

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

TLC THE LIVING LIGHT

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH | JANUARY 2023

D R I F T

Drift happens. We all drift from what matters most. We drift from our values. We drift from our convictions. And we drift from those we love, especially God. These past couple of years of pandemic have been times of feeling overwhelmed and sometimes just a

matter of survival. And so sometimes we compromise and drift as a matter of just getting by.

If we are honest, most of us end up where we never wanted to go! None of us get married thinking, “I hope to drift from madly in love to just tolerating each other,” or, “I hope to one day dread your presence.” None of us started a relationship with Jesus thinking, “I hope to one day dread going to church.” It doesn’t make sense! Yet, it happens constantly. We give in, we give up, we drift.

Perhaps you are wondering: What are some signs that perhaps you are drifting away?

- Do you find that sinning is easier than it once was?
- Is your conscience and the work of the Spirit not guiding you into truth like they once were?
- Are your Bible reading, prayer, and sermons affecting you more or less than they once did?
- Are you sluggish spiritually or excited spiritually?

If you find yourself answering yes to any of these, you may be drifting away from your first love of Jesus Christ. Jesus challenges the church of Ephesus in Revelation 2:

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned your FIRST LOVE. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; REPENT AND DO THE WORKS YOU DID AT FIRST. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

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As we drift, first turn is to plead with God to grant you repentance. Turn away from those things that had taken your gaze off of Christ. Study and pray about the cross and the sacrifice and the glory of Christ. Remember the things that used to take place when your gaze was fixed on Christ. Drifting is the result of neglecting the great salvation worked by our great Savior.

In this New Year of 2023, the question I would like to put before you is this: **How do we not just return, how do we advance, grow, and move forward as followers of Jesus Christ?**

Starting on January 8, we will begin to talk about how to recalibrate and advance to what matters. As a people of God, we will talk about how to maintain that course so that we can develop tools and strategies so that we don't drift as much off course again. Drifting happens, but it doesn't have to happen as much and we can even learn from our drifting experiences to enhance our faith.

Start this New Year with a commitment to fight against DRIFT by attending church for this four-week sermon series:

- January 8, 2023 **From Under God to Over God**
- January 15, 2023 **From Forward to Familiar**
- January 22, 2023 **From Transformation to Information**
- January 29, 2023 **From Thanking to Comparing**

The Apostle Paul had a laser focus toward finishing strong for the Lord. He wrote, "I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus." (Acts 20:24) Paul wanted to keep his eyes on the prize of finishing well for the Lord.

My prayer for all the saints at TLC is that together, we may run the good race and finish the course keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus.

God Bless your New Year!

Pastor Andy



King's Kids Extended Hours

In December, the King's Kids enjoyed an extended hours night, complete with games, crafts, and a Taco Bar and brownies hosted by Miss Gail and Cindy Strand.

Thank you for your continued support by TLC for our programs!

Dressed in their pj's, the kids enjoyed their evening!

January Events

Mondays

Bible Study, 9:30 am in Room 12

Bible Study, 5:30 pm in the Youth Room

Tuesdays

*Bible Study, 10:00 am in Room 12

Jubilate Ringers, 7:00 pm

Wednesdays

Men's Bible Study, 7:00 am at Panera

Choir, 7:30 pm

Confirmation, 6:30 pm in Room 1

Thursdays

Bible Study, 10:00 am in Room 12

The Chosen, 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Sundays

Sunday School, 9:15 am

Bible Studies, 9:20 am

Sunday, January 1 New Years Day

Sunday, January 1 Prayer Buddy cards are due

Sunday, January 1 only the 10:30 am Worship service

Monday, January 2 Church Office closed

Monday, January 2, 7:00 pm Board of Elders

*Tuesday, January 3, 10:00 am No Bible Study

Wednesday, January 4, 10:00 am Sewing for Service

Friday, January 6, 1:00 pm Prayer Shawl

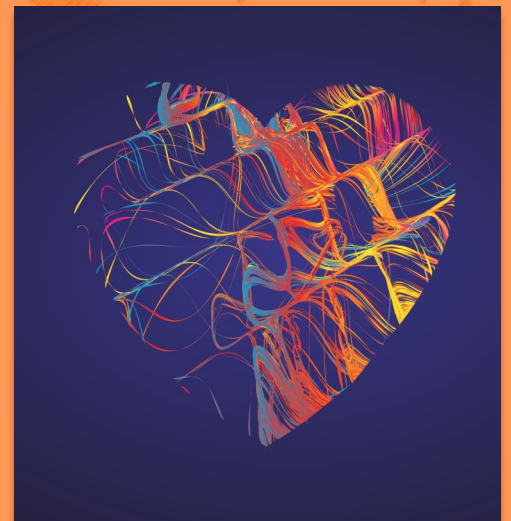
Monday, January 9, 7:00 pm Board of Directors

Monday, January 16 Martin Luther King Jr Day

Saturday, January 21, 12:00 pm Wise Owls

Thank You, Gail!

Gail is one of those rare people who simply enjoys giving. This year, she made a wonderful brunch for the TLC Staff. The meal included a homemade egg bake, fresh fruit, coffee, homemade donuts and gifts. She went out of her way to make each one of us feel special and appreciated this holiday season. From the bottom of our hearts, we THANK YOU, Gail! Thank you for YOU! For your time, effort, love and thoughtfulness. Thank you!



In The Community

A list of fun ideas to do this winter:

Ice Skate	Call a friend	See a concert
Sled	Go to lunch	Bake
Roller Skate	Akron Art Museum	Ski
Go to the movies	Escape Room	Volunteer
Read a book	The Falls Riverfront	Library
Craft	Exercise	Make a bird feeder
Build a snowman	Clean out the closet	Start Valentines
Shop	Listen to music	Rearrange the home
Play a board game	Learn an instrument	Take a drive
Movie & Pizza night	Learn something new	Take a walk
Bowl	Have a dinner party	Crosswords
Journal	Cook	Binge a series

Music Ministry News

Thank you to all of the musicians who shared their gifts with our church family this Christmas season.

Your music added so much to our worship; we are blessed to have you as part of our ministry!

**Our ensembles will start again in January.
Watch the bulletins and your email for more information.**

Christmas Cantata CDs and DVDs
are available for purchase. Order forms are by the mailboxes.
Please place orders in Jon Vanaman mailbox.

Singers

Would you like the opportunity to sing with a larger ensemble?
The Kent Chorus consists of approximately 100 singers, making it one of the largest choirs on Kent State's campus.
They rehearse on Tuesday from 7:15-9:45 PM.
Rehearsals begin the first Tuesday of the spring semester.
If you have questions, please contact Dr. Scott MacPherson, Director of Choral Studies
330-672-2909 | smacpher@kent.edu

Instrumentalists

Would you like the opportunity to perform with a larger ensemble?
The Kent University Band is open to all community members.
They rehearse on Tuesdays from 7:15-9:45pm, beginning the first Tuesday of the spring semester.
If you would like more information, please email bands@kent.edu or call 330-672-0800.



Youth Group News

Jenn Larson

Beth Niermann

Thank you!

A huge thank you to Pastor & Joyce Riley, Ruth Lynch and Cindy Strand for helping with the chocolate bake. We couldn't have done it without your guidance.



Upcoming

Sunday, Jan 8, 12:00 pm Youth Meeting

Chocolate Make





PRESCHOOL TEACHER SPOTLIGHT

Please welcome Tallmadge Christian Preschool
4's class lead teacher, Mrs. Luggelle!



Hi, I am Mrs. Luggelle and I am the 4's teacher here at Tallmadge Christian Preschool.

I started teaching my 13th year at the preschool. I have been married to my wonderful husband,
Kevin, for 27 years.

We have 2 amazing kids, Kaitlyn (24) and Nate (23).

We have lived in Tallmadge for 22 years.

I enjoy reading, spending time with my family, and having movie nights.



TLC Building Projects

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

Completed/Scheduled for January:

New A/C covers

Lights repaired in Room 12, kitchen, & offices

Mechanical Room organized

DCE's office ready for Liv

Kitchen & Gym floors professional cleaned

Painting: Fellowship hallway, coatrack, library & mailboxes

Upcoming Projects:

Direction Signs

Roof repair: offices, Youth Room & Sanctuary

Birthdays

3 Matthew Schonover
 3 Janet Freeman
 5 Chris Knepper
 7 Johanna DeWolf
 7 Christopher Olson
 9 Dennis Barrett
 9 Josh Eyring
 11 Paul Bomer
 15 Brenden Conley
 16 Douglas Riley
 22 Christina Hovey
 26 Cynthia Duncan
 27 Rose Mary Seay
 28 Heather Vanaman
 28 Richard Himmelfreich
 31 Larry Buckles
 31 Kaitlyn Wendland

Anniversaries

4 Mr. & Mrs. Kris Kodzev
 11 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Gates
 16 Mr. & Mrs. Larry Buckles
 18 Mr. & Mrs. David Graybeal

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day Prayer Buddy Cards 10:30am Worship	2 Cleaning: gym & kitchen floor Office Closed 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	3 Cleaning: gym & kitchen floor 9:00am Staff Meeting	4 Cleaning: gym & kitchen floor 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (off site) 7:30pm Choir	5 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	6 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	7 10:00am Audio/Visual Training
8 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth meeting	9 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	10 9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	11 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	12 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	13	14 11:00am - 4:00pm Member event (Rm 12)
15 Liv Laube, DCE 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	16 Martin Luther King Jr Day 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm)	17 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	18 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Choir	19 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 12:00pm Tallmadge Ministry Alliance	20	21 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)
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**The Living Light is a monthly publication of
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Rev. Andy Alberts, Pastor

pastorandy@tlcoh.org

Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manger

administrator@tlcoh.org

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

secretary@tlcoh.org

facilities@tlcoh.org

Pastor Doug Riley, Pastoral Assistant

pastorriley@tlcoh.org

Annie Alberts, Music Director

music@tlcoh.org

Laura Miller, Preschool Director

lmiller@tlcoh.org

Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director

ptrettel@tlcoh.org



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