



## From the Administrator,

Welcome to the newsletter for the **Fifteenth of December**. You will find contributions from **Dave Siegfried, Nick Schweitzer, Penny Andrews, Fritha Irwin, and 3 Congregational Committees: 3rd Sunday, Celebration of the Season, Personnel.**

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
Dec 21	Seasonal Program	All attending	songs, poems, coffee, fellowship
Dec 28	U.U. Program	Robin Proud	Love & Anarchy: Emma Goldman
Jan 4	Spiritual Roundtable	All attending	Triggers & Trauma

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.

## Next Meeting of the Board

The **Board of Directors** of the Free Congregation will meet on **Sunday, January 11 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.

## What I Believe Now

The adult discussion group, **What I Believe Now**, will not meet in December. The next meeting will be on January 29th, with a topic to be determined.

## 3rd Sunday of December

On the day after our big Celebration of the Season Event, we'll have a low key gathering, **Sunday, December 21, at 10:10 a.m.** Please join us, bring a poem you'd like to read, a seasonal song to sing. We could use a volunteer to play piano. Let Fritz know if that could be you.

## 2026 Painesfest Holiday Program & Potluck is moved to January 25

Our Guest Speaker will be Professor Daniel Kapust, UW Dept of History, who is an authority on Thomas Paine. Dr. Kapust's travel out of the country requires us to move our program back to the 4th Sunday of January. We will have a potluck as usual. Please make a note of it.

**Don't miss this annual event, which helps our congregation grow.  
Please invite your neighbors and family.**



In conjunction with this free event, a ticketed German Dinner will be served: adults: \$18, kids under 10: \$12. Seating will be limited to 60. Unreserved tickets will be sold at the door.

For info, event poster, dinner menu & advanced ticket sales:

<https://freecongregation.org/home.aspx>

### **Takeout Food Containers**

The kitchen requests folks bring clean, empty food containers to Park Hall so that dinner leftovers can go home with guests.

### **Michael Irwin - 1943–2025**

Long-time member Michael Irwin passed away **December 8, 2025**. His **Celebration of Life** will be held at **1 pm, January 8, 2026**, at the Free Congregation's **Park Hall, 307 Polk St., Sauk City**. You may read Mike's obituary here: **Hooverson Funeral Homes**.

## **Penny Andrews News**

Associate Speaker Dr. Penny Andrews was hospitalized November 23 for pneumonia and lung blood clots. This illness coincided with the unexpected death of her 55 year old son. Penny reports that she is recovering at home and supporting her daughter in law and grandchildren. Please send loving kindness to Penny and family.



## **Free Congregation of Sauk County Seeks to hire a Facilities Coordinator**

The Facilities Coordinator is an employee of the Free Congregation 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.
- Part-time, \$18.50 per hour. Hours vary with scheduled events.
- Address inquiries to the Administrator. Please use the Contact Information at the bottom of any page of our website: <https://freecongregation.org>

## **Volunteer Opportunities December 28 and January 11**

**Opening** the hall, bring the coffee, hot water, mugs, glasses etc. upstairs.

**Closing** the hall, taking the coffee etc. down to the kitchen and generally cleaning up, either loading and starting the dishwasher or washing all the cups, etc.

## **More volunteers opportunities**

to be backup for A/V duties,

to serve on the Outreach Committee,

to serve on the Volunteer Committee.

Please contact **Ellen**, [cap313@gmail.com](mailto:cap313@gmail.com) or text to 608-963-8451 if you can volunteer.

## **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://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.