



# The Humanist Association of Connecticut

Newsletter for March, 2024

## Welcome to March

The newsletter is late this month as we were late deciding on a monthly meeting program.

### Calendar for March, 2024

Sat, 2	2:30PM to 4:30PM	Humanist Explorations - Fascism: Then and Now
Mon, 4	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Social Dinner at Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave, West Haven CT
Sat, 16	2:30PM to 4:30PM	'Humanly Possible' by Sarah Blakewell at Wilson Branch Library, 303 Washington Ave, New Haven CT
Mon, 18	6:30PM to 9:00PM	Monthly Meeting - Evangelicals in the Age of Political Extremism
Sun, 24	11:30AM to 12:30PM	The Other Side of Prospect: Followup Book Sale & Signing with Nicholas Dawidoff
Sun, 24	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Board Meeting (online)
Tue, 26	7:00PM to 9:00PM	Northern Social Dinner at Butterfly Restaurant, 831 Farmington Ave, West Hartford CT

### Humanist Explorations - Fascism: Then and Now



Saturday, March 2, 2024  
2:30PM to 4:30PM

An ascendant dictator, the disintegration of the rule of law, the collapse of a civil society and liberal Democracy. No, we are not talking about Donald Trump, the MAGA right, and Christian Nationalism. This is the story of how close America came, in the nineteen thirties, to the kind of existence we could see on the current horizon. "Nazi Town U.S.A." is a recent PBS documentary about the rise of American Nazism in the years before World War II

and the threat it posed then. Fast forward Ninety years to today, and the parallels are striking. While some of you may have seen this program, recently aired on PBS, please join us for an in-depth conversation about the threats that assail us now.

USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT

### 'Humanly Possible' by Sarah Blakewell



Saturday, March 16, 2024  
2:30PM to 4:30PM

Our book for March is *Humanly Possible: Seven Hundred Years of Humanist Freethinking, Inquiry, and Hope* by Sarah Blakewell.

From Amazon: Voyaging from the literary enthusiasts of the fourteenth century to

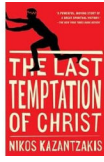
the secular campaigners of our own time.... Bakewell brings together extraordinary humanists across history. She explores their immense variety: some sought to promote scientific and rationalist ideas, others put more emphasis on moral living, and still others were concerned with the cultural and literary studies known as "the humanities." *Humanly Possible* asks not only what brings all these aspects of humanism together but why it has such enduring power, despite opposition from fanatics, mystics, and tyrants.

[A]t a moment when we are all too conscious of the world's divisions, *Humanly Possible* – brimming with ideas,

experiments in living, and respect for the deepest ethical values – serves as a re-centering, a call to care for one another, and a reminder that we are all, together, only human.

"Engagingly written as well as richly informative . . . every thinker, every book, every movement is located lightly and precisely in relation to its past and its influence on the present day. I can't imagine a better history of humanism, nor one that is so vividly persuasive." – Philip Pullman, author *His Dark Materials* trilogy

Wilson Branch Library, 303 Washington Ave, New Haven CT



"The Last Temptation of Christ" by Nikos Kazantzakis  
April 20, 2024



"American Midnight" by Adam Hochschild  
May 18, 2024

### Monthly Meeting - Evangelicals in the Age of Political Extremism



Monday, March 18, 2024  
6:30PM to 9:00PM

Republicans and Christians are being sidelined by the MAGA-Evangelical alliance. Come and hear what the people who will be instrumental to the 2024 election think about this in this video where Michael Steele interviews Tim

Alberta about his new book, "The Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory: American Evangelicals in an Age of Extremism."

Tim Alberta is an award-winning journalist, best-selling author, and staff writer for The Atlantic magazine. He formerly served as chief political correspondent for POLITICO. In 2019, he published the critically acclaimed book, "American Carnage: On the Front Lines of the Republican Civil War and the Rise of President Trump" and co-moderated the year's final Democratic presidential debate aired by PBS Newshour.

Michael Steele is currently a political analyst for MSNBC and a podcaster. He made history as the first African American elected to statewide office when he was elected Lt. Governor of Maryland in 2003. In 2009, he became chairman of the Republican National Committee and helped the party break fundraising records and pick up 63 house seats. In October of 2020, he officially endorsed Biden.

We will start with half an hour of coffee and conversation at 6:30 PM, followed by the main program after brief announcements at 7:00 PM.

USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT

### The Other Side of Prospect: Followup Book Sale & Signing with Nicholas Dawidoff



Sunday, March 24, 2024  
11:30AM to 12:30PM

The Unitarian Society of New Haven is pleased to announce that we have been able to reschedule a Book Sale/signing event for "The Other Side of Prospect" on Sunday, March 24, from 11:30-12:30, in the Social Hall of the Unitarian Society of New Haven at 700 Hartford Turnpike in Hamden. The book will be on sale for \$19.95 plus tax. The sale will be hosted by Possible Futures Bookstore, and author Nicholas Dawidoff will be present to sign

the books! You will also have the opportunity to purchase books for donation to L.E.A.P., a tutoring and mentoring program for youth in New Haven. The speakers were all so inspiring at the event last month, and we want you all to be able to help continue to address the issues the book raises by not only reading it yourself but sharing it with others.

USNH, 700 Hartford Turnpike, Hamden CT

### Northern Social Dinner



Tuesday, March 26, 2024  
7:00PM to 9:00PM

Join us at Butterfly Chinese Restaurant on Farmington Avenue in West Hartford for some friendly and interesting conversation!

Butterfly Restaurant, 831 Farmington Ave, West Hartford CT

### Other events

Social Dinner: Monday, March 4, 2024  
7:00PM to 9:00PM

**Revised COVID policy**  
We request that you be as fully vaccinated as possible

To join HAC or renew your membership, visit our membership page.

Turkish Kebab House, 1157 Campbell Ave,  
West Haven CT

HAC is a chapter of the American Humanist Association, a member of the Connecticut  
Coalition of Reason, and a UU Humanists local group.

**Board Meeting:** Sunday, March 24, 2024  
7:00PM to 9:00PM

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