

# ETHICAL OUTLOOK

November 2015

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## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Every member of the Ethical Culture Society, since its founding year of 1876, has committed to helping to make the world a better place. So much of what we learn about, discuss, and do here and beyond the walls of our home, and whom we invite to join us, has to do with that commitment. It is so fitting, therefore, that on Sunday, November 8, Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network will be speaking here (*see p. 6*).

At the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit in September, more than 190 world leaders committed to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. To say that their list of goals is tremendously ambitious is an understatement. Here it is:

- |                               |  |                                |
|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. No Poverty                 | 7. Renewable Energy                    | 12. Responsible Consumption    |
| 2. No Hunger                  | 8. Good Jobs and Economic Growth       | 13. Climate Action             |
| 3. Good Health                | 9. Innovation and Infrastructure       | 14. Live Below Water           |
| 4. Quality Education          | 10. Reduced Inequalities               | 15. Life On Land               |
| 5. Gender Equality            | 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities | 16. Peace and Justice          |
| 6. Clean Water and Sanitation |  | 17. Partnerships for the Goals |

Come on November 8 to learn more about this exciting undertaking, and how you can be part of it.

### "NYSEC LEADS THE WAY 2016" COME CELEBRATE!

You will soon receive your fair-share-giving form, and your invitation to "NYSEC Leads the Way 2016," a gala luncheon at which we'll celebrate all that our members have accomplished this year, and share our plans and aspirations for the coming year, when we will mark 140 years since the NYSEC founding. We remain steadfast in our commitment to working together in ethical community to make this world a better place.

Fair-share-giving will be discussed, but this year there are exciting incentives to pledging early. One is the opportunity for 10 members to win a free weekend at Stony Point Center, December 4-6, at the charming Allison House, which we'll have all to ourselves! To qualify, you must have completed your 2015 financial commitment, and submitted your Fair-Share Giving-2016 form by November 16. There will be a drawing at the luncheon and the winners will be announced. There are other gifts for early pledgers and they will be on display.

So, hurry and r.s.v.p. and join us for the party with fellow members at what promises to be a delightful and delicious sit-down luncheon.

Sun., Nov. 22, 12:30-2:30pm  
Ceremonial Hall  
R.S.V.P. by Oct. 30  
Call Maggie Determann,  
212-874-5210 ext. 113

### NEW YEAR'S EVE FESTIVITIES



Up for good times New Year's Eve? Look for news from the Membership Development Committee, which is busy planning an exciting celebration. It's not yet solid, but our thoughts are live music and entertainment, confetti and streamers, after-dinner nibbles, wine, beer, cocktails, champagne, door prizes, dance exhibition, dancing for all, maybe even singing! If you'd like to be part of the planning team or just contribute some suggestions, email Andra at [andramariemiller@gmail.com](mailto:andramariemiller@gmail.com). Ticket sales (price perhaps \$50 singles, \$85 doubles) will begin November 10.



# Leader's Desk

DR. ANNE KLAEYSEN

## Another Barrage of Bullets

“. . . our thoughts and prayers are not enough. It's not enough. It does not capture the heartache and grief and anger that we should feel. And it does nothing to prevent this carnage from being inflicted someplace else in America. . . [W]e are not the only country on Earth that has people with mental illnesses. . . We are the only advanced country on Earth that sees these kinds of mass shootings every few months.”

—President Barack Obama, October 1, 2015, in response to the Umpqua Community College shooting in Oregon

I feel anger; I am not numb. As a child of the 60's, I want to picket the National Rifle Association's offices, scale the ramparts to wave a banner emblazoned with “No More Guns!” and take to the streets to march alongside the majority of Americans, including the majority of responsible gun owners, who desperately want common sense gun safety laws.

Since the 1994 assault-weapon ban expired in 2004, Congress hasn't enacted any major gun regulations. In the 1990s, when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention expanded its research into gun-related deaths as a public health issue, conservatives added language to the appropriations bill reading: “None of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may be used to advocate or promote gun control.” The principal author of that language, Arkansas Republican

Jay Dickey, recently conceded that he has “regrets” over the policy that came to be known as the Dickey Amendment and believes the policy that bears his name should be fixed, if not scrapped altogether. Nonetheless, Republicans remain opposed to research related to gun deaths and public health, as well as any kind of sensible gun control laws, including a federal law requiring background checks on would-be gun buyers and a national registry of guns.

Why? Follow the money.

Having long ago departed from its original purpose as an organization for gun sports enthusiasts and hunters, the NRA is now a front for gun companies, receiving from them close to \$100 million to market fear, generously donate to politicians willing to push their agenda, and run smear campaigns against those who do not.

The Umpqua Community College incident was the 264th mass shooting (defined as involving at least four people shot) in the U.S. this year. But this and other massacres account for a small fraction of gun deaths each year; most occur between people who know each other – family, friends, neighbors and co-workers. The United Nations has compiled data indicating that the United States has four times as many gun-related homicides per capita as do Turkey and Switzerland, which are tied for third place. Our gun murder rate is about 20 times the average for all other countries studied.

What we can do?

The American Ethical Union belongs to the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence (<http://csgv.org/>). Its guiding principle is simple: “We believe that all Americans have a right to live in communities free from gun violence.” Its strategy involves:

- 1) taking an aggressive approach with political advocacy, broadcasting via social media campaigns and hard-hitting TV, radio and print ads, a simple message: “The era of no accountability is over. If you do the NRA's bidding and put our loved ones in the line of fire, we will educate your constituents about your record.”
- 2) building personal relationships with legislators and challenging them to become dedicated, long-term advocates for sensible gun laws; and
- 3) talking about the issue in terms of democratic values and using the term “insurrectionism” to describe the NRA's treasonous interpretation of the Second Amendment.

As President Obama said in his speech, “We know that other countries, in response to one mass shooting, have been able to craft laws that almost eliminate mass shootings. Friends of ours, allies of ours — Great Britain, Australia, countries like ours. So we know there are ways to prevent it.”

It is a political choice that we must make, and we must make it now.

# The Encampment Lives Again — and Thrives!

Join us for a celebratory fundraiser and learn about the success of Encampment 2015 and plans for July 2016 in the Boston area. You'll meet Encampment alumni, including young people who participated in this summer's program at Tougaloo College in Jackson, MS, and view a video with highlights of their experience.

This is an exciting time for the Encampment. The summer program and year-round follow-up activities provide youth with a compelling experience in democratic living, with emphasis on critical thinking and social action. Through this transformative experience,

young people gain a deeper understanding of the key issues of our time, becoming more informed and committed to active involvement in their community as citizens and justice seekers.

For more about the Encampment, visit the website: [encampmentforcitizenship.org](http://encampmentforcitizenship.org) You'll learn more about how this nation-wide network of committed alumni and partners is working for positive change in their home communities.

Friday, November 20  
5:30pm  
Ceremonial Hall  
\$25 Suggested Donation

## Smile For Your NYSEC Photo!



The next New York Society for Ethical Culture Member Directory you see — online (at

the Members Only section) and hard copy — will have photos. No longer will you nudge the person next to you at Sunday platform and ask about that new member, whose name you thought you'd remember. Never again will you hesitate to say hello to that longtime member whom you haven't seen for awhile because you've forgotten his name.

LifeTouch portrait photographers will be here for a full weekend, taking photos of all our members. They are at no charge, including a free 8x10 of yourself. You can purchase additional photos, even have them converted into greeting cards or CDs —choosing from Lifetouch's library of designs. Don't hesitate to have more taken with your spouse, kids, grandkids, friends — and purchase the ones you like.

Make sure you sign up for your photo-taking slot. Contact Maggie at 212-874-5210 ext. 113.

**Fri., Nov. 6 — 2 – 9pm**

**Sat., Nov. 7 — 10am – 5pm**

**Sun., Nov. 8 — noon – 7pm**

## Ethical Youth

Programs are free and open to the public.  
RSVP is required: [EthicsForChildren@nysec.org](mailto:EthicsForChildren@nysec.org)



### ETHICS FOR CHILDREN

**Sunday, Nov. 1 THE HAPPY BONES FESTIVAL 11am - 12:30pm**

A fun spinoff of Dia De Los Muertos where people dance with our skeletons, decorate skull-cookies and celebrate their ancestry.

**Sunday, Nov. 15 "IF I HAD A HAMMER" 11am - 12:30pm**

Making our Peace Tool Kit

**Sunday, Nov. 22 "GRATITUDE & GENEROSITY" 11am - 12:30pm**

We'll create "Gratitude Tools" and play Generosity Games.

### ETHICAL TWEENS AND TEENS

**Sunday, Nov. 1 THE ZOMBIE YOGA CIRCLE 1:30 - 3pm**

Join a Zombie Circle to enter total relaxation, known in yoga as "corpse pose." Arrive as a zombie, but leave with your energy restored and your humanity invigorated! Bring warm loose clothes -- zombie styles are welcome!

### ETHICAL FAMILIES

**Fri - Sun, Nov. 6 - 8 AEU ETHICAL EDUCATION AND FAMILIES RETREAT**

Plan for your family to spend the weekend at the Stony Point Center with Ethical Culture families from other parts of the country and the AEU National Director of Ethical Education, Dale McGowan. For information, contact L Miller, [lmiller.aeu@gmail.com](mailto:lmiller.aeu@gmail.com).

## NYSEC Women's Shelter Needs Volunteers

To offer your services as a volunteer at the Women's Shelter one or more nights a month, please contact Janice Buzby, Shelter Coordinator, at [nysec.shelter@gmail.com](mailto:nysec.shelter@gmail.com) to arrange an interview.

(You need not be a NYSEC member to volunteer at the Shelter.)

# Ethical Enrichment

PROGRAMS FOR MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT

## ADLER READING SEMINAR

*Dr. Richard Koral, Leader Intern*

Discussion of the words of Felix Adler and other thinkers whose writings are seminal to Ethical Culture and Humanist philosophy.

Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7-8:30pm

(monthly, 3rd Tuesday, unless otherwise noted)

Leaders Office, Room 502  
Free

Advance Registration required

## THE CAFÉ AT ETHICAL

*Honor Finnegan and friends*

TGIF — Thank goodness it's Friday — and there's a welcoming place to unwind relax, enjoy the music, refreshments, good company, and great entertainment! Singer/songwriter — and ukelele player — Honor Finnegan and friends combine elements of musical theatre, comedy, traditional folk, and poetry in her performance. Honor's songs are humorous, then heartbreaking, with melodies that soar.



Nov. 20, 7:30pm

(monthly, third Friday)

Social Hall

Members \$10, Nonmembers \$20, suggested donation,

## EMPOWERING ETHICAL ELDER

Monthly, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 6-8pm

Light refreshments served.

To register, call 212-721-4407  
Free, Elliott Library, Room 507

## "DEATH & THE MAIDEN: A MEDITATION"

*Chef, Actress Tom Blunt,*

*Producer and Performer*

*Discussion Leader Dr. Anne Klaeysen*

Thursday, Nov. 5

## "SENIOR TRAVEL: ROAD SOLUTION"

*Mary Vindquist*

Thursday, Nov. 19

## ETHICAL DEATH CAFÉ

*Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson*

*Bereavement Program Community Outreach Coordinator at Caring Hospice Services*

Gather in a relaxed and safe setting to discuss death, drink tea, and eat delicious cake as we strive to increase our awareness of death and help one another make the most of our (finite) lives. Topics include health care proxies, ethical wills, and green burial.

Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2:30-4:30pm

(monthly, 3rd Wednesday)

Ceremonial Hall

(Also monthly, 2nd Sunday. See p.8)

Members Free, Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation

## ETHICAL PARENTING, STEP-PARENTING, AND GRANDPARENTING

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen*

Family life today faces challenges that can overwhelm adults responsible for the care of children. The goal of spending "quality time" with loved ones gets lost in the daily struggle to make a living and provide a home. Families need support. This workshop offers parenting skills and an opportunity to connect with other parents, step-parents, and grandparents.

Thursday, Nov. 12, 6-7:30pm

Adler Study, Room 514

Members Free,

Nonmembers \$5, suggested donation

Childcare provided upon request, with advance notice

Advance Registration Required

## ETHICS AND THE THEATER

*Patricia Bruder Debrovner*

*THE COLLECTION*

by Harold Pinter

*Directed by Richard Van Deusen*

*Discussion leader Betsy Ungar*

An ominous phone call embroils two couples in accusations of infidelity, contradicting one another and themselves, by turns menacing,

## NOT A MEMBER?

All the more reason to attend one of our Enrichment Activities. Contributions for nonmembers are usually only \$5.

comic, pathetic, and violent, grasping after ever-elusive truth. The cast includes Andrew Halliday, Angie Reed, Kurt Rhoades and James Physick, with narration by Patricia Berens. Come at 6:30 for the reception, and stay after the play for a discussion of the ethical issues it raises.

Friday, Nov. 13

(monthly, 2nd Friday, unless otherwise noted)

6:30pm Reception

with snacks and beverages

7pm Performance

followed by discussion

Ceremonial Hall

Members Free

Nonmembers \$10 suggested donation

## ETHICS IN FILM

*Chris Everett, Discussion Facilitator*

*LORD OF THE FLIES (1963)*

Directed by Peter Brook

Amidst a nuclear war, a plane carrying a group of British schoolboys crash-lands on a deserted island. With no adult survivors, the boys are forced to fend for themselves. At first they cooperate, but when they split into two separate camps — one led by the pragmatic Ralph (James Aubrey) and the other by militaristic Jack (Tom Chapin) — their society falls into disarray, leading to a disturbing examination of human nature and a chilling conclusion. Peter Brook's film adaptation of William Golding's classic moral parable has been praised as one of those rare instances in which the movie is better than the book. Enjoy the film, complimentary snacks and beverages, and a discussion of ethical issues after the movie.

Friday, Nov. 6, 7pm (6:30 doors open)

(monthly, 1st Friday,

unless otherwise noted)

Ceremonial Hall

Members Free

Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation

# Ethical Enrichment

PROGRAMS FOR MIND, BODY, AND SPIRIT

EVERYTHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT ETHICAL CULTURE, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK

*Dr. Richard Koral, Leader Intern*  
The foundations of Ethical Culture and Humanist philosophy — an introduction for newcomers and a refresher for members.

Wednesdays, Nov. 11 & Dec. 9  
6:30-8pm  
Adler Study, Room 514  
Free

## GREAT BOOKS

*Larry Schiff, Tamara Bedic, and Carol Kennedy, Co-organizers/Hosts*

NOTES FROM THE UNDERGROUND,

by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Read the selections in advance, and be prepared to discuss the questions that interest you by referring to the specific related text. Because this is the format for the discussion, it is important that we all have the same text. To purchase the Great Books Reading and Discussion Second Series and Reader Aid we'll be using through June, 2016, visit this website: <http://store.greatbooks.org/book-groups-colleges/great-books.html> You can also visit [www.meetup.com/Manhattan-Great-Books-Discussion-Group](http://www.meetup.com/Manhattan-Great-Books-Discussion-Group) to learn more about us.

Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7-9pm  
(monthly, 1st Wednesday,  
unless otherwise noted)  
Elliott Library, Room 507  
Members Free  
Nonmembers \$5 suggested donation

## LEADER'S LUNCH DISCUSSIONS

*Dr. Anne Klaeyen, Leader*

If you can, read the articles in advance—access them online, pick them up when you attend the next weekly discussion, or stop in at our Membership Office, room 501, and ask Maggie Determann for them. Come join the discussion.

NOVEMBER THEME:  
RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

11/5 - "Laissez Prayer" by Kim Phillips-Fein, *Democracy Journal*, Fall 2015 and "How a Fringe Theocratic Movement Helped Shape the Religious Right As We Know It" by Sarah Posner, *Religion Dispatches*, 8/6/15

11/12 - "Thinking Out Loud" by Michael Eric Dyson, *New Republic*, 9/9/15

11/19 - "How David Hume Helped Me Solve My Midlife Crisis" by Alison Gopnik, *The Atlantic*, October 2015

11/26 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!  
Every Thursday, 12-1:30pm,  
unless otherwise noted  
Elliott Library, Room 507  
Free



MORAL PHILOSOPHY:  
THE BASICS

*Dr. John Gurney*

We will discuss, analyze, and apply basic moral theories, including Ethical Relativism, Ethical Egoism, Consequentialism, Kant's Categorical Imperative, and others. We will study arguments and reasons offered by John Stuart, Immanuel Kant, Peter Singer, Gilbert Harman, Brad Hooker, and other contemporary philosophers. No previous knowledge of philosophy is required. Please plan to attend all SIX sessions.

Wednesdays, Nov. 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23  
12:30-2:30pm  
Adler Study, Room 514  
\$30 Fee covers all 6 sessions  
Advance Registration required

WISDOM & WORLD AFFAIRS

*Ken Gans*

These philosophical discussions cover a wide variety of subjects—the fate of humanity, world affairs, humanism, and many others.

Tuesdays, Nov. 3 & 24, 6-8pm  
(monthly, 1st and 4th Tuesdays,  
unless otherwise noted)  
Room 508  
Free

For Advance Registration email

Yalitza at

[ygarcia@nysec.org](mailto:ygarcia@nysec.org)

or call 212-874-5210x117.

The New York State  
Psychological Association's  
Independent Practice Division  
Annual Open House —  
Workshop

Saturday, November 7  
10am - 3pm, Social Hall

*"Transgender 101: Developing  
the Clinical Competencies  
To Work with Trans Patients."*

This workshop will give participants a more complete understanding of the experience, research, etiology, and treatment of people who are trans.

Hosted by the Social Service Board of the New York Society for Ethical Culture

Register at <http://bit.ly/1LNBjzS>

NYSIPA Central Office,

518-437-1040, [nyspa@nyspa.org](mailto:nyspa@nyspa.org)

Dr. Frank J. Corigliano, President, NYSIPA's  
Independent Practice Division

# Sunday Morning Platform Meetings

11 am, Ceremonial Hall, 4th Floor

JOIN US FOR LUNCH AFTER PLATFORM, CAFETERIA, 6TH FLOOR  
\$5 MEMBERS, \$10 NON-MEMBERS, FREE TO FIRST-TIME NEWCOMERS

## NOVEMBER 1



### MIGRATION, A MORAL CRISIS

**Dr. Anne Klaeysen**  
*Leader*

*Meg Chapman, NYSEC President, presides*

According to the UN Refugee Agency, more than 380,000 migrants and refugees have landed on Europe's southern shores this year. Many others have drowned at sea, and we have witnessed chaos at border crossings and train stations and squalid conditions in camps. What is to be done? How are we to understand the greatest migration of refugees since WWII? We will tackle these questions and explore ways to support the efforts of rescue operations.

*The Shared Charity is the International Rescue Committee (IRC), which responds to the world's worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Find out how you can be of help by visiting their website: <http://www.rescue.org>.*

## NOVEMBER 8



### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND AMERICA'S FUTURE

**Jeffrey D. Sachs**  
*Director of the Earth Institute,  
Columbia University*

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen presides*

Every nation, including the United States, has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to guide global cooperation until 2030. Americans still know little about these new global goals. Yet the SDGs could provide a powerful moral and political approach for the US to reinvigorate the American Dream. They can help our country to address and overcome our massive interconnected crises of inequality, unemployment, environmental degradation, and declining trust.

Jeffrey D. Sachs is the Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, Special Advisor to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, and Winner of the 2015 Blue Planet Prize.

*The Shared Charity is Connect to Learn, an initiative to help educate young women and men in low-income nations, especially sub-Saharan Africa.*

## NOVEMBER 15



### FROM INTENTION TO ACTION

**Ami Dar**  
*Founder and Executive Director of Idealist.org*

*Kathleen O'Connell presides*

Ami Dar will talk about how the biggest, most pervasive problem in the world is the big gap that exists between all the good intentions that so many of us have, and the action we actually take. And then we'll talk about how we can close this gap.

Ami launched Idealist.org in 1995 in order to make getting involved in social action easier than ever. The company connects social-action agencies to would-be citizen activists, linking like-minded individuals to one another and generating a critical mass of interconnected citizen sector organizations and people. Idealist has

# Sunday Morning Platform Meetings

11 am, Ceremonial Hall, 4th Floor

## FROM INTENTION TO ACTION *continued*

become one of the most popular nonprofit resources on the web, with information provided by 70,000 organizations around the world and 100,000 visitors every day.

*The Shared Charity is Idealist.org. Their work is guided by the common desire of their members and supporters to find practical solutions to social and environmental problems, in a spirit of generosity and mutual respect.*

## NOVEMBER 22



## PUBLIC LANDS: AN AMERICAN LEGACY

**Curt Collier**  
*Leader*

*Dan Hanson presides*

America was the first country to create national parks and continues to expand protection each year. Seemingly at odds with our other legacy of Manifest Destiny, displacement and land-grabbing by private individuals Americans seem to have a passion for preservation. What are the roots of this phenomenon, is it changing, and how can we use these sentiments in the service of further environmental protections including our air, soil, water, and lands beyond our borders?

*The Shared Charity is the International Rescue Committee, an initiative to help educate young women and men in low-income nations, especially sub-Saharan Africa.*

## NOVEMBER 29



## ORIGINAL SIN IN MODERN AMERICAN THINKING

**Zephyr Teachout**  
*Author, Educator, Organizer, Scholar*

*Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader, presides*

Zephyr Teachout argues that the original sin in modern American thinking is the separation of economic and political power as fields of study, categories of news, and categories of thought.

As a young lawyer and founder of a criminal-defense nonprofit in Durham, NC, she helped lead the fight against the death penalty. After the market crash of 2008, Teachout co-founded a group dedicated to breaking the power of the Wall Street banks. She came to understand that lawmaking is not a science, but rather a moral and political art, resulting in her book, *Corruption In America: From Benjamin Franklin's Snuff Box to Citizens United*, in which she discusses the dangerous trend of loosening restrictions on campaign finance and warns that "we could lose our democracy in the process."

Teachout is an author, organizer, educator, and scholar. She is a constitutional and property law professor at Fordham Law School; a leader in the fights for economic and political equality, and against concentration of wealth and control in the hands of the few; and is well-known for her efforts to limit the influence of money on politics, especially in the Citizens United case. She is one of the leading legal experts on corruption, and is a notable antitrust and environmental activist. Zephyr Teachout ran for Governor of New York in 2014.

*The Shared Charity is the International Rescue Committee, an initiative to help educate young women and men in low-income nations, especially sub-Saharan Africa.*

## Early Sunday Mornings

9:30am (Except as otherwise noted)

Rooms are subject to change

### NOV. 1 MINDFULNESS

*Dr. Anne Klaeyens, Leader*

An exploration and practice of mindfulness through meditation.

Adler Study, Room 514

### NOV. 8 COLLOQUY

*Dr. Anne Klaeyens, Leader*

Human Worth

Room 508

### NOV. 15 POETRY READING

*Cheryl Gross*

This month, we'll focus on the works of Robert Pinsky, poet, literary critic, translator and Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress (1997–2000).

Find poems at [poemhunter.com](http://poemhunter.com); [poetryfoundation.org](http://poetryfoundation.org) or [poets.org](http://poets.org).

Come read! Come listen!

Room 508

### NOV. 29 COFFEE AND CHAT

*Andra Miller*

Room 508

## Chorus Practice

Nov. 1 & 15 @ 10am  
Nov. 8 & 22 @ 10:30am  
Ceremonial Hall

*David Gracia, Music Director; and  
Pat Debrouner, Chorus Director*

All voices, big and small, are welcome.  
We'll practice the songs we sing on Sunday mornings.

## Sunday Afternoons

1:30pm (Except as otherwise noted)

Rooms are subject to change

### NOV. 8 ETHICAL DEATH CAFÉ

*Rev. Dr. Barbara Simpson*

A relaxed and safe setting for a discussion about death. (See pg. 4.)

Adler Study, Room 514

### ETHICS IN THE NEWS

*Abe Markman*

Over lunch share your take on today's burning issues.

12:45pm, Cafeteria, 6th Floor

### NOV. 15 "THE BLIND SPOT"

*Russell Jones*



What will it take to make the New York Society a more multi-racial community? Here's a way we can start. Using positive content and ideas to illustrate the debates and discussions around privilege, race, and oppression that are constantly happening around us, we will focus on changing our language and critical thinking skills in an effort to act accountably. The goal is to grow in our understanding of these issues both intellectually and emotionally.

1-3pm, Ceremonial Hall

### NOV. 22 ANNUAL FAIR-SHARE-GIVING PARTY

Come celebrate all we've done this year! Food. Music. Fun. Good company. Members only. (See details, p.1.)

12:30–2:30pm  
Ceremonial Hall

### READINGS IN DEEP ECOLOGY

Explore chapters and selections from the works of famous environmental authors — Edward Abbey, Rachel Carson, Jane Goodall, Aldo Leopold, Richard Louv, Wangari Maathai, John Muir, and Michael Pollan, among others. Read the selections together, and then discuss the important points.

4–5:30pm  
Ceremonial Hall





*Another great time at our annual weekend retreat — cocktails on the porch, singalong around the campfire, walks, talks, poetry, a visit to a nature preserve, all at lovely Stony Point Center.*



*Maggie Determann considers a second career as a farmer!  
(At the Waterkill Nature Preserve)*



*L-R: Members Cheryl Gross, Bernetter Rudolph, Liz Singer, and Sy Amkraut*



*Dr. Richard Koral leads sing-along, joined by Andra Miller, Maggie Determann, and Bob Liebeskind.*



*A warm welcome visiting Ethical family member Heather Grady, here with Joe Marvel, Dick and Carol Van Deusen, and Andra Miller.*



*Ethical Action: Members Gris Sandoval, Emily Newman, Carol VanDeusen and Leader Anne Klaeyesen at the Pink Out Stand with Planned Parenthood Rally in Foley Square on Tuesday, 9/29.*



*Leader Anne Klaeyesen with colleagues Gadadhara Pandit Dasa and Imam Khalid Latif at the Interreligious Gathering with Pope Francis at the 9/11 Memorial Museum on Friday, 9/22.*

## ETHICAL STAFF

212-874-5210

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# Our Ethical Family



MARGARET DETERMANN  
*Assistant to the Leaders for  
Membership Development*

Welcome new member Constance (Connie) Berman to our Ethical Culture family. Connie is a native New Yorker and Fieldston graduate who was married for 40 years to Ethical Culture member, the late John Langsdorf. She had been residing in Westchester, but recently has come back to live in the city and reconnect with the New York Society. A retired Special Ed teacher, Connie enjoys reading, swimming and bridge. She would like to start playing bridge with a regular group, so if anyone is interested, let me know and I'll put you in touch with one another.

Congratulations to Jerry and Carole Chamlin. Their musically gifted grandchildren performed at the Bitter End on Bleeker Street on October 6th. Can Madison Square Garden be far behind?

Congrats to Sandi Sacks and husband Lawrence Rigie, joyful first-time grandparents of Olivia Farah. And, congratulations, too, to Marilyn and Bill Baker. They are thrilled to welcome their third grandchild, Katheryn Beyer into the world. Katheryn was born on April 30. Also, Marilyn and Bill have just returned from a wonderful trip to visit their nephew in Prague, followed by two weeks in Florence, Naples and Sicily. Congratulazioni e Benvenuti a casa, Marilyn e Bill!

Beloved member Mary Ellen Goodman died on Thursday morning, Oct. 8. Her memorial will be held on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 4pm in Ceremonial Hall.

## ETHICAL CARES

The Caring Committee will help you should you fall ill or be incapacitated, whether you're home, in the hospital, in rehab, or in a nursing home. Just call chairperson Virginia Scherer at 212-222-2086, and she'll make the arrangements.



Sunday, October 4th was an especially happy day here at the New York Society as the community celebrated the baby-naming of newborn Phoenix Emet Alexander Reich, son of Athena Reich. This joyous occasion, with Dr. Anne Klaeyesen officiating, introduced Phoenix to our Ethical Culture family and gave us all a chance to welcome this beautiful baby. Society members, family and friends were given index cards to write down their hopes and well wishes for Phoenix, which were presented to Athena after brunch. A long and happy life to Phoenix (or Pear, to his friends).



## A Happy November Birthday to Members:

1. HENRYKA KOMANSKA ..... 11/1
2. HEATHER GRADY ..... 11/3
3. BILL BAKER..... 11/7
4. SHEILA NAVARRO ..... 11/7
5. SELMA FRIEDMAN .....11/14
6. ROBERT EBER .....11/16
7. FRANCESCA TURCHIANO ..... 11/16
8. ALEX MOGIELEFF ..... 1/17
9. DONNA PANG .....11/17
10. VIRGINIA SCHERER .....11/19
11. HARRIET BIGUS .....11/21
12. RUTH OPPENHEIMER ..... 11/21
13. DR. KHOREN ARISIAN .....11/24
14. ROBERT BUMCROT .....11/24
15. VINCENT NAVARRO ..... 11/25

Office hours for the month are Monday–Friday, 9am – 6pm

# NOVEMBER 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 9:30am Mindfulness 10am Chorus Practice 11am Happy Bones Festival 11am Sunday Platform 1:30pm Teen Leadership	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 12:30pm Joy of Writing 6pm Wisdom & World Affairs	<b>4</b> 7pm Great Books Discussion	<b>5</b> 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Empowering Ethical Elders 6:30pm Joy of Writing	<b>6</b> 2–9pm Member Photo Shoot 7pm Ethics in Film <i>Lora of the Flies (1963)</i>	<b>7</b> 10am–3pm “Transgender 101” 10am–5pm Members Photo Shoot
<b>8</b> 9:30am Colloquy 10:30am Chorus Practice 11am Ethics for Children 11am Sunday Platform 12:45pm Ethics in the News 1:30pm Ethical Death Cafe 1:30pm Teen Leadership	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 12:30pm Joy of Writing	<b>11</b> Veterans’ Day 12:30pm Moral Philosophy 6:30pm Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Ethical Culture	<b>12</b> 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Ethical Parenting 6:30pm Joy of Writing	<b>13</b> 7pm Ethics and the Theater <i>By the Water</i>	<b>14</b> 4pm Mary Ellen Goodman Memorial Service
<b>15</b> 9:30am Poetry Reading 10am Chorus Practice 11am Ethics for Children 11am Sunday Platform 1pm “The Blind Spot” 1:30pm Teen Leadership	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 12:30pm Joy of Writing 7pm Adler Reading Seminar	<b>18</b> 12:30pm Moral Philosophy	<b>19</b> 12pm Leader Lunch Discussion 6pm Empowering Ethical Elders 6:30pm Joy of Writing	<b>20</b> 5:30pm The Encampment Fundraiser 7:30pm The Café at Ethical	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 10:30am Chorus Practice 11am Gratitude and Generosity Festival 11am Sunday Platform 12:30pm Fair–Share Luncheon 4pm Reading in Deep Ecology	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 12:30pm Joy of Writing 6pm Wisdom & World Affairs	<b>25</b> 12:30pm Moral Philosophy 2:30pm Ethical Death Cafe	<b>26</b> Thanksgiving Day (Building Closed)	<b>27</b> (Building Closed)	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:30am Coffee and Chat 11am Sunday Platform	<b>30</b>	<b>COMING UP AT ETHICAL CULTURE</b> Ethics and the Theater: <i>The Great God Pan</i> Winter Festival New Year’s Eve Party Friday, Dec. 11 Sunday, Dec. 20 Thursday, Dec. 31				

# ETHICAL

## WE ARE ETHICAL CULTURE

The New York Society for Ethical Culture is a humanist community dedicated to ethics, social justice, and education since 1876. We celebrate life's joys, support each other through life's crises, and work to make the world a better place.

Come visit our landmark Meeting House for inspiring Sunday Meetings, Ethical Enrichment workshops, family programs, Ethical Action projects, and many other entertaining events.

Learn more about becoming a part of the NYSEC community and use the links below to keep in touch with us online.

NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR ETHICAL CULTURE

# ETHICAL OUTLOOK

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