Sauk County members.
- Promote the use of FCSC facilities by the community whenever possible through newspaper articles, advertisements, Facebook and other social media, attendance at Chamber of Commerce and service club meetings, etc.
- Attend scheduled FCSC Board meetings and provide, in a timely fashion, a written Facilities Coordinator's report monthly.
- Respond to specific requests from the FCSC Board on an as-needed basis.
- Wage: \$18.50 per hour; average of 10.8 hours/month in 2024
- For information and to apply, contact Administrator Fritz Parks, freecongregation@iCloud.com, ph/voicemail 608.643.3131

Photos from our first Celebration of the Season

Photos by Barb Brown/Dave Casey



Carols sung by the First UCC Choir



The Madison Maennerchor



Indigenous costumes and dance

Scottish bagpiper and dancers



Photos from the Holiday Music Program with Shawndell Marks



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](http://www.freecongregation.org) our website homepage

Other Useful Links:

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

[Sign up for Newsletter List](#) use the form below newsletter links.

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.