

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LIVING LIGHT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2025

The Most Important Question

Have you noticed how quickly all the Christmas decorations are taken down and replaced with Valentine's Day items? Because of this one day in February, this second month of the year is often considered "the month of LOVE." I know many guys dread this month because of the extra emphasis and raised expectations on romancing his girlfriend or wife on or around Valentine's Day. Cause if we don't, some women may wonder quietly or actually ask aloud... "Do you truly love me?"

In the Gospel of John, Jesus asks Peter that same question, "Peter, do you truly love me?" Now Jesus asks this question not just once or twice, but three times!

Just imagine if Jesus was sitting next to you today and asked you, "(insert your name), do you truly love me?" This question from Jesus is one of the most important questions that we will ever answer!

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Note that Jesus is not asking, "Did you go to church last Sunday?" Jesus did not ask, "How much have you placed in the offering?" He does not ask us, "Have you helped with Vacation Bible School?" or "How many people have you brought to Jesus?" or "Are you doing better than the best you can so that God will be happy with you?"

No...Jesus wants to know, "Do <u>you</u> love <u>me</u>?" Our relationship with Jesus is at the heart of our salvation. He tells us "as the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now *remain* in my love" (John 15:9). Our task is to abide in the love Jesus showed us by dying on the cross taking away all our sins. Our work is to remain in the love Jesus pours out in the waters of Baptism and offers us in his real presence at Communion. When we encounter brokenness and heartache in this world caused by our sin and others, Jesus offers us a love that never fails. Jesus' love for us is a gift we receive through faith...not by what we do or accomplish.

Back to Jesus and Peter...The Bible tells us that Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him this question three times. After Peter answered Jesus, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you," Jesus told Peter, "Feed my sheep."

When we abide in Jesus' love for us, we are inspired to love others as He has loved us. Being in Jesus' love for us allows us to forgive others as we remember how God has forgiven us. Remaining in the love of Jesus empowers us to be better together Growing, Caring and Sharing the good news of Jesus' love with others.

In Christ,

Pastor Andy

TLC Vision 2030 Survey

Tallmadge Lutheran Church members have been meeting to develop and implement a desired future for TLC looking ahead to 2030.

To assist with the final recommendations for this "TLC: Vision 2030", the Steering Committee is seeking input from both Members and Non-Members of our church family. All responses will remain anonymous.

Please complete this form on paper or online <u>https://t.ly/nTrxM</u>. Then return by mail to the church office or place your responses in the wire basket in the back of TLC sanctuary. Thank you!



Early Communion Instruction

Pastor Andy will offer the faith milestone of Early Communion instruction for youth 5th grade and older during a 3-hour retreat on Saturday, February 22, 2025 from 9:00am to 12:00pm.

Along with their parents (or caring adult), students will learn about the gift of Holy Communion, how to prepare oneself to receive this gift, and the Biblical event of the Passover.

This instruction is OPTIONAL! Students who do not participate will continue to receive First Communion at their Confirmation.

New Member Faith Instruction

Join Pastor Andy on Saturday, February 15, 2025 from 1:00 am - 4:00 pm for a time of teaching on the Christian Faith.

If you have recently joined TLC or would like to join in the future, this is a great opportunity to gain a great understanding of what God's Word teaches, especially from the Lutheran perspective.

Please email or text Pastor Andy if you plan on attending. <u>pastorandy@tlcoh.org</u> cell 330-203-5474.



The Altar Ministry Team

is seeking Women and Men to assist with the weekly Altar duties. We are an integral part of every Worship Service, working behind the scenes. Our primary responsibility is preparing the Altar for Sunday Worship, including the prep and cleanup of Weekly Communion.

The time commitment varies based on you. Can be an occasional few hours a week up to 30 hours a Year.

Please consider joining this Ministry Team.

For more information please speak to or email: Janet Buckles (<u>jbuckles@neo.rr.com</u>) or Becky Springer (<u>springer.becky@gmail.com</u>).

The Annual Safety Training

All leaders, and open to all members. Saturday, February 15 from 10:00 - 12:00 pm in the sanctuary.

The Board of Directors, Elders and The Safety Committee continue to strive to make TLC a safe place to worship and enjoy fellowship!

Come hear Lieutenant Riley share current statistics, review safety protocols for Sunday mornings and other information that helps us all be more aware of what's happening on a Sunday morning, how anyone can help recognize and divert an issue.

This is YOUR church, let's keep it safe together!

Genesis Leader Training

New 9-month Cohorts starting February 16 and March 16

Genesis Leader is an online learning community designed to deliver the tools, training, coaching and confidence that mobilizes people to create and lead new communities where anyone can discover Jesus. TLC is looking for members to participate in this 9-month discipleship journey.

For more information talk with TLC members who have completed Genesis Leader Training: Sandee Mick, Jared & Miranda Shoup, Kris & Regina Kodzev or check out <u>https://multipli.org/learn-to-evangelize-jesus/</u>

Tallmadge Christan Preschool Art Show Featuring Picasso

Tuesday, February 4 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

All are invited!

Tallmadge Christian Preschool Open House

Tuesday, February 11 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Tell your friends!



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TLC Book Club

Join Pastor Andy on the third Monday of each month to discuss a book.

The book for February is *Flawed Families of the Bible: How God's Grace Works Through Imperfect Relationships* by David & Diana Garland.

This book explores the stories of families in the Bible—we find weak, scared, struggling, failing people who have suffered and survived horrible ordeals...Yet God uses them.

Come explore stories that are vital to our understanding of God, our faith, ourselves, and our world.

Join Pastor Andy on Monday, February 17 at 7:00 pm in Room 12.





Wise Owls

Join the Wise Owls on Saturday, February 15, 12:00 pm in Room 12.

The theme is Valentines Day. Lunch is stuffed pork chops with potatoes casserole. The Owl's will have board games, Bingo, and silly prizes.

Its going to be a lot of fun!!

The Owls are looking for people to lead the March meeting. Please contact Fae 330.297.5968

Operation Christmas Child

I cannot believe it's already month 2 of collecting. Thank you so much for your help all year to support this ministry.

This month I'd like to focus on fashion accessories: sunglasses, hair ties, jewelry, watches...whatever you find would be great!

Also keep an eye out for the end of season clearance for winter gear.

God's blessing to you all as you shop for these children in the world who desperately need Jesus.

Thank you!

Marriage Connect Group

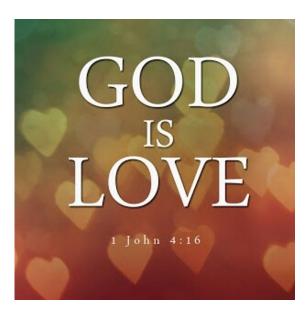
Please join us for our next group gathering on Thursday, February 27 at 6:00 pm.

We will be studying session 5 of our Cherish series titled, "Taking your marriage to the next level".

Let's do everyone's second favorite food..."Mexican".

Chicken fajitas with all the fixin's will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

If you've thought about joining us and if you desire community relationships, please come and be enriched as we strengthen our marriages in Christ alone.



TLC Prayer Chain

Kathy Vanaman and Sandee Mick have created a Google Group, called *TLC Prayer Ministry*. This group is for prayer and praise offerings from members of Tallmadge Lutheran Church.

Those of you that are already signed up for the prayer chain will be receiving an email with directions on how to sign on to the new format.

If you are interested in joining and have questions, you can contact Sandee at <u>semick13@att.net</u> or Sandee Mick 330-256-8819

Tuesday Prayer Group

Kathy Vanaman and Pastor Andy will be lifting up prayer requests to the Lord on Tuesdays at 11:30 am in the TLC Sanctuary.

Please join us in praying for our nation, for our families, for the sick, for those who don't know the Lord.

The Acme Cash Back Program Final Two Weeks

Please save all Acme receipts dated August 1, 2024 through *February 15, 2025* and turn them in to Ruth Lynch.

Proceeds go towards TLC building projects and the pavilion.

MITES Sunday

MITE collections will be on the following Sundays in 2025: March 30, June 29, August 31, and November 30.

LWML Collections

Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is collecting pill bottles, MITES, card fronts, postage stamps and tabs.

More information can be found on the bulletin board.

If you have any questions, please give Sandy Dixon a call at 330-688-6258 or email her at <u>sgtfroond@gmail.com</u>.



The Who's Who at TLC

Board of Elders

John Dailey, head Marty Hauser Jim Bailey Chris Tywon Jim Case Dan Fosnight Todd Hedderly Bob Knepper Eric Fink Board of Directors Jim Bergmann, chair Kris Kodzev, vice chair Brian Kuntz, treasurer Ellen Tywon, secretary Bert Holz Daryl Parma Heidi Wojcik Cindy Strand Dan Conley Kathy Vanaman

Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor Annie Alberts, Music Ministry LaVonne Dolliver, organist Chad Kendal, pianist & AV Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities Sue Pifer, Nursery attendant Lara Miller, TCP director Patti Trettel, KK Director Laurene Malish and Ben & Val Jews: Custodians

Altar Guild: Becky Springer, head; Janet Buckles, Kathy Vanaman, Ellen Tywon, & Gail McAlister Altar Flower Orders/Flower Chart: Lindsay Snyder/Becky Springer Bible Study Leaders: Pastor Andy, John Dailey, Chris Tywon, Brian Kuntz, Gail McAlister, Jeanne Colosetti, Kathy Vanaman, and Jeannine Case Book Club: Pastor Andy Master Calendar: Lindsay Snyder Children's Ministry/Sunday School: Gail McAlister Confirmation: Pastor Andy Easter Breakfast: Youth Group Facility Rental: Lindsay Snyder Finance/Auditors: Denise Larson & Denny Gearhart Food Pantry: Gail McAlister Funeral Luncheons: Gail McAlister & Pam Klicman Historian: Ethel Walent KidMin Ministries: Regina Kodzev Librarian: Denise Larson 7 Lillies at Easter & Poinsettias at Christmas: Becky Springer



Marriage Connect Group: Alisha & Trent Wright Operation Christmas Child (OCC): Alisha Wright Outreach Activities for Preschool & King's Kids:

Gail McAlister, coordinator Prayer Buddies: Lindsay Snyder & Gail McAlister Prayer Chain: Kathy Vanaman, Sandee Mick Prayer Shawl, MITES & LWML: Sandy Dixon Readers for Worship/Scheduler: Lindsay Snyder Sewing for Service: Pam Klicman Shelter Care (donations): Jeannine Case Strat Op/2030 Vision: Marty Hauser, facilitator Thanksgiving Dinner: Gail McAlister, coordinator; Kevin Heilmeier, head chef Vacation Bible School (VBS): Regina Kodzev Wise Owls: Fae & Larry Broemsen Women's Fellowship: Jeannine Case Youth Ministry: Jen Larson, Jared Shoup

IN THE COMMUNITY

Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance - February 8, 2025 from 5:00-10:00 pm at The Venue (located at 10 Tallmadge Circle, Tallmadge, OH 44278). The dance will feature live music by Ronnie Clinton. Ticket purchase includes hors d'oeuvres, dinner, live music, dancing, dessert and cash bar.

Tickets: 2025 Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance - Merchandise Information

Maca Pool Memberships go on sale for Tallmadge residents on Saturday, February 15, 2025 Maca Pool | Tallmadge, OH

Family Fun Night - Friday, February 28, 2025, 6:30-9:30 pm at the Tallmadge Recreation Center.

This family-oriented night includes a variety of family fun like inflatables that parents and kids of all ages can jump on together, family crafts, face painting, exhibits, games, and a live petting zoo! Everyone will also have the chance to meet several big furry celebrities, such as the University of Akron's Zippy, the Tallmadge Blue Devil, and the Akron Rubber Ducks mascots!

Prices: Pre-sale tickets: \$8/person; event day tickets: \$10/person; children 2 and under are free. Tickets go on sale at the Recreation Center and online on February 1.

Tickets: Tallmadge, OH - Merchandise Search

The Tallmadge Circular:

cbc13663-7d0d-4002-bb14-2b4caa471f06.pdf (eschoolview.com)

Walk in Love

Follow God's example.

AS DEARLY LOVED CHILDREN, AND

malk in the way of love

EPHESIANS 5:1-2 ORGANICCHRISTIANLIVING.COM





February's Theme: Uniqueness

The connection between UNIQUENESS and GOD's CHARACTER as shown through God's story.

UNIQUENESS has to do with learning more about yourself so you can make a difference.





SUNDAYS- 9:20- 10:15 am in Room 7! Opening with all grades and lessons for PreK- 2nd grade & 3rd- 5th grade! Hope to see you there!

THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Happy february!

Our choir has been meeting every Wednesday evening at 7:00 and is preparing some fabulous pieces. We would love to have you join us, whether or not you have any music experience. We will help you!

Looking ahead, if you would like to join the choir for just Holy Week and Easter, please let me know and I will keep you posted as to when we begin rehearsing the music.

If there are enough interested people, we can also pull together a handbell piece for Easter. Once again, please contact Annie Alberts if you would like to ring for Easter.

On a more difficult note, I have announced my resignation from being Music Director here at Tallmadge Lutheran Church. I love this church, I love helping with the music, and I love the people most of all.

But, I also teach full time and still have kids at home (and a husband!) who need me as well. I find I am stretched too thin these days.

So, I will be stepping down as Music Director once we have found a replacement.

This is a hard decision, but we feel that it is important for our family that I have a bit more margin in my life.

I am not physically going anywhere; I just won't be the one standing in front of the choir and praise team anymore.

If you have any questions about this, feel free to talk to me.

Thank you for all the love and support you have given me over the past three years.





Senior High Bible Study

Join Jared Shoup, Youth Ministry leader, on Wednesday nights at 5:30 pm for the New Youth Bible Study geared towards Senior High School student.

Super Bowl Subs

Super bowl subs are on sale now!

Please grab an order form from the info stands in the narthex and by the mailboxes.

All subs come with a bag of chips, pickles, dessert and a bottle of water.

Orders are due by Sunday, February 2. Pick-up is Sunday, February 9.





ORDER your LUNCH for Super Bowl Sunday (February 9th) TODAY!!

DEADLINE TO ORDER IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd

Lunch includes:

6" sub sandwich with your choice of toppings. *Gluten Free available upon request**

A delicious dessert, i.e. cookies.

A bottle of water, bag of chips & a pickle spear.

Neure for Santherick						
Toppings	Sub 1	Sub 2	Sub 3	Sub 4	Sub 5	Sub 6
Ham						
Salami						
Turkey						
Provolone						
American						
Tomatoes						
Onions						
Banana Peppers						
Lettuce						

(If you would like to order more than 6 lunches, please use another form.)

of Lunches

x \$8.00/box = Total Due: \$ _____

Make checks payable to Tallmadge Lutheran Church.

Order forms may be placed in the youth ministry mailbox.

Name:

Preferred Phone Number:

(Please Check) _____ Will pick up after Early Service (9 a.m.) in the kitchen. _____ Will pick up after Sunday School (10:15 a.m.) in the kitchen.

Will pick up after Late Service (11:30 a.m.) in the kitchen.

Donate Sub(s) # _____ to Haven of Rest.

Lunches will be handed out on Sunday, February 9th.

Lunches ordered for Haven of Rest will be delivered on Monday, February 10th.

Proceeds will go towards the TLC Youth Group Funds for the National Youth Gathering, THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER!

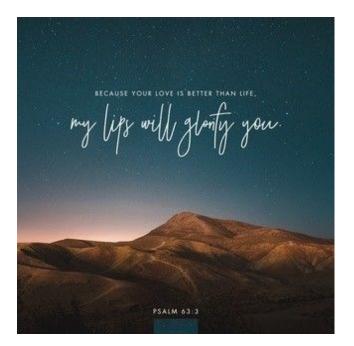
TLC Building Projects Your financial gifts help us care for God's House.

Completed:

Upcoming Projects:

Kimble waste and recycle Final blind hung in choir loft Siding replaced in courtyard Staff mailboxes mounted Kitchen stove exhaust repaired Oven whistle inspected Sanctuary, Door 1, Door 2 repaired Winter prep daily (salt, shovels, etc.)

Sanctuary painting (mid February) Removal of mailbox area drinking fountain Clean and caulk of gym ceiling (mid February) Security cameras







Preschool and King's Kids KING



I'm Rosalia Matos and I'm a graduate of the University of Akron where I received my bachelor's degree in child development.

I live in Tallmadge with my husband Tony and our daughters, Cirina 20, and Gianna 17. I have over 20 years of experience working with preschool children, and it has truly been such a blessing in my life!

It is my goal as a preschool teacher to provide a positive atmosphere, giving children the encouragement to be creative and independent thinkers. I strive to make the preschool experience a positive and memorable one!

I am very grateful to part of the Tallmadge Christian Preschool team!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						ب
2 Super bowl subs order - Due Date	Bible Study		5 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera)	6 10:00am Bible Study		8 11:00am - 3:00pm Member event
Super bowl subs order - Due Date 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	rCP ym) ders	6:00pm - 7:30pm TCP Art Show (gym)	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	10:00am Bible Study	n 12) Grade	11:00am - 3:00pm Member event
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Super bowl subs order - Pick Up 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Bible Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm TLC Vision 2030	8:30am Food Pantry 9:30am Bible Study 9:30pm Bible Study (Am 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	6:30pm - 8:00pm TCP Open House (Education Wing)	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Choir	10:00am Bible Study	Valentine's Day No School/Kings' Kids	10:00am - 12:00pm Safety Training (sanctuary, library) 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12) 1:00pm New Member Faith Instruction
16		18	19	20	21	22
8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	Presidents' Day No School/Kings' Kids 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	Newsletter Deadline	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Choir	10:00am Bible Study	6:00pm - 7:30pm PS Spaghetti Dinner and Open House	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)		7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir 7:00pm Choir	10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Marriage Connect Group		

Birthdays

	18 Ellen Tywon	15 Luke Dussel	13 Andrew Alberts	13 Von Alleshouse	12 Michele Kaiser	10 James Kirkendall	6 Laura Eyring	5 Jack Byers	4 Danielle Taylor	3 Cindy Strand	
29 Margaret Lasher	28 Anne Kuntz	27 Joe Schuster	26 Walker Gregg	26 Janet Gearhart	25 Giuliana Hovey	25 Kay Graybeal	22 Alexander Dutka	21 John Dailey, Jr.	21 Juliana Eyring	19 Diane Staszak	

Anniversaries

6 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Harsey 7 Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Larson 25 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Fink 27 Mr. & Mrs. Todd Miller



The Living Light is a monthly publication of Tallmadge Lutheran Church, 759 East Avenue, Tallmadge OH 44278 330-633-4775 www.tlcoh.org facebook.com/tallmadgelutheranchurch

> Pastor Doug Riley, Pastoral Assistant pastorriley@tlcoh.org Annie Alberts, Music Director music@tlcoh.org Laura Miller, Preschool Director Imiller@tlcoh.org Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director ptrettel@tlcoh.org

pastorandy@tlcoh.org Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manger administrator@tlcoh.org

Rev. Andy Alberts, Pastor

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

secretary@tlcoh.org



Tallmadge Lutheran Church exists to help people GROW as disciples of Christ, CARE for one another, and SHARE the love of Jesus in our community.

King's Kids School-Age Child Care

Tallmadge Christian Preschool

Tallmadge Lutheran Church



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