



TRINITY TOPICS

WEEKLY NEWS

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RECTOR'S BLOG

Play ball!



Dear Friends,

Spring training began this past week as baseball teams reported to Florida – the Grapefruit League – or Arizona – the Cactus League. Pitchers and catchers always show up first. Then the position players arrive, some of them grizzled veterans, some of them rookies hoping

to be in the lineup come Opening Day.

I've loved baseball since I was a boy. My grandfather Applegate was a huge baseball fan. He spent summers living with us for several years, and he parked himself in front of the TV set in the living room so he could see and hear the games. Although he wasn't totally blind or deaf, his eyesight and hearing had suffered considerable decline in his old age. One didn't need to be in the living room to know what was going on with the Yankees. Mel Allen, Red Barber, and Phil Rizzuto's voices on WPIX could be heard throughout the house.

These days, I rely on the MLB app on my phone, or watch one of the games on MLB.TV to get my baseball fix. A recent email reminded me that I needed to update my credit card so my subscription will renew without interruption.

Here's a story about spring training and Lent that's circulated for a long time: Many years ago, a popular Roman Catholic priest was invited to celebrate Mass for a men's club as they were entering the season of Lent. Like most people, the men thought of the 40-day period as just a

time for increased prayer and fasting. The priest changed the thinking of the men that evening as he presented a talk on “Lent, a time of spring training for people of faith.”

“Lent is like spring training in baseball,” the priest said. “We get out of spring training what we put into it. We need to do this yearly to be on God’s team.”

You may not be a baseball fan, or even pay any attention to the sport, but it doesn’t take a lot of imagination to see how much eye-hand coordination it takes to hit a sphere that’s only 9-9.25” in circumference traveling at you from 60’ 6” away at 100 mph.

Instead of seeing Lent as a dreary season when we give up things we like for reasons we don’t understand, I’d like to offer another view of Lent – a view from our National Pastime. Lent is the time to ensure that our spiritual life is in top-notch coordination. But in the case of our spiritual lives, it’s not eye-hand coordination; it’s mind, heart and hand coordination.

In place of taking batting practice and fielding ground balls as players do during baseball’s spring training, prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are the essentials of spiritual spring training. They result in the coordination of mind, heart and hand.

Opening Day will be here before you know it, and so will Easter. Will you be ready when the umpire says, “Play ball”?

Blessings,

Stephen Applegate

DEAR FRIENDS (FROM VESTRY)



Dear Friends,

On Saturday, February 24th, Vestry gathered for its Annual Retreat at the Marina Lofts Community Room, overlooking the beautiful downtown Toledo skyline along the Maumee River. This assembly marked a significant occasion for rejuvenation, contemplation, and the rededication of efforts toward guiding Trinity in the upcoming year.

During our shared time, the central focus was shaping the Vision for Trinity in the forthcoming days, weeks, and months. We crafted a comprehensive plan with careful intent, underscoring our commitment as responsible custodians of our faith and congregation. Following a reflective and prayerful process, a consensus emerged, highlighting three primary areas of focus for the year: Lay Leadership, Community Outreach, and Financial Stewardship.

Additionally, committee appointments within Vestry were confirmed:

Executive Committee

- Donna Steppe, Senior Warden
- Jeffrey Albright, Junior Warden
- Karen Keune, Clerk
- Margaret Baehren, Treasurer
- Will Dailey will remain as the Trust Officer for Trinity's endowments

Executive-Administrative Committee

- Donna Steppe
- Jeffrey Albright

Finance Committee

- Margaret Baehren
- Jamie Paul
- Dennis Degnan
- Jan Burkett
- Heather Meyer

Property Committee

- Becky Koskinen
- Heather Meyer

Search Committee

- Karen Kuene - Chair

Lay Committee Formation:

Stewardship: Stephen Applegate, Gary Franklin, Kimberly Kafalas-Siu

Outreach: Meribah Mansfield, Kimberly Kafalas-Siu

Lay Leadership: Becky Koskinen and Leah Reed-Dailey

Your vestry continues to work hard at evaluating and prioritizing the needs of our building, the needs of our community, and the needs of the broader Toledo community. We look forward to what we as a community can accomplish together this coming year, and we ask for your continued prayers and support as we all move through this transition period with anticipation and excitement for what we can accomplish in 2024.

Peace,
Your Wardens and Vestry

EGG CRACKING PARTY!



Calling all volunteers! We got a HUGE (and I mean HUGE) donation of eggs for the breakfast program, and we need help getting them stored. Together, on **March 10 after church**, Chelsie and the breakfast team will host a small party to get these eggs cracked and ready for freezing. Many hands make light work, and we need your help to make this project... ready for it... egg-cellent!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/eggcrackingparty>

MUSIC & ARTS HAPPENINGS



JOANNA WHALEY RETURNS MARCH 9, 2024 @ 7PM

The Good Gifts Tour is a night of music and storytelling that makes space for LGBTQ+ people and allies to be encouraged in faith! You need a ticket for this event, but there is no cost. Grab your ticket here: <https://events.humanitix.com/good-gifts-tour-toledo-oh>

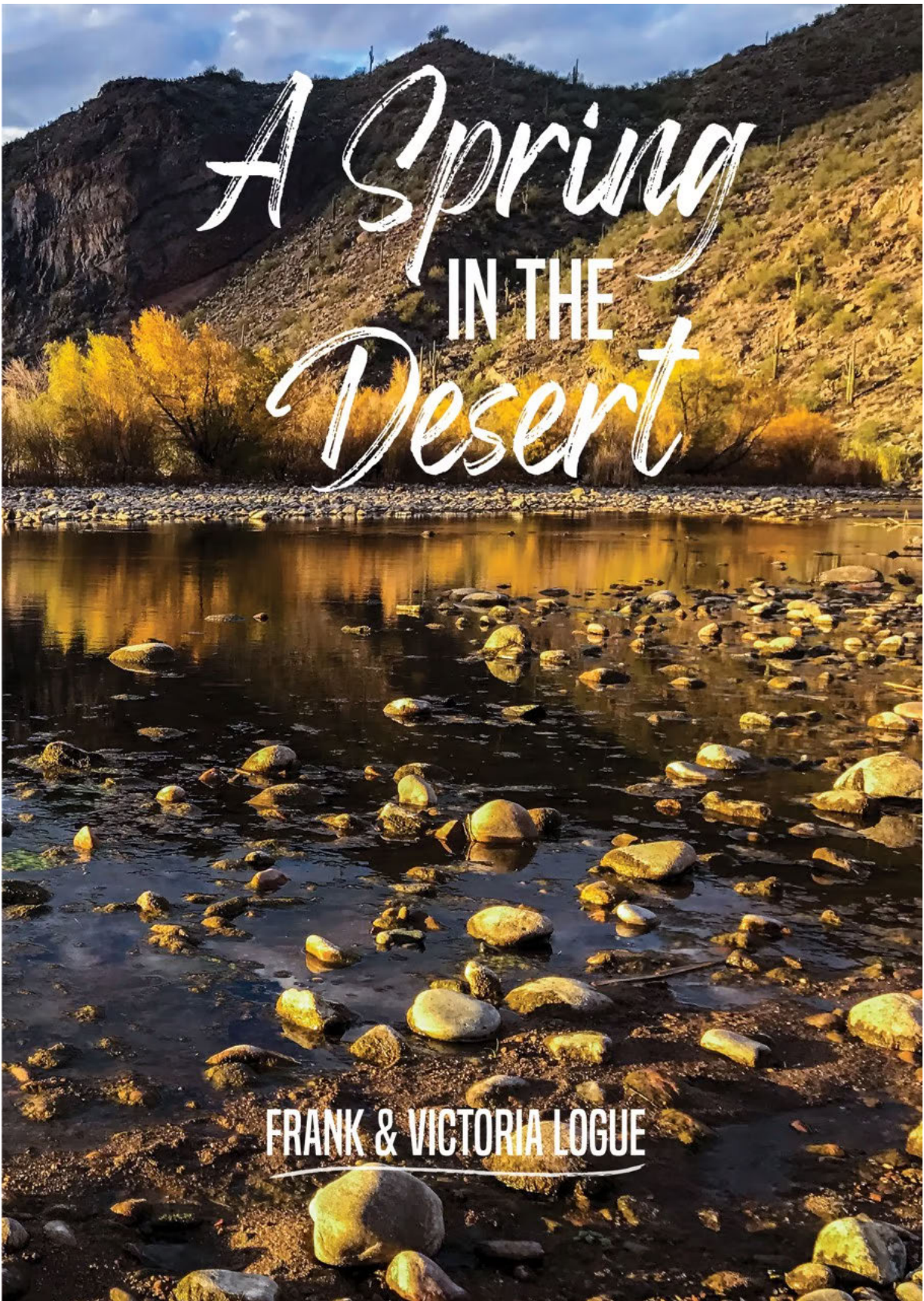


HOLY TOLEDO! MARCH 15, 2024 @ 7PM

As a part of our Music & Arts Community Series, we have partnered with Toledo Symphony for Holy Toledo Candlelight performance on Friday, March 15 at 7pm. Our own Merwin Siu with three other amazing symphony musicians will captivate us in the acoustical marvel that is our sanctuary. Did we mention candles? And free to all? Yep! Stay tuned for more!

[Musicians: Merwin Siu, Second Violin; Cheryl Trace, Second Violin; Reed Anderson, Viola; Robert Clemens, Cello]

LENTEN JOURNEY



We hope that you are finding *A Spring in the Desert* a helpful guide on your Lenten journey. The week of Ash Wednesday, authors Frank and Victoria guided us through the virtue of faithfulness and the practice of confession. This week, we are exploring the virtue of humility and the practice of prayer. To deepen your experience of the devotional, we are

offering discussion times after church on *some* Sundays (this is a busy Lent in all of the best ways!). Here is the remaining schedule:

March 3 – Discussing weeks 1 and 2 (humility and prayer; forgiveness and reading scripture)

March 10 – Discussing week 3 (generosity and tithes and offerings) **March 17** – NO book discussion because the Search Committee is holding Listening Session #2 after church.

March 24 – Discussing weeks 4 and 5 (vocation and constancy; sabbath and moderation)

March 31 – NO book discussion. Easter Sunday.

April 7 – Final book discussion. Holy week (loving-kindness and worship), plus discussion of how your Lenten journey was for you.

After church, grab a beverage and snack from coffee hour, then join us in the Walbridge Room (down the cloister hallway, past the restrooms. We'll start discussion around 11:15 and end at noonish. *It doesn't matter if you haven't been reading the book, we'd love to have you join us for conversation regardless.*

BREAKFAST AT TRINITY

We served about 41 folks last Sunday morning and we thank you for showing up early. Come to church hungry this Sunday too. Breakfast served 8:45am – 9:15am We know there are going to be a few kinks to work out ([like volunteer sign-up which you can do here if you're interested](#)), and before we open up to the public we'd like your feedback. This breakfast is for Trinity, and we hope our neighbors will join us as we keep doing this. Looking forward to seeing you all there! Next week we throw the doors open wide!

MULTIFAITH COALITION TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

Spring ahead and mark your calendar for the next meeting of the

Multifaith Coalition to Reduce Gun Violence:

When: Sunday, April 14 from 1:00–3:00 p.m.

What: "How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse," presented by Rachel Coyle.

This popular training covers how a bill becomes a law in Ohio, how Ohioans can get involved in state legislative advocacy, and some key tips and resources. It will be followed by a Q&A session, and an overview of Ohio's pending gun-related bills.

Where: Olivet Lutheran Church, 5840 Monroe St., Sylvania

[RSVP Here](#) on SignUpGenius

TRINITY@HOME LIVE-STREAM

Trinity@Home is now a live-stream of Trinity's 10:00 am in-person service with an interactive chat.

www.trinitytoledo.org/live

The Philadelphia Eleven Online Screening
March 8 @ 8pm \$10

Watch this feature-length documentary film from the comfort of your own home.

About the film

In an act of civil disobedience, a group of women and their supporters organize their ordination to become Episcopal priests in 1974. The Church of the Advocate in Philadelphia welcomes them, but change is no small task. The women are harassed, some lose friends, and others are banned from stepping on church property. We will meet the women who succeed in building a movement that transforms an age-old institution, and challenges the very essence of patriarchy within Christendom.

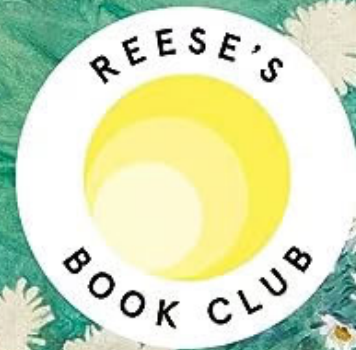
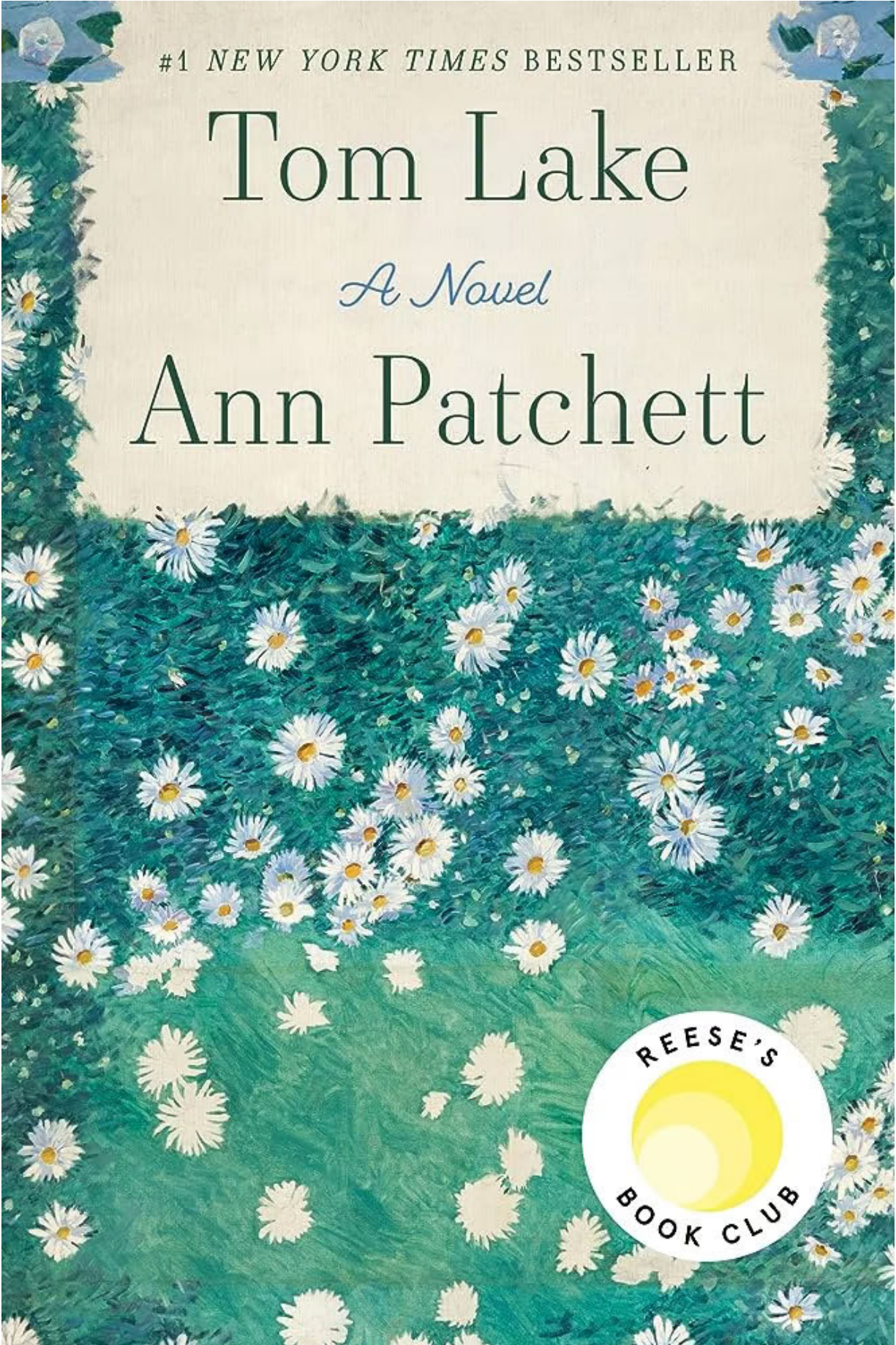
https://kinema.com/events/the-philadelphia-eleven-jalij?fbclid=IwAR1ZcBYEetZ5jGdqUW3g4C053b8A5-G2GvELk1WYfzLkuJ6_SLzCc7pt-Co

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Tom Lake

A Novel

Ann Patchett



Trinity's next Book Club will meet Sunday, April 7 at 6:30pm via zoom. We will be reading "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett. [Sign up online!](#)



PRESENTED BY
LIBBEY.

Episcopal News Service

[Diocese of Olympia announces slate of four nominees for next bishop](#)

[Episcopal News Service] The Joint Board for Bishop Transition in the Episcopal Diocese of Olympia announced Feb. 29 that, after receiving the...

[With deep ties to WCC, The Fig Tree gets ready to celebrate 40 years](#)

[World Council of Churches] The Fig Tree, a U.S.-based nonprofit born from a vision to bring the stories of the global ecumenical movement to life...

[Pro-Palestinian Italian neofascist group targets Episcopal church in Florence](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Followers of a neofascist group hung a pro-Palestinian banner on the fence outside St. James Episcopal Church in Florence,...

Church of England General Synod calls for change to canon on clergy remarriage

[The Church of England] The Church of England's General Synod has called for a change to the canons governing the impediment to ordination after...

Trinity Episcopal Church, 316 Adams St, Toledo, OH 43604, United States



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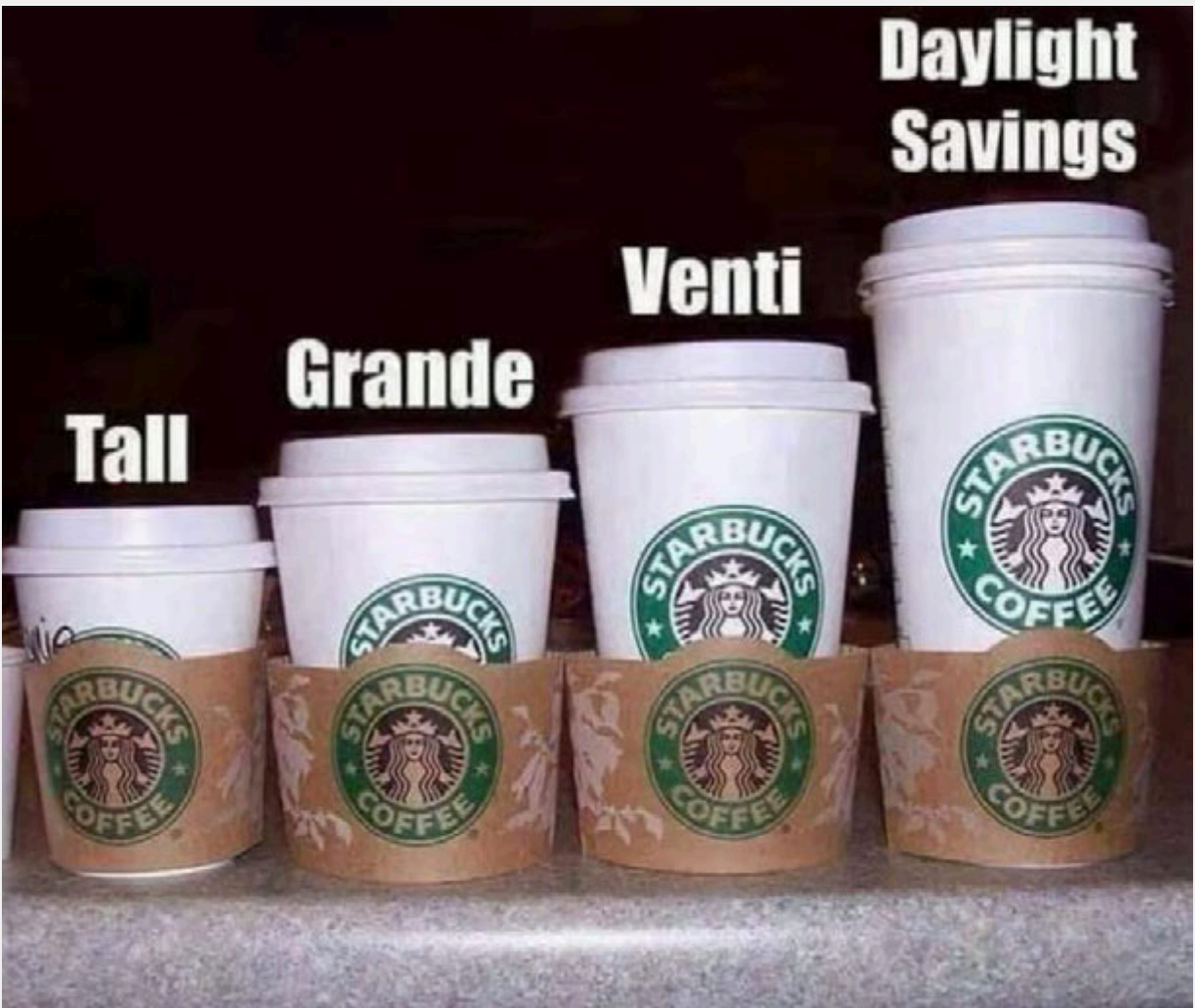
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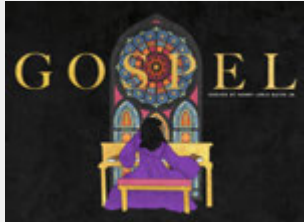


Day of Change – This Sunday, March 10

Remember to spring your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. Don't worry about losing an hour of sleep. We'll have the coffee on. When you change your clocks, change the batteries in your smoke detector, too!!

RECTOR'S BLOG

Gospel



Dear Friends,

Since Henry Louis Gates, Jr. has so much going on, I'm not sure when he has time to sleep.

Professor Gates is the Alphonse Fletcher University Professor and the director of the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. Most people know him from the popular program, "Finding Your Roots," which has been broadcast on PBS since 2012. In each episode, celebrities learn about their ancestral histories, discovered by a combination of paper trails, DNA analysis, and forensic genealogy.

"Finding Your Roots" is only one of Dr. Gates' projects. He's been the executive producer, host, and writer of "The Black Church," in which he traces the 400-year history of how Black people have worshiped in America.

His most recent offering is, "Gospel," a program that honors the legacy of Gospel music in America. Trinity's staff is tired of hearing me tell them to watch the four-part series, so I'm expanding my evangelistic efforts to you – the readers of Trinity Topics. My message is simple: Spend the four hours it will take you to watch all four episodes. You'll be glad you did. It's streaming on PBS Passport, or you can find it here: <https://www.pbs.org/show/gospel/>.

As a lifelong Episcopalian, I didn't grow up with Gospel music in church. We sang hymns from the Episcopal Church's hymnals and anthems from the English Choral Tradition. This genre of music is beautiful, and I will love it to the end of my life. For years, this was the only music one heard in the Episcopal Church. "The Republican party at prayer" is the way Americans used to snicker at the Episcopal Church, the snobby, worldly US branch of the Anglican communion. But the church, like this country, has changed. It's becoming multi-cultural – thank goodness! – more open and inclusive. And that includes the music we sing.

My introduction to Gospel music happened when I served my first interim assignment at St. Andrew's Church in Cincinnati. The Director of Music there was Mrs. Irma Tillery, a force of nature and one of the editors of our church's African American Hymnal, *Lift Every Voice and Sing*.

Although Trinity doesn't have these hymnals in pew racks, Chelsie and Grace draw music from the book all the time – songs like "Precious Lord, take my hand," and "I come to the garden alone." But Mrs. Tillery took things a step further. She designated the first Sunday of every month as Gospel Sunday. On Gospel Sunday, Mrs. Tillery turned over the keyboard to Jerome, picked up her tambourine (although she was 80, she still played a mean tambourine), and sang

in the Gospel Choir. Like the choir here at Trinity, the Gospel Choir at St. Andrew's regularly brought down the house.

I've learned a lot about the origins of Gospel music from watching Dr. Gates' series – about the emergence of Gospel music in Chicago and then, Detroit – and about the key figures in its development: Thomas A Dorsey, Jr., Mahalia Jackson, James Cleveland, Sister Rosetta Tharp, Aretha Franklin, the Winans, Andre Crouch and many others; and about its power to comfort, inspire, and empower.

If you're looking for a different way to observe Lent, "Gospel" might be just the thing.

And again, when does Henry Louis Gates sleep? All these PBS programs and teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at Harvard. Wow! I look forward to the next project he has in the pipeline.

Blessings,

Stephen Applegate

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered Sunday, April 7

On Sunday, April 7, The Second Sunday of Easter, we'll offer baptism during the 10:00 am service. The Easter Season, with its theme of our being raised to new life in Christ, is an especially appropriate time for the administration of this sacrament.

Anyone – regardless of age – is welcome to be baptized, but since Holy Baptism is full initiation into the Body of Christ, the Episcopal Church baptizes persons only once!

All persons seeking baptism (or the parents of children being presented for baptism) are required to meet with the priest for at least one session (lasting about an hour and a half) to discuss the meaning of baptism and to learn more about the service. A meeting can be arranged by contacting the parish office – (419) 243-1231 or trinity@trinitytoledo.org.

Baptisms are meant to be public events. That is to say, the Christian community is not only a witness to the baptism and participates in the sacred ceremony; the Christian community also pledges to support those who are being presented for baptism

Although parents accept the primary responsibility for the spiritual development of their children, godparents for children are highly recommended. Adults being baptized are required to have at least one sponsor.

The ERAs Tour is Coming to Trinity!!



On Sunday, March 17, we invite all who call Trinity their spiritual home to join for a special event sponsored by the Search Committee. We're calling it the ERAs Tour – taking a page out of Taylor Swift's monumental world tour of the same name. March 17 marks the one-year anniversary of when the ERAs Tour kicked off at State Farm Stadium in Glendale, Arizona, so it's appropriate for us to mark the day with an event of our own.

Trinity's ERAs Tour will be what's known as a "heritage event." It's a chance for each of us to learn more about the history that's shaped this faith community.

The format is simple. We'll gather in My Brother's Place to some of Taylor Swift's hits. Materials for making friendship bracelets will be on the table. Participants will be asked to sit according to the decade in which they arrived at Trinity. Over lunch, each table will share stories from their decade, decide which are the best and most important stories to share with the whole group, and then enjoy hearing tales of triumphs and disappointments, deaths and resurrections.

Between now and next Sunday, be thinking about when you first came to Trinity, and then jot down what you remember from that time. You won't want to miss this ERAs Tour. We're sorry Taylor won't be joining us, but we understand how important it is for her to rest up from her latest leg of the tour in Singapore!



Easter Memorial Plants are on sale – you can order yours by [filling out our online form](#), or you can find order forms at the Welcome Station in the back of the Sanctuary. When filling out your form, please be sure to include your first and last name, phone number and quantity.

If you are requesting a plant in honor or memory of a loved one, please include their first and last name(s) which we will list in our Easter Morning bulletin. You will be able to choose from 6.5" Hyacinths, 6.5" Daffodils or 6" Lily potted plants all with multiple blooms for \$14.00 each. Flowers can be taken home to enjoy after our Easter Service. **Orders are due by Monday, March 25th!** Email Heather at the Parish Office if you have any questions heather@trinitytoledo.org

JOANNA WHALEY CANCELLED

The concert originally planned for Saturday, March 9th has been cancelled. We certainly apologize for the late notice of cancellation, and we hope to have Joanna back onsite another time.

BREAKFAST AT TRINITY



Communal meals are an important part of church life. It is a time outside of normal service and operations to get to know the people we worship with every week, not to mention those in our greater community as well. After months of planning and praying, we are opening up the doors of Breakfast at Trinity to our downtown neighbors this Sunday! You will see new faces in the coming weeks and we know you'll be the welcoming, loving hosts. You may also have to help out with wayfinding as it is no secret – easy to get turned around inside our space. Looking ahead, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- Doors open at 8:30, food starts at 8:45.
- Our soft openings went really well, and everyone who has attended or volunteered has given great feedback.
- We still have slots open this week for dishwasher, and a few going forward. [You can click here for signing up.](#)
- Looking forward to eating with you all soon!



Calling all volunteers! We got a HUGE (and I mean HUGE) donation of eggs for the breakfast program, and we need help getting them stored. Together, on **March 10 after church**, Chelsie and the breakfast team will host a small party to get these eggs cracked and ready for freezing. Many hands make light work, and we need your help to make this project... ready for it... egg-cellent!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/eggcrackingparty>

Worship Leader Meet Up March 24

Worship leader training is going to be held on Sunday 3/24 after service. This will last for about an hour, and as it's leading to Holy Week we want to provide a refresher course. Please remember to check the schedule to see when you've been assigned to read or greet, and if you have any questions, please reach out to George.

HOLY WEEK 2024

03.24 PaLm/PASSION
SuNday 10:00 AM

03.27 HOLY wednesday
tenebrae 7:00 PM

03.28 Maundy THURSDay
FEAST OF FRIENDS 6:30 PM

03.28-29 BIBLE VIGIL READINGS
SIGN-UPS TRINITYTOLEDO.ORG

03.29 GOOD FRIDAY NOONday 12:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY EVENING 7:00 PM

03.31 Easter Day
HALLELUJAH! 10:00 AM



**The *Multifaith Coalition*
to Reduce Gun Violence**
presents:

How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse

This popular presentation by *Rachel Coyle* covers how a bill becomes a law in Ohio, how Ohioans can get involved in state legislative advocacy, and some key tips and resources. It will be followed by a Q&A session, and an overview of Ohio's pending gun-related bills.

When: Sunday, April 14, 2024 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: Olivet Lutheran Church, 5840 Monroe St., Sylvania
Christian Life Center (rear parking lot)

Register for the event here:



Or call the Olivet office at:
419-882-2077



Donations for Rachel
Coyle's appearance
are welcome.

Cash or checks can be
accepted at the event.
Cash app links will
also be provided.

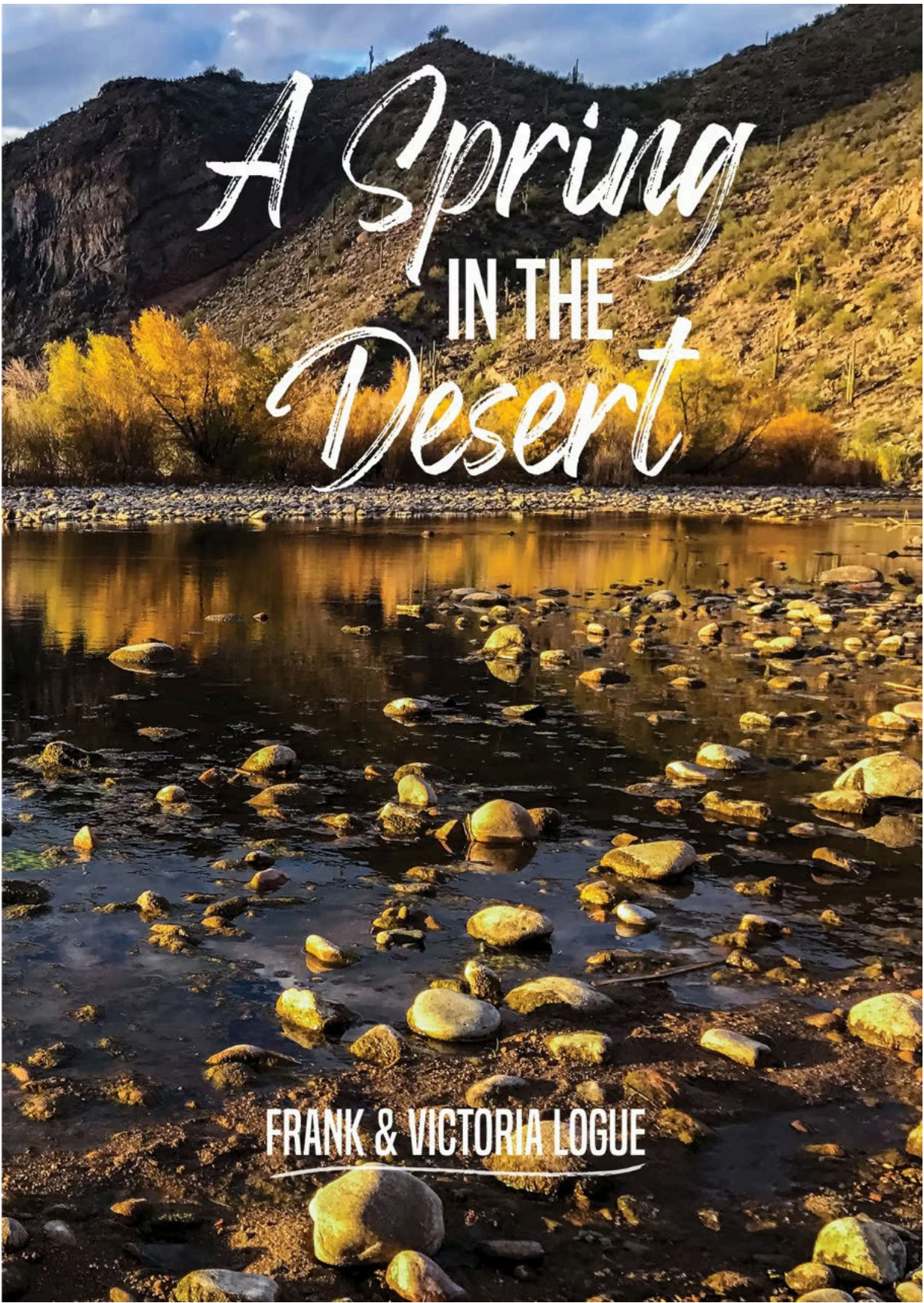


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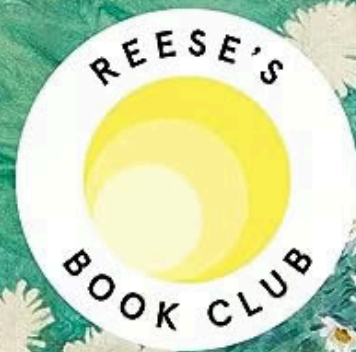
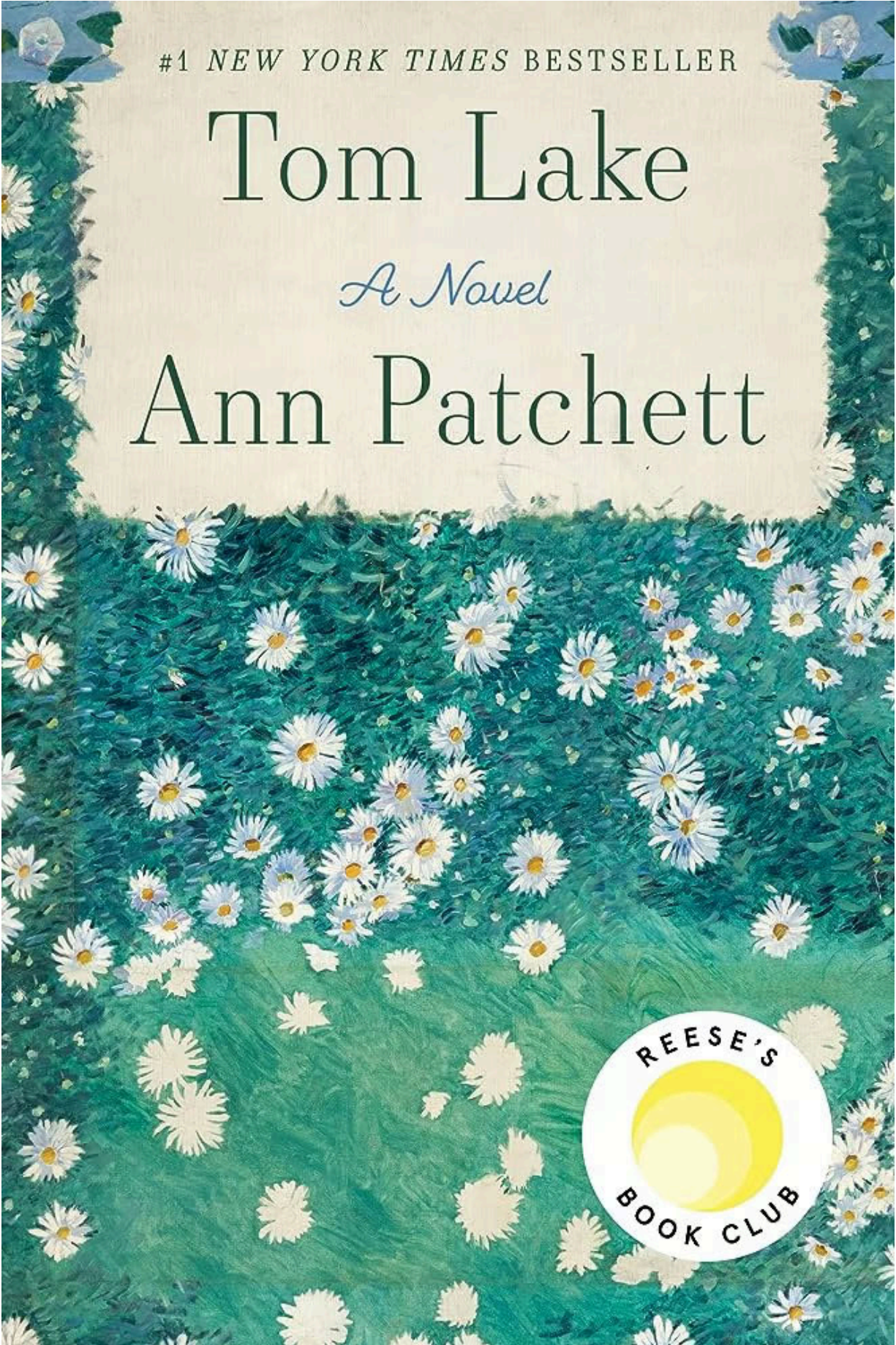
www.trinitytoledo.org/live

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Tom Lake

A Novel

Ann Patchett



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Episcopal News Service

[Benefact Trust announces nearly \\$2 million for churches to achieve Net Zero goal](#)

[The Church of England] A nearly \$2 million grant that will help a group of Church of England churches pay for items such as solar panels and heat...

[Three WCC commissions meet to confront emerging global challenges](#)

[World Council of Churches] Three World Council of Churches commissions — the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs, Commission on...

[Central Pennsylvania cathedral hosts 'Leaders & Liberators' reenactment honoring Harriet Tubman](#)

[Episcopal News Service] On March 10, St. Stephen's Episcopal Cathedral in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, will observe 111 years since the death of...

[Legislative committee meetings underway on road to Louisville for 81st General Convention](#)

[Episcopal News Service] The work of the 81st General Convention is underway. Bishops and deputies have begun meeting online as the legislative...



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SEARCH COMMITTEE



What could be better than Trinity's own ERA's Tour Listening Session after church this Sunday (March 17)? A free Jiggs Dinner to celebrate St. Patrick's Day prepared just for you!

We invite all who call Trinity their spiritual home to stay for a while after our 10am worship service for this important fellowship. Head up to My Brother's Place. We're calling it the ERAs Tour – taking a page out of Taylor Swift's monumental world tour of the same name. Trinity's ERA Tour will be what's known as a "heritage event." It's a chance for each of us to learn more about the history that's shaped this faith community.

The format is simple. We'll gather in My Brother's Place to some of Taylor Swift's hits. Materials for making friendship bracelets will be on the tables. Participants will be asked to sit according to the decade in which they arrived at Trinity. We have room for everyone! Over lunch, each table will share stories from their decade, decide which are the best and most important stories to share with those gathered. Until we gather, be thinking about when you first came to Trinity – whether it was a week ago, decades ago or somewhere in between.

RECTOR'S BLOG

Praying Hands



Dear Friends,

The three traditional practices for Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. I want to talk about the first of the three – prayer.

Each Sunday, the person leading the Prayers of the People references those on “the Trinity prayer list.” I thought recently, “I wonder where that prayer list is and who keeps it?” Yes, I’m in my sixth month as your interim, but I’m still discovering things about the way Trinity works. (Remember this when your new rector arrives – it will take time for them to learn about the parish’s people and practices. There will be a learning curve!)

I decided to find out more about the parish prayer list. So I conducted an investigation. Guess what? We don’t have one. The reference in the Prayers of the People is a vestige of another time in Trinity’s life. This discovery was enough motivation for me to address this absence and the need for a simple way for parishioners to request prayer.

People preparing for confirmation or reception in the Episcopal Church often are taught the acronym, **ACTIP**, as a way of remembering the different kinds of prayer. Here’s what each letter stands for: **A**doration, **C**onfession, **T**hanksgiving, **I**ntercession, and **P**etition. Our Prayers of the People are prayers of intercession – we pray for the church, for our nation and those in authority around the world, for those who suffer in body, mind or spirit, and for those who have died.

One of the bishops in whose diocese I served was adamant that people should stand for the Prayers of the People. He believed that lay people were exercising the priesthood of all believers as they prayed on behalf of others. So, they should stand just as priests stand to celebrate Holy Communion. I am less concerned about people’s postures and more about whether they have

what they need to perform this very important ministry. Some adjustments are in order.

Here are the adjustments I'm suggesting we make:

- We re-establish a parish prayer list. We'll make it easy to request prayers for people or situations through our website: www.trinitytoledo.org or by emailing or calling the parish office. Email is trinity@trinitytoledo.org. Phone is (419) 243-1231.
- When a request comes in, it will remain on the prayer list for four weeks before it'll be taken off. Requests can always be renewed or submitted again. However, having an "expiration date" will prevent the list from overflowing with prayer requests that are out of date.
- When a request is received, the requester will be asked whether they want it to appear on the public prayer list, which will be read out loud at Sunday services, or be added to a private list. In order for a request to be included in the public prayer list on Sunday, please contact the church office no later than the end of the day on Wednesday. And if we're praying publicly for someone you know, be sure you've gotten their permission to be named aloud.
- If the request is designated to remain private or discrete, the parish clergy and a small prayer team will offer prayer. The request will not go public.
- A small prayer team has already agreed to say prayers of intercession. The team members will pray on their own for now. This is not a closed group. You may ask to join the prayer team by emailing me at stephen@trinitytoledo.org.

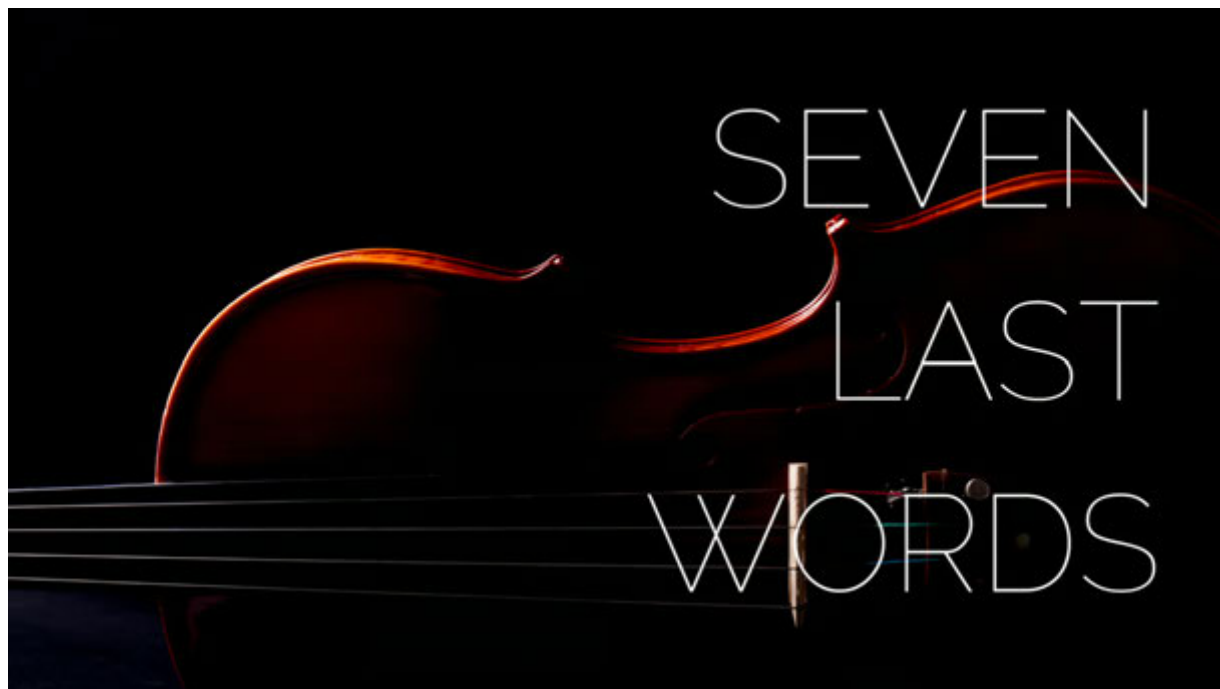
The goal is two-fold – to make it easier for people to make prayer requests **and** to involve more parishioners in the practice of praying for others.

Let me end with a portion of a prayer written by the Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber, a Lutheran pastor, author, and public theologian. Her online publication, newsletter, and community is called "The Corners." It's a reminder to me that nothing is out of bounds when it comes to praying for others:

"Bless the things we mistakenly think are already dead. Bless that which we have already begun to carry out of town to bury. Bless our rocky marriages and our college age kids who smoke too much pot. Bless the person at work who we love to hate. Bless the young adult who wonders if they are too young to really be an alcoholic, and bless the 60 year old woman who's had too much work done. Bless the public school lunch ladies and the guy who stole my kid's bike. Bless the chronically sick. Bless the one who has no one. Bless what we call insignificant and which you call magnificent. Bless it all and love what only you can love: the ugly, and abandoned and unsanitary in the wash of humanity upon which you have nothing but a gleaming compassion when we have none."

And let us all say, Amen!

Blessings,



HOLY TOLEDO! MARCH 15, 2024 @ 7PM

As a part of our Music & Arts Community Series, we have partnered with Toledo Symphony for Holy Toledo Candlelight performance on Friday, March 15 at 7pm. Our own Merwin Siu with three other amazing symphony musicians will captivate us in the acoustical marvel that is our sanctuary. Did we mention candles? And free to all? Yep! Stay tuned for more!

[Musicians: Merwin Siu, Second Violin; Cheryl Trace, Second Violin; Reed Anderson, Viola; Robert Clemens, Cello]

CALLING PASSIONATE READERS – PALM SUNDAY

Friends! Trinity is looking for passionate readers to help bring the passion reading to life on Palm Sunday. Please take some time to sign up for your role below following the sign-up genius link. All roles (and all means ALL) are open to all genders and ethnicities. The script is also attached to the sign-up to help you prepare. Email chelsie@trinitytoledo.org with any questions. Let's make this year's passion reading unforgettable.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/markpassionreading>

BREAKFAST SIGN UP

Communal meals are an important part of church life. It is a time outside of normal service and operations to get to know the people we worship with every week, not to mention those

in our greater community as well. As word continues to get out about Breakfast at Trinity (B@T), we'll see some new and old faces. There is a chance we may also have to help out with wayfinding as it is no secret – it's easy to get turned around inside our space. Looking ahead, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- Doors open at 8:30, food starts at 8:45.
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- Looking forward to eating with you all soon!

LENTEN JOURNEY

Lenten Devotional Discussion after Church: Resumes March 24

We hope that you are finding *A Spring in the Desert* a helpful guide on your Lenten journey. To deepen your experience of the devotional, we are offering discussion times after church on *some* Sundays (this is a busy Lent in all of the best ways!). Here is the remaining schedule:

March 17 – NO book discussion because the Search Committee is holding Listening Session #2 after church in My Brother's Place.

March 24 – Discussing weeks 3, 4 and 5 (generosity and tithes and offerings; vocation and constancy; sabbath and moderation)

March 31 – NO book discussion. Easter Sunday.

April 7 – Final book discussion. Holy week (loving-kindness and worship), plus discussion of how your Lenten journey was for you.

After church, grab a beverage and snack from coffee hour, then join us in the Walbridge Room (down the cloister hallway, past the restrooms. We'll start discussion around 11:15 and end at noonish. *It doesn't matter if you haven't been reading the book, we'd love to have you join us for conversation regardless.*



Feast of Friends – Maundy Thursday, March 28, 2024

Jesus gathered with his friends to celebrate the feast of the Passover the night before he died for revolutionary love. In his Jewish context and tradition, it was a time to remember how God had led

the people of God out of slavery, through the waters, through the wilderness, and into the Promised Land.

Once a year, we expand the way we remember that meal beyond the symbols of bread and wine. After we eat, we also offer the ultimate sign of Jesus' servant ministry among us through foot (or hand) washing.

*Please join us on **Thursday, March 28 at 6:30** for our Feast of Friends. **Sign up so we can prepare a place for you**– and consider bringing a friend who has never been invited to this Way of Love.*

SANCTUARY PREPARATIONS

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How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse

This popular presentation by *Rachel Coyle* covers how a bill becomes a law in Ohio, how Ohioans can get involved in state legislative advocacy, and some key tips and resources. It will be followed by a Q&A session, and an overview of Ohio's pending gun-related bills.

When: Sunday, April 14, 2024 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: Olivet Lutheran Church, 5840 Monroe St., Sylvania
Christian Life Center (rear parking lot)

Register for the event here:



Or call the Olivet office at:
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Donations for Rachel Coyle's appearance are welcome.

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The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be offered Sunday, April 7

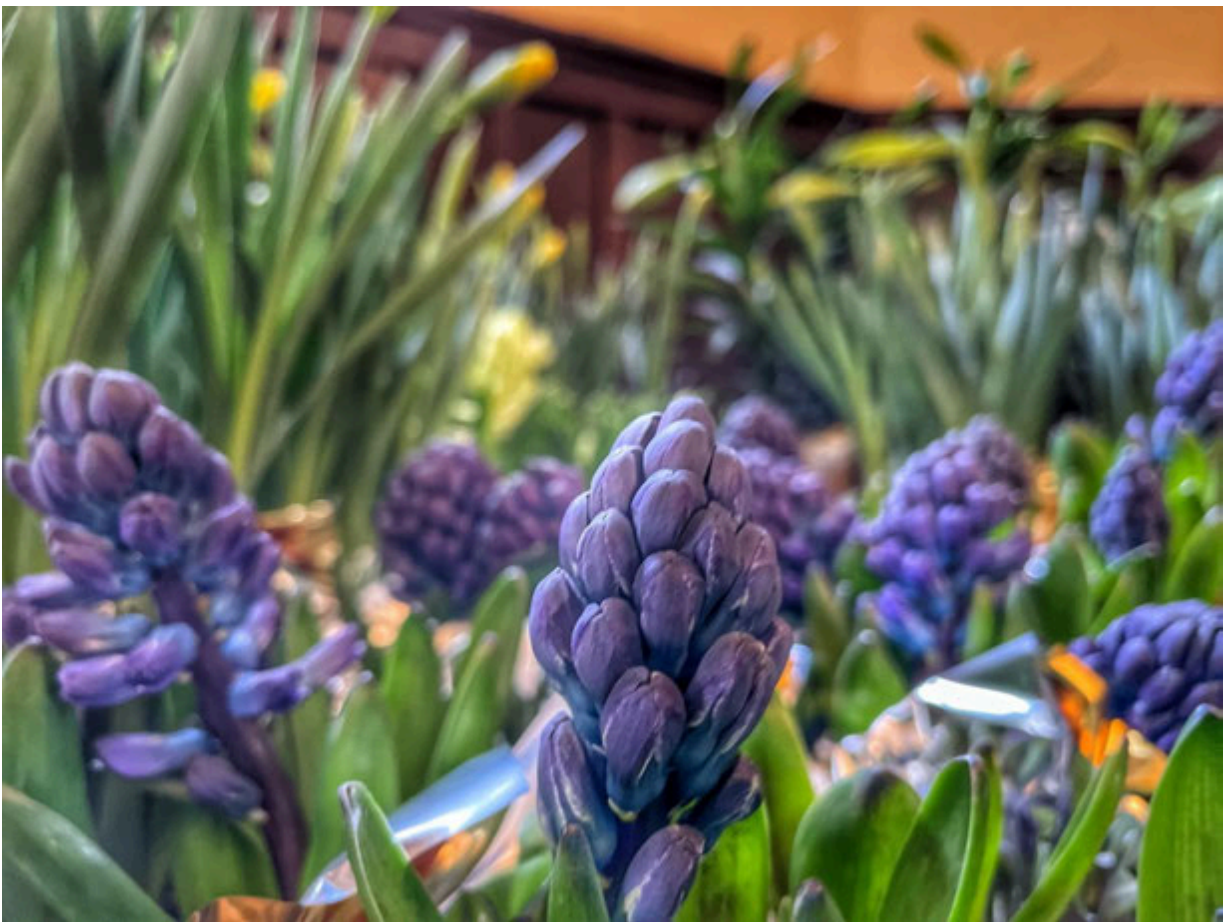
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Anyone – regardless of age – is welcome to be baptized, but since Holy Baptism is full initiation into the Body of Christ, the Episcopal Church baptizes persons only once!

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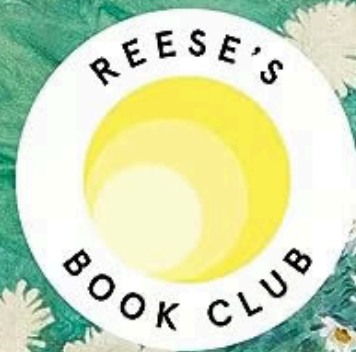
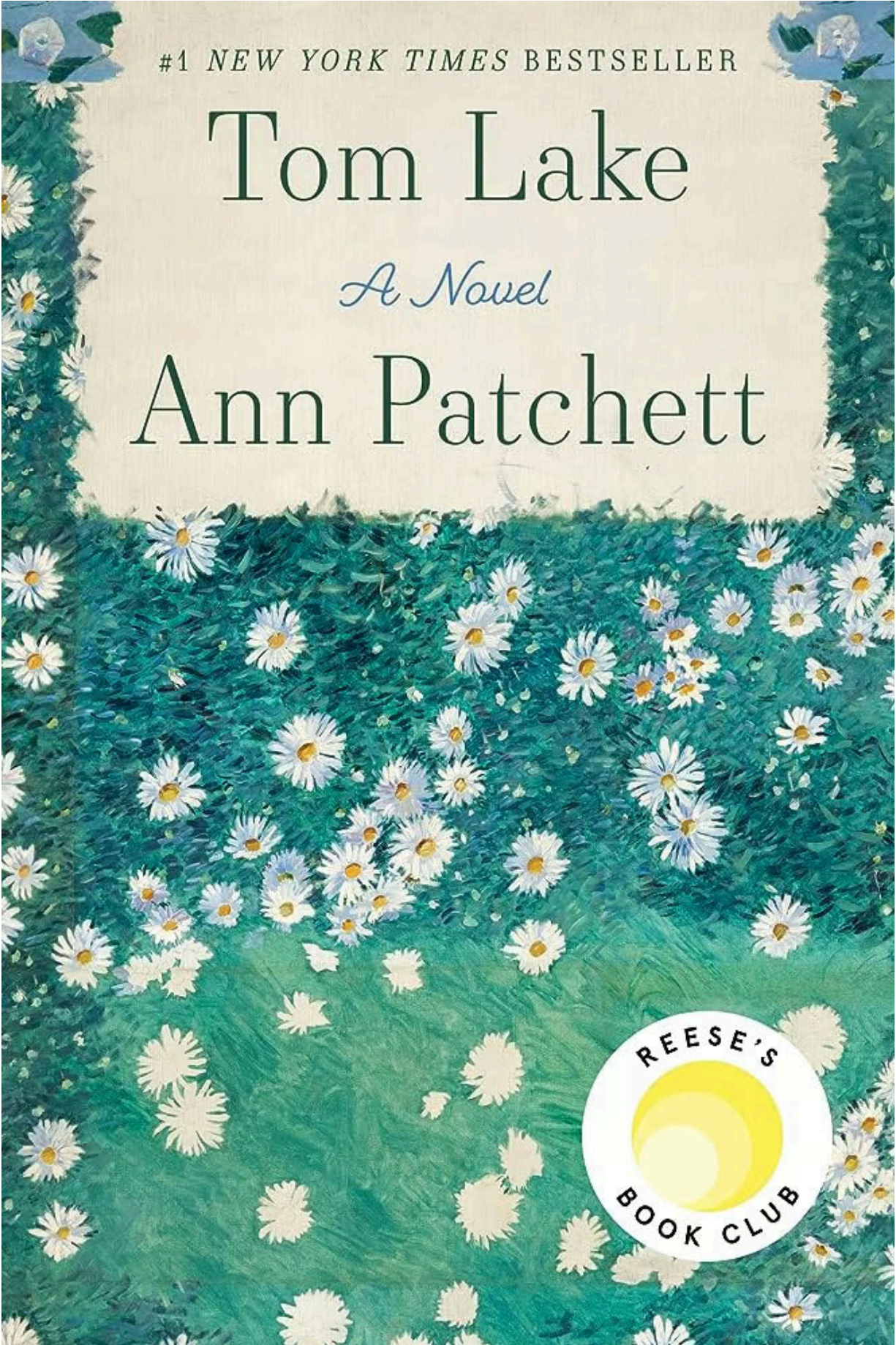
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Episcopal News Service

[Diocese of Northern Michigan traveling exhibit shares stories of Indigenous boarding school survivors](#)

[Episcopal News Service] The Diocese of Northern Michigan has launched a racial reconciliation initiative, "Walking Together: Finding Common Ground,"...

[Washington National Cathedral welcomes and blesses ACC universities' mascots](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Washington National Cathedral is known as a house of prayer for all people. On March 12, it also became a house of prayer...

[England archbishops warns UK government over new extremism definition](#)

[Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury] In a joint statement, the Most Rev. Justin Welby, archbishop of Canterbury, and the Most Rev. Stephen...

[New WCC Permanent Committee on Consensus and Collaboration holds inaugural meeting](#)

[World Council of Churches] The new World Council of Churches Permanent Committee on Consensus and Collaboration is holding its inaugural meeting...



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RECTOR'S BLOG

A humble 'self-emptying'



Dear Friends,

In her 2009 book, *The Case for God*, Karen Armstrong argued that religion is a practical discipline that teaches us to discover new capacities of the mind and heart. What new capacities of the mind and heart might we cultivate during the holiest week of the Christian Year?

Holy Week begins this Sunday, Palm Sunday. Most of the scriptural “airtime” on Palm Sunday is given over to the stories of Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion, suffering and death. Because of this, we might miss the practical discipline St. Paul offers us. In his letter to converts in Philippi in what is now Asia Minor, Paul quotes a hymn that was, evidently, already well-known to Christian communities. Armstrong writes, “. . . from this very early date (c. 54–57) Christians saw Jesus’ life as a *kenosis*, a humble ‘self-emptying.’”

Here's what Paul wrote to the Philippians – in contemporary English: “Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn’t think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn’t claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death – and the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion.”

This coming Sunday morning, bread will be broken, and wine poured out in remembrance of the one who emptied himself for our sake. He did not seek to save his own life but lost it and is alive for evermore. If we can begin to imitate Jesus' *kenosis* – his self-emptying – in the details of our own lives, our hearts will open in response to Christ's great love for us. They will open to the pain and suffering we see all around us. They will open to those who are on the margins of society. And they will even open to our enemies and those who wish us harm.

Imitating Christ is not without cost, but Jesus tells us that “those who lose their lives for my sake, and for the sake of the Good News, will find them.”

Blessings,

Stephen Applegate

THE WATCH

“... could you not watch with me one hour?” Matthew 26:40

On March 28–29, at the end of the Maundy Thursday Service (March 28), we will begin "The Watch," a traditional time of keeping vigil with Jesus as he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane on the night before he was crucified.

This is a very quiet, personal, sacred invitation to step into a place we often don't find or make in our lives – a time to sit alone (either at home or in the sanctuary at church) and breathe in deeply as you are invited to read words from our sacred text.

Over the centuries, Christians have found times of reading scripture as an opportunity to touch something deep inside– a kind of ancient remembering of what was, what is, and what has yet to come.

We ask people to sign up for a time slot between the end of our Maundy Thursday service and the beginning of our noon Good Friday service. We have created a sign-up schedule asking folks to commit their hearts to this holy task for one or more hour-long slots.

We will email all who sign up further instructions. This year we will be reading 110 major Bible stories. We are alternating between times in the sanctuary and times at home to make this opportunity as inclusive as possible. Our goal is to get a continuous stream of our voices reading scripture over this (nearly) 18-hour period.

“Then Jesus came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “So, could you not stay awake with me one hour? Stay awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”” Mathew 26:40–41

SIGN UP HERE

THE GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

This Year More Than Ever

Each year since 1922, when an effort to support Anglicans in war torn Palestine following World War I was launched, The Episcopal Church has designated the offering on Good Friday for the dioceses of the provinces of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

The offering has been an effective way to express support for many ministries including the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza. Like other hospitals in Northern Gaza, the current conflict has left no functional hospitals there.

However, life-giving ministries continue in the province, including St. George's, Baghdad; the eye clinic in Ras Morbat, Yemen; and numerous other institutions identified by their dioceses. The generous donations of Episcopalians help the Christian presence in the Land of the Holy One to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding among all of God's children.

Details for [donating online](#), by phone, or by check are available [here](#). You may also write a check to Trinity Episcopal Church with "Good Friday Offering" in the memo line.



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In this popular presentation, **Rachel Coyle** will cover how a bill becomes a law in Ohio, share how Ohioans can get involved in state legislative advocacy, and provide key tips and resources.

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IMPORTANT

>>> ANNOUNCEMENT <<<

WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

This Sunday we will be hosting training for new worship leaders right after service. If you're new or want to try something new, this is the perfect time to join in!

Training will last about 60 minutes

**For more information contact:
george@trinitytoledo.org**

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL DISCUSSION AFTER CHURCH

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YMCA RACIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE

Begins April 1!

<https://www.ywcanwo.org/what-were-doing/racial-justice/2023-challenge/>

The Racial Justice Challenge is a FREE virtual learning tool designed to create dedicated time and space to build more effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, equity, and leadership. Participants will be presented with 21 days of impactful challenges, such as reading an article, listening to a podcast, watching a video, and completing weekly action steps. We also offer weekly virtual discussions to unpack what we've learned each week.



Trinity Music+Arts Sondheim Community Concert

Trinity, we have heard your requests! One small concert a month? YOU'VE GOT IT! Mark your calendars for our upcoming Sondheim Concert on Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00pm. Your favorite

Trinity Music Team (Bradley, Kim, Melissa, Chelsie and Grace) will all be singing and playing songs we love from our favorite Sondheim shows, like "Being Alive," "Send in the Clowns" and "The Miller's Son" to name a few. AND we will be joined by our colleague and fellow music director at St Michael's in the Hills, Justin Bays! Here is the link to the FB event!

<https://fb.me/e/1Uh2T7wIW>

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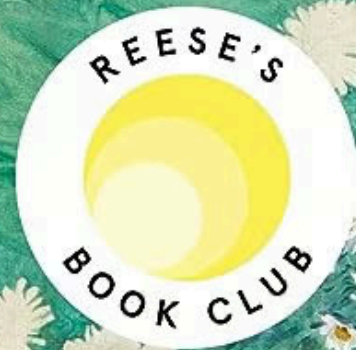
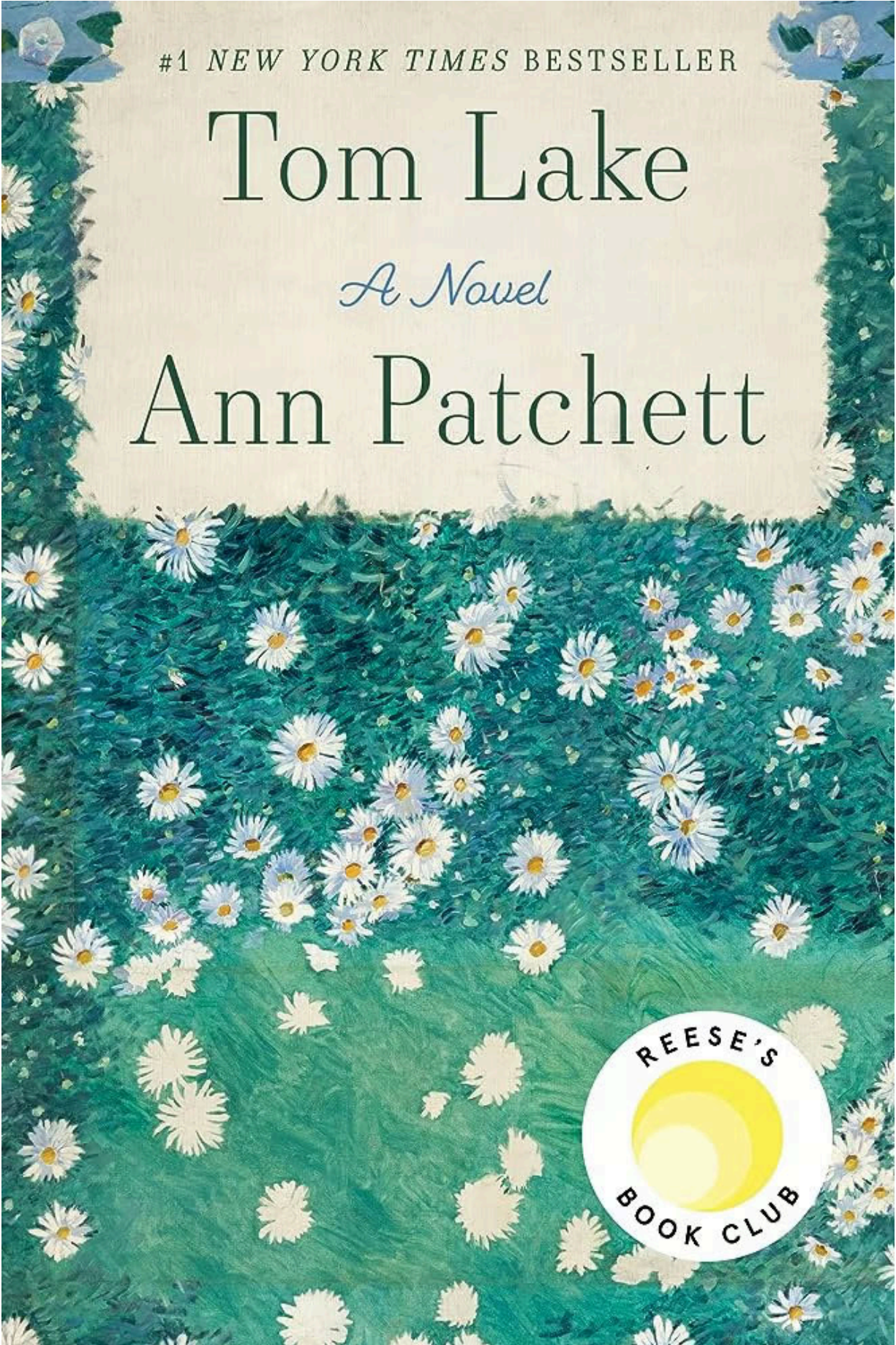
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[Diocese of New Jersey confronting 'disarray' in past financial accounting, bishop says](#)

[Episcopal News Service] The Diocese of New Jersey has embarked on a thorough evaluation of its finances, accounting protocols and record-keeping...

[Episcopal-affiliated Texas Water Mission continues long-term support for safe drinking water, hygiene education projects in Honduras](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Honduras Bishop Lloyd Allen was a dean and a priest in Tegucigalpa, the capital, in 1998 when Hurricane Mitch killed at...

[Archbishop of Canterbury issues statement on imminent famine risk in Gaza](#)

[Office of the Archbishop of Canterbury] On March 21, the Most Rev. Justin Welby, archbishop of Canterbury, issued a statement that warned that if...

['Zacchaeus Tax' panel brings faith-based lens to tax justice, gender justice](#)

[World Council of Churches] A panel discussion, "Zacchaeus Tax: Transforming the Global Economic System and Advancing Gender Justice," on March 19...



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RECTOR'S BLOG

[A sermon about a sermon](#)



Dear Friends,

This letter will arrive in your inbox early on Good Friday morning. Trinity is offering two ways to observe this most solemn of days:

- The Liturgy of Good Friday at 12:00 noon
- Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm (this service will be livestreamed)

Easter is still three days away. So it seems premature to bring the Alleluias out of mothballs where they've been during Lent. What to write is a conundrum but let me give it a shot.

Years ago, Tony Campolo preached a sermon that has since become famous. The sermon, which later became the title of one of his books, was "It's Friday, But Sunday's Comin'". For those of you who have never heard of Tony Campolo, he's a sociologist and a Baptist pastor who has been one of the most influential leaders of the evangelical left. He's been a huge proponent of progressive thought and reform.

Dr. Campolo's sermon is really a sermon about a sermon. He tells the story of a "preach off" that occurred in the church he attended. A "preach off" is when several preachers get together and try to top each other's preaching. Of course, it's never said that it's a competition. It's all for the glory of God! But every preacher

knows it's game on!

According to the story, Tony Campolo preached first and, he says modestly, preached well. He sat down after his sermon and said to the old preacher sitting next to him, "You're turn. See if you can beat that." The old man looked at Tony and said, "I'm going to do you in." And that's just what he did.

He started with the two phrases "It was Friday . . . but Sunday's comin'" and built his sermon from there.

Friday. . . Jesus was dead on the cross, but that's because it was Friday. Sunday's comin'

Friday. . . people are sayin,' "as things have been, so they shall be. You can't change things in this world. But I'm here to give you the Good News. It's only Friday. . . Sunday's comin'"

It's Friday, and they're saying that a bunch of old people sittin' in church can't change the world. That's because it's Friday. . . Sunday's comin'"

People of Trinity, these days it can feel like we are living in more and more of a Good Friday world. Innocents are suffering unspeakable horrors because of conflicts around the world. Bridges – both real and metaphorical – are collapsing. And, if the pundits are right, we are heading into one of the most contentious and bitter election seasons in recent memory.

But Sunday's comin.'

For every Good Friday, God's answer always is, "Sunday's comin'!"

Please join us when Sunday arrives – Easter Day at 10:00 am in person or on our livestream.

Blessings,

Stephen Applegate

SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

You will find a slotted box on the table with the colorful name tags in the back of our sanctuary. That box is just for you to anonymously and/or privately share any thoughts & comments with your Search Committee. Members of the Committee will take care of gathering the secured notecards. They would love to hear from you!

THE GOOD FRIDAY OFFERING

This Year More Than Ever

Each year since 1922, when an effort to support Anglicans in war torn Palestine following World War I was launched, The Episcopal Church has designated the offering on Good Friday for the dioceses of the provinces of Jerusalem and the Middle East.

The offering has been an effective way to express support for many ministries including the Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza. Like other hospitals in Northern Gaza, the current conflict has left no functional hospitals there.

However, life-giving ministries continue in the province, including St. George's, Baghdad; the eye clinic in Ras Morbat, Yemen; and numerous other institutions identified by their dioceses. The generous donations of Episcopalians help the Christian presence in the Land of the Holy One to be a vital and effective force for peace and understanding among all of God's children.

Details for [donating online](#), by phone, or by check are available [here](#). You may also write a check to Trinity Episcopal Church with "Good Friday Offering" in the memo line.



**The *Multifaith Coalition*
to Reduce Gun Violence**
presents:

How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse

In this popular presentation, **Rachel Coyle** will cover how a bill becomes a law in Ohio, share how Ohioans can get involved in state legislative advocacy, and provide key tips and resources.

To kick off the afternoon, **State Rep. Michele Grim** (Dist 43) will join us to provide an overview of gun legislation that is currently in process at the Ohio Statehouse.

When: Sunday, April 14, 2024 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Where: Olivet Lutheran Church, 5840 Monroe St., Sylvania
Christian Life Center (rear parking lot)

Register for the event here:



Or call the Olivet office at:
419-882-2077



Donations for Rachel Coyle's appearance are welcome.

Cash or checks can be accepted at the event. Cash app links will also be provided.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL DISCUSSION AFTER CHURCH

We hope that you are finding *A Spring in the Desert* a helpful guide on your Lenten journey. To deepen your experience of the devotional, we are offering discussion times after church on some Sundays (this is a busy Lent in all of the best ways!).

Here is the remaining schedule:

March 31 – NO book discussion. Easter Sunday.

April 7 – Final book discussion. Holy week (loving-kindness and worship), plus discussion of how your Lenten journey was for you.

After church, grab a beverage and snack from coffee hour, then join us in the Walbridge Room (down the cloister hallway, past the restrooms. We'll start after church (11:15ish) and end at noonish. *It doesn't matter if you haven't been reading the book, we'd love to have you join us for conversation regardless.*

YWCA RACIAL JUSTICE CHALLENGE

Begins April 1!

<https://www.ywcanwo.org/what-were-doing/racial-justice/2023-challenge/>

The Racial Justice Challenge is a FREE virtual learning tool designed to create dedicated time and space to build more effective social justice habits, particularly those dealing with issues of race, equity, and leadership. Participants will be presented with 21 days of impactful challenges, such as reading an article, listening to a podcast, watching a video, and completing weekly action steps. We also offer weekly virtual discussions to unpack what we've learned each week.



Trinity Music+Arts Sondheim Community Concert

Trinity, we have heard your requests! One small concert a month? YOU'VE GOT IT! Mark your calendars for our upcoming Sondheim Concert on Tuesday, April 9 at 7:00pm. Your favorite Trinity Music Team (Bradley, Kim, Melissa, Chelsie and Grace) will all be singing and playing songs we love from our favorite Sondheim shows, like "Being Alive," "Send in the Clowns" and "The Miller's Son" to name a few. AND we will be joined by our colleague and fellow music director at St Michael's in the Hills, Justin Bays! Here is the link to the FB event!

<https://fb.me/e/1Uh2T7wIW>

BREAKFAST SIGN UP

Communal meals are an important part of church life. It is a time outside of normal service and operations to get to know the people we worship with every week, not to mention those in our greater community as well. As word continues to get out about Breakfast at Trinity (B@T), we'll see some new and old faces. There is a chance we may also have to help out with wayfinding as it is no secret – it's easy to get turned around inside our space. Looking ahead, there are a few things to keep in mind:

- Doors open at 8:30, food starts at 8:45.
- We still have slots open this week for volunteering, and a few going forward. [You can click here for signing up.](#) **Please use the Signup Genius so we can gauge who will be volunteering.**
- Looking forward to eating with you all soon!

SANCTUARY PREPARATIONS

On **Saturday March 30 from 8:30–10:30am** all are welcome to come lend a hand in preparing our sanctuary for the Risen Lord. We have a little something for everyone – placing our memorial flowers (lilies, hyacinth and daffodils), chair ministry, decorating the old rugged cross, getting the coffee hour area ready for larger attendance and a whole lot of fellowship. Send Heather Meyer an email if you can join in for a bit. More hands make light work. heather@trinitytoledo.org



Totality at Trinity

**Monday, April 8 Doors open at 9am Potluck at 12pm
Eclipse begins 1:56pm (totality at 3:13pm)**

We've come to realize that the Greater Toledo Area has stepped up to the challenge of throwing every sort of eclipse party. You may have your sights set on one of those many gatherings. But we are here to offer up our homegrown celebration - ***Totality at Trinity*** where you can celebrate being an "Eclipsopolitan"!

It's pretty simple and flexible. Parking downtown will be challenging. Therefore, we will be here to welcome you in at 9am or anytime thereafter. Sit and read. Pray or meditate in our sanctuary. Nap on a couch. Bring a book, board games, cards or an art project. We've got the room. (And Heather can *always* find a project for you.)

Bring food to share. Nothing says potluck like a total eclipse. We've got ovens and microwaves for heating purposes. Refrigerators too.

Wear your walking shoes. Our neighbors at Imagination Station have been planning their celebration for over a year. It's all free and amazingly well thought out. Downtown will be bustling. Trinity's location is perfectly poised as we can look out from our shiny plaza to take it all in.

So Welcome Home, friends! Make a day of it and take your time trying to get out of downtown.

A big thank you to our friends at Imagination Station and the Metroparks for 80 pairs of glasses for us!

Any questions, email Heather at heather@trinitytoledo.org

HOLY WEEK 2024

03.24 PaLm/PASSION
sunday 10:00 AM

03.27 HOLY wednesday
tenebrae 7:00 PM

03.28 Maundy THURSDay
FEAST OF FRIENDS 6:30 PM

03.28-29 BIBLE VIGIL READINGS
SIGN-UPS TRINITYTOLEDO.ORG

03.29 GOOD FRIDAY NOONday 12:00 PM
GOOD FRIDAY EVENING 7:00 PM

03.31 Easter Day
HALLELUJAH! 10:00 AM

TRINITY@HOME LIVE-STREAM

Trinity@Home is now a live-stream of Trinity's 10:00 am in-person service with an interactive chat.

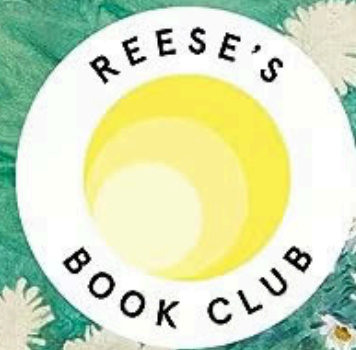
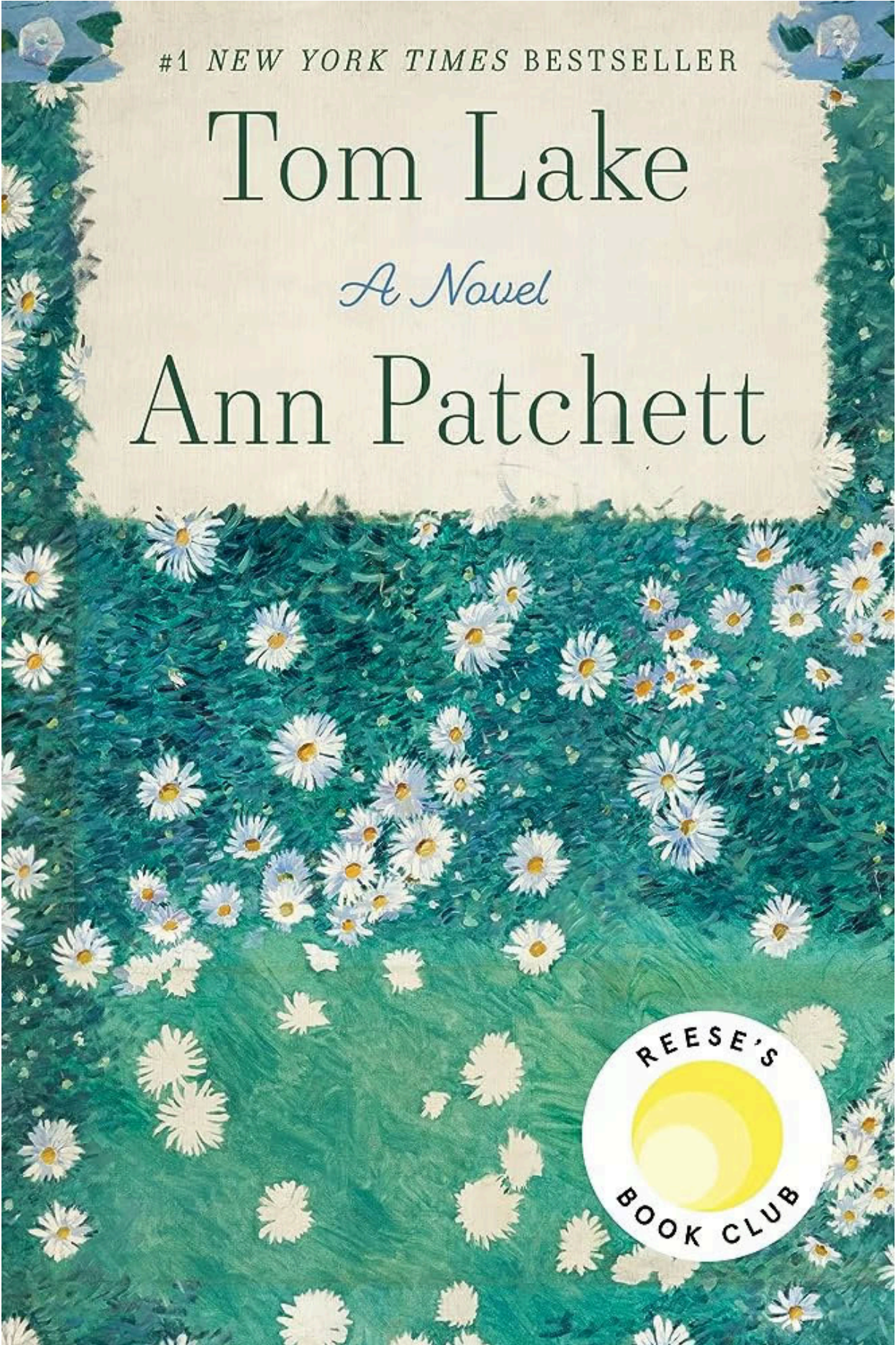
www.trinitytoledo.org/live

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

Tom Lake

A Novel

Ann Patchett



Trinity's next Book Club will meet Sunday, April 7 at 6:30pm via zoom. We will be reading "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett. [Sign up online!](#)

Episcopal News Service

[Anglican Communion secretary general's Easter message](#)

[Anglican Communion News Service] Secretary General of the Anglican Communion Bishop Anthony Poggio shared an Easter message on March 28. "They have...

[Presiding Bishop Michael Curry releases Easter message for 2024](#)

[Episcopal News Service] Presiding Bishop Michael Curry on March 28 released his annual Easter message, saying by video that he is grateful for all...

[Global Partnerships' video series features voices from Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem](#)

[Office of Global Partnerships] Starting on Easter Day and continuing through the Easter season, clergy of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem will...

[Alabama congregation donates footwear to homeless people in spirit of Maundy Thursday](#)

[Episcopal News Service] For the second year in a row, volunteers at the Episcopal Church of the Nativity in Huntsville, Alabama, spent the morning...