

Tuesday digest

June 19, 2012

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New today from the *Century*:

- Jesse James DeConto on [breaking the cycle of payday loans](#): "Predatory lenders often exact fees at a rate equivalent to an annual rate of 300 to 800 percent. Grace Period offers an alternative."
- Diane Roth on [blaspheming the Holy Spirit](#)
- Steve Thorngate on [why, contra senate candidate Eric Hovde, we need "sob stories"](#)
- Douglass Key's [lectionary column for Sunday, July 1](#) (subscription required)

In the news:

- [Hutterites blast 'exploitative' show on National Geographic Channel](#)
- [Coptic Christian ex-patriots keep a wary eye on Egyptian elections](#)
- [Is homeless crackdown a sign of compassion fatigue?](#)
- [American nuns call Vatican talks 'difficult'](#)