

Sunday, May 18, 2008 – 10:00am  
Free Thought Forum

# **Terra-Theism: God and Goodness in Natural Communities**

with guest speaker Andrew Kerr

Where do we get our ideas about God? Often, God is understood as the most perfect manifestation of existence. Since our culture tends to view existence under the guise of the 'separate individual,' our theology also views God as a perfect kind of 'separate individual.' The result is supernaturalism and an emphasis on God's power. What if we view existence as more communal? What if God were the perfect example of an existence based on relationships? Join us at Park Hall this Sunday to hear an alternative theology, where God is natural rather than supernatural, where God is receptive as well as active, where God is loving rather than powerful.

**Andrew Kerr** completed Ph.D work in philosophy and religion at the University of Chicago. His unfinished dissertation proposed a theory of environmental ethics using the metaphysics and philosophical theology of Alfred North Whitehead. But the writings of Aldo Leopold and the Nearings got the better of him, and he abandoned academics to pursue small-scale farming. He and his spouse Jennifer currently operate Greenspirit Farm, a sustainable 4 acre small-fruit and vegetable CSA outside of Dodgeville. As of May 1, 2008, Andrew is the Speaker of the Free Congregation of Sauk County. He will preside and speak on fourth Sundays through September. The plan is for him to speak on second Sundays as well, October through March.

*Free Thought Forums take place the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month and typically comprise a 25 to 30 minute talk followed by up to a half-hour of dialogue, discussion, and sharing. If you haven't been in a while, please consider coming: **We're in the midst of innovation!** As always: coffee, tea, edibles provided (and accepted).*

**Next Sunday, May 25, 10:00 a.m.**

**UU Service with Andrew Kerr, Speaker of the Free Congregation.  
Andrew's Reflection will be "Life More Abundantly".**

**A brief reception for Andrew will follow the service. Please join us to welcome Andrew as our new Speaker.**