



Welcome to April 2026

Hi Douglas,

We will be talking about homeschooling for secular people and preparing for our American Empathy project happening on May 2nd.

We have some talented members

We had some nice presentations for our hobby and craft event in March. Thanks to all who came out and shared.



The American Empathy Project on May 2nd

We're excited to announce that we'll be participating in the American Empathy Project on May 2nd! Led by the American Humanist Association, the American Empathy Project has funded 101 service projects nationwide that will empower community members to

combat our country's crisis of cruelty. One day of action — one unified push to fight for empathy!

Our project: **100 Kits, One Community, Endless Impact**

Sanger Branch Library Community Room A
3030 Central Ave, Toledo, OH 43606
Saturday May 2, 2026 from 10 am to 12 noon

We will be creating at least 100 shelf-stable meal kits to donate to a food pantry in the Greater Toledo Area.

This event is open to the public so if you would like to volunteer reach out to us or [use the RSVP on our event page](#)

<https://humanistswle.org/event/100-kits-one-community-endless-impact-an-americanempathy-project>

This event will be our monthly meeting for May.



Sanger Branch Library 3030 Central Ave, Toledo 43606 Meeting Room A

News & Notes

Have you donated to SHoWLE lately?

SHoWLE does operate with membership dues but we also encourage people to donate above and beyond their yearly dues if they can. We use donations to further our mission to educate the public about Humanism and build a Humanist community in the Greater Toledo NW Ohio area.

One use of donations is to pay for our booth space at the Old West End Festival which is about \$150 and we will be using donations for the coming visit of AHA Executive Director Fish Stark in September - for example, the venue cost \$100 to rent.

[If can help out, please donate today](#)

You can also send us a check or money order to SHoWLE PO Box 6433 Toledo, OH 43612-0433.

Secular Homeschooling

Many of us are familiar with homeschooling since most people who do are evangelical religious people who dislike what is taught in the public schools. Although we support public schools, there are times a secular family may want or need to homeschool. Join us for our April meeting as we discuss homeschooling for secular people.

Survey still open

SHoWLE has a survey open. We are looking for the views of our members and friends. Your answers will help guide us in programming and events for the rest of 2026 and beyond

https://actionnetwork.org/surveys/taking-showles-temperature?source=direct_link&

Save the Dates

June 6th and 7th we will have a booth at the Old West End Festival. If you would like to help us out feel free to volunteer.

June 20th is our Summer Picnic at the Sycamore Shelter on the east side of Wildwood Metropark - the plan is for a potluck style and more details forthcoming soon.

Introducing Our Public School Curriculum Opt-Out Form

Back in January we created an opt-out form parents can use to opt their children out of public school curriculum as a result of the Mahmoud v. Taylor US Supreme Court case.

- Violate or substantially conflict with your sincerely held religious beliefs;
- Interfere with your right to direct your child's religious upbringing; Expose
- your child to religious or moral viewpoints that undermine your family's religious teachings or practices.

For example, here in Ohio there is a law proposed that would force public-schools to show a biased video produced by an anti-abortion group. The video is called Baby Olivia and is meant to bully kids into not having abortions. This opt-out form would exempt your child from watching it.

There is another proposed law to install a curriculum called The Success sequence that would expose children to a religiously biased view of how they should live their lives. This form would protect your child from that nonsense.

[For more information and the form check out our blog](#)

Do you have an idea for an event?

Do you have an idea for an event or a speaker? Let us know about it. Your idea is more likely to happen if you give us a detailed sketch of what you have in mind. Just reply to this email and gives us the details.

For more information check out this page on our website:

<https://humanistswle.org/event-hosting>

Are you looking to be an activist as a Humanist?

Here are some helpful links to learn about activism on the national, state, and local level:

American Humanist Association Action HQ
<https://americanhumanist.org/actionhq/> Americans
United Action Network [https://www.au.org/get-
involved/au-action-network/](https://www.au.org/get-involved/au-action-network/)

American Atheists Activism
<https://www.atheists.org/activism/>

UUA Justice
<https://www.uua.org/action>

Ohioans Against Extremism
<https://ohagainstextremism.org/>

Honesty for Ohio Education
<https://www.honestyforohioeducation.org/>

Volunteer with Equality Toledo
<https://equalitytoledo.org/volunteer/>

Toledo Troublemakers [https://redwineblue.controlshift.app/groups/toledo-
troublemakers](https://redwineblue.controlshift.app/groups/toledo-troublemakers)

Toledo Persists
<https://www.facebook.com/ToledoPersists/>

Note SHoWLE is a 501 3(c) charity and does not endorse candidates for elective office.

We Have T-Shirts Available



We have a limited supply of SHoWLE T-shirts we got during the Here for Good Campaign last year. You can order them using our website form:

<https://humanistswle.org/donations/showle-t-shirt-sale>

Price for all shirts is **\$20** each and if you want it mailed to you then it is an **extra \$6 for shipping**. Once you buy a shirt we can arrange a meetup to get the shirt or you can pick it up at a meeting if you want to save shipping costs.

You can also pay for it using cash or check. [Use our contact form](#) or send us an email with a request for number of shirts and the size and we will get back to you

Quantities are limited

News to Know

Update Your Profiles

Members can update their profiles on our website. When you joined the group there were options to choose like if you wanted to be in a future directory, if you wanted to be texted reminders, and if you were in the AHA. There is also a box to add the names of others covered under your Household membership for those who have them.

All of that information can be changed on your profile at anytime.

<https://humanistswle.org/register/edit-your-profile>

A video showing how to use the member page is here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCzPyPtgUk0>

Photo Waiver

Just a reminder that by attending our public meetings and events you grant SHoWLE the use of your image or likeness for promotion of the group and our mission. If you think it will be an issue for you please reach out to Douglas or a Board member before a meeting or event so we can be sure to avoid you and crop you out of published images. We do not use full names in public materials.

SHoWLE Meet-Ups

Do you have a one time event you plan to attend and think the group would enjoy or are okay with some company? You can now let us know and we can add the information to our calendar to let other members and friends know about it. We call it Meet-up and it will get a blurb on the event page.

Meet-ups can be anything from movie night to touring a museum but you wouldn't mind some people from SHoWLE going with you. SHoWLE doesn't endorse these events but allows members to let others know about some fun social event they might want to join.

Just fill the form at the link below or send us an email to president@humanistswle.org with the details.

SHoWLE reserves the right to decline to promote any submitted event and we are not able to promote strictly political events that are limited to one candidate or party (for example like a fundraiser event). <https://humanistswle.org/let-us-know-about-a-meet-up>

We've joined Walmart Spark for Good

Walmart recently launched Walmart Spark Good Round Up where customers can round up their purchases to the nearest dollar and donate the change to their favorite charity. We would love for you to choose us as your charity to receive these donations every time you shop on Walmart.com or in-store at Walmart.

<https://bit.ly/sparkhumanists>



Upcoming Events

Complete details can be found on our [Events Page](#). Unless noted, all meetings and events are free and open to the public



Can The Non-Religious Homeschool?

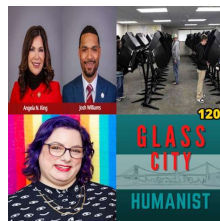
April 11, 2026 @ 10 AM

Public school is the best way to educate our children but there can be specific instances where it would be better to homeschool. Secular people get nervous talking about homeschooling because religious people have homeschooled the most. We will go over reasons you may want to homeschool your secular child. We will look at the requirements for the state of Ohio and talk about suggested curriculum. Bring an open mind and your questions to the discussion

[Read more](#)

We Have A Podcast - Glass City Humanist

Our latest episode of the Glass City Humanist podcast:



Episode 120: [How the SAVE Act and Drag Bans Are Connected](#)

I think most people would agree that proposed laws like the SAVE Act would do far more damage to democracy than the tiny number of non-citizens accused of voting.

It's always disappointing when members of marginalized groups gang up on another marginalized group and it is extra disappointing when they use religion to justify it.

Our Mission:

The mission of the Secular Humanists of Western Lake Erie is to provide a supportive local community for humanists and other nontheists, while promoting an ethical, reasonable, and secular approach to life through education, community service, outreach, activism, and social events.

We envision a Northwest Ohio and Southeast Michigan where secular people are respected and integrated in broader society, live values of reason and compassion, and enjoy a friendly humanist community.

Join or Donate to the Group

Are you a member?

Joining the Secular Humanists of Western Lake Erie gets you the following benefits:

- A monthly meeting with like minded people
- Ability to guide and vote on the direction of the group
- Serve in leadership positions and on our Board of Directors
- Discounts on sponsored events and group merchandise
- Regular communications about meetings, events, and other topics of interest to the group before the general public
- Most importantly, you will gain the opportunity to make your voice heard and know that you are part of a greater movement working for the values we share.

We have two membership plans:

\$20 for an Individual

\$30 for a Household (two or more people at the same address)

Visit <https://humanistwle.org/join-our-group> to join online or get information to join by postal mail. We also have a fixed income level available on our join page if needed.

You can donate to the Secular Humanists of Western Lake Erie

Please help us provide a supportive local community for humanists and other nontheists, while promoting ethical and reasonable secular world views through education, community service, outreach, activism, and social events.

You can use Paypal or a credit card. **Donations are tax deductible.**

[Donate Online](#)

You can always send your check or money order to:

Secular Humanists of Western Lake Erie
PO Box 6433
Toledo, OH 43612-0433