

A Little About Us...

This congregation began as the Freie Gemeinde (The Free Congregation) in 1852. Its founders—most of whom came to the United States from the German states and principalities after the failed liberal revolutions of the 1840's—were seeking freedom to practice their beliefs, express their thoughts, and search for the truth without interference from government and church. Park Hall, still known locally as Freethinkers Hall, was constructed in 1884, designed by Sauk City born architect Alfred Clas.

Of the many Free Congregations established in America by free-thinking German immigrants in the 19th century, most did not survive the First World War and the pervasive anti-German prejudice that accompanied it. Only a dozen or so Free Congregations survived World War II. In 1955, faced with declining numbers and an aging membership, our congregation affiliated with the American Unitarian Association, a movement for liberal religious thought and practice. In 1961 the Unitarian Association and the Universalist Denomination merged, and we took on the name that we bear today: The Free Congregation of Sauk County—a Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Our values and the diversity of our heritage are reflected in the programs and services that we hold at Park Hall. The 2nd and 4th Sunday programs generally follow a UU order of service. These include reflections by our Speaker, a visiting UU minister, or other guest. The first Sunday of the month we hold a roundtable Reflection Hour on a variety of topics. The Third Sunday is our Free Thought Forum, in which a guest presenter engages an historical, cultural, philosophical, or social issue of special significance to this free religious community. Child care is available the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Sundays of the month.



We are proud to support our LGBTQ members and friends.

The Free Congregation of Sauk County—
A Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

July 24, 2016

**JOINT MEETING
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS**

IMBY (IN MY BACKYARD)



Larry Collins
Associate Speaker, FCSC

PO Box 644
307 Polk Street
Sauk City, WI 53583
609-643-3131
Free_congregation@frontier.com
www.freecongregation.org

Order of Program

July 24, 2016

Gathering: <i>Prelude in C major, J.S. Bach.</i>	Marita Kelter
Welcome	Michael Whaley, President, FCSC
Prelude: <i>Gavotte, David Popper</i>	Marita Kelter
Announcements:	Susan Larkin
Readings: <i>The Healing Power of Nature, Alexandra Sifferlin,</i> <i>Time Magazine</i>	Larry Collins
Lighting of the Candle	Larry Collins
Opening Hymn: #42 <i>So Fair to See</i>	Marita Kelter
Joys and Concerns	Larry Collins
Readings	
Offering: <i>Wandering Brook, Jean Martin</i>	Marita Kelter
Reflection: <i>IMBY (In My Backyard)</i>	Larry Collins
Congregational Dialogue	
Hymn: #21 <i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	Marita Kelter
Closing Words	
Postlude: <i>Curious Story, Stephen Heller</i>	Marita Kelter

Special thanks to the Rev. Sandra Ingham and members of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Church for their help in organizing our program today.

We are delighted to have you here for this morning's program. If you'd like to know more about our congregation or beautiful Park Hall, please don't hesitate to ask.

Upcoming Sunday Programs

Members and friends have two programs to choose from on July 31st. Not everyone has the expertise or the desire to work on projects at the hall. We welcome all who can, but for those who don't, a trip to Parfrey's Glen is on tap. See below.

Sunday July 31, 2016, 10:10 a.m., Work Sunday. The garden shed needs some outside work and the lean-to next to the back door needs cleaning. There is also some carpentry work to be done. If you can help, please contact a member of the Building and Grounds Committee: Steve Chiquoine, John Lichtenheld, Briana Burns, and Bill Ladewig.

Sunday, July 31, 2016, 10:10 a.m. Parfrey's Glen Nature Area Hike, Ed Riccardo will be heading up a trip to Parfrey's Glen Natural Area. Meet at Park Hall to carpool. Hiking boots, as well as other shoes to change into, are a good idea. The trail can sometimes be wet.

PLEASE be sure to make sure your clothing and, especially, your footwear is scrubbed clean of any soil or organic matter, as we wouldn't want to take any extra invasive seeds into a beautiful natural area that is already under attack from all sides.

And finally, Ed asks that you bring a van or multi-passenger vehicle if you are able to help carry passengers to the Glen.

Sunday, August 7, 2016, 10:10 a.m., "Great Expectations" - how what we think gets us in trouble, a roundtable discussion led by David Roberts.

Sunday, August 14, 2016, 10:10 a.m., Associate Speaker Candidate Dr. Penny Andrews will speak.

Sunday, August 21, 2016, 10:10 a.m., Free Thought Forum on Peace led by Ed Riccardo.

Sunday, August 28, 2016, 10:10 a.m., Associate Speaker Candidate Rob Brink will speak.

*Don't miss the student directed play, **Play the Hand That's Dealt**, Friday and Saturday, July 29 & 30 at the Free Congregation. More information is on the poster displayed on the center table.*