MAY’S THEME: CLARIFICATION

As Humanists, we strive for awareness. We want to know truth. This month we’ll explore seeking clarity, listening to understand, and other avenues of the important topic of clarification, together.

SUNDAY PLATFORMS

May 2, 11 a.m.
Youth Sunday

May 9, 11 a.m.
Leader Intern
Christian Hayden
“Where do I Stand?
An Exploration of Ethical Systems” Music by Hannah O’Brien, violin

May 23, 11 a.m.
Remembrance Sunday
Music by Randy Holmes, trumpet and Tom Byrne, guitar

May 16, 10 a.m.
NOTE EARLIER START TIME
ZOOM INFO TBA
Youth of Ethical Societies
All Society Platform

May 30, 11 a.m.
Leader James Croft
“The Pandemic Pause: Using the COVID Crisis to Get Clarity” Music by Patrick Rafferty, guitar

Offering a short introduction to Humanist values, our eBook The Magic of Humanism is available for free to help people understand what Humanists believe. Let’s spread The Magic of Humanism!

ZOOM MEETING ID: 384 422 5785
The Ethical Society of St. Louis Annual Meeting will be held on Zoom again this year. The date is May 13, 2021 (Thursday) at 7 p.m. The Zoom address is 384 422 5785, our regular Platform Zoom account. Board President Stephanie Sigala will preside. She will present an agenda which includes elections of new board members, bylaws revisions, and other Society business. Leader James Croft will discuss the challenges of the past year and plans for in-person meetings later this year.

The Society needs a quorum of attendees and voters to make our business official. Please check in a few minutes early to help us get off to a timely start.

In previous years, a dessert party has preceded the Annual Meeting. Please consider making a special dessert and showing it off to your Zoom friends before the meeting so that we can continue this tradition virtually.

Here is the wording for the proposed bylaw change:

6.4 The presence, in person, of ten percent of Active Members of the Society shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the membership. A majority vote of Active Members at the meeting, both those present and those voting by absentee ballot, shall be required to approve any action except where otherwise specified in these Bylaws.

Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

THE ETHICYCLISTS RIDE AGAIN!

We welcome all vaccinated bicycle riders to join us on Saturday, May 8, for a ride of about 20 miles. This will be our first ride since 2019 since we did not ride as a group last year because of the pandemic. Bring a mask in case we are in a public place where mask-wearing is prudent. Our ride will start in front of the Visitor and Education Center in Forest Park at 9:30 a.m., and from there we will loop most of the park. Then we head west to Stacy Park for a rest stop. The return ride will take us to the Delmar Loop where we will find a place for lunch. After lunch, it is a short ride back to Forest Park. If you are not on the Ethicyclists’ email list, contact David Brown (david@thebrowngreens.com or 314-703-6945) to get your name on the list in case we have a last-minute modification to the plan. If May 8 turns out to be a bad day for the ride, we will find an alternate later in May.

TAI CHI FOR MAY

The Special One Day Class for the month of May will be various Qi Gong (Chi Kung) movements. These are less complicated than tai chi since they usually involve a single standing position and coordinate breathing with arm movements. We will do Ba Duan Jin (The Eight Precious Jewels) as taught by H H Lui and some of Dr. Shen’s Chi Kung movements. This class is suitable for beginners or experienced tai chi students. Everyone is welcome. There is no cost. The Special One Day Class is an excellent way to find out whether someone would like to learn tai chi. This class will take place on Zoom Friday, May 28, at 10 a.m. The other Fridays in May, we will continue learning the first part of the Yang Secret Long Form as taught by H H Lui at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome. There is no cost. The teacher is Don Beere. He has been learning, practicing and teaching tai chi for over 45 years. Mr. Lui was his teacher for over 20 years. You can learn about Don’s background on the tai chi page of his website www.donaldbeere.com. Zoom ID 384 422 5785.

CLIMATE CHANGE IS ALSO A RACIAL JUSTICE PROBLEM

The Climate Action Now! and End Racism teams are joining forces this month to address the issue of climate justice. The term “climate justice” refers to the idea that climate change can have differing social, economic, public health, and other adverse impacts on people of color, underprivileged populations, and other marginalized communities and can exacerbate inequitable social conditions.

In a June 2020 article in The Washington Post, entitled Climate change is also a racial justice problem, reporter Sarah Kaplan poses the question, “What does racism mean for climate change — and vice versa?”

Join us May 2 at 9:30 a.m. for our Zoom program to delve into this issue. To get meeting reminders and action follow-ups, send an “opt-in” request to CAN.EthicalStl@gmail.com.

To see content from previous meetings, visit the CAN! posts on the Ethical Society blog.

Zoom ID: 444 367 1640.
On May 21, the Virtual Travel Club will feature Kelly Erwin and Sharon Wall presenting “A Trip through Colonial Williamsburg.” Their prior presentation to the Virtual Travel Club was so successful, we asked them to come back and share one of their other trips. Please join us and invite your friends; members and non-members are all welcome. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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First Friday Forum

Join us in May for Owls with Brenda Hente. Please join us and invite your friends. Previous First Friday Forums can be watched at the Ethical Society’s You Tube channel. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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YELs Virtual Yoga

Grab a mat and some comfy attire, and join the Young Ethical Ladies for some virtual yoga Tuesday, May 25, at 7 p.m.! Beth Correnti will be sharing a yoga session from the Down Dog yoga app. Tune in and take a deep breath. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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Virtual Youth Group

Each Sunday at 10 a.m. our teen leaders research and present a topic, and we’d love for more teens to join the conversation. Join us for community and discussion with other teens! Zoom meeting ID: 871 5256 0728. Passcode: 529160

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We Thinks Good

May’s theme will be science and prejudice. On May 1 at 3 p.m., Professor Jill Delston from the philosophy department at UMSL will be presenting on abortion and medical sexism. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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Ethical Mindfulness Practice

In May and the following fourth Wednesdays of each month, we will meet in Tilles Park (9551 Litzsinger Rd, off McKnight Rd.), at the Gloria Rogers Shelter (which is in the center of the park, on a slight hill). In order to protect the safety of all, this will be a socially distanced meeting. Please wear a mask.

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Science Fiction Book Club

For May, the Science Fiction Book Club is reading How Long ‘til Black Future Month? Stories by N. K. Jemisin. The meeting is Monday, May 24, at 7 p.m. Keep up with the club through the Ethical Society Science Fiction Book Club on Facebook. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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Great Books May meeting

The Great Books group will meet on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, from 7:30-9 p.m. The selection for discussion is a chapter from a novel The Overstory by Richard Powers. The title of the 19-page chapter is Nicholas Hoel. A scanned copy of the text can be sent to you upon request. If you are interested in participating in the Great Books reading group, please contact Alan Easton at ameast89@yahoo.com. Zoom meeting ID: 384 422 5785.

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May 1
Saturday, May 1 3 p.m.  We Thinks Good

May 2 - May 8
Sunday, May 2 9:30 a.m.  Climate Action Now!
11 a.m.  Youth Sunday
Tuesday, May 4 10 a.m.  TWA
4 p.m.  Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, May 5 9 a.m.  Ethical Mindfulness Practice
Thursday, May 6 6:30 p.m.  New Member Orientation
Friday, May 7 10 a.m.  Special Tai Chi Class
4 p.m.  Men’s Group Chat
7 p.m.  First Friday Forum
Saturday, May 8 9:30 a.m.  Ethicyclists Ride
7 p.m.  Jackbox Games

May 9 - May 15
Sunday, May 9 11 a.m. Where do I Stand? An Exploration of Ethical Systems
5:30 p.m. Second Sunday Dinner Theatre The Styrofoam Cake

Monday, May 10 6 p.m. Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 11 4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, May 12 9 a.m. Ethical Mindfulness Practice
7:30 p.m. Great Books Discussion
Thursday, May 13 7 p.m. Annual Meeting
Friday, May 14 10 a.m. Tai Chi with Don Beere
4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat
Saturday, May 15 5 p.m. SSA We Thinks Good

May 16 - May 22
Sunday, May 16 10 a.m. YES All Society Platform
1 p.m. Black Lives Matter Vigil
Tuesday, May 18  4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat
Wednesday, May 19  9 a.m. Ethical Mindfulness Practice
7:30 p.m. Post-Platform Discussion
Thursday, May 20  6 p.m. Tai Chi with Don Beere
Friday, May 21  10 a.m. Men’s Group Chat
4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat
7 p.m. Virtual Travel Club
Saturday, May 22 7 p.m. Jackbox Games

May 23 - May 29
Sunday, May 23 11 a.m. Remembrance Sunday
Monday, May 24 7 p.m. Science Fiction Book Club
Tuesday, May 25  10 a.m. TWA
4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat
7 p.m. Young Ethical Ladies Virtual Yoga

Wednesday, May 26  9 a.m. Ethical Mindfulness Practice
Thursday, May 27  6 p.m. Post-Platform Discussion
Friday, May 28  10 a.m. Special Tai Chi Class
4 p.m. Men’s Group Chat

May 30 - May 31
Sunday, May 30 11 a.m. The Pandemic Pause: Using the COVID Crisis to Get Clarity

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

Those interested in joining the Ethical Society are invited to attend this new member orientation May 6 at 6:30 p.m. to learn about the Society and the process of becoming a member.

Zoom ID:  899 8569 7321

PLATFORM DETAILS

05/9 – Where do I Stand? An Exploration of Ethical Systems, Leader Intern Christian Hayden – How do we decide what is right? What ideas and systems guide how we respond to life challenges and questions? Christian will share experiences that informed his approach to ethics and make a case why we should all expand our ethical literacy.

05/16 – Youth of Ethical Societies All-Society Platform – Every year, the teens of Ethical Societies around the country come together to discuss issues relevant to the world around them. The weekend-long conference is entirely teen-led; they plan the theme, they plan and lead the breakout discussion groups, and they facilitate all activities during the conference. This is an impressive feat in any year — but to have pulled off a successful Youth of Ethical Societies (YES) Conference during a global pandemic is especially remarkable! For our May 16th All-Society Platform, come hear from the teens themselves, how they planned YES, how YES usually operates, and what they did at YES 2021. This Platform is at 10 a.m. CT, and at a different Zoom link: please use details in our weekly email blast and on our website to join this gathering.

05/23 – Remembrance Sunday – Remembrance Sunday is the day we take each year at the Ethical Society to remember the people we have lost. If you would like to include a remembrance of a member of the Ethical Society who has died in the past year, please contact James at jcroft@ethicalstl.org.

05/30 – The Pandemic Pause: Using the COVID Crisis to Get Clarity, Leader James Croft – The pandemic has forced all of us to pause many of the things which used to fill our daily lives, whether it’s our daily commute or our monthly get-together with friends. This – on top of the challenge of the virus itself – has been difficult. But it is also an opportunity: a chance to reassess our lives and get some clarity regarding what is really important, so that when everything reopens, we can start again more thoughtfully.

View speaker bios at ethicalstl.org
Contact Us

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Matthew Hile, Webmaster  314.991.1353  webmaster@ethicalstl.org
Jill Allen, Nursery School  314.991.1353  jillallen23@gmail.com
Connection Announcement Submission
Platform Announcement Submission

Board of Trustees

Stephanie Sigala, President
Mary Ellen Stanton, President-elect
Amanda Verbeck, Past President
Katie Borders, Secretary
Matthew Hile, Trustee
Ray Preston, Trustee
Nathan Schrenk, Trustee

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Carol Bartell
Donna Kniest

Website  www.ethicalstl.org
Social Media  @ethicalstl  #ethicalstl

Submission deadline for the Ethical Connection newsletter is the 15th of the preceding month. Email items to connection@ethicalstl.org.