

Tallmadge Lutheran Church
759 East Avenue,
Tallmadge OH 44278
330-633-4775
www.tlcoh.org

Sunday Worship Services:
8:00 & 10:30 am
Bible Studies: 9:20 am
Sunday School: 9:15 am

The Living Light

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH | MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | MAY 2021

Living through the Cross

Most of you have heard of Martin Luther's 95 Theses, which he nailed to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany on October 31, 1517. But have you ever heard of the **Heidelberg Disputation**—a list of 28 theses that Martin Luther wrote and defended in the city of Heidelberg, Germany on April 26, 1518?



The fundamental question of the Heidelberg Disputation is how we can arrive at that righteousness that will enable us to stand before God. Luther calls believers in Jesus Christ to not rely on good works, rather

to run to and cling to the cross. In fact, one of Luther's famous quotes is "*Crux sola nostra theologia*" or "The Cross alone is our theology."

I have been reading and discussing with another pastor a book written by Gerhard O. Forde titled *On Being a Theologian of the Cross*. I know this article may be a little "heavy" this month, but I hope that it can be helpful in clarifying our faith in Jesus Christ – especially what makes us righteous before God. At the heart of our righteous is the cross. The cross is the theo-logy, the logos of God; the word of the cross is the attack on sin and death.

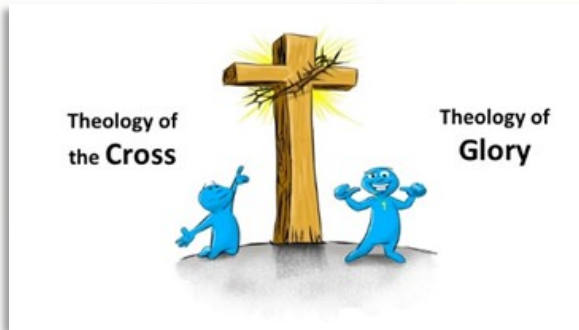
The cross draws us into itself so that we become participants in the story. As Paul could put it in Galatians 2:20, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me; and the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Just as Christ was crucified so we also are crucified with him. The cross makes us part of its story. The cross becomes our story. That is what it means to say, as Luther did, "The cross *alone* in our theology."

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An important distinction is made between a Theology of Glory and a Theology of the Cross.



A theology of glory always leaves the will in control in attaining righteousness. It must therefore seek to make its theology attractive to the supposed “free will.” A theology of glory always allows people to *earn* salvation or God’s favor through good works. The hallmark of the theology of glory is that it will always consider grace as something of a supplement to whatever human will and power could not accomplish.

A theology of the cross assumes that the will is bound by sin and death. Our will must be set free. The cross does that. A theology of the cross insists that we cannot do anything to earn God’s favor or salvation. A theologian of the cross must come to confess that we are addicted to sin, addicted to self, whatever form that may take, pious or impious. So theologians of the cross know that we can’t be helped by optimistic appeals to glory, strength, wisdom, positive thinking, and so forth because those things themselves are the problem! The truth must be spoken. The theology of the cross is the true and ultimate source of human optimism because it always presupposes the resurrection. For a resurrection to happen, there must first be a death. The truth must be heard and confessed; then there is hope.

Theologians of the cross look on all things “through suffering and the cross.” In other words, they are led by the cross to *look at* the trials, the sufferings, the pangs of conscience, the troubles – and the joys – of daily life as God’s doing and do not try to *see through* them as mere accidental problems to be solved by metaphysical adjustment. They believe with St. Paul that God justifies himself precisely in the cross and

resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is an awareness that God’s ways are higher than our ways; that His understanding is beyond our understanding. All we can be sure of is that the LORD has shown His love for us through His Son, Jesus Christ, on the cross and by raising Jesus from the dead.

The cross is the doing of God to us. The cross constantly seeks to uncover and expose the ways in which sinners hide their self-centeredness behind pious facades. The righteousness that comes through the cross and resurrection “is a sheer gift to be received only by faith, by being called into a relationship as an entirely passive receiver. God, that is, insists on being related to us as the giver of the gift.” Paul puts it this way in Ephesians 2:8-9: “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.”



The Theology of the Cross draws us ever closer to our Savior, Jesus Christ. He is the way, the truth, and the life – only through faith in Him can we stand righteous before our Father in this world and in the world to come!

Continuing to work out my salvation with fear and trembling,

Pastor Andy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Wise Owls

Hurray! We are back in business! The Wise Owls will *carpool to Hartville Kitchen* Tuesday, May 18 after Tuesday morning Bible Class. Please contact Bert or sign-up by the mailboxes for an accurate reservation count. 330.524.7809.

Prayer Shawl

Meetings are the first Thursday of the month from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm in the Room 12.

May's meeting is on Thursday, May 6.



Audio/Video Operators

Can you believe that we have been live streaming services for over a year? It has been a year of learning, designing, building and streamlining the live stream process.

Jonathan Vanaman needs people to assist with church services. He is looking for people to work as audio operators and/or video operators. They will perform minor changes to the audio and video. This includes turning microphones on and off, adjusting volume levels and selecting camera scenes. Important skills are anticipation (what is coming up next in the service), attention to detail and timing. Minimal computer skills are required, most changes are made using the mouse.

Detailed training will be provided. Please contact Jonathan Vanaman if you are interested. vanamanj@sbcglobal.net or 330 630-3418.

OUTDOOR WORSHIP THROUGHOUT THE SPRING/SUMMER

TLC plans to offer the 10:30 am worship service outside, weather permitting, for the rest of the spring and into the summer starting Sunday, May 9, 2021. Members and friends are invited to bring their own lawn chairs to sit on the north side of TLC in the parking lot. While you are walking and talking, please be sure to wear a face mask. Once you are seated and six-feet distant from those outside your tribe, if you are comfortable doing so, you may remove your masks for worship. We will also be broadcasting the worship service on FM 96.9 if you are more comfortable staying in your car. On Sundays with an Outdoor Worship service, TLC will only be streaming and posting the 8:00 am worship service. The Outdoor Worship services will not be live-streamed or recorded. (*The 10:30 am worship service will be in the sanctuary on May 2, 2021 for Confirmation Sunday.*)



*In The Community

Tallmadge Rec Center:

46 N Munroe Road

Activities include adult & youth programs, sports, fitness, art & sewing classes, Family Fun Nights, dances, and more.

Yearly, monthly and daily admission. Plus a 7-day trial for FREE!

Civic Organizations through the Rec Center:

Faithful Servants, League of Women Voters, Tallmadge Foundation, Tallmadge Good Neighbors, Historical Society, Lions Club, Rotary Club, Primetimers, Soccer and Football Leagues

2021 Farmer Market:

In the Tallmadge Recreation Center parking lot (46 N. Munroe Road)

Thursdays, 4:00 -7:00 pm. Open rain or shine!

Tallmadge Library

90 Community Road next to the Tallmadge Community Center.

"Coffee with the Editor" 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:30 am - 11:30 am.

Maca Aquatic Center:

Passes Are Sold Out! Hiring Lifeguard s- apply at the Rec

183 Maca Drive

Opens May 29, 2021

Pavilion & Cabana Rentals, Swim Lessons, Water Aerobics classes offered

Playground is open year round

Community Garden

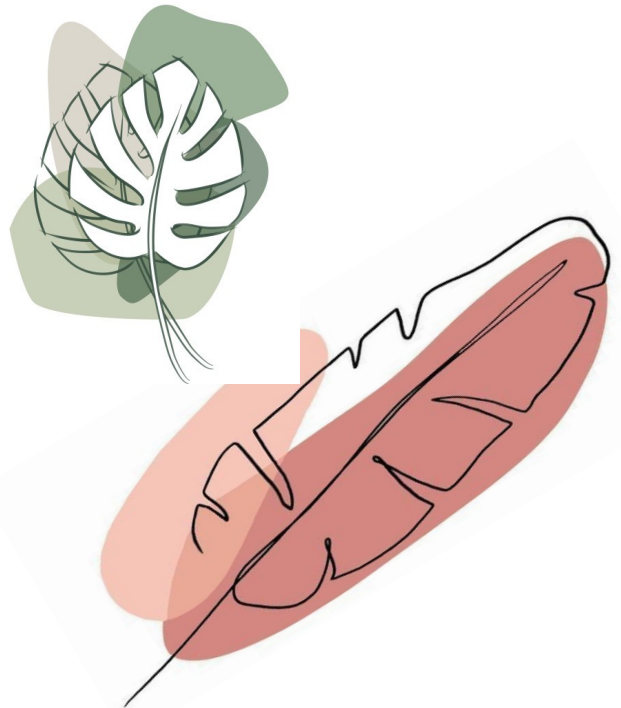
Garden plots (20 ft x 20 ft) are available to Tallmadge residents. Access to the plots is from the parking lot behind the Tallmadge Recreation Center. Register at City Hall prior to participation.

If you have questions, contact Andrea Kidder, Community Development/Communications Manager at 330-633-5639 or akidder@tallmadge-ohio.org.

Please see the Rec's website for more information:
tallmadge-ohio.org/232/Recreation-Center

iC.A.R.E. Mentoring

Tallmadge City Schools is beginning a partnership with iC.A.R.E. Mentoring to match community volunteers one-on-one with students in Tallmadge. Mentors are trained and supported by iC.A.R.E. staff as they spend one hour each week with a student for at least one school year. The iC.A.R.E. Mentoring® program is unique in that mentoring activities bring volunteers into the district to mentor students during the school day. To get started, complete a Mentor Profile at <https://www.icarementoring.org/>.



- * Please continue to follow state guidelines.
- * Please continue to be responsible and considerate of others by social distancing & wearing masks when required.
- * Please confirm dates, times & ticket costs before traveling.

Youth Group News

Andy Wahl

Todd Miller

Jenn Larson

Beth Niermann

Easter Breakfast



Upcoming

Sunday, May 2, 6:00 pm Youth led meeting

Sunday, May 16, 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm Service Project

Thursday, May 27, 5:00 - 7:00 pm Memorial Day banner prep

Sunday, May 30, 6:00 pm Regular Youth meeting

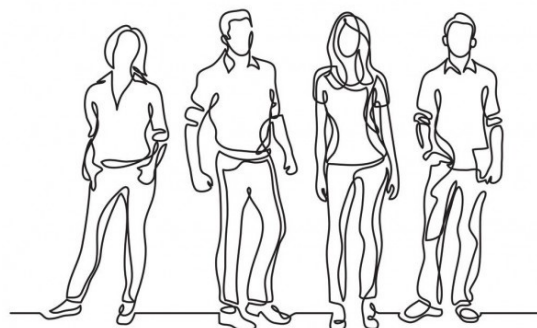
Sunday, June 6, 6:00 pm Youth-led meeting

Sunday, June 13, 1:00 - 5:00 pm Wingfoot Lake!!

Thank you, TLC Family, for joining us in celebrating Jesus' resurrection on Easter Sunday. Thank you for participating in the Youth Easter Breakfast. We were honored to serve you.

The Youth will display Memorial Day banners on crosses outside the Sanctuary Sunday, May 30. Please see page 6 for more details and the order form. Forms are also available by the mailboxes and in the

Midweek Notes



In REMEMBRANCE

Personalized Memorial Day Banners will be displayed on crosses in front of the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 30. Please fill out the form below indicating the number of banners and the name you would like written on the banner. Each banner is a \$5.00 donation toward the Youth Group Ministry. Printed forms are in the outside blue bin by the office doors. Please place orders in the Youth mailbox by Wednesday, May 26. Families may collect their banners Sunday, May 30. If you have any questions, please contact youth leader, Todd Miller, tandl22720@gmail.com.



Remembering Your Loved Ones Memorial Banner

Your Name: _____

Number of Banners: _____

Name (s) for Banners: _____

Thank you!

Music Ministry: celebrating spring

Life is Good (Adam Agee, Cody Pellerin, Jordan Messer & Taylor Sitera)

Life of Praise (Mark Hall)

In Christ Alone (Keith Getty & Stuart Townend)

Because He Lives (Gloria Gaither & William J. Gaither)

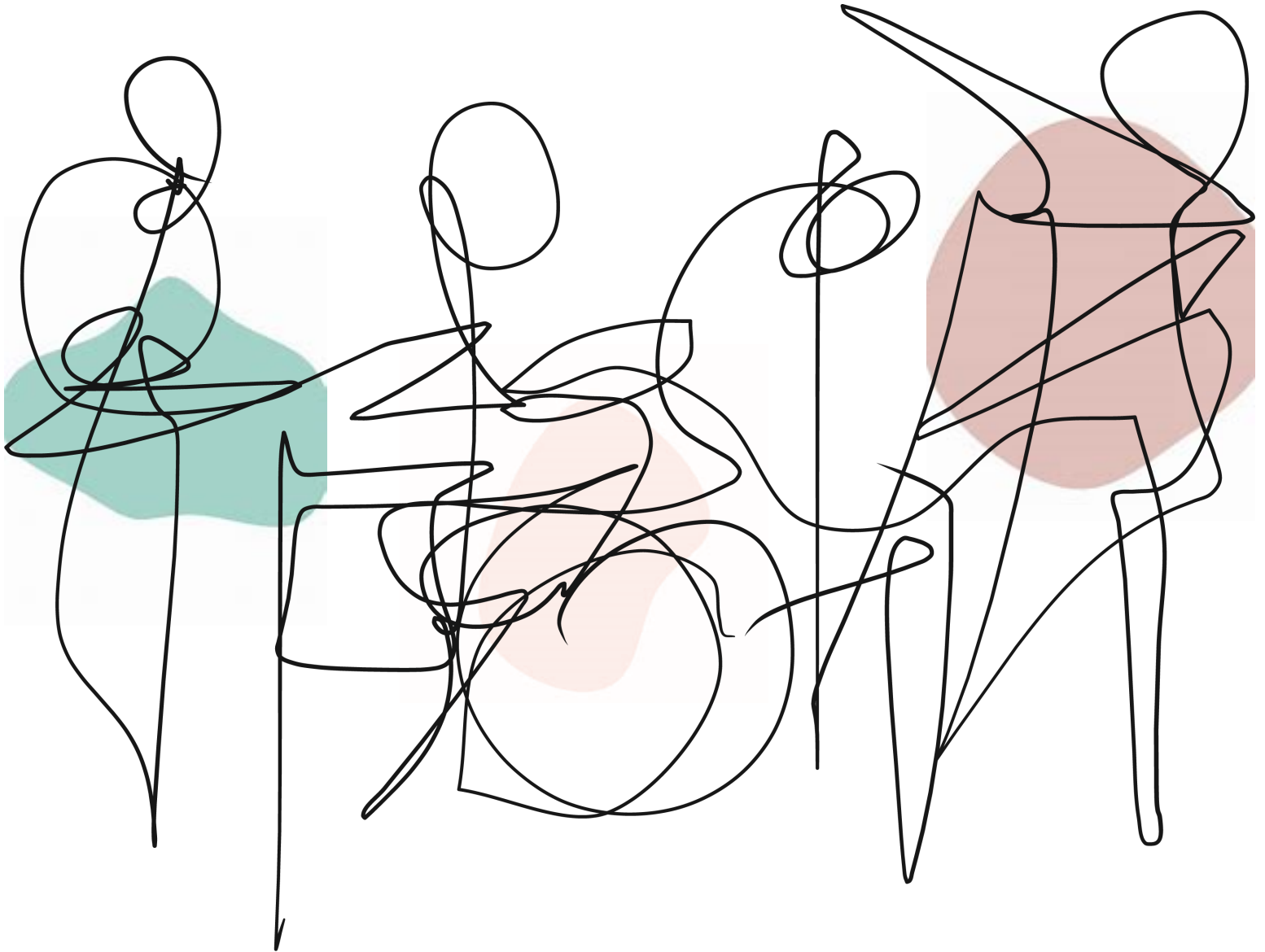
Everyday (Joel Houston)

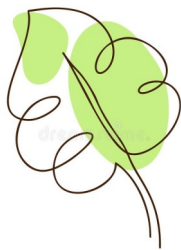
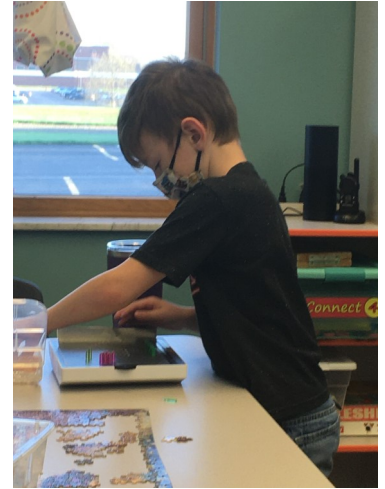
Cry Out to Jesus (Brad Avery, David Carr, Mac Powell, Mark Lee & Tai Anderson)

Better Than Life (Cindy Cruse Ratcliff & Israel Houghton)

My Life is in Your Hands (Kirk Franklin)

Jesus Paid it All (Elvina Mabel Hall & John Thomas Grape)





TLC Building Projects

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

Projects Completed

Victory electrostatic sprayer purchased to help sanitize and control COVID19 virus

Hand free sanitizers purchased and placed by door 4, 5, 6 and narthex

Repaired bathroom stall door in woman's bathroom

Office Rearrangements

Laura Miller moved into my office

I moved my office up to mechanical room

Youth room was moved to old sanctuary

Preschool moved from old sanctuary to rooms 6 and 7

Youth group and Patti Trettel cleaned out the shed

Youth group painted the shed

Energy Management Systems did spring and fall PM

Energy Management Systems repaired RTU #14 in old sanctuary

Action Door repaired roll down door in kitchen

Mounted TV to wall in room 4

Thompson Electric replaced burnt out parking lot lights with LED

Purchased safety latch for double doors in youth room

Parking lot sealed and stripped

Get quotes to do railroad ties in playground

Repair gutters and soffits

2021 Projects

Paint preschool hallway

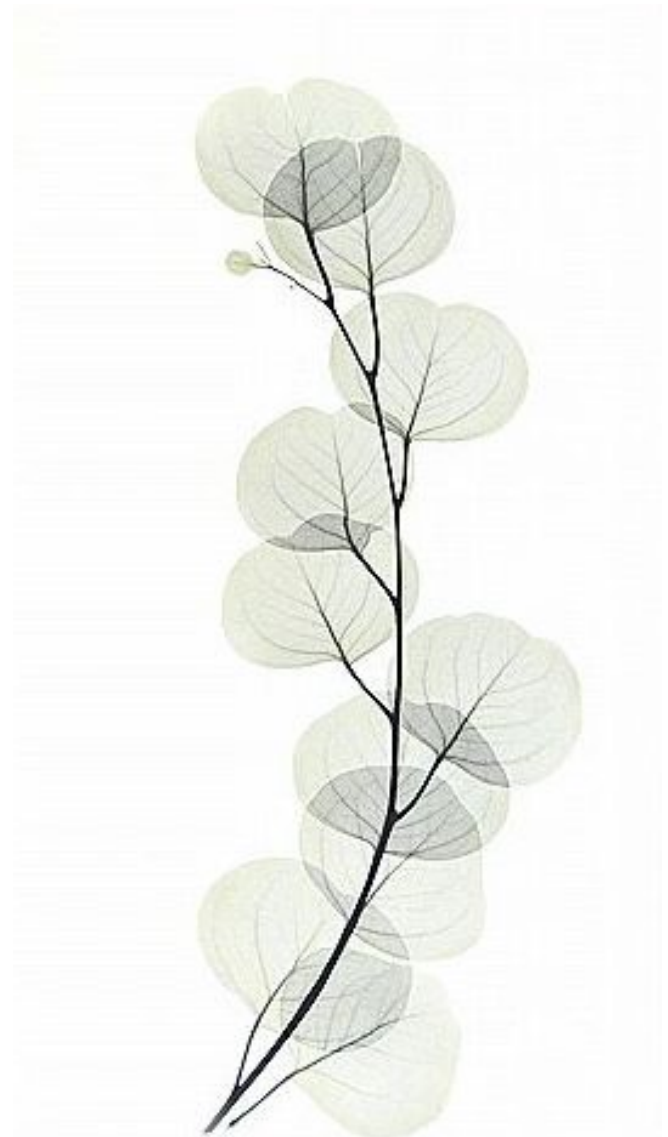
Paint stairwell to mechanical room

Paint narthex

Repair/Replace furnaces

Hang artwork in room 12

Work with Paul Davis on getting roof repaired



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School (Rm 6/7) 9:20 AM Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20 AM Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30 AM Worship 11:45 AM - 2:15 PM Member Event (gym)	3 7:00 PM Board of Elders (Rm 12)	4 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM Jubilate Ringers	5	6 National Day of Prayer 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12) 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	7	8
9 Mother's Day 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School (Rm 6/7) 9:20 AM Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20 AM Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30 AM Worship	10 7:00 PM Board of Directors (Rm 12)	11 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00 PM Jubilate Ringers	12 4:00 PM Girl scouts (Rm 12)	13 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12)	14 TCP last day of school 11:00 AM TCP Graduation	15
16 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School (Rm 6/7) 9:20 AM Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20 AM Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30 AM Worship	17 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM TCP Open House	18 9:00 AM Newsletter Deadline 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12) 12:00 PM Wise Owls (Hartville) 7:00 PM Jubilate Ringers	19 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM TCP Parent Meeting (gym)	20 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12)	21 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM Meet the Teacher	22
23 Pentecost Sunday 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School (Rm 6/7) 9:20 AM Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20 AM Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30 AM Worship	24	25 9:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Bible Study (Rm 12)	26 Last Day of School 4:00 PM Girl scouts (Rm 12)	27 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Bible Study (Rm 12)	28	29
30 8:00 AM Worship 9:15 AM Sunday School (Rm 6/7) 9:20 AM Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20 AM Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30 AM Worship	31 Memorial Day Church office closed School closed					

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 3 Jonathan Vanaman | 18 Marti Heilmeyer |
| 3 Holly Dussel | 19 Joyce Riley |
| 5 Walter Fenske | 21 Sandee Mick |
| 7 David Graybeal | 22 Chuck Currier |
| 7 Beverly Goss | 23 Jay Springer |
| 8 Dan Capp | 23 Eric Toepeke |
| 10 Susan Young | 24 Shirley Scranton |
| 12 Tom Remminger, Jr. | 25 Jennifer Graf |
| 12 Dennis Klicman | 25 Dennis Holzer |
| 13 Lillian Vojtek | 27 Jim Robinson |
| 14 Carole Robinson | 30 Thomas Rettig |
| 16 Ed Huzzard, Jr. | 30 Todd Hedderly |
| | 31 Thomas Kenny |

Anniversaries

- | |
|-------------------------------|
| 7 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Klicman |
| 14 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Dutka |
| 17 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bonner |
| 23 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Carmen |
| 25 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Mowers |
| 27 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Pendleton |
| 31 Mr. & Mrs. Jon Huck |



**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**

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PastorRiley@tlcoh.org

Bryon Black, Music Director

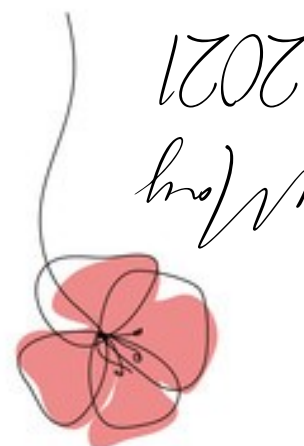
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The Living Light
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Tallmadge Christian Preschool
King's Kids School-Age Child Care
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