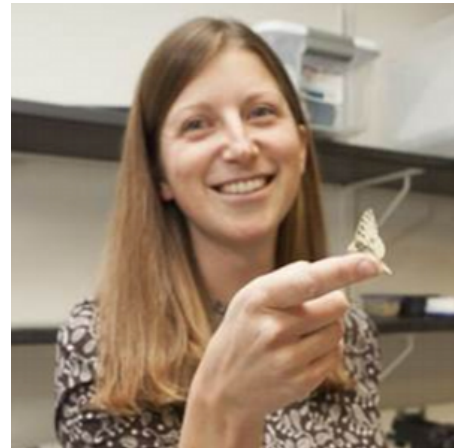


THE MINNESOTA ATHEIST

February Public Meeting: Is Human Activity Changing Animal Brains?

How have the brains of some animals adapted to the changes that humans have made to the environment, from the complexity of urban cities to deforestation and farming in rural areas? In honor of Charles Darwin's birth month, we are pleased to have Dr. Emilie Snell-Rood speak on behavioral responses of animals to rapid environmental change. Why can some species adjust their behavior to deal with anthropogenic environments, while others cannot? How might humans shape the brain development and evolution in wild animals?

Emilie Snell-Rood received her bachelor of science in biology at William and Mary in 2002 and her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Arizona in 2007. Following a postdoctoral fellowship at Indiana University, Emilie started her position in Ecology, Evolution and Behavior at the University of Minnesota in January 2011. Emilie has received funding from NSF and NIH, serves on the editorial board of Proceedings of the Royal Society and the American Naturalist. She has been awarded a young investigator award by the Animal Behavior Society and a McKnight Land Grant by the University of Minnesota.



Dr. Emilie Snell-Rood

Inside this issue:	Member Submission 6
President's Column 2	Cable Report 7
News and Notes 3	Treasury Report 8
Board Candidate Statements 4	Member Submission 10
Board Candidate Statements 5	

February 19, 2017

Southdale Library

2nd Floor meeting room
7001 York Ave. S.
Edina, MN 55435

1:00-1:15 p.m. - Social Time

1:15-1:45 p.m. - Business Meeting (including annual elections)

1:45-2:00 p.m. - Break

2:00-3:30 p.m. - Presentation

4:00pm-Dinner location to be determined

President's Column By Alyssa Ehni

Protect the wall.

Not that wall. I'm not talking about the proposed wall between the United States and Mexico.

Protect the wall.

This wall was not built with bricks of bigotry, nor will it isolate us from our southern neighbors. It does not marginalize our Mexican friends and family members.

This wall was built by our founding fathers with the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. It was further discussed in Thomas Jefferson's letter addressed to the Danbury Baptist Association where he wrote, "I contemplate with sovereign reverence that act of the whole American people which declared that their legislature should 'make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof,' thus building a wall of separation between Church & State."

Our new president, Donald Trump, has taken many actions in recent weeks which erode the wall of state and church separation, ethics and other impact aside. His pick for attorney general, Jefferson Sessions, said in his hearing that he was not sure that a secular person has just as good a claim to understanding the truth as a religious person. In 1986, he was denied a federal judgeship because of racist statements that he had made. (For those of you who don't know, the religious right's first major political issue was not abortion. It was the desegregation of public schools.)

Which brings me to his cabinet pick for education secretary, Betsy DeVos. DeVos has spent years advocating in Michigan for for profit charter schools and laws which allow federal funds to be given to private religious schools under the guise of "school choice."

William Pryor, who is believed to be towards the top of Trump's shortlist to replace Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court, has been regarded by the Freedom From Religion

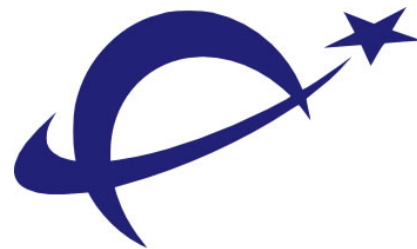
Foundation, in a recent news release, as having a history of hostility towards the secular principles of the United States Constitution. Pryor has referred to *Roe v. Wade* as "the worst abomination of constitutional law," supports the display of the Ten Commandments on government property, as well as including, disclaimers against evolution in textbooks.

During his campaign, Trump promised to use religion as a basis for determining who can enter our country, banning Muslims, while favoring Christians. He also discussed a registry for Muslims in the United States. How long will it be before he tries to implement these measures?

This administration will surely have an impact on state and church separation. These issues are tied to the future of the United States. Many of these actions will have consequences beyond state and church separation. It is up to us to determine the version of America in which we want to live.

How can we work towards shaping the future and what can individuals do to protect the wall? To name a few: Call your senators and representatives. Attend marches. Speak out on social media. Donate to organizations like the Freedom From Religion Foundation and the American Civil Liberties Union.

Protect the wall between state and church. It is essential to our freedom and our future.



Cryptogram By George Francis Kane

Me xypoigk rod kwkp fobkm ngoik amukp iemuyfyemd
cryir diykmik iom oiknf. Ktnkpykmik drecd, cyfreat
ktiknfyem, frof xypoigkd eiiap emgs ym fyxkd omu ym
ieamfpykd ym cryir xypoigkd opk qkgykwku ym, omu ym
frk npkdkmik ez nkpdemd cre opk uydnedku fe qkgykwk
frkx. -Ledknr Kpmkdf Pkmom, *Gyzk ez Lkdad*



News and Notes

By George Francis Kane

With Donald Trump moving into the White House with the support of a partisan majority in both houses of Congress, expectations of decisive changes to international relations, trade policy, medical coverage and immigration are currently at the top of political coverage. There are also issues that should be of great concern for the supporters of the separation of church and state.

An issue of long-lasting impact is appointments to the federal bench. The Republicans blocked confirmation hearings for Merrick Garland, President Obama's appointee to the Supreme Court seat vacated by the death of Antonin Scalia, but there will surely also be further openings because of the advanced age of some justices. Liberal stalwart Ruth Bader Ginsburg will be 84 in March, and her health is questionable, while Stephen Breyer is 78. Their replacement by Trump will decisively alter the ideological cast of the court. Anthony Kennedy is 80 years old, and while he sides with the conservatives on most cases, he wrote the decision in the *Obergefell* case that legalized marriage equality nationwide, and he has been the swing decision on Establishment Clause cases.

The court defined by Trump appointees may clarify the test for Establishment Clause violations. In recent decisions the Neutrality Test, the Endorsement Test and the Lemon Test have been nearly forgotten, but never overturned. In *Greece v. Galloway*, Scalia pushed for a rule that if examples of an act of government could be found in the early years after the adoption of the Constitution, the action must have been compliant with it. Accordingly, the only time such an action of government could be in violation of the Establishment Clause is when it compels citizens to accept religious orthodoxy with the threat of fine or imprisonment. Scalia raged when this was not the test applied when the court declined to hear the *Elmbrook School District v. Doe* case, concerning holding a public school graduation ceremony in a church. The other justices recognized that school children are particularly defenseless to the religious dictates of government when applied through the public schools.

Also of considerable importance are the 103 vacancies on the lower federal courts, left as Republicans refused to confirm Obama's appointees. While Supreme Court decisions provide us the "final word" of the moment on constitutional questions, the lower courts provide the interpretations of those decisions to which the operations of government must conform. The political ideology of the judges on trial courts is always of great significance.

Donald Trump has promised the repeal of the 1954 Johnson Amendment. This was a change to the tax laws,

named after then-Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson, who proposed it, that prohibits churches and other 501(c)3 tax-exempt organizations from endorsing and opposing candidates. This is a restriction upon the political conduct of tax-exempt organizations such as churches and Minnesota Atheists. As expressive organizations, we have no government restrictions upon our issue advocacy, but intervention into electoral campaigns would put our tax exempt status at risk of regulatory repeal. This restriction prohibits ministers from preaching from the pulpit that parishioners must vote for a particular candidate, or oppose another, as a requirement of their faith and salvation. The Internal Revenue Service has not enforced this provision, but if it is repealed, donations to churches will become a way to make contributions to political campaigns tax exempt. Churches will become Super PACs.

During the Obama administration, the federal government has supported equal civil rights for LGBTQA individuals, and the Supreme Court has made marriage equality the law of the land. The religious right has not abandoned the fight, however, and has been trying to establish religious exemptions from laws that prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation in public accommodations and employment. In 2016, such bills were defeated in Indiana and Mississippi after they were passed by the state legislatures. At the end of the year, the Russell Amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act, which would have prohibited the federal government from taking any action against any federal contractor that discriminated in employment based upon sexual orientation, was stripped from the bill.

Expect president Trump to rescind a regulation by the Obama administration Education Department that ties federal support of school districts to policies that permit transgender students to use bathrooms that match their gender identity.

Donald Trump seems to have no strong personal animosity to separation of church and state, but the religious right has become an important political constituency of his. They are strongly identified with the Republican majority in both houses of Congress and control of the legislature in 32 states. Expect their attacks on secular government to increase. The next few years will be interesting times.

2017 Board of Directors Candidate Statements

2017 Candidates:

Alyssa Ehni, President
Art Kallenbach, Associate President
Heather Hegi, Chair
Georgia Hancock Tsoi, Associate Chair

Chris Matthews, Treasurer
Hertzey Hertz, Secretary
Michael Sasse, Director-at-Large
August Berkshire, Director-at-Large
Eric Jayne, Director-at-Large

President

Alyssa Ehni

Candidate statement not received.

Director-at-large

Eric Jayne

Candidate statment not received.

Associate President

Art Kallenbach

Candidate statment not received.



Chair **Heather Hegi**

About a month ago, my non-practicing Christian step-brother asked me an honest question, "If atheism is to basically deny religion, why so much time spent by atheists avidly posting pro atheist stuff?" I gave him a thorough response starting with breaking misconceptions people have about atheists; atheists are regularly vilified while good Christians are put on a pedestal. This makes it very hard for anyone who is atheist to succeed in politics to represent the people because religion and prayer is bound to come up. Then I dived into the harm that religious thinking does. It hazes one's judgement on all sorts of issues: global warming, LGBT rights, and abortion to name a few. When one views this world to be a stepping stone to eternal life rather than the one and only life we have, the seriousness of our reality is degraded.

I am a passionate atheist who wants to make our voices heard. I take being on the board seriously and aim to do what I can for the cause. I am proud to serve as chair and look forward to being of service this coming year.

Heather Hegi

Associate Chair **Georgia Hancock Tsoi**

This will be my 4th year to serve on the board and 2nd year as Associate Chair. I am a longtime member of Minnesota Atheist. I share Minnesota Atheists' goals of educating the public about atheism and promoting the separation of church and state and I feel it is important to keep this as our primary goal. I am an open atheist in my community and career and encourage others to be open and to educate their friends and family about atheism. I have continued my role of librarian for Minnesota Atheists, am on the Public Policy Committee, and have started the Well-Being Committee. I look forward to more opportunities to learn and grow with the Minnesota Atheists board and members this year.

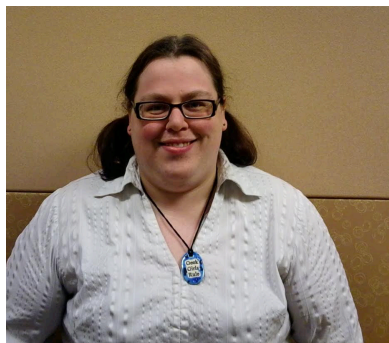


Georgia Hancock Tsoi

2017 Board of Directors Candidate Statements

Treasurer
Chris Matthews

I am a life member of Minnesota Atheists and have served on the board as treasurer since 2011. I enjoy working with numbers and computers. I am proud to help provide the infrastructure that the organization needs to pursue goals that we collectively find worthwhile. I personally value positive atheism and the promotion of separation of church and state. I appreciate the opportunity to continue serving as treasurer.



Hertzey Hertz

Secretary
Hertzey Hertz

Four years ago I found myself looking for an atheist social circle. I had read lots of blogs and even started to listen to a couple of podcasts. But I missed having events to go to on a regular basis. I found, through Meetup, the Minnesota Atheists, and specifically the Newbie Night and Godless Gamers. Through these events, I found many friends and events to occupy my extroverted self. As I enjoyed the events, I became curious about the leadership and started to attend board meetings as a general member and last year a Director at Large and late last year leadership of the radio show. I now find myself excitedly accepting the nomination for Secretary. I am very excited to see how I can continue help our community grow and flourish. Thank you!

Director-at-Large
Mike Sasse

Over two years ago my wife and I stumbled upon the MN Atheists Meetup page and decided to reach out to the Atheist community. We'd been atheists for years but as time went by we realized the single biggest loss of discarding a shared delusion is the community of those that shared it with you. We've made some great friends since then and I'm extremely pleased to have the opportunity to serve on the Board of Directors and hope I can make strong contributions in the next year and beyond.

This organization can and should attract more members to join us in the crusade against religious overreach in government, to foster critical thinking and reason, and to promote science above the superstitions and dogma from times when humanity knew very little about the little it knew anything about and was too eager to fill those voids with god or gods that so happened to share the earthbound ambitions of those in power at the time. I have tremendous faith that this organization can grow to include even more of those that were like us -- godless and seeking community.



Mike Sasse



August Berkshire

Director-At-Large
August Berkshire

I think of Minnesota Atheists as a large organization with many leaders and volunteers that help us to be successful, nine of whom happen to serve on the board of directors at any particular time. I try to notice and appreciate what everyone is doing.

I continue to see the atheist and humanist movements growing closer together, beginning with the necessary discrediting of religious ideas and ending with the spread of critical thinking and social justice. As Nietzsche wrote, "God is dead. God remains dead. And we have killed him." We are ready for the next step: secular humanism, which is an extension of atheism.

Maybe there is a god: the case for Typos

By Richard Maus

What makes someone a god?

Those who are perceived as gods, good and bad, vary widely throughout the world, from deities with only one responsibility—say, rain—to deities who are responsible for everything. Generally speaking, though, within their spheres of influence they have four defining characteristics: They are omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, and omnibenevolent.

Christians, and more specifically Catholics, assert that their all-in-one god has all those attributes. They point to the bible, tradition, and theology to support their claim. But the evidence there is thin. All these sources have their contradictions, fallacies, and other weaknesses.

The case for another deity, the god Typos, is much more compelling, I think. Writers, editors, and readers find evidence of her work everywhere, though to date few have associated them with the actions of a god. Consider this:

An author can read a new paragraph fifty times and pay two editors to read that same paragraph to look for mistakes and not one of them will find anything amiss. Everyone involved affirms that the paragraph is good to print. As soon as it is published, however, an embarrassing error becomes obvious. It sticks out like a sore thumb.

One minute a thing is invisible, the next it is inescapably visible. It has risen into existence like a sub-atomic particle — from nothing. Some might call it magic. Some might even call it a miracle.

Since only gods perform miracles, this is very strong evidence for the existence of Typos. Typos may not be able to move mountains or stars, but within her realm, the world of the published word, she clearly is able to create something from nothing. Ergo, Typos is omnipotent.

No matter where or when you write something, Typos knows when it is committed to print. Faking it — pretending that something has been published — won't work. Typos knows. Typos never performs the miracle until after the actual publication. Clearly, Typos is omniscient.

Typos does her thing with every author, young or old, rich or poor. The writer might be a hermit writing alone on a

mountain top or a blogger in a crowded submarine. A letter writer in Cuba or a poet in China. The document could be sent to an astronaut to be printed out on the International Space Station and Typos will be there. Typos is everywhere. Typos is omnipresent.

In science, research only supports or disproves an hypothesis. It does not prove anything. The same holds true here. It is not possible to prove that Typos made the typo invisible in the first place. It just is. It is clear, however, that something has acted upon the published document to make visible that which was invisible. The question is why. Is Typos a malevolent god dedicated to getting writers and editors to tear their hair out? Possibly. But I prefer to think of her as an altruistic god who reminds humans that they are not infallible — a good thing — and gives them the chance to redeem themselves by erasing her work on electronic publications or correcting it the next time something is printed and learning ways to circumvent future typos. Viewed this way her interventions encourage those who write and edit to work at becoming their best selves (and, as result, contribute to the improvement of published material and the satisfaction of those who read it). Typos is therefore doing good. Typos is omnibenevolent.

Christian theologians affirm that if you adore and pray to their god, you will be saved. Is Typos susceptible to the same influences? If we worship her, will she take pity on us? That remains to be seen.

Richard Maus is the author of the recently released, *Faith Enterprise: Making Mysteries and Miracles Vanish*. While making the case for science it answers the question: What is it about Christianity and Catholicism that makes atheism so attractive? Visit: faithenterprise.info

Cable Report By Steve Petersen



Chris Bovitz, Theresa Bulander, James Zimmerman and Crew

In January James Zimmerman interviewed Theresa Bulander and Chris Bovitz, representatives of CampQuest North, a secular camp for kids ages 8 to 17. This year the camp will be held over three weeks. It will start in Iowa from June 15 to July 1, followed in Minnesota by either July 16 - 22 or July 23 - 29. If you have an interest in sending a camper or being a camp counselor or donor, or just want more information, please go to cqminnesota.org.

Last year this camp hosted over 100 kids in Minnesota, and there are several more camps around the country. Scholarships are available for those who cannot afford to pay the camp fees.

produce programming. If you have ideas on programming or interest in hosting please get involved. Contact Steve Petersen at address@mnatheists.org.

Cable Crew: George Kane, Brett Stenbridge, Shirley Moll, Steve Petersen, Les Stordalen, Grant Hermanson and Art Anderson .

Podcasts: MinnesotaAtheists.org. Available via iTunes and YouTube which are made possible by Grant Hermanson. To date, our channel has had over 261,000 downloads.

We are actively looking for people to host and



Cable Schedule

Bloomington: Ch. 16. Sunday 11:00 p.m. Sponsors: David Beardsley.

Minneapolis: Ch. 75. Monday 7:00 p.m. Sponsor: Steve Petersen.

Northwest Community Television (NWCT) Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Crystal, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, New Hope, Osseo, Plymouth and Robbinsdale; Ch. 20 check web page for date and times: <http://nwct.org/programming.aspx>
 Sponsor: Grant Hermanson.

Rochester: Ch. 10. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 7:30 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Salutz.

Roseville, Shoreview, Arden Hills, North Oaks, Little Canada, Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Moundsview/New Brighton: Ch. 14. Wednesday 10:30 p.m. Sponsor: Shirley Moll.

St. Cloud: Ch. 12 Thursday 8:30 to 9:00 p.m. Sponsor: Tom Stavros.

St. Paul: Ch. 15 Wednesdays 5:00 p.m. Sponsor: Jim Wright.

Stillwater: Ch. 16. Tuesday 7:00 p.m.; Wednesday 9:00 a.m. Sponsor: Lee Salisbury.

December Treasury Report

by Chris Matthews

Building Fund

\$50 Dean Borghorst
 \$50 Erik Englebretson
\$100 Total Building Fund

Radio Fund

\$300 Alice Lesney
 \$50 Erik Englebretson
 \$30 Nancy Ruhland
 \$15 Mark Paquette
 \$10 August Berkshire
 \$10 Geraldine Jensen
 \$10 Rachel Wilson
\$425 Total Radio Fund

General/Visibility Fund

\$300 Nicole Milosevic
 \$200 Mike Abbott
 \$150 George Kane
 \$100 Tim Anderson
 \$100 Jim Hartmann
 \$100 Ross Meisner
 \$100 Keith Thorkelson
 \$60 Rachel Wilson
 \$50 Dean Borghorst
 \$50 Chris Bovitz
 \$50 Linville Doan
 \$50 Peter Dodge
 \$50 Robert Gaida
 \$50 Frank Neubecker
 \$50 Joyce Nordquist
 \$30 Rajiv Vaidyanathan
 \$25 David Bicking
 \$25 Jeffrey Gunn
 \$25 Vicky Hagens
 \$25 Jeff Koeppen
 \$25 Vanita Mishra
 \$25 Shirley Moll
 \$20 David Monson
 \$20 Steve Petersen
 \$15 Mike Marigold
 \$15 Petra Richardson
 \$10 Jason Alvey
 \$10 August Berkshire
 \$10 Nancy Ruhland
 \$11 anonymous
\$1,751 Total General/Visibility Fund

Total Income: \$2,276

Current Building Fund Total \$136,564

Top Expenses

\$2,975 Solstice
 \$820 Radio Show

Call for Newsletter Editor

Minnesota Atheists is in the search for a new Newsletter Editor for this publication. This is an unpaid volunteer position. We are looking for someone with a little experience who has access to software to produce a quality newsletter. The Newsletter Editor works with the Editorial Board in deciding what is to be included in the newsletter and in proofreading.

Our current Newsletter Editor, Jenny Nolan, has plans to move out of state this year, so we are starting our search ahead of her move. Candidates will have time to discuss with Jenny the details of the position and to join the Editorial Board before transitioning into the position.

If you are interested, please email Heather at chair@mnatheists.org



Cryptogram Answer

No miracle has ever taken place under conditions which science can accept. Experience shows, without exception, that miracles occur only in times and in countries in which miracles are believed in, and in the presence of persons who are disposed to believe them.

Joseph Ernest Renan, *Life of Jesus*



If you would like to respond to something you saw in *The Minnesota Atheist*, please send it to:

editor@mnaatheists.org

We value your thoughts. Thank you.

Secretary's Report - January

By Tim Berry

- It was moved, seconded and passed that we should pay \$17.50 to Alyssa for reserving Commodore Coffee for a public meeting.
- It was moved, seconded and passed that we should pay \$2,500.00 to the Saints for half of the 2017 Saints game.
- It was moved, seconded and passed that we should pay \$19.04 to August for reimbursement for our last speaker's meal.

Complete meeting minutes are available to dues paying members by contacting Tim at sec@mnaatheists.org.

Call for March Articles

We welcome contributions from all readers of The Minnesota Atheist. While we cannot guarantee that your submission will be accepted for publication, we will carefully consider anything that is related to atheism. We would especially like to receive contributions which provide profiles of individual atheists and which report atheist-related events in the wider community.

Because we are a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, we cannot print articles that support or oppose a specific candidate, but we can print articles that support or oppose specific causes. Article length should ideally be 500-1000 words and no more than 2000 words.

Please send submissions to the editor, Jenny Nolan at editor@mnaatheists.org by 11:59 p.m. on February 22. All submissions may be edited for style and length.

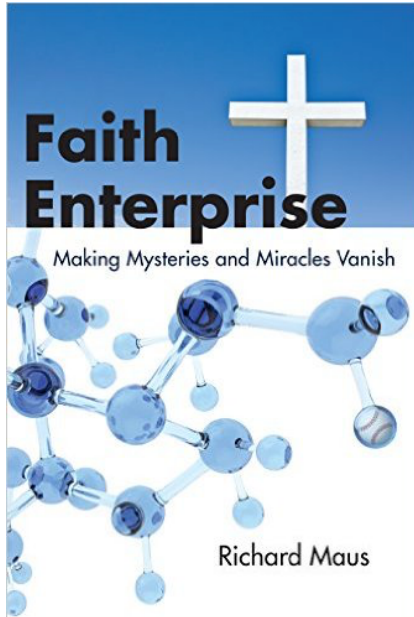
We look forward to receiving your submissions. Without readers like you The Minnesota Atheist would be needlessly constrained in its breadth and depth.

Member Well-being Committee Announcement

The Well-being Committee was formed to address the ongoing needs of members who are experiencing short-term life challenges. This committee is requesting volunteers who are looking for opportunities to provide some support to members of Minnesota Atheists in need. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 612-868-2267 or email well-being@mna.org. More information to follow.

Excerpt from Faith Enterprise: Making Mysteries and Miracles Vanish

By Richard Maus



Let's quickly review some of the mysteries and miracles needed to make the Adam and Eve story somewhat plausible.

1. Who created Adam and Eve?
2. Who decided knowledge of good and evil was bad?
3. Who taught Adam and Eve about obedience?
4. Who gave the serpent the ability to talk?
5. Who gave the snake the ability to talk in Adam and Eve's language?
6. Who should have taught Adam and Eve not to listen to talking snakes?
7. Who decided that disobediently eating an apple deserved a severe punishment?
8. Who decided all humanity should be affected/punished by the actions of Adam and Eve?
9. Who decided that I am affected by their actions? I wasn't there.
10. Who introduced death via a radical miraculous change in physiology after the fall?
11. Who performed all the miracles to make this story work?
12. Who knew all the above before creating Adam and Eve?

The obvious answer to all these questions is God. And it does look to Christians like God is pulling the strings and Adam, Eve, and all of humanity are along for the ride. God created the characters with full knowledge they would sin and God knew he would propagate that original sin. Doesn't this seem much the same as the miracles and mysteries that are introduced to make Santa Claus believable? And this is in Chapters 1 and 2 of Genesis, the very first book of the Biblical Old Testament!

Remember in Alice in Wonderland where the queen declares that she once believed six impossible things before breakfast? That's what's happening here. In fact, we are being asked to believe twice as many impossible things. We are expected to accept that knowledge of good and evil is bad. Do you really believe that? Is not Christianity all about teaching what is good and evil? Next, we are expected to believe eating an apple without permission is infinitely bad, for everybody. How could Adam and Eve know disobedience was bad? Bad did not exist till they ate the apple. And thirdly, we are led to believe the first two infractions are so serious that all of humanity must suffer eternal damnation unless they opt for the Jesus exemption.

If you can believe all these impossible things at the beginning, the rest of the Bible should be easy. Then again, the next story may present some serious challenges.

Richard Maus is the author of the recently released, *Faith Enterprise: Making Mysteries and Miracles Vanish*, from which this article is excerpted. While making the case for science it answers the question: What is it about Christianity and Catholicism that makes atheism so attractive? Visit: faithenterprise.info

"Remember in Alice in Wonderland where the queen declares that she once believed six impossible things before breakfast? That's what's happening here. In fact, we are being asked to believe twice as many impossible things."

Upcoming Events

Atheist Night with the St. Paul Saints Saturday, August 12 at 7:00 P.M., CHS Field, 310 5th St E, St Paul MN. The Saints are the only professional sports team in the country to hold an atheist night.

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

Godless Gamers Every Sunday at 2:00 P.M. and Thursday at 6:00 P.M., Fantasy Flight Games Center, 1975 County Rd B2, Roseville

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.

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 female-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.

Minnesota Atheists Board Meeting 3rd 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.

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

For more events, visit www.meetup.com/minnesota-atheists



Minnesota Atheists Membership and Donations

- 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

General Fund \$_____

Building Fund \$_____

Radio Fund \$_____

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.

Minnesota Atheists
PO Box 120304
New Brighton, MN 55112

Please make checks payable to Minnesota Atheists.

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

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email (required for student memberships and email subscriptions): _____

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

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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 Affiliations

Minnesota Atheists is affiliated with the Atheist Alliance of America, Atheist Alliance International, American Atheists, The American Humanist Association, the Council for Secular Humanism, The International Humanist and Ethical Union, and the Secular Coalition for America.

Minnesota Atheists Membership

Regular members: 218
Life members: 43
Meetup members: 2,400

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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