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## Gene-edited babies And The future Of Genetic Engineering January Public Meeting

*By Heather Hegi*

Genetic technologies can be a controversial topic and not all atheists can agree on the safety and ethics of it. A Chinese scientist just announced that he altered a gene in a set of twin embryos that have since been born — he has received great criticism. As atheists, we don't believe in a grand creator and acknowledge the flaws in our bodies, but is it ethical to mess with it, essentially turning humans into test subjects? Being good skeptics, we know that the best way to form an opinion on a topic is to become informed on that topic. Therefore, we are pleased to present Adam Sychla and Erin Nolan on the topics of gene-edited babies and the future of genetic engineering.

Adam Sychla is a first-year graduate student at the University of Minnesota and an executive officer of the Genome Writers Guild. Adam works in developing new genetic tools such as synthetic speciation and a generation counter to broaden how we can deploy engineered organism.

Erin Nolan is an undergraduate at Winona State University and is also an executive officer of the Genome Writers Guild. Erin has experience working with TALENs (a common gene editing tool) and she plans to study gene editing technologies as a graduate student in the future.

Adam and Erin hope to help inform the discussion, introduce human germline editing and some of the impacts that they would have. They will answer any question about how the technologies work or what the impacts may be. They will finish up with asking the audience a few questions on their opinions and thoughts, truly moving the conversation forward.

### Sunday, January 20, 2018

1:00–1:15 p.m.: Social  
1:15–1:45 p.m.: Business Meeting  
1:45–2:00 p.m.: Break  
2:00–3:30 p.m.: Program

4:00 p.m.: Dinner

Southdale Public Library  
7001 York Ave S  
Edina, MN 55435

Q. Cumbers  
7465 France Ave S  
Edina, MN 55435



## Accepting Nominees to the 2019 Board of Directors

*By Heather Hegi*

Minnesota Atheists holds elections for the Board of Directors every year. The Board of Directors consists of: President, Associate President, Chair, Associate Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Directors-at-Large. All positions are up for election. Both our President and Chair have met their term limit of 3 years so we will be accepting nominations for new candidates to fill these spots. We also have a vacant Director-at-Large position.

While we have individuals interested in being nominated for all three positions, the nominations will be open to any qualified members and having a choice in an election is welcomed. If you

are interested or would like to know more about a board position, please contact Heather Hegi at [chair@mnatheists.org](mailto:chair@mnatheists.org) or any other board member.

Nominations will open and close on January 20th at 1:15 p.m. during the January Business Meeting, before the featured speakers at 2:00 p.m. This will be held at the Southdale Library, 7001 York Ave S, Edina, MN.

A nomination may only be made by another dues-paying member while nominations are open. The nominee does not need to be present to be nominated. To be eligible for office, the nominee must have been a dues paying member for at least one year prior to the date of assuming office, except for Director-at-Large nominees, who need only have been members for six months. The minimum duty of a board member is

Continued on page 8

### Cryptogram

*By George Francis Kane*

Qyc lcju gertaatvo vh qyc occe qv ygjrvotxc ta  
go gertaatvo qygq qyc sbjeco vh fjvvh ta vo qyc  
ogjjgqtlca, ovq vo qyvacc pyv evbsq qycr. Pygq  
ygjrvotxton ayvpa ta qygq ecaftqc gffcgjgokca, qyc  
qciqa aqtmr rtnyq sc qjbc.

—Jvscjq R. Fjtkc, Scuvoe Svjo Gngto



## News and Notes

### Modern Martyrs Losing the Fight for God

By George Francis Kane

It's news to me, but there is a nation-wide movement to hold "Drag-Queen Story Time" events at public libraries. At these events, cross-dressing men would read stories to young children. I presume that the plan is to combat bigotry by cross-dressers getting involved in community activities. The children who attend would learn that these men are normal people, not to be despised or shunned. Perhaps, too, it would help them later to deal with their own gender identities.

When members of the Delta Lambda Phi fraternity scheduled one of these events at the public library in Lafayette, Louisiana in October, however, they met resistance. At the Lafayette City-Parish Council meeting, 78

people went to protest the event and demand that the council disapprove the library's decision to host the event.

This caught my attention because of the argument made by William Penkoski, the founder of an online ministry called Warriors for Christ. He is not content to let parents decide whether to allow their children to attend the story time event. He wants the government to enforce his religious prejudices upon everyone.

The council informed the protesters that they had no authority to cancel the event, which had been approved by the library board, and defeated the motion. The Warriors for Christ then filed suit, naming as defendants the Library Director, the Mayor, the President of the Parish Council and the Attorney General of Louisiana. The suit claims that the Drag Queen Story Time is an unconstitutional violation of the Establishment Clause!

Penkoski explains "We're arguing that these types of things fall under religious secular humanism, and the government cannot enjoin itself in that because of that premise.... We called the library ourselves and I asked if we could hold a meeting ... giving the other side of this argument,

the biblical view of creation, and the library told me 'no.' I said, 'if you're giving this as a free speech event, then I should be able to come in and give the flip side of this argument.'"

The lawsuit argues that by allowing this event, the library is endorsing the group's secular humanism and in fact is "excessively entangling the government with the religion." Furthermore, the lawsuit states, "By endorsing transgenderism ... the city of Lafayette is relegating Christians to second-class citizens."

I have not been able to find any articles that explains the presumed connection between secular humanism and Delta Lambda Phi, a social fraternity for gay, bisexual and transgender men. Certainly many humanist groups, as well as atheist groups such as Minnesota Atheists, have adopted policies advocating for equal rights for LGBTQI people, but that is only because of the role of religion in promoting laws that enforce

bigotry. Many religious people also support gay rights, and of course humanists are not required by any dogma to be gay. The suit appears to have no chance of success.

In other news, an American Christian missionary was killed by a primitive tribe when he illegally went to their island to preach to them. John Allen Chau, 27, died on North Sentinel, one of the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal.

North Sentinel is officially administered by India. It strictly forbids anyone to travel there, primarily because the natives have acquired no resistance to outside disease. A single visitor could wipe out the entire population, but this was apparently no deterrent to a missionary inspired by the Great Commission to save their souls. The natives are also fiercely opposed to outsiders invading their island and have killed intruders before.

Chao wrote in his diary of plans to befriend the islanders with offerings of scissors and safety pins, and by singing Christian "worship songs." He arrogantly expected to win them for Christ even though he did not know a word of their language. Such condescension is probably an indispensable quality for a missionary. He knew nothing of Sentinelese culture, and, had he succeeded, would have undoubtedly destroyed it.

*Chao [planned] to befriend the islanders with offerings of scissors and safety pins, and by singing Christian "worship songs."*



## Atheists Talk Radio Show

Podcasts can be listened to at [www.mnatheists.org](http://www.mnatheists.org) (scroll down to the podcast link), <https://www.patreon.com/AtheistTalk>. You can catch our show live, every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. Central on AM 950 KTNF or online at <http://www.am950radio.com/listen-live/> and <https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/a-minnesota-transatheist/atheist-talk>. Contact us during the show with questions or comments at (952) 946-6205 or contact us anytime via [radio@mnatheists.org](mailto:radio@mnatheists.org) or tweet us anytime at [@atheiststalk](https://twitter.com/atheiststalk).

Sponsors of the program are Q.Cumbers restaurant in Edina, American Atheists, and the members and donors of Minnesota Atheists. To support the program, go to the MNA web page [donation/radio](http://www.mnatheists.org/donation/radio), [giveMN/minnesootatheists](http://www.giveMN.org/minnesootatheists), <https://www.patreon.com/AtheistTalk> or donate by mail to our PO Box. All donations are tax deductible.

## Recent Programs

### Ep489 Odd Atheist Traditions

Sunday 11/25/2018

Hertzey chats with Matt & Erik about holiday traditions as we plunge deep into the holiday season. Matt and Erik are the cohosts of Odd Atheists Friends and are long time friends of the show.

Odd Atheists Friends Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/oafpodcast>

### Ep 488 Richard Logan - Building a Secular Society

November 18, 2018

Richard D. Logan joined us to discuss how we can continue to build and grow a secular society. While this is something Minnesota Atheists has been extremely successful with already, we felt it would be beneficial to get the points of view from others in the secular community who don't identify as atheists.

Richard is a retired Professor of Human Development. He has a BA in Anthropology from Harvard College and a PhD in Human Development from the University of Chicago. He has published on

adolescent identity, American individualism, the emergence of the self through Western history, and the state of higher education. He also authored a book on the psychology of solitary ordeals, and another on the true survival story of a young girl lost at sea. He also chaired the Faculty Executive Committee. Since retiring he has served on several non-profit boards.

LINKS:

Society for Humanistic Judaism: [SHJ.org](http://SHJ.org)

Jews for a Secular Democracy: <http://jfasd.org/>

### Ep 477 Camille Beredjick

November 11, 2018

Maddy & Joseph are in studio, and we are happy to be joined by Camille Beredjick. Camille is a writer living in New York City, she works in digital media at the Joyful Heart Foundation, and runs a blog called GayWrites. Camille also makes videos for YouTube, writes about LGBTQ issues, social justice, and other stuff on the internet that makes conservative snowflakes like Pat Robertson melt. She has studied journalism, marketing, and communication at Northwester and Johns Hopkins, and is here to talk about her first book, *Queer Disbelief: Why LGBTQ Equality is an Atheist Issue*. The book is currently available on Amazon here: <https://www.amazon.com/Queer-Disbelief-LGBTQ-Equality-Atheist/dp/0692989641> You can find Camille at her home page: <https://www.camilleberedjick.com/> Follow Camille on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cberedjick>

### Ep 476 Alice Vaughn

November 4, 2018

Hertzey and Maddy are joined via Skype by Alice Vaughn, cohost of the popular porncast 2 Girls One Mic; a podcast where Alice and cohost Yvette (aka the SciBabe) review adult films and interview folx in the adult film industry. Alice is also the creator of Offensive Crayons, a popular set of coloring crayons that feature color names that are bound to melt the snowflake in your life. She is also the creator of Galaxy Bath Bombs, a set of premium bath bombs of the Sun and each of the 8 planets (sorry Pluto lovers - that dwarf planet's orbit didn't clear so it was

Continued on page 8

# IHEU Freedom of Thought Report

## Spoiler Alert: We're not #1 (or #2...or #8)

By *George Francis Kane*

The International Humanist Ethical Union (IHEU), a non-governmental (NGO) with consultative status at the United Nations, has issued its 2018 edition of its Freedom of Thought Report ([freethoughtreport.com](http://freethoughtreport.com)). The report ranks all the nations of the world on a survey of discrimination and persecution against humanists, atheists and the non-religious on a scale from 1 (best) to 5 (worst). The components of the evaluation are:

1. Constitution and Government
2. Education and Children's Rights
3. Family, Community, Society, Religious Courts and Tribunals
4. Freedom of Expression, Advocacy of Humanist Values.

Three nations, Belgium, Netherlands and Taiwan, lead the list with a perfect 1.0 score. The United States, ranks in a tie for 9th through 16th, with a score of 1.5. Tied with the United States were Estonia, the Republic of the Congo, Norway, Iceland, Mexico, Sweden and Uruguay. The United States dropped points in the categories of Constitution and Government and Family, Community, Society.

Under Constitution and Government, the report notes that despite strong constitutional protections for freedom of thought:

*those very freedoms, and openness to challenge, debate and due process — combined with the sometimes also very strong, deeply-rooted Christian conservatism of some Americans — means that secular, humanist and civil liberties groups find themselves facing a continual battle to preserve the inherent secularism of the constitution from persistent challenges, often involving state authorities or officials, or individuals, citing “religious freedom” in an attempt to bypass separation of church and state, to enforce particular religious beliefs in the public sphere, or in some way “establish” religion.*

Problems for the United States include President Trump's pledges around conservative religious and nationalist values, and his appointments to office; school voucher programs that divert funding for public education to religious schools; the attempts to undermine the Johnson Amendment; “under God” in the pledge of allegiance and “in God we trust” as the national motto; and religious monuments on government land.

State laws also present a challenge:

*Although the Constitution is secular, there are significant anti-secular issues at the state level. Despite the constitutional prohibition (Article 6) of any “religious test” for public office, there are currently 8 states where the laws directly block those who deny the existence of God or “a supreme being” from holding public office. This can even extend to the banning of atheists from testifying in court. An example of this is the State constitution of Arkansas which explicitly mentions atheists:*

*“1: Atheists disqualified from holding office or testifying as witness. No person who denies the being of a God shall hold any office in the civil departments of this State, nor be competent to testify as a witness in any Court.”*

***No person who denies the being of a God shall hold any office in the civil departments of this State (Arkansas), nor be competent to testify as a witness in any Court.***

— <[arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/Summary/ArkansasConstitution1874.pdf](http://arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/Summary/ArkansasConstitution1874.pdf)>

In the category of Family, Community and Society, the report found similar problems for the United States. In particular, it noted religious privilege established by RFRA and the Hobby Lobby decision; social and political pressure “in which the non-religious are sometimes made to feel like lesser Americans or as if atheism is “un-American”; social prejudice against atheists that is sometimes hazardous to challenge; and religious campaigns to legislate religiously inspired sanctions against LGBTQI civil rights and against reproductive rights.

Minnesota Atheists is a member of the IHEU.

## 2019 Day of Reason

Theme: Secular Voices

This year our Day of Reason event will feature “Secular Voices” This will be an assembly of citizens from around the state who use their voices and actions to promote secularism in government and for many of us in our daily lives. Minnesota Atheists welcomes those who are religious but actively support our Secular Constitution, as this is a common bond for all American residents.

We encourage attendees to bring hand-held signs for a group they represent or on separation of state and church. Signs must be positive in orientation and match our theme. Signs for Minnesota Atheists and the Day of Reason will be up behind the speaker’s lectern. This event will be recorded.

If you represent an atheist, Humanist or Freethought organization from Minnesota let us know if you would like to speak. If you know a religious group that supports secular government and separation of government and religion, we also would like to know as they will be invited too.

Minnesota Atheists Day of Reason Committee members for 2019:

Heather Hegi, [chair@mnaatheists.org](mailto:chair@mnaatheists.org)  
Steve Petersen, [address@mnaatheists.org](mailto:address@mnaatheists.org)  
Hertzey Hertz, [sec@mnaatheists.org](mailto:sec@mnaatheists.org)  
Benjamin Blanchard, [dir1@mnaatheists.org](mailto:dir1@mnaatheists.org)

Save the date for our 2019 Day of Reason

Date: May 2, 2019

Location: State Capitol Rotunda

Event Time: 1:15 to 2:30

Event: Day of Reason:

Host: Minnesota Atheists

Theme: Secular Voices



Day of Reason 2018  
Left to right: Raymond Dehn, Ilhan Omar, Tina Liebling and Mike Friedberg



Day of Reason 2018  
August Berkshire



Day of Reason 2018  
Steve Petersen and Heather Hegi

## Opinion

### The White House vs Science

By Milo Grika

On December 18th, President Trump officially established the United States Space Command, which will oversee military activities in space — while falling short of the Space Force that he described in an earlier speech, “We have the Air Force and we’re going to have the Space Force. Separate but equal.” (The last time the government used the phrase “separate but equal” was in the *Plessy v. Ferguson* Supreme Court decision of 1896, which allowed state-sponsored segregation ... but I digress.) According to VP Pence, Trump is still set on making the Space Force a reality.

Poor communication skills aside, this is a very exciting (and non-partisan) thing President Trump has proposed. Not because it means an increase in military spending, which you may, or may not, support even as a liberal, but because it means an increase in science spending — yes science! That scary thing that the religious right thinks is stealing folks away from faith, and may-

be it is, but awesome!

I’m not the first to be mystified at the pride that many conservatives have for basically refusing to understand science. Even educated Republicans shake their heads at the joy of ignorance enjoyed by their comrades. Though to be fair, sometimes one has to ignore numbers to support fear-mongering rhetoric (of which Democratic presidents have also been guilty).

Politicians have uneducated constituents that feed on feel-good legislation that would otherwise be compromised by evidence. And each and every one of us needs to actively question our own biases towards topics close to our hearts.

But getting back to the U.S. Space Command, let me lay out what this new financial support target means for you and me by listing everyday technology, which we take for granted, that came from both military necessity and NASA ingenuity.

We’ll probably get a sixth branch eventually. And I personally look forward to the incredible tech that one day will seem blasé, and it will all be thanks (indirectly) to President Trump.

Technology	Military	NASA
Food Preservation	Canning	Freeze-dried Food
Materials	Duct Tape Synthetic Rubber Tires Superglue	Foil Emergency Blankets Memory Foam
Smart Phone Tech	Digital Cameras GPS	Miniature Digital Cameras Improved GPS
Household	Microwave Ovens Disposable Razors Sanitary Napkins Wristwatches	Enriched Baby Food Home Insulation Scratch-resistant Lenses Cordless Tools Shoe Insoles
Health	EpiPen Freeze-dried Medicines Penicillin Blood Banks and Transfusions Ambulances Aerosol Bug Spray	Water Purification Systems Artificial Limbs The Jaws of Life Infrared Ear Thermometers MRI and CAT Scans Ventricular Assist Devices
Computing	Computers The Internet	Laptops Computer Mice (Mouses? IDK)
And More!	The Space Program Weather Radar and Forecasting	LEDs Firefighter Equipment Solar Panels

# Treasury Report

August

By *Chris Matthews*

## Radio Fund

\$200	George F Kane
\$50	Thomas D Naylor
\$50	Nancy L Ruhland
\$40	Jeff Koeppen
\$25	James P Barri
\$20	August Berkshire
\$20	Cynthia Flaig
\$67	Cash donations, fifth Sunday fundraiser
<b>\$472</b>	<b>Total Radio Fund</b>

## General/Visibility Fund

\$1,200	Jack Caravela
\$990	Nancy Hertz
\$100	Mandy & Ross Meisner
\$40	Ben Zvan
\$30	Keith Scott
\$20	Christian Kallevig
\$20	Craig Stilen
\$10	Stephanie Arbesfeld
\$10	Darren Berger
\$10	Brett Knobloch
\$10	Octavio Lorenzo

## General/Visibility Fund (continued)

\$10	Phil Mauriala
\$10	Kevin Stulen
\$10	Matt Valek
\$5	Jim Barri
\$5	Thomas Bauch
\$5	Jim Bodsberg
\$5	Robert Maline
\$5	Maria Swora
\$5	Matt White
\$47	misc cash donations
\$77	YourCause
\$30	PayPal Giving Fund
\$7	Amazon Smile
<b>\$2,661</b>	<b>Total General/Visibility Fund</b>

## Building Fund

**\$0 Total Building Fund**

**Total Income \$3,133**

**Current Building Fund \$139,904**

## Top Expenses

\$1,845	Radio Show
\$1,055	Newsletter
\$950	Seth Andrews event

**Nominees** continued from page 2

to attend the monthly board meeting, currently held every 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. If you are interested in being on the board but do not meet these qualifications, please get your dues in now so you may qualify next year!

The elections will take place on February 17th during the February Business Meeting before the featured speakers. The new board will take effect on March 1, 2019.

**Radio** continued from page 4

unable to join the party).

LINKS:

Offensive Crayons: <https://www.offensivecrayons.com/shop>

Podcast: <http://www.twogirlsonemic.com/>

## Ep 475 **Satanic Halloween**

October 28th, 2018

Hertzey & Jordan team up to break down and have a laugh at some of the fundamentalist christian misconceptions about Halloween, and its origins. While the video is older, the ideas presented in it are unfortunately recirculated each and every Halloween.

## Minnesota Atheists Philanthropy In Action

# THANK YOU.

Your gift truly makes a difference to the children and families we serve.



childrensMN.org

December 24, 2018

Ms. Caroline Brunner  
Minnesota Atheists  
PO Box 120304  
New Brighton, MN 55112

Dear Ms. Brunner,

Your generosity is truly appreciated and will have a lasting impact on the patients and families we see at Children's Minnesota. As you know, Children's Minnesota is a special place that provides kids and their families with outstanding pediatric and family-centered care when they need it most. And we simply couldn't do it without your support.

Children's Minnesota Foundation received your in-kind gift of books, puzzles, toys, nail polish, dolls, crayons, and art kits on Friday, December 14, 2018. Thank you for your generosity! Please note that due to the time required to process donations, the date noted above may not match the date you delivered your gift to our hospital campuses.

Your unwavering commitment plays a vital role in our ability to help the kids who depend on us to return them to their rightful place of happy. So thank you. For your support, and for being there for the most amazing people on earth.

With appreciation,

*Annie Waters*

Annie Waters  
Vice President of Foundation Operations and Associate Chief Development Officer  
Children's Minnesota Foundation

# The “Nones” That You Know

Joaquin Phoenix

By *Milo Grika*

Joaquin Rafael Phoenix né Bottom; born October 28, 1974 is a Grammy and Golden Globe awards winning American actor, producer, and activist.

Often I have speculated on the topic of this column based on a quote that seemed to indicate

non belief, but this time there is no speculation necessary!

“I don’t believe in God. I don’t believe in an afterlife. I don’t believe in a soul. I don’t believe in anything. I think it’s totally right for people to have their own beliefs if it makes them happy, but to me it’s a pretty preposterous idea.”

—Phoenix

## Cryptogram Answer

The very admission of the need to harmonize is an admission that the burden of proof is on the narratives, not on those who doubt them. What harmonizing shows is that despite appearances, the texts still might be true.

—Robert M. Price, *Beyond Born Again*

## Get Famous (Sort of)

You too can become published by simply submitting something to The Minnesota Atheist newsletter:

Have a blog?

*Let us reprint it.*

Have an opinion?

*Let us hear it.*

Just send your input to [editor@mnatheists.org](mailto:editor@mnatheists.org) and we’ll do the rest.

## Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations

### Membership Levels

- One-year student membership \$10
- One-year individual membership \$35
- Three-year individual membership \$90
- One-year household membership \$45
- Three-year household membership \$115
- One-year sustaining membership \$75
- Three-year sustaining membership \$200
- Life membership \$600

Donations are tax deductible. Membership fees are deductible for the amount beyond their fair market value.

Student memberships include a subscription to the PDF version of *The Minnesota Atheist* delivered by email. All other memberships include a subscription to the printed version delivered by postal mail. If you would prefer the PDF version delivered by email, please check the box and provide your email address.

### Donation Funds

General Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Building Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Radio Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to:

**Minnesota Atheists.**

Students, please enclose a copy of your fee statement or school identification.

Minnesota Atheists  
PO Box 120304  
New Brighton, MN 55112

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Just email newsletter    Email address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required for student memberships and email subscriptions)

## Upcoming Events

**Atheists Talk Community Brunch** 1st Sunday of every month at 10:30 a.m.,  
Q. Cumbers, 7465 France Ave S, Edina.

**Atheist/Agnostic Alcoholics Anonymous** Every Sunday from 6:00–7:00 p.m. and Wednesday from  
7:00–8:00 p.m.,  
Health Recovery Center building, lower floor, 3249 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis.  
Based on A.A., minus beliefs in any form of a God.

**Freethought Toastmasters Meeting** 1st and 3rd Monday of every month from 6:30–8:00 p.m.,  
Larpenteur Estates Party Room, 1280 Larpenteur Ave W, St Paul. [freethought.toastmastersclubs.org](http://freethought.toastmastersclubs.org)

**Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting** 1st Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m.,  
Amherst H Wilder Foundation, 451 Lexington Pkwy N, St Paul.  
All Minnesota Atheists members are welcome.

**Godless Gamers** Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.,  
Fantasy Flight Games Center, 1975 County Rd B2, Roseville.

**Freethought Dinner Social** 2nd and 4th Monday of every month from 5:00–7:00 p.m.,  
Davanni's, 8605 Lyndale Ave S, Bloomington.

**Freethinking Females** 2nd Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.,  
Claddagh Irish Pub, 7890 Main St N, Maple Grove  
And 4th Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m.,  
Sweeney's Saloon, 96 North Dale Street, St. Paul

**NOTE:** Two different locations.

Shattering the myth that atheist groups are male dominated with a females-only event.

**Volunteer Food Packing** 2nd Thursday of every month at 1:00 p.m.,  
The Food Group, 8501 54th Ave N, New Hope.

**Blasphemer's Brunch** 2nd Saturday of every month at 10:30 a.m.,  
Pizza Lucé, 800 W 66th St, Richfield.

**Bowling for Deities** Last Saturday of every month at noon,  
Memory Lanes, 2520 26th Ave S, Minneapolis.

For more events, visit [www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists](http://www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists)



## 12 The Minnesota Atheist

Minnesota Atheists

### Positive Atheism in action since 1991

Minnesota Atheists is dedicated to building a positive atheist community that actively promotes secular values through educational programs, social activities, and participation in public affairs.

#### Minnesota Atheist Board of Directors

##### Board Email

board@mnatheists.org

##### President

Alyssa Ehni

pres@mnatheists.org

##### Associate President

Stephanie Zvan

apres@mnatheists.org

##### Chair

Heather Hegi

chair@mnatheists.org

##### Associate Chair

Georgia Hancock Tsoi

achair@mnatheists.org

##### Secretary

Hertzey Hertz

sec@mnatheists.org

##### Treasurer

Chris Matthews

treas@mnatheists.org

763.428.3424

##### Directors at Large

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dir1@mnatheists.org

\*\*Open Position\*\*

dir2@mnatheists.org

Kamrin Duncan

dir3@mnatheists.org

#### The Minnesota Atheist Newsletter

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editor@mnatheists.org

##### Editorial Board

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nup@minn.net

651.488.8225

Heather Hegi

chair@mnatheists.org

Shirley Moll

srmoll@comcast.net

James Zimmerman

zgoatee@gmail.com

##### Editor

Milo Grika

editor@mnatheists.org

##### Chief Photographer

Richard Trombley

##### Membership and Change of Address

Steve Petersen

address@mnatheists.org

651.484.9277

#### Minnesota Atheists Goals

Minnesota Atheists practices positive, inclusive, active, friendly, neighborhood atheism in order to provide a community for atheists, educate the public about atheism, and promote separation of state and church.

#### Minnesota Atheists Media

##### Public Relations Chair

\*\*Open Position\*\*

pr@mnatheists.org

##### AtheistsWeekly Email (AWE)

Chris Matthews

awe@mnatheists.org

##### Cable TV Chair

\*\*Open Position\*\*

cable@mnatheists.org

##### Webmaster

Clint Buhs

Grant Hermanson

web@mnatheists.org

##### Podcasts Chair

Grant Hermanson

podcasts@mnatheists.org

org

#### Minnesota Atheists Affiliations

Atheist Alliance of America

Atheist Alliance International

American Atheists

The American Humanist Association

Council for Secular Humanism

The International Humanist and Ethical Union

Secular Coalition for America

#### Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 183

Life members: 45

Meetup members: 3,045

#### Minnesota Atheists Honorary Members

Hector Avalos, PhD

Dan Barker

Gerald Erickson, PhD

Annie Laurie Gaylor

Dick Hewetson

Robert M. Price, PhD



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