



# TRINITY TOPICS

## WEEKLY NEWS

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### RECTOR'S BLOG

#### The Big Bang Theory



Dear Friends,

Peter Higgs' obituary was in *The New York Times* on Wednesday. In 1964, Higgs predicted the existence of a new particle that would explain how other particles acquire mass. That's as far as I'm going to go in trying to explain his contribution to what's known as the Standard Model – a model that captures all human knowledge acquired to date about elementary particles and the forces by which they shaped the universe. My paltry understanding of physics is limited to the long-running (and now syndicated) sitcom, “The Big Bang Theory.”

Dr. Higgs died at the age of 94, sixty years after he suggested the existence of the boson that now bears his name. The Higgs boson is known popularly by another name – “The God Particle.” This name was coined by the media, not because Peter Higgs was particularly religious. The story goes that the name was derived from the title of a book written by the Nobel-prize winning physicist, Leon Lederman. Lederman was frustrated by how hard it was to detect the Higgs boson, so he proposed that the title of the book he had written be “The Goddamn Particle.” The publishers – as publishers will do – changed this to “The God Particle,” and a connection with religion was drawn, one which bothers physicists to this day (and certainly bothered Peter Higgs.)

The announcement of the detection of the Higgs boson was made at the European particle

physics laboratory CERN, in Geneva, Switzerland on July 4, 2012. It took until March the following year to confirm that the detected particle was indeed the Higgs boson. Peter Higgs and another scientist, François Englert, were subsequently awarded the 2013 Nobel Prize in Physics, for their Higgs field theory.

The news of Higgs' death in Edinburgh came during the same week that people across North America observed a total eclipse of the sun. Traffic backed up for miles on interstate highways; Chambers of Commerce calculated the economic impact of visitors to places like Findlay, Tiffin, and Toledo; and businesses, museums, and churches all planned special events. Our "Totality at Trinity" event on the restored Plaza was well-attended, and it was a special gift to welcome guests from St. James Episcopal Church in Grosse Ile, Michigan. (Now there's a faith community that raises the church potluck to a whole new level!)

As I read articles about the eclipse afterward and scrolled through Facebook, Instagram, and Tiktok, the overwhelming reactions people shared were of awe and wonder – emotions usually associated with religious/spiritual experiences.

We live in an amazing universe, and we have – at least some of us have – the ability to conceive of subatomic particles and forces that help us understand the cosmos. When was the last time you experienced awe and wonder? Maybe it was this past week during the eclipse. Maybe it was when a child or grandchild was born. Maybe, just maybe, it was in church.

A week like this leads me to give thanks for the extraordinary complexity of the created order and how the glory of God is manifested in it. The opening verses of Psalm 19 come to mind:

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.

2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.

3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,

4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.

Blessings,

Stephen Applegate

CELEBRATING THE RESPONSE

## Good Friday and Easter Offerings

Trinity parishioners response to two special seasonal offerings was generous indeed.

The Good Friday offering which, by longstanding tradition, goes to benefit the Anglican Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East, totaled \$1,200.00, far above previous levels. Trinity will send the proceeds to the Episcopal Church in the US where our gifts will be combined with gifts from across the church to benefit ministries like these:

- Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, which has provided critical medical care to all people in peacetime and wartime alike.
- Christ Church in Aden, Yemen, which serves as the grounds of Ras Morbat Eye Clinic, providing medical care for all in that war-torn country.
- The Christian National Kindergarten at St. Philip's Episcopal Church, Nablus, in the West Bank, which provides high-quality early education to all kindergartners, regardless of religion.

The Easter offering totaled \$3,510.00. As announced in this year's Easter letter, any funds received in excess of Trinity's budgeted income of \$1,800.00 will go to Toledo Streets Newspaper. A check for \$1,710.00 will be sent to TSN to support their mission, "to build a safe community that works to break the cycle of poverty and empower entrepreneurs."

Thank you for your terrific response to both of these special offerings.

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# IMPORTANT

## >>> **ANNOUNCEMENT** <<<

### WORSHIP LEADER TRAINING

**APRIL 14TH** we will be hosting training for 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

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**For more information contact:**

**[george@trinitytoledo.org](mailto:george@trinitytoledo.org)**





**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.

**WAKY, WAKY**

"Wakey, Wakey" by Will Eno to be Performed at Trinity  
Area Premiere of Off-Broadway Play April 12, 13, & 14

Actors Collaborative Theater, Trinity's building partner, announces the performance of "Wakey, Wakey" by Will Eno in the newly renovated performance space located in St. Mark's Chapel.

The play, performed as a staged reading, features ACT co-founder (and Trinity Junior Warden) Jeffrey J. Albright as Guy and is directed by another one of ACT's co-founders, Barbara Barkan. Rounding out the cast is Thea Catherine Grabiec as Lisa. The play will feature an original soundscape created by local musician Mark Owen and projected images that were featured in the original Off-Broadway production of the play designed by Peter Nigrini.

The play asks the questions: What are we here for? Is time a friend or an enemy? Do we all eventually end up in the same place, but take different routes to get there?

This funny, moving, and thought-provoking play challenges the notion of what really matters and recognizes the importance of life's simple pleasures.

Wakey, Wakey will be performed at 8:00 p.m. on April 12 & 13, 2024 and 3:00 p.m. on April 14, 2024. Tickets are available at [www.act419.org](http://www.act419.org)

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
1825 Glendale Ave., Toledo

**MULTIFAITH  
EARTH DAY  
CELEBRATION**

**4:00-6:00 PM**  
**APRIL 21, 2024**

Brief MultiFaith Prayer Service  
**Speaker:** Sacred Grounds & Care for Creation  
**Displays** by Faith Centers &  
Community Organizations  
Children's Activities  
Service Project: Preparing Soil

Join us for this all-ages celebration of our amazing planet! People of all faiths or no faith alike share a concern for living in harmony with our environment. We come together for learning, service, and fun!

We begin with a brief MultiFaith Prayer Service, honoring multiple religious and secular traditions, followed by a presentation by Hal Mann entitled: Sacred Grounds: Care for Creation. Participants then can explore children's activities, displays from local Sacred Grounds faith centers and from earth-based spiritualities, and a service project preparing for raised beds and spring planting in a new community garden.

There is no cost to attend, and no RSVP is necessary.



Join us on Sunday, April 28 at 11:15am for coffee hour and Plazapalooza meeting. Promise to have you home quickly to enjoy your day. More details to follow!

## BASEBALL WITH THE BISHOP – JUNE 16 (FATHER'S DAY)

It's a Funday on Father's Day with the West Mission Area of the Diocese of Ohio, Bishop Jolly, and the Toledo Mudhens. Tickets include ballpark entry, seat, food, and drinks (excluding alcohol). The party is in The Nest. With Fifth Third Field as the backdrop, this prime outdoor party deck is located on the ballpark's second level above the right field line. The Nest provides a great view of the Mud Hens game.

The game on June 16 is against the Omaha Storm Chasers. Bishop Jolly, diocesan staff members, and their families will join us for a great day. Episcopalians across the diocese are invited to come cheer for the Mudhens. Here are the details:

**Date: Sunday, June 16, 2024**

**Time: 2:05pm – 6:00pm**

**Location: Fifth Third Field, 406 Washington St., Toledo, OH 43604**

To sign up and purchase tickets, go to

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080449AFA723A2F49-47838878-mudhens>

Tickets are \$28 each. **The deadline for purchase is Sunday, May 19.** Tickets will be distributed by email after the May 19 deadline. After the deadline, fans may certainly purchase game tickets directly from the Mudhens. You may join us in The Nest, but your seat will be elsewhere, and you won't receive a wristband for the buffet.

In case of a rain out, the Mudhens will move our party indoors. The food is prepared and served. Participants on site will receive a voucher for another game on their own.

The buffet will run for 90 minutes from 1:45 to 3:15. The menu is: Grilled Hot Dogs, Grilled Hamburgers, Mac & Cheese, Tossed Salad, Lay's Potato Chips, assorted cookies, assorted can Pepsi products, & bottled water.

## BREAKFAST SIGN UP

Are you interested in being a part of our signature ministry here at Trinity? Do you think to yourself, “Wow, I’d love to wake up earlier on Sunday once a month to serve breakfast to those in our community”? THEN DO WE HAVE GOOD NEWS!

Sign up wall posters are near the Columbarium in the sanctuary. Come jot your name down to join a POD of volunteers who will serve on rotation every 5+ weeks. And if you can't make it to our in-person worship and want to act now – email George Benson, our Dir of Community Engagement. He will take great care of you.

More hands make lighter work, and we can continue to make Breakfast at Trinity love at work in our world!

## 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@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](http://www.trinitytoledo.org/live)

## Episcopal News Service

### **Bishops oppose General Seminary's long-term lease with choral music school over LGBTQ+ inclusion concerns**

[Episcopal News Service] The seven Episcopal bishops who serve the dioceses of New York and Long Island are publicly opposing the potential long-term...

### **New Hampshire church partnerships to support affordable housing, violence prevention, child care services**

[Episcopal News Service] Christ Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is partnering with three local nonprofit organization that address...

### **Committees hear testimony on canonical language requiring baptism to receive Communion**

[Episcopal News Service] The General Convention legislative committees on Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music on April 10 held their first hearing, where...

### **'New Camino' seminar dispels myths, sparks ideas for Latino/Hispanic ministry in the Diocese of Los Angeles**

[Diocese of Los Angeles] "Se Habla English" is a new model of ministry that offers a fresh approach to traditional Latino outreach by providing...