



AHA Chapter

THE NEWSLETTER OF

The HUMANIST ASSOCIATION of CONNECTICUT

November 2014



CSH Affiliate

Interbelief Service as an Alternative to Dialogue

Please join us on Monday, November 17 at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, when we are pleased to welcome Wendy Webber of Yale Humanist Community as our featured speaker.

Dialogue has become a hallmark of interfaith engagement. But is dialogue necessarily the best starting point for interbelief relationships? Dialogue usually is focused on canvassing differences or finding similarities. Is covering the difficult differences in belief the best place to start? How useful is covering common ground if we don't have the intimacy to tackle the differences? How can we forge genuine relationships with people from different traditions before we come together for dialogues? Can service provide an opportunity to find such relationships to create foundations for the difficult topics?

Wendy will share stories of her year with Pathfinders Project — an international humanist service project designed to find the location to start the permanent Humanist Service Corps. She will recount her experience of teaching in Buddhist pagodas in Asia and visiting camps for alleged witches in Africa as a humanist. She will discuss the lessons she learned about service and interbelief engagement while participating in Pathfinders Project and how she is attempting to implement those lessons in her humanist communities and work in the United States.

Wendy is currently the Volunteer Committee Coordinator with Yale Humanist Community. She also volunteers with Foundation Beyond Belief working on their Challenge the Gap category

Calendar of Events

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are held at USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden, CT. RSVP for dinners at meetup.com/cthumanist.

NOVEMBER 2014

Sat., 1	Humanist Conversations: Ezekiel Emanuel — "Why I Hope to Die at 75"	2:30 p.m
Mon., 3	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 15	Book Group: "The End of Men: And The Rise of Women" by Hanna Rosin	2:00 p.m.
Mon., 17	Monthly Meeting Main program: Wendy Webber of Yale Humanist Community — <i>Interbelief Service as an Alternative to Dialogue</i>	7:30 p.m 8:00 p.m
Sun., 23	Board meeting	2:30 p.m

DECEMBER 2014

Mon., 1	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave., West Haven. (203) 933-0002	7:00 p.m
Sat., 6	Humanist Conversations: TBA	2:30 p.m
Mon., 15	Potluck dinner Annual Business Meeting & Elections, followed by our Winter Solstice Party	7:30 p.m 8:00 p.m
Thu., 25	Dinner at Tom & Deidre Kennedy's home in Shelton	4:00 p.m

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of charitable giving. While at Yale Divinity School, where she studied oppression, religious outsiders, and atheist/religious relations, she helped found an atheist, agnostic, and multifaith community that continues to foster interbelief dialogues and initiatives on campus. Wendy is the founder of The Interbelief Store — a community of artists representing many faith and ethical traditions that supports a

similarly diverse group of social justice beneficiaries. Wendy also writes about religion, atheism, and interbelief engagement primarily for her blog (interbelief.com), NonProphet Status, State of Formation, and Applied Sentience.

The evening will start at 7:30 p.m. with an informal half hour of conversation and refreshments. Wendy will talk following brief announcements at 8:00 p.m.

500 Thanksgiving Dinners

Every year June Schafer works with the Interfaith Cooperative Ministries to help provide the turkeys and pies, host sit-down meals for 100 homeless and working poor, and deliver the remaining dinners to elderly persons in their homes on Thanksgiving Day. This year ICM will provide 500 dinners because of the greatly increased need. Requests for food are already pouring in. If you can help with a donation of money or wish to help in person on Thanksgiving Day, please call June right away at (203) 281-6232.

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Email List

To join, send an email to:
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Friday Nov. 14th: USNH Social Cinema & UUSC "Guest At Your Table" Haitian Dinner

What have the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) and their partner organizations accomplished to improve the lives of people in the aftermath of the Haitian Earthquake? Find out in this collection of short films about the UUSC & their Partner Projects in Haiti.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m., film at 7:15 p.m.

Guest at Your Table is an education and fund-raising

Book Discussion: The End of Men

The Book Group will next meet on Saturday, November 15 at USNH at 2:00 p.m. We will be discussing "The End of Men: And The Rise of Women" by Hanna Rosin.

By almost every measure, women are no longer gaining on men: they have pulled decisively ahead. In this book, Rosin reveals how this new state of affairs is radically shifting the power dynamics between men and women at every level of society, with profound implications for marriage, sex, children, work, and more. With wide-ranging curiosity and insight unhampered by assumptions or ideology, Rosin shows how the radically different ways men and women today earn, learn, spend, couple up—even kill—has turned the big picture upside down. In "The End of Men" she helps us see how, regardless of gender, we can adapt to the new reality and channel it for a better future. - *courtesy Amazon and edited*

Copies of the book are available in many public libraries in Connecticut. Refreshments will be served.

YHC: Atheists in Foxholes

Yale Humanist Community will host a discussion on the current state of non-believers in the armed forces, featuring Jason Torpy (President, Military Association of Atheists and Freethinkers) and first-ever Humanist Navy chaplain candidate Jason Heap (National Coordinator for the United Coalition of Reason) on Thursday, November 6, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in room 101 of Yale's Linsly-Chittenden Hall at 63 High St. in New Haven.

There will be a reception at 9:00 p.m., after the discussion.

Conversations

In the September issue of *the Atlantic*, Ezekiel Emanuel's article, "Why I Hope to Die at 75," presents his argument that society and families—and you—will be better off if nature takes its course swiftly and promptly. It is available online under features: www.theatlantic.com/features. Please read it if you can.

We will supplement the article with a short video interview with him on his article. Please join us at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 1. Refreshments will be served.

Please include a SASE to have material returned. Approximate circulation: 180 copies. Annual subscription price \$10.00, included in membership.

The editor would like to thank everyone who contributed to this issue.

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Thornton Street, Hamden, CT 06517-1321. Submissions and requests for permission to reprint articles should be made to this address or to editor@cthumanist.org. We welcome humanist-themed letters, articles, poetry, news items, cartoons, and illustrations.

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