

The Living Light

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH | FEBRUARY 2019 | MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The Most Important Question



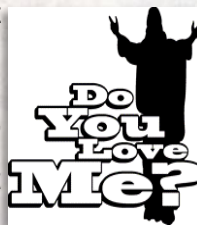
Have you noticed how quickly all the Christmas decorations are taken down and replaced with Valentine's Day items? Because of this one day in February, this second month of the year is often considered "the month of LOVE." I know many guys dread this month because of the extra emphasis and raised expectations on romancing his woman 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!



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 you love me?" 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.

In This Issue

- Message from the Pastor (p 1-2)
- Announcements (p 2-4)
- Children & Family Ministry (p 5-6)
- Music Ministry (p 7)
- Youth Group Corner (p 6)
- Ministry Spotlight (p 8)
- Preschool/King's Kids News (p 9)
- TLC Building Projects (p 10)
- Monthly Calendar (p 11)



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

p.s. If you are looking for a fun way to strengthen your marriage, be sure to check out the Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Event happening February 22-23 at TLC!



Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage isn't your typical marriage seminar. Speaker Mark Gungor explores the underlying dynamics of male/female relationships, combining striking clarity and practical solutions to common relationship woes while using entertaining illustrations that are so hilarious and original, you'll be sharing them with all your friends! His humor makes his teaching enjoyable, effective and memorable, helping husbands and wives remember these insights and immediately put them to work.

During this video seminar, you will experience all the facts and side-splitting fun of Mark's look at life, love and marriage including:

The Tale of Two Brains - laugh till you hurt a Mark explains what he calls "the laws of relational physics" - how men and women are wired differently and why.

Why Does He/She Do That - through a tool called the Flag Page, Mark is able to show husbands and wives a new way to discover what makes their spouse tick.

The #1 Key to Incredible Sex - this is it ... the "yo mama" session you've been waiting for. Mark goes through the five steps couples need to know to experience incredible, mind blowing, married sex ... don't miss it!

How to Stay Married and Not Kill Anybody - through this session, viewers will discover the power of forgiveness in their marriage...or what Mark likes to call, "The Reset Button".

At Tallmadge Lutheran Church

Friday, February 22 7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Saturday, February 23 9:00 am-12:30

Cost: \$35 per couple / \$17.50 for an individual

Available at www.tlcoh.org/lyw

A graphic for Ash Wednesday. It features a large, hand-drawn cross in the background. Below the cross, the word "ASH" is written in large, black, serif capital letters. Underneath "ASH", the word "WEDNESDAY" is written in a smaller, black, serif font. At the bottom, the date "March 6, 2019" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

Announcements

The 5th Annual Euchre Tournament

Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 12:00 pm in room 12.
All are welcome!!

Gym Closing

TLC is closing the Fellowship Hall/Gym Sunday, March 24 after late Service through Saturday, March 30 for maintenance.

2020 TLC Cookbook

Share your favorite recipes and a catchy title with Lindsay in the church office. The title of the cookbook will be announced in the November newsletter.

Member Directory Picture Date & Times:

Thursday, March 28	2:00pm – 9:00pm
Friday, March 29	1:00pm – 8:00pm
Saturday, March 30	10:00am – 5:00pm

TLC will be scheduling another photography day for the fall of 2019 – to pick up any families who were not able to get pictures taken in March. All families have their pictures taken in March will receive a directory and then a new directory after pictures in the Fall.

Upcoming Events

March 3
Transfiguration Sunday

March 6
Ash Wednesday
5:00 pm Lenten Supper and 6:30 pm Services begin.

March 24—March 30
TLC Gym/Fellowship Hall Sunday closed.

March 25-March 29
Spring Break

March 28—March 30
Membership Directory Pictures

Weather Policy

To ensure the safety of all the members of the congregation TLC will be following the policies below in regards to church activities and inclement weather. These policies are based off the Tallmadge City Schools policies.

Tallmadge City Schools 2 Hour Delay All TLC activities will be as scheduled.

Tallmadge City Schools Cancellation (Snow Day) All TLC Day Time (6:30 am-4:30 pm) activities will be cancelled Evening Time (5:00pm or after) TLC activities will be decided by 1:00pm. Please check the website or call the office after 1:00pm to see if evening TLC activities will be held.

The Bible is clear on a number of issues:

Who God is—the holy, just, and gracious Creator of the universe

Who we are—men and women created in the image of God for our good and for God's glory

Who Christ is and what He has done—His life, death, and resurrection

What it means to follow Christ—to die to ourselves and to live in Him

Why this matters for eternity—heaven and hell are at stake in our response to the gospel

So how do these truths affect how we respond to the social issues of our day—realities such as poverty, slavery, abortion, sexual immorality, the degradation of marriage, the neglect of orphans and widows, racism, and persecution? Join Pastor Andy in Room 12 on Sunday mornings starting on January 13 for this DVD Study: **Counter Culture** by David Platt.



New Year Sermon Series **DIFFERENT**

- Feb 3 Courageous not Complacent
- Feb 11 Having a Kingdom Mentality
- Feb 18 Marked by Love



Operation Christmas Child

Your shoebox gift has impacted our world! This year the shoeboxes from TLC went to Paraguay, and 'A Hard to Reach Area'. Hard to Reach area's are places that Operation Christmas Child goes into, but cannot divulge the location for the safety of the volunteers or recipients of the shoeboxes. Thank you for your donations, and keep your eyes out for items to pack in shoeboxes! We've already begun collecting items for our 2019 shoeboxes!

Our congregation has been supportive of this ministry for several years now. Thank you for spreading Jesus' love in this tangible way!

In order to better supply our OCC boxes this coming fall, we've come up with a helpful month-by-month list of what to look for while you are out shopping. Donations are accepted year-round, and can be placed in the red box next to our food pantry bucket or outside Kyle Lang's office.

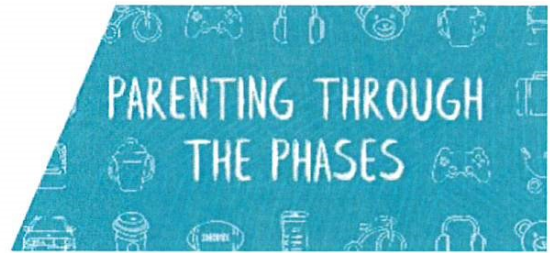
February - socks and underwear

March- Toothbrushes, floss and washcloths

April- Washcloths (we need a lot!!) and soap



IT'S JUST A PHASE



"It's just a Phase. "They'll grow out of it soon!"

Has anyone ever said this to you? Maybe you've muttered it to yourself, or tried to encourage someone else with these words. Instead of seeing a Phase as something you pray your child will grow out of quickly, **what if you viewed every PHASE in your child's life as a unique opportunity to influence their faith, character, and future?**

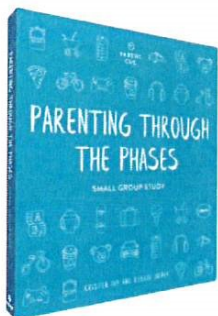
Church leaders, Sunday school teachers and volunteers all around the country spend countless hours and dollars investing in kids and teenagers. Moms and dads hope and pray that their children will grow up with the kind of faith that transforms their decisions, enriches their relationships, and leads to a lifelong journey with Jesus. But in spite of the best hopes and intentions, many kids still grow up and miss experiencing God's unconditional love and forgiveness.

If you are a parent or grandparent, you have probably realized by now that you can't make a toddler share, can't force a child to have faith, and can't compel a teenager to make smart decisions. BUT there is something you CAN do. **You can make this week count.** And then do it again, and again. Small, consistent deposits with prayerful intention really do make a difference!



Parents and grandparents: No one has more potential to influence your child can you. But you're not alone! Tallmadge Lutheran is committed to partnering with you to provide resources and support. That's why TLC Family Ministry presents **Parenting Through the Phases: an inspiring, guilt-free parenting small group that will help you make the most of the developmental phase your child or teen is in right now.** Parents of children and teens of all ages are invited to join Hannah Lang during the Sunday school hour for six weeks beginning on Sunday, February 3. Please meet in the large preschool room at 9:20am where you'll begin by joining the Sunday school children for their opening Bible story.

This small group study will help you discover what's changing about your kid, **the six things your kid needs most, and four conversations to have with your kid while they are in each phase.** In addition to engaging teaching videos, supportive group discussion and valuable resources, all parents and grandparents that attend this small group will receive a **FREE GIFT** during each session. Don't miss out!



- FEBRUARY 3: Start the Countdown
- FEBRUARY 10: Rediscover Your Kid Every Year
- FEBRUARY 17: Make History One Week at a Time
- FEBRUARY 24: Talk About What Matters
- MARCH 3: Connect Your Kid to a Bigger Story
- MARCH 10: Create a Rhythm in Your Home

In the Joy of Jesus,

Hannah Lang

Director of Children's & Family Ministry



QUESTION: CAN I QUESTION GOD?

“God welcomes your questions and outcries. Even when you don’t receive immediate or complete answers, you will receive His immediate and complete care. . . . Bring everything to God—even your most brutal questions.”

(Hope When Your Heart Breaks, p. 124)

Maybe you’re questioning why you’re sick. Why your friend passed away suddenly. Why you lost your job.

Or maybe you’re just questioning God in general.

There is a delicate balance between acknowledging God’s sovereign will and recognizing that we are able to come to Him with our questions and doubts.

We have a loving, kind God who welcomes our toughest questions. We can come to Him in our anger. In our sadness. In our heartbreak. In our confusion. In our doubt.

At the end of the day, we’re still approaching our heavenly Father. It

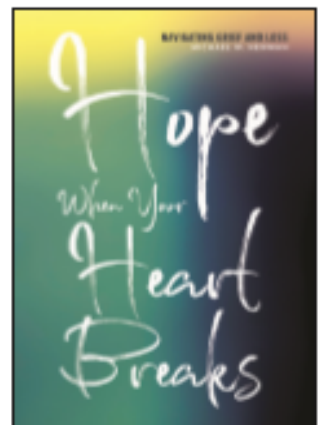
might be with screams, cries, tears, outbursts, or rants—but we’re still coming to our God.

Because God is God and we are not, we won’t always know why things happen. That’s hard to accept. There’s no blanket statement that anyone can offer that makes us feel any better about not knowing why God does what He does.

So come to God with your questions. With your doubts. With your worries.

He is big enough to handle them all. He is God, and He loves you.

Find hope, comfort, and peace in the midst of your questions at **CPH.ORG/HEARTBREAK.**



Music Ministry News

Chancel Choir Carnegie Hall Performance Invitation

Our TLC Chancel Choir has been invited to perform in an outstanding, incredible opportunity in New York City on November 14-17, 2019 with Distinguished Concerts International New York (DCINY).

A mass choir of 275 choristers from around the country will perform *Sing Christmas*, a Christmas Cantata by Mary McDonald & Joel Raney. While looking for one more choir to participate, DCINY found our TLC website video singing McDonald's "Mercy Tree" on Easter. They were so impressed by our musicianship & passion, they reached out to ask US, the TLC Chancel Choir, to join their chorus to perform Mary's Christmas Cantata in November on the Carnegie Hall stage!

DCINY is a professional concert series that produces large, grand-scale concerts on stages such as Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. They often involve a large mass-choir of singers who have auditioned or been selected from around the world, performing with a big name in classical or modern music. Performing on Carnegie's stage is an experience you never forget!

We have 18 of our singers/members who will be going on the trip to perform in New York, along with a few 'VIP' guests. We are excited for this new, unique opportunity to share the gospel of Christ as we join a body of other singers and the leading musical professionals. We will be doing a variety of fundraising endeavors throughout the year to help offset the trip costs for our choir members. Please keep us in your prayers as we prepare. We certainly thank you in advance for any donations or assistance you may be able to provide as we pursue this exciting opportunity for our TLC Music Ministry!



Youth Group Corner

Kyle Lang, Director of Youth and Outreach Ministries

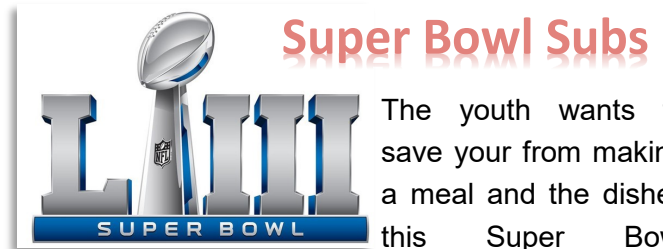
Chili Cook-Off

Thank you to all those who came out to our annual chili cook off. Please make sure to check out our website and social media accounts for pictures of the afternoon, and the winners of each chili category as well as the desert category.

Junior District High Youth Gathering



Calling all Junior High youth! It is time to start thinking about the district youth gathering March 8-10. This year's gathering will be in Columbus, and the gathering host will be Jeffery Meinz. This is a fun and spiritually uplifting weekend that you will not want to miss. If you have not already make sure to talk to Kyle about registration forms and details.



Super Bowl Subs

The youth wants to save you from making a meal and the dishes this Super Bowl Sunday. Make sure to fill out an order form for your Subs by February 1. Subs can be ordered for you and your family or can be purchased and donated to Haven of Rest. Order forms went out in all the mailboxes at church, and are available on the board outside of the sectary's office. Thankyou in advance for your support of TLC Youth Ministry.

Second Saturday Serve

Please check the bulletin and other TLC communication for details about this month's Second Saturday Serve.

Ministry Spotlight

Redeemer Crisis Center

The youth and some congregational members went on our annual Redeemer Crisis Center serve night this month. We helped sort through, and organize a gym full of donations, I also got to lead a devotion with the community members and we sat and ate with the anyone who came in form the streets for a warm shelter and a meal. I have attached some pictures from our night below. This event took the place of our regular Second Saturday Serve.



Tallmadge Christian Preschool

— OPEN HOUSE —

Monday, February 11

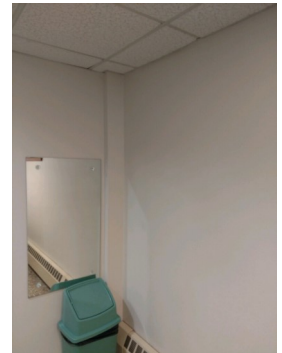
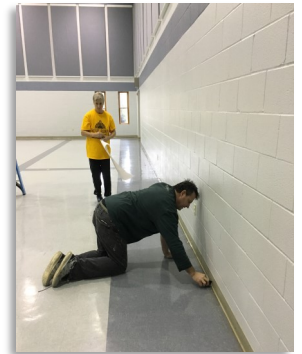
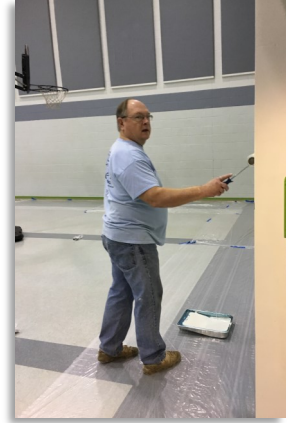
6:30 - 7:30 pm



Check back next month to see what Tallmadge Christian Preschool and King's Kids were up to in February!

TLC Building Projects:

Your financial gifts help us care for God's House.
Thank you!



A Fresh Coat for 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 8:00 AM Worship 9:00 AM Super Bowl Sunday Sub pick-up 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:20 AM Bible Studies 10:30 AM Worship	4 6:00 PM Home Bible Study 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Study (Youth Rm)	5 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM Board of Elders (Rm 12) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Jubilate Ringers	6 1:30 PM Disciple Group (Rm 12) 6:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12, Youth Rm) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation (Rm 5) 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	7 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM MOPS Book Study (Rm 12) 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM MOPS Steering Team (Rm 12) 1:00 PM American Sewing Guild (Rm 12) 6:45 PM Youth Choir	1 Super Bowl Sub Order Deadline	2 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM Member Event (gym)
10 7:30 AM Youth Choir 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:20 AM Bible Studies 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Jr. / Sr. Youth Groups	11 6:00 PM Home Bible Study 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Study (Youth Rm) 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM TCP Open House 7:00 PM Board of Directors (Rm 5)	12 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM Board of Elders 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Jubilate Ringers	13 1:30 PM Disciple Group (Rm 12) 6:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12, Youth Rm) 6:00 PM Lego Club 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation (Rm 5) 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	14 No Youth Choir Valentine's Day 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM Kids Beach Club	15 2019 Lenten Devotional deadline TCP & King's Kids Closed (In-service day)	16 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM Wise Owls
17 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:20 AM Bible Studies 10:30 AM Worship 2:00 PM - 4:30 PM MOPS Mom's Night Out Event (Kitchen)	18 President's Day TCP & King's Kids Closed 6:00 PM Home Bible Study 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Study (Youth Rm)	19 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Jubilate Ringers	20 1:30 PM Disciple Group (Rm 12) 6:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12, Youth Rm) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation (Rm 5) 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	21 6:45 PM Youth Choir	22 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Video Seminar	23 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage Video Seminar 12:00 PM 5th Annual Euchre Tournament (Rm 12)
24 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School 9:20 AM Bible Studies 10:30 AM Preschool Sings 10:30 AM Worship 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Jr. / Sr. Youth Groups	25 6:00 PM Home Bible Study 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM MOPS@night (Rm 12 & nursery) 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Bible Study (Youth Rm)	26 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM Jubilate Ringers	27 1:30 PM Disciple Group (Rm 12) 6:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12, Youth Rm) 6:00 PM Lego Club 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM Confirmation (Rm 5) 7:30 PM Choir Rehearsal	28 3:00 PM - 4:15 PM Kids Beach Club 6:45 PM Youth Choir		

Birthdays

1 Bob Ray	18 Ellen Tywon
3 Cindy Strand	19 Mathias Rettig
4 Michelle Tennant	19 Diane Staszak
5 Robert Bloom	21 John Dailey, Jr.
6 Laura Eyring	21 Juliana Eyring
6 Roger Lattimer	22 Alexander Dutka
10 Claire Michberger	25 Kay Graybeal
12 Michele Kaiser	25 Giuliana Hovey
12 Jenna Senderling	25 Jessica Huzzard
13 Andy Alberts	25 Drew Richard
13 Von Alleshouse	26 Janet Gearhart
16 Ben Dailey	27 Cindy Phipps
16 Chuck Emstlander	27 Joe Schuster
17 Spike Moyer	28 Anne Kuntz
	28 Lucy Reynolds

Anniversaries

7 Mr. & Mrs. Pat Larson
15 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shinafelt
25 Mr. & Mrs. Clive Moggridge
27 Mr. & Mrs. Todd Miller

February 2019

**The Living Light is a monthly publication of
Tallmadge Lutheran Church, 759 East Avenue, Tallmadge OH 44278
Phone: 330-633-4775 Website: www.tlcoh.org**

Rev. Andy Alberts, Pastor

PastorAndy@tlcoh.org

Clive Moggridge, Facilities Manager

facilities@tlcoh.org

Theresa McCormack, Business Administrator

administrator@tlcoh.org

Lindsay Snyder, Administrative Assistant

secretary@tlcoh.org

Pastor Doug Riley, Pastoral Assistant

PastorRiley@tlcoh.org

Kyle Lang, Director of Youth and Outreach Ministries

kylelang@tlcoh.org

Hannah Lang, Director of Children and Family Ministries

hannahlang@tlcoh.org

Katie Bungard, King's Kids & Preschool Director

kbungard@tlcoh.org

Bryon Black, Music Director

music@tlcoh.org



The Living Light
Tallmadge Lutheran Church
Tallmadge Christian Preschool
King's Kinds School-Age Child Care
759 East Avenue
Tallmadge, OH 44278