

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 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 provided every Sunday.

Upcoming Sunday Programs

Date	Program	Speaker	Topic
Aug 1	Spiritual Roundtable		Religious Freedom & Discrimination
Aug 8	Rescheduled FTF	David J. Olson	The Wood Wide Web
Aug 15	Free Thought Forum	Will Van Roosenbeek	LGBTQ Issues
Aug 22	U.U. Program	Robin Proud	Unitarian Frances Harper
Aug 29	5th Sunday	All invited	Work day at Park Hall

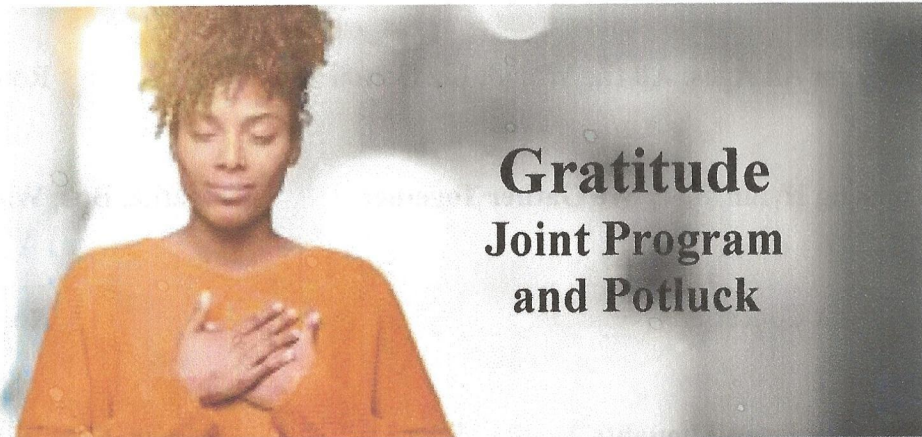


We are proud to support our LGBTQ members and friends.

The Free Congregation of Sauk County
A Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

July 25, 2021

Free Congregation of Sauk County Prairie Unitarian Universalist Society



Gratitude Joint Program and Potluck

307 Polk Street
Sauk City, WI 53583
608-643-3131
www.freecongregation.org

July 25, 2021

Joint Program with Prairie U.U.

Gathering: **Prelude in C major**, J.S. Bach Marita Kelter
Earth Song, Louise Hillery
Marita, Bob Kelter, percussion, Willy Walter, bassoon

Announcements Fritz Parks

Welcome & Program Introduction Robin Proud

Prelude: **Festival**, Louise Hillery Marita, Bob, Willy

Candle-Lighting and Poem: **Otherwise** by Jane Kenyon Robin & Fritz

Story for All Ages: **All the World**, Liz Garton Scanton Robin

Opening Hymn: **#349 We Gather Together** Marita, Bob, Willy

Joys and Concerns Robin

Offering: **Deep Thoughts**, Louise Hillery Marita, Bob, Willy

Poem: **The Peace of Wild Things**, Wendell Berry Fritz

Reflection on Gratitude #1 Barb Park

Reflection on Gratitude #2 Maria Hansa

On Gratitude

Poem: **Today Like Every Day**, Rumi Fritz

Reflection on Gratitude #3 Rachel Long

Reflection on Gratitude #4 Nick Schweitzer

Poem: **Gift**, Czeslaw Milosz Fritz

Reflection on Gratitude #5 Heidi Hughes

Discussion Congregation

Closing Hymn: **#21 For the Beauty of the Earth** Marita

Closing Words Robin

Postlude: **Blue Ocean**, Louise Hillery Marita, Bob, Willy

More Info

To keep up with the dates and topics of upcoming programs, announcements, news and other content, you have several options:

Our **newsletter** is published on the 1st and 15th of every month and is available on our website. Please send your contact information to our administrator to receive issue announcements.

Our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/FCSC2017/>

Our website: www.freecongregation.org