



From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the Fifteenth of May. You will find contributions from **Dave Siegfried, Nick Schweitzer, Christine Meiners, John Lichtenheld, Gil Willians, Prairie UU Society, UU Women,** and **Good Neighbor Clinic.** I hope 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
May 17	Fruhlingsfest	Bill Volkert	Mystery of Bird Migration
May 24	U.U. Program	Robin Proud	Dorothea Dix
June 31	5th Sunday	All invited	Work Day

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).

174th Fruhlingsfest Spring Holiday Program and Potluck - May 17

Please mark your calendar for this Sunday! As we have done since 1852, Fruhlingsfest will celebrate the coming of Spring. **Naturalist Bill Volkert** will be our guest speaker; his topic will be **The Mystery of Bird Migration.** Bill has been watching and studying birds for 50 years and in his travels has sighted more than 4,900 species. To facilitate his studies, he is also a federally licensed master bird bander, with the Bird Banding Laboratory of the U.S. Geological Survey. The program starts at **10:10 a.m.** in Park Hall. **Ellen Paul** will host. You are welcome to attend on Zoom (instructions and link on last page). Our members will serve a potluck lunch afterwards. Come as you are. Bring your friends and your appetite.

Potluck Suggestions for May 17

We suggest potluck dishes according to our members' last names

- S-Z salads
- L-R entree dishes
- A-K desserts

What I Believe Now

The Adult Ed discussion group, **What I Believe Now,** is on hiatus in May and June, to return in July. Watch for details in the July newsletters.

We are a Growing Congregation! Help us plan for next year!

We have gained 12 new members in this church year! We are now 75 adults, in 21 households.

To plan our budget for the year starting July 1, we urgently need to hear our member's plans for giving. Please record your plans for 2026/2027 giving, **before May 20** if possible. Click to email your pledge to [Treasurer Joe Frost](#) or [Stewardship Chair Glen Johnson](#) or [Administrator Fritz Parks](#). Thank you!

Board of Directors Meeting

The **Board** of the Free Congregation will meet on **June 14 at Park Hall 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](#) so that it may be added to the agenda.

Facilities Coordinator Report - April 12, 2026

PAST/ONGOING EVENTS

Bi-Monthly - Wednesdays- Mindfulness Sessions with Diane Matzke- 6:30-7:30 pm

April 10th - 12th - SPTG Spring Comedy Performances

FUTURE SCHEDULED EVENTS [check the [Free Congregation Calendar](#) for times]

Aug 2nd - Celebration of Life - Michael Whaley, details pending

September 26, 2026 3:00pm - nonmember wedding ceremony and rehearsal

Wednesday, October 7 – Monday, October 12, 2026 - WormFarm Institute: A Decomposition, using both Park Hall space and Cemetery

November 26, 2026 - member family holiday celebration

December 12, 2026 - member family gathering

December 19, 2026 - nonmember family gathering

OTHER/PENDING

December - Nonmember family Christmas - Date TBD

Sauk Prairie Chamber of Commerce is seeking video footage for a Sauk Prairie promotion:

“We’re working on a promotional video to highlight the variety of event spaces in Sauk Prairie and attract more events to our area.

“We’d love to include your space! If you have existing video footage, please feel free to share. You’re also welcome to capture footage during an upcoming event —anything that showcases the types of events you host and what makes your space unique.

“Examples could include small gatherings (paint & sip), holiday parties, weddings, workshops, conferences, expos, and more.”

Prairie UU's new solar panels

You are invited to celebrate Prairie UU's new solar panels **tomorrow, May 16, 12-1:30 pm** at **2010 Whenona Drive, in Madison** . Prairie will have **free pizza, cake, music and kids activities**. Hope to see you there! ~ Prairie UU Society.



SPRING SOLAR CELEBRATION

SATURDAY MAY 16TH 2026

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR SOLAR PANEL CELEBRATION!

12PM PIZZA

12:15PM SOLAR PANEL RIBBON CUTTING

12:30PM CAKE, KIDS ACTIVITIES & MUSIC

2010 WHENONA DRIVE
MADISON, WI 53711

From the
Good
Neighbor
Clinic

Join Our Summer Fun!

The Good Neighbor Ride

A COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE TO HONOR THE LEGACY
OF DR. HAAKON CARLSON

Tuesday, May 19, 2026

Rain Date Thursday, May 21

SaukPrairieHealthcare.org/good-neighbor-ride

Bike on the Great Sauk State Trail and finish at your own pace. All proceeds benefit the Good Neighbor Clinic.

Starts in the Good Neighbor Clinic Parking Lot
New location: 726 Water St. in Sauk City

5:00 p.m. Registration

5:15 p.m. Opening Remarks

5:30 p.m. Ride Begins

May 31 Work Day

Many tasks will be available. **Inside:** finish work on the inside sheet rock; caulking the splash guard above the kitchen sink; replace loose chair leg cushions. **Outside:** re-attach the plexiglass cover on the marquee sign; rake and prepare the ground for a fire circle; place the metal fire pit; assemble the log pieces as seats. Bring gloves, rakes, rags etc. Childcare will be provided. Please join us.



UU Women's Federation

May is **Mothering the Movement Month**, 30 days of celebrating the transformative power of mothering in the broadest sense of the word. If you haven't interacted with UUWF in a while, check out their special programming for congregations, cohorts and identity-based support for women+ groups, toolboxes, workshops, and more. [UU Women home page](#)

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 may not be active 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

Other Useful Links:

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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.