



# American Ethical Union

*Inspiring Ethical Communities*

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## ANNUAL SOCIETY REPORT

### Society Report: Philadelphia Ethical Society

Leader(s): Hugh Taft Morales [hughtm@gmail.com](mailto:hughtm@gmail.com)

President: Robert Bueding [bbueding@phillyethics.org](mailto:bbueding@phillyethics.org)

Administrative Director/Office Contact: Cheryl Desmond [office@phillyethics.org](mailto:office@phillyethics.org)

**Please provide brief updates on the following areas of your Society that occurred or developed in 2018:**

#### Ethical Action:

Re the EAC: Working with interfaith coalition, POWER (Philadelphians Organized to Witness, Empower, and Re-build), we have played important roles in passing City living wage and fair workweek legislation, promoting State fair public school funding legislation, and rallying against, and monitoring of, cash bail and stop-and-frisk actions of City legal system. We also have a very active task force for ending racism in ourselves, our congregation, and in our relations with others.

Re Ethical Education: Values-related sessions twice a month at same time as platforms and three special projects with congregation (Kiva recipients display, Kids Tree of Knowledge, and Spring Celebration kick-off). We have four regular elementary-school age boys and occasionally others in our Sunday School program. Teacher and assistant are Society member volunteers.

#### Communications:

Our communications group continues to work on our Website, Facebook, Meetup sites. We are also working to get our Twitter account more active. We have a few local newspapers that occasionally help us to get the word out.



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## Finances:

We have had a good year financially. Our rentals in the building are strong and our membership pledges are doing very well. We are hoping our financial position remains solid allowing us to make many needed improvements in our building.

## Membership:

Our membership has grown slightly. Currently we have about 89 members, and yes even a few younger members. We're optimistic this year we can get close to 100 members.'

## *Goals for 2019:*

We will continue to offer outstanding programs and activities at our Society. We need to continually focus on membership growth, and attracting millennials. We continue to make needed repairs to our aging building; the building is nearly 100 years old and requires constant attention. We continue to struggle with our Sunday School; we're planning in the year to come to continue to build our Seek program.

We will once again work on making our long range planning group more vibrant. We are on a high rent square and keeping our building looking good and maintaining the bones of the building is a constant challenge.

One last note: we need to do a better job about getting the word out about Ethical culture. So many folks don't know what Ethical culture is. With so many "nones", it seems it's a perfect time to build our numbers. Let's spread the word.