

# Ethical Connection

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The Ethical Society of St. Louis *A Welcoming Home for Humanists*

Volume 126, Number 18

May 16 - 31, 2012

**11 a.m., May 20**

**Why Do We Act Like Christians? Darrell Ray, Ed.D.**

**Music: Daniel Dickson, Thomas Winkler  
and Daniel Kuehler**



In his new book, *Sex and God: How Religion Distorts Sexuality*, Dr. Darrell Ray discusses the psychological damage and confusion that

religion creates and documents how many of our behaviors, ideas, shame and guilt are a result of unnatural religious training. We act like Christians and often don't even know it. In his talk, he will discuss how religious sexuality pervades our society and show how Christian, Mormon, Catholic, or Baptist sexuality is not human sexu-

ality. In many ways, religious sex is emotionally and physically unhealthy. Religious sexuality is fundamentally based on dishonesty about one's own sexual expression and condemnation of others.

This talk will challenge you to examine some of the religious myths and attitudes that you may continue to believe, even as a secularist.

**11 a.m., May 27**

**Remembrance Sunday**

**Music: Community and Chorus**

This Memorial Day weekend we will again come together as a community to acknowledge loss, grief, and change, and to celebrate and remember. Members are welcome to share memories, readings, music, or other tributes to a loved one or other important individual who has passed away. Kate Lovelady invites all those who wish to share to please contact her so she may coordinate this Platform. She can also arrange for someone to read your remembrance for you if you would prefer. You can also just come to the

platform and speak as you feel moved to. Remembrances of members we have lost this past year are especially encouraged.

**Split Collection:  
Beyond Housing**

Half of the May 27 undesignated\* collection will be donated to Beyond Housing.

Beyond Housing offers access to affordable housing, together with a comprehensive array of educational, employment, youth development and other support services. Visit [www.beyondhousing.org](http://www.beyondhousing.org)

for more information.

\*Please note: If you pay your membership pledge through the collection, write "pledge" on your check, and it will not be divided.

**The May 27  
Platform Flowers:  
Happy 60<sup>th</sup>  
Wedding Anniversary  
Steve and Joyce Best!  
Love from your family**

## Coming Up This Month

**MAY 17** ANNUAL MEETING

**MAY 19** SENIOR CONNECTIONS  
VOLUNTEER TRAINING

**MAY 22** LANDSCAPING 101

**MAY 28** MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVED. ETHICAL SOCIETY CLOSED.

## Inside This Issue

ANNUAL MEETING	2
MEMBER NEWS	3
TWA TALK	4
EARTH ETHICS	5
CALENDAR	7

# Ethical Connection May 16 – 31, 2012

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## Annual Membership Meeting

All Society members are encouraged to come to the 2012 Annual Membership meeting to be held Thursday evening, May 17, in the Assembly Hall. A dessert potluck will be at 7 p.m. and

the meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. Come learn about the Society's progress last year from Kate and members of the Board. Society members will vote on candidates for the Board and

Program Council and on the annual operating budget. I hope to see you there.

Alan Easton, President  
Board of Trustees

## Sunday School Staffing News

It is with great pleasure that we announce the hiring of **Rachel Valenti** as Sunday School Director and Special Interest Coordinator. Rachel has extensive experience with creating and growing educational programs, and

her expertise and energy will be a wonderful asset to the Ethical Society Sunday School. Rachel will officially begin work this August. In the meantime, she is writing curriculum along with Mary Kaeser-Miller. So we will

have a fabulous curriculum this coming fall to look forward to! Rachel has also been attending the Society and bringing her son Theo to Sunday School.

WELCOME  
RACHEL  
VALENTI!

## Annual Ethical Society Book Fair

The Annual Ethical Society Book Fair offers an excellent opportunity to recycle your unwanted books, records, tapes, CDs and DVDs. The event also offers incredible bargains if you are looking for any of those items. It's a winning event all the way around!

ing solicited beginning May 20 on the lower level of the Ethical Society. Help raise money for the Ethical Society by donating used books, vinyl records, audio/video tapes and CD/DVDs to the Annual Book Fair.

book page. The link to the Book Fair flyer is <http://ethicalstl.org/bookfair.pdf>. For more information on how you can help with this important Society fundraiser, please contact David Brown, (314) 821-3130 or [david@thebrowngreens.com](mailto:david@thebrowngreens.com).



Shop 'til you drop on  
June 16

The Book Fair is on Saturday, June 16. Donations are be-

Encourage family and friends to come shop. You can also help us promote the Book Fair by mentioning it on your Face-

## Ethical Society Survey Results

We are learning more about what you think - your concerns, ideas for change, and hopes for the future. Besides some important "nuts-and-bolts" information, your *Pie-in-the-Sky* and *In Your Wildest Dreams* responses will help guide Board goals.

Your suggestions ranged from ideas such as presenting a series on the challenges of a new century, to banding together with other congregations to annihilate local poverty and hunger, to purchasing condominiums to rent to senior ES members. On the topic of collaboration within

Ethical Society, the suggestions were equally diverse. Outreach to "families" was ranked #1 by two-thirds of respondents.

Summary of Survey results are posted on the Ethical Society website in the "Members' Area" section.

LEARNING  
WHAT YOU  
THINK

## Member News

The April 29 Pancake Breakfast to celebrate the end of the Annual Pledge Campaign was enjoyed by all who attended. Special thanks to **David Brown** and the Development Committee for all their hard work organizing, cooking and serving for this event. Also on April 29, the Silent Auction items were un-

veiled and opened for bidding. **Joe Corrigan** and the Auction Committee volunteers are to be congratulated for gathering such an incredible array of items and running the auction which ended on May 6. Pancake Breakfast and Auction photos supplied by Laurie Fields and Mary Ann Tipton.

Thanks, also, to all the people who donated and purchased auction items.

Please e-mail member news items to [pr@ethicalstl.org](mailto:pr@ethicalstl.org).



## 2011-2012 Sunday School Season

The end of the 2011-2012 Ethical Society Sunday School year is quickly approaching on May 20. Many thanks to **Jill Henderson, Kitt Rogers,** and **Haley Pepper** for an outstanding job of organizing and running the program this year. Thanks, also, to Nursery teachers **Linda Varadachari** and **Sunny Bokal, Nick Cowan** for leading Coming of

Age, **Mary Murphy-Overmann** for leading the Youth Group, all of the volunteer teachers and those who led special interest groups.

Even though classes end on May 20, childcare will still be available on Sunday mornings throughout the summer. An adult and two

of our Youth Group teens will be on hand from 10 a.m. until noon. The Nursery/Pre-school will be staffed as well as supervision for older kids downstairs. We hope you'll take advantage of the free child care and continue to enjoy Platform over the summer.



## Ethical Humanist of the Year

### The Ethical Humanist of the Year Award was established in 1975

by the late James S. McDonnell in honor of James F. Hornback, Leader of the Ethical Society at that time. The award is given in recognition of individuals or organizations who have exemplified ethical humanism in their approach to community concerns. One nominee from the extended St. Louis community is selected each year to receive the award, which

carries an honorarium of \$1000.

Highlight Ethical Humanism and recognize a deserving individual or organization by nominating them for this prestigious award. The Humanist of the Year Committee seeks nominations for the 2012 award. The 2012 honoree joins such luminaries as our own Bud Deraps and last year's recipient, immigrant rights activist, Joan Suarez. Please visit the Ethical Society website

[www.ethicalstl.org](http://www.ethicalstl.org) for com-

plete nomination details.

The deadline for submissions is **Friday, June 29**. The award ceremony will be held on Sunday, September 30, 2012. If you have any questions, please direct them to Humanist of the Year Committee Chair, Eileen Pacino at (314) 330-3279, or by e-mail at [pacleen56@yahoo.com](mailto:pacleen56@yahoo.com).



# Ethical Connection May 16 – 31, 2012

## TWA Talk



Susan Glaspell

The Tuesday Women's Association (TWA) meets in the Assembly Hall **every Tuesday** from 10 a.m. until after noon.

TWA's mission is to nurture women at all stages of life through ongoing friendship, programs, events and day-trips of interest. TWA members welcome guests at all meetings and events.

**May 22 - 10:30 a.m., Where Has Feminism Been and Where Should It Go?** This intergenerational panel and open discussion will explore how feminism has affected the lives of women in the twentieth century, how its

meaning and focus have changed over the years, and what challenges need to be faced by feminists for the twenty-first century. The panel, which includes TWA members, will be facilitated by Kate Lovelady.

**May 29 - 10:30 a.m.** Play reading and discussion of "Trifles" by Susan Glaspell. This 1916 play is considered an early feminist work, as it explores the roles of men and women in marriage and exposes sexist attitudes of its time. The story is loosely based on a real murder mystery. The staged reading will

be acted by members and friends of the TWA and Men's Forum followed by discussion. Facilitated by Kate Lovelady.

After the 10:30 a.m. programs, members and guests are invited to stay for a Brown Bag Lunch. Lunch is followed by News of Members Roundtables and/or Mah Jongg at 12:30 p.m. Also, Brucie Tuttle will lead a Great Decisions discussion in the Youth Group Room at 12:30 p.m. on both days.

For information, contact Mary Cosner at (314) 878-2659.

## New Ethical Connection Deadlines

The Ethical Connection will be published once a month beginning with the June 1 edition. The new deadline for submissions will be the **15th of each month** preceding the

issue date. If your event or program takes place in the first week of a month, it is recommended that notice be submitted an entire month ahead of time.

Please e-mail newsletter material to [connec-tion@ethicalstl.org](mailto:connection@ethicalstl.org).



New deadline

## Chorus

The 2011-2012 season is about to come to a close on Remembrance Sunday. Therefore, we at the society would like to give special thanks to the chorus for a great season of singing and song leading. The volunteers that make up the Chorus are greatly appreciated for their

time and efforts towards music making and in participating in the many diverse Platforms at the Society. They will be off for the summer, but shall return in the fall. Rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, August 27, at 7 p.m. in preparation for the Fall Gathering on Sun-

day, September 9. The Chorus always welcomes anyone to join the music making! Contact Music Director JD Brooks, [jdbrooks@ethicalstl.org](mailto:jdbrooks@ethicalstl.org) or (314) 991-0955, ext. 218, for information.

## Summer Colloquy

The Colloquy schedule will change during the summer. After May 27, there will be one colloquy at 9:45 a.m. on

Sunday, June 17 and another on 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, July 15. After that, colloquy will resume in Septem-

ber. Thanks to all who attended this season.

CHECK  
SUMMER  
SCHEDULES OF  
PROGRAMS

## Landscaping 101 Class

Stephanie Sigala, Master Gardener and art historian, will facilitate this two-session class on Tuesdays May 15 and May 22 at 7-9 p.m. in the Hanke Room. This class will include a slide show followed by a very interactive discussion. The first session

(May 15) will be "Creating a Welcoming Front Yard" followed by "Designing a Multifunctional Back Yard" on May 22. Tuition will be \$15 per session.

To register, please contact Stephanie Sigala at (314)

821-7758 or [stephanie.sigala@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stephanie.sigala@sbcglobal.net).



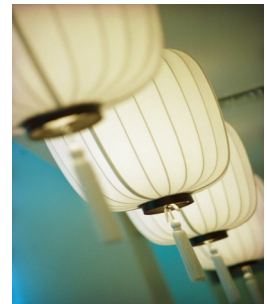
Dig this class!

## Garden Tour Fundraiser

Tour the Missouri Botanical Garden's Chinese Lantern Festival with Stephanie Sigala on Saturday, June 2 from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Get a daytime look at the 26 spectacular larger-than-life Chinese lanterns installed on the Garden grounds this summer. Stephanie is a Garden docent and art historian

who will give you an inside look at these unique installations from China as we stroll the Garden. Lunch following the tour in the Garden Café is optional. This is a fundraiser for the Ethical Society. 16 persons max. \$10 for the tour. The Garden admission is free before noon on Saturdays. To register for this fun

fundraiser, please contact Stephanie at (314) 821-7758 or [stephanie.sigala@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stephanie.sigala@sbcglobal.net).



Chinese lanterns

## Earth Ethics

The next Earth Ethics meeting, May 22 at 7 p.m. in the Hanke Room, will be about "How to Make a Drastic Reduction in Your Carbon Footprint." The presentation will emphasize minimizing your footprint without making huge sacrifices and saving a lot of money in the long run.

Our own Ethical Society Member Jim Seko, a retired Electrical Engineer, has offered to share his eco-rich research and background knowledge with our Earth

Ethics group. Among the topics he will cover are infrared heat, ocean acidification, triple pane windows, heat pumps, hybrid electric water heaters, cars, and much more. His concrete examples illustrated with pictures and chart comparisons may alarm yet help us make changes toward a better future.

The EE Group is planning a Fieldtrip on Saturday, June 16, to tour the Labadie Coal Ash Landfill Site, take in an early dinner at the Haw-

thorne Restaurant, and go to a Bluegrass Musical Concert.

For more information and/or to sign up, contact Toni Wirts by the end of May at [toniwirts@hotmail.com](mailto:toniwirts@hotmail.com).

REDUCING  
YOUR  
CARBON  
FOOTPRINT

# Ethical Connection May 16 – 31, 2012

## New Ethics in Action Directory



Ethics in Action

The Ethical Action Committee (EAC) promotes and coordinates ethical social action between the Society and the surrounding community. Members of the Ethical Society embrace a diversity of political and social viewpoints and participate in various causes on a local and na-

tional level.

EAC members Christine Floss and Brian Hall have created a wonderful new resource called the Ethics in Action Directory, which is a listing of local organizations with volunteer opportunities. If you're looking for ways to

help the larger community in addition to Ethical Society projects, check out the directory on [www.ethicalstl.org](http://www.ethicalstl.org). Christine will maintain the Ethics in Action Directory and will be adding more opportunities over time.

## Spam E-mails and Malware

Recently, many members' e-mail address books have been compromised by malware and spam. Malware is short for malicious software that is designed to disrupt computer operation, gather sensitive information, or gain unauthorized access to computers.

There have been spam e-mails going around that look like they are from people you know. Some of them have a subject line that says "hey" or "hello" and a message that says "Wow this is pretty awesome..." or "Wow

this is amazing..." with a link to look at. Don't click on the link. This is spam and possibly dangerous to your computer. Clicking on it may install malware.

Always be careful about the sites you go to and the programs you download. Don't open anything that looks odd or that you don't expect. Do not install software from unknown or not trustworthy sources, especially if that software comes as an installer package and requests your administrator's password!

Also, always make sure you renew your antivirus software to keep it up to date and that the software is updating itself. If you have paid your antivirus, but it is not updating itself, you may have malware, like a virus on your computer.

Doreen Hulse, the Ethical Society's webmaster, has put directions for finding out if your computer is infected with malware on the website, [www.ethicalstl.org](http://www.ethicalstl.org).



Be careful what you open

## Senior Connections Training

Senior Connections will hold the second part of their Good Neighbor training at the Ethical Society on Satur-

day, May 19, from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Please call (314) 727-9202 to register or go to the website

print an application and mail or fax it.

## Committee of Concern

The Committee of Concern (CoC) wants to prevent Ethical Society members from "falling through the cracks" when life's more difficult challenges befall them. CoC volunteers visit ill members,

check in with homebound members, offer advice in their areas of expertise, and help facilitate caring services.

If you are in need of such

service, please email **Brian Hall** at [ethicalstl-coc@yahoo.com](mailto:ethicalstl-coc@yahoo.com) or call (314) 762-0423.

FALLING  
THROUGH  
THE CRACKS

## Calendar of Events May 16 – 31, 2012

### Wednesday, May 16

5 pm **Moderation Management**. Facilitator: Donna Dierker. Hanke Room. For information, [www.moderation.org](http://www.moderation.org)

7 pm **Chorus Rehearsal**. Auditorium.

### Thursday, May 17

5:30 pm **Yoga with Jane House**. [janehouse3@gmail.com](mailto:janehouse3@gmail.com). Foyer.

### Saturday, May 19

9 am **Senior Connections Volunteer Training**. Assembly Hall. For information, call (314) 727-9202.

### Sunday, May 20

8 am **Ethical Mindfulness Practice**. Foyer.

**9:45 am Forum** "Civic Duty" Discussion led by Dalton Baker Hanke Room.

9:45 am **Colloquy**. A new topic each week. Board Room.

10 am - noon **Sunday School**

**11 am Platform**: "Sex and God" Dr. Darrell Ray. Music: Daniel Dickson, Thomas Winkler and Daniel Kuehler. Auditorium.

### Monday, May 21

7:30 pm **Spotlight on Opera**. Visit [www.operastl.org](http://www.operastl.org) for information. Auditorium.

### Tuesday, May 22

9 am **Ethical Mindfulness Practice**. Leader's office.

10 am **Tuesday Women's Association**. See page 4.

10 am - 12 pm. **Men's Forum**. Fred Tuttle presents the program. Hanke Room.

7 pm **Landscaping 101**. See page 5. Hanke Room.

### Wednesday, May 23

5 pm **Moderation Management**. Facilitator: Donna Dierker. Hanke Room. For information, [www.moderation.org](http://www.moderation.org)

7 pm **Chorus Rehearsal**. Auditorium.

### Thursday, May 24

5:30 pm **Yoga with Jane House**. [janehouse3@gmail.com](mailto:janehouse3@gmail.com). Foyer.

### Sunday, May 27

8 am **Ethical Mindfulness Practice**. Foyer.

**9:45 am Forum** Exploring Ethical Humanism series with Kate Lovelady. This month's topic: Ethical Society memorial traditions. How do Ethical Societies mark the passing of a life and talk about death? Hanke Room.

9:45 am **Colloquy**. A new topic each week. Board Room.

10 am - noon **Sunday School**

**11 am Platform**: "Remembrance Sunday" Music: Community and Chorus. Auditorium.

### Monday, May 28

The Ethical Society will be closed for Memorial Day.

### Tuesday, May 29

9 am **Ethical Mindfulness Practice**. Leader's office.

10 am **Tuesday Women's Association**. See page 4.

10 am **Men's Forum**: "Classical Mythology" Don McQueen; 11 am "My Immigrant Parents" Dario Cova. Hanke Room.

### Wednesday, May 30

5 pm **Moderation Management**. Facilitator: Donna Dierker. Hanke Room. For information, [www.moderation.org](http://www.moderation.org)

### Thursday, May 31

5:30 pm **Yoga with Jane House**. [janehouse3@gmail.com](mailto:janehouse3@gmail.com). Foyer.

## Regular Meetings

Board of Trustees: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 6:30 pm Board Room

Committee of Concern: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 9:45 am Art Room

Ethical Action Committee: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Jan., May, Sept. & Nov. 12:30 pm Board Room

Ethical Education: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 7 pm Board Room

Membership: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 9 am Leader's Office

Program Council: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7 pm Assembly Hall

Visitors' Open House: Every Sunday, 12:15 pm VOH Room

# Ethical Connection

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The submission deadline for the June **Connection** is May 15, 2012  
E-mail items to Cathy Spalding, at [connection@ethicalstl.org](mailto:connection@ethicalstl.org) or bring or mail them to the Ethical Society of St. Louis;  
Attn: Connection



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