

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 special guest. The first Sunday of the month we hold a roundtable Spiritual 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 Annual Joint Unitarian Universalist Program

The Fork in the Road



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Sandy Ingham

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Order of Service

July 23, 2017

Gathering: *Prelude in C major*, J.S. Bach. Marita Kelter

Welcome

Prélude: *The Little Trifle (Le petit rien)*, François Couperin
Marita Kelter

Announcements Susan Larkin

Opening Words: *The Road Not Taken*, Robert Frost

Opening Hymn: #361, *Enter, Rejoice, and Come In* (all verses)
Marita Kelter

Lighting of the Candle: Responsive Reading # 610: *The Journey of Love*

Joys and Concerns

Offering: *Forget me Not*, Jean Martin Marita Kelter

Reflection: *A Fork in the Road*
Introduction: Robin Proud

Speakers:

Phoenix Wardell (read by Rick Ruecking)
Brienne Burne
Joe Vosen
Metie Butler
Tony Ring

Congregational Dialogue

Closing Hymn: #360, *Here We Have Gathered* Marita Kelter

Closing words: *The Journey*, Mary Oliver

Postlude: *Hungarian Rhapsody, No 2*, Liszt Marita Kelter

We are happy to have the members of Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society join us today for our annual program and potluck.

Special thanks to Robin Proud and Sandy Ingham for their work in putting today's program together.

We appreciate you who shared your journeys with us today.
Thank you!

Sunday, July 30, 2017, 10:10 a.m. Congregational Work Sunday.

We will be doing chores around the hall on this 5th Sunday. There will be plenty to do and tasks for all abilities.

- Clean out storage area under outside stairs
- Clean out kitchen shed storage area
- Chair feet
- Front flower bed clean-up (includes each side of the stairs).
- Speaker's office re-arrangement. Get rid of unused stuff.

And, should you run out of things to do, well the kitchen could always use some attention. Fridge and sinks, to be clear. I hear that CLR could clean the fog off our water glasses.