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

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH | MARCH 2023

#### Places of the Passion Lent 2023

"**That was where...**" begins the story of place. Parents, grandparents, family and friends point out particular places because a significant event happened. National monuments mean so much because they remind us of a pivotal moment in history. Places mark moments where people were inspired, altered their life's direction, and where they made critical decisions.

Places matter to us. Place is one way we know one another, how we know God, how we are enfolded into community and are sent on mission. In short, "place" in the context of faith is about relationship, history, covenant, and is one thread in the Biblical story.



### In This Issue

- Message from Pastor (p 1-2)
- Announcements (p 3-6)
- Music Ministry (p 7)
- Youth Group (p 8)
- Preschool/King's Kids (p 9)
- Building Projects (p 10)
- Monthly Calendar (p 11)

The Living

Take some time this Lent to share the moments and the places where the Lord has made himself evident to you in your life.



The Bible is full of these significant places. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and the Israelites built memorials on their journeys through the Promised Land. The city of Jerusalem sits atop the mountain Isaac was rescued from being offered as a sacrifice. Elijah hears the whisper

of God in a particular cave. Jesus taught the Beatitudes on a hill in Galilee. A woman anointed Jesus with oil at Bethany. Jesus died on a cross at a place called Golgotha. Saul/Paul falls off his horse from coming face to face with Jesus on a road to Damascus. Followers of Jesus were first named "Christians" in Antioch. The story of God's people is a story rooted in particular people in precise locations.

The most significant event in scripture is how Jesus entered into this world in the flesh. The incarnation shows us that



God made himself known through the particular person of Jesus (as a first-century Jewish man in the Roman province of Judea). While we might long for an abstract God we can hold at a distance, the material particularity of Jesus shows us God comes to make himself known to his people in flesh and bone, blood and water. I know that sometimes the Biblical stories feel worn, yet Jesus shows us how God heals and hallows the particular: He touches lepers, spits in mud to heal a blind man, breaks actual loaves that are then gathered up in baskets on a hill in Galilee. We know God in the particular rather than in the abstract. The truth we celebrate this Lent is that our God still makes himself known through the concrete: through the natural world when we're stunned by a hawk soaring overhead or the small pathway of a passing snail, when a line of poetry strikes us or a verse leaps from the page, through the gathering of his people throughout the world with handshakes, hugs, and our common experience of singing, hearing the word, the sprinkling of water, and partaking week by week of bread and wine.

One reason why this is so important: we cannot love people in general; we can only love people in particular. I learn more of Christ as I seek to love my wife, our four children, and our church. I learn more of Christ as I walk my streets, meet my neighbors, and experience the beauty and pain of this particular community.

My prayer for us this Lent is that we may ground ourselves in the fact that God meets us in the particularities of our lives, redeeming us, forgiving us, and restoring us, so that we may share the unique Good News of Jesus Christ with the people God has placed around us. Take some time this Lent to share the moments and the places where the Lord has made himself evident to you in your life.

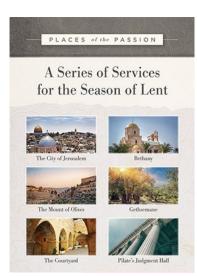
Journeying with you to the cross at Golgotha,

Pastor Andy



# HOLY WEEK

Lenten Suppers at 5:00 pm Midweek Lenten Worships at 6:30 pm Wednesday, March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Maundy Thursday Worship April 6, 7:00 pm Good Friday Worship April 7, 12:00 pm & 7:00 pm Easter Sunday Worship April 9, 2022 6:30 am Sunrise Service 8:30 am Celebration Service 10:30 am Celebration Service



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### NEW WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

#### Women's Fellowship at TLC

A once-a-month gatherings, including lunches, speakers, short trips, demonstrations of arts and crafts, special events (mother/daughter or all-daughter teas), and more. Please add your name to the list of interested ladies on the form by the mailboxes. On Tuesday, March 7, 2023, 1030 am, all ladies from TLC are invited to meet in the TLC parking lot to carpool to the Haven of Rest in Akron for a luncheon free of charge and an entertaining program by the Animal Ambassadors from the Akron Zoo. Please sign up on by the mailboxes. Rides will be arranged the day of.



Any questions or ideas, please call Jeannine Case at 330-688-1437.

# Vacation Bible School

Stellar VBS 2023: This summer's VBS will take place June 19-23 from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

The theme *Stellar: Shine Jesus' Light* focuses on how Jesus is the light of the world. That is great news we can shine for others to see!

VBS doesn't run without the help of volunteers, so please consider helping! There are needs in many different areas, both before and during the week of VBS. There will be a meeting on March 4 at 9:00 am for more information. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Liv Laube, TLC's DCE at dceliv@tlcoh.org.



# A Message From Our DCE

#### God Can Work Through Me

God is calling us to join Him on His mission, and that can seem like a really daunting task. *I don't know enough. I am not the right person. I don't belong here.* These are some of the thoughts that sometimes run through my head. I question how God could ever use a person like me. But there is something I am forgetting in these times of discouragement- God is in control and I can place my trust in Him.

Hebrews 11 is one of my favorite places in the Bible to turn when I am feeling this way. It is in this chapter that the incredible stories of faith in the Old Testament are recounted. Noah constructed the ark. Abraham offered up his son Isaac. Moses and the Israelites made it out of Egypt on dry land. The walls of Jericho fell, and Rahab did not perish because she had hidden the spies. Others conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, and were made strong out of weakness. There is one thing that connects each of these stories. They happened because of faith, not because of extraordinary people.

God was able to use these "heroes" for incredible things because of faith. Hebrews 11:1 tells us, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." These people trusted in God and His work, even though they could not see what He was doing. They obeyed even when they did not know what was to come. They lived their lives according to their faith. Yet, none of these people were perfect. They had their share of flaws and doubts, but God still worked through them.

God uses and works through us as well. We have the assurance that God is faithful and gives us hope through Jesus Christ. He loves us and is with us always. These are the promises that we can cling to as we live our lives according to our faith. In those moments of discouragement, when we are thinking that we're not good enough, we can remember that God is working through us and leading us in the right direction, even if we can't see it. We get to lean on Him for support as we share the Gospel with others. We are not alone, and that makes God's mission for us seem a lot less daunting.

In Christ,

# March 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, Howe Ave Choir, 7:30 pm Confirmation, 7:30 pm in Room 1

*Thursdays* Bible Study, 10:00 am in Room 12

Sundays Sunday School, 9:15 am Bible Studies, 9:20 am **Marriage Connect Group** 

Still the same Marriage Small group, just giving it a name to focus on our mission. We desire to connect marriages within a community of believers to "live life" together while strengthening your relationship. We will meet on *Thursday, March 9* at 6:00 pm. Our next study is "Love is Honest....Are You?". Let's do breakfast for dinner! Breakfast casserole will be provided, please bring a side dish to share.

#### March's Operation Christmas Child Donations

Let's knock it out of the park this month by collecting accessory items for boys and girls ages 2-14. (watches, sunglasses, hair ties, jewelry, etc.) Please place all donations in the grey donation bins marked with the "Operation Christmas Child" logo in the Donation Nook. Thank you so much for your support of this ministry all year long! Together we are the hands and feet of Jesus to an untouched world!



**Prayer Shawl** 

Friday, March 3, 1:00 pm in Room 12

**VBS Planning Meeting** 

Saturday, March 4 at 9:00 am in the Youth Room

**Safety Training** 

Saturday, March 11, 9:00 am in the Sanctuary

#### Wise Owls

Saturday, March 18, 12:00 pm in Room 12

Tallmadge Lutheran Church



and Family Fun Day

759 East Avenue, Tallmadge, OH 44278 Saturday, April 8, 2023

Games 10:00 am - 11:25 am Egg Hunt begins promptly at 11:30 am

Ages 0 - 8th Grade Games! Crafts! Coloring Contest! Snacks! Prizes for all! Join us for a FREE Day of FUN!

# Music Ministry News

Easter is coming! In just a few short weeks we will be celebrating the resurrection of our Lord....in word, in sacrament and in song! Our Chancel Choir and our Jubilate Bells are hard at work preparing special music for Holy Week and Easter, as well as our regular musical offerings.

We are also anxiously awaiting the arrival of our new organ. It looks like it may be here as soon as the middle of March, and with a little luck... and a lot of prayers... we might have everything in order to celebrate Easter with our instrument.

The end of April will hopefully see our organ dedication service. This service will most likely be on a Sunday afternoon and will be open to the community. We are going to involve our entire music ministry while still highlighting our new organ. Stay tuned for more details.

I would also like to thank all of you who were willing and able to open your homes for the students from Walther High School. While the students bless us with their music, you will bless them with your hospitality. Thank you for helping us welcome this choir to our community.



# Snow Tubing



# Upcoming

Sunday, March 12, 12:00 pm	Lunch w Liv
Sunday, March 12, 1:00 pm	Meeting
Sunday, March 26, 12:00 pm	Meeting
Wednesday, March 29, 4:00 pm	Lenten Dinner

# Super Bowl Subs

It was a Record Breaking Year for the Youth Super Bowl Sub Fundraiser! Over 170 sub sandwiches sold and over 80 sub donations! Thank YOU for YOUR Support!







### Preschool and King's Kids





I'm Mrs. Bright and I will be the assistant teacher in the T/TH 4's class this year!

I am married to my awesome husband Jeremy and

we have 3 kids, Isaiah (12), Sabrina (9), and Elena (6).

We also have 2 dogs, 2 guinea pigs, and many chickens!

I enjoy gardening, reading, movies, and spending time with our family.

All my kids have gone to Tallmadge Christian Preschool

and have had such great experiences here!

I'm looking forward to the school year ahead and having fun with the kiddos!

# TLC Building Projects

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

#### **Completed:**

Painting complete (for now) Pews removed Repaired broken lock on shed Boiler repaired Taco pump repaired Furnace repaired Warped bookshelves removed Mechanical room organization (on going) Storage organization (on going)

#### **Upcoming Projects:**

Direction Signs Library organization Additional AED for Edu Wing Outside spring clean - up in April



Thermal Spring SW 6761

	-	31	<b>30</b> 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	29 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) S:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation	<b>28</b> 9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers Ringers	<b>27</b> 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm)	26 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 Meet- ing
March	25	24	<b>23</b> 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	<b>22</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm Choir	21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am Staff Meeting 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers Ringers	20 9:30am Bible Study 9:30pm Monday Night 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm) 6:00pm - 8:00pm TCP Staff Meeting (library)	<b>19</b> 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
2 Mr. & Mrs. David Dailey 26 Mr. & Mrs. Jay Springer			Ministry Alliance	6:30pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation	7:00pm Jubilate Ringers	Bible Study (Youth Rm) 6:00pm BOD Dinner (Kitchen) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	School (Rn 7) School (Rn 7) 9:20am Bible Study (Rm 12, zoom) 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth Meet- ing w Parents
Anniversaries	<b>18</b> 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)	17 St. Patrick's Day	<b>16</b> 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 12:00pm Tallmadore	<b>15</b> 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Sunner	Staff Meeting 1 Bible Study	<b>13</b> 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night	12 Daylight Savings 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sundav
30 31	<b>11</b> 9:00am - 1:00pm Safety Training	10	9 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Marriage Connect Group (Rm 12) 7:00pm - 8:00pm Pictorial Directory Committee meeting (Rm 12) (Rm 12)	8 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation	7 9:00am Staff Meeting 9:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 7:00pm Jubilate Ringers Ringers	<b>6</b> 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Monday Night Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	5 Prayer Buddy Cards 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 10:30am Worship
2 Miya Kuntz16 Denise Zehner4 Pamela Meece20 Betty Dodd5 Steven Packy21 Hanna Lattimer6 Gregory Redman23 Robin Bergmann8 Juanita Graham24 Steven Staszak11 Molly Conley29 Mariorie Ray				7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (off site) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Wor- ship			
Birthdays	<b>4</b> 9:00am VBS Planning Meeting	<b>3</b> 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	<b>2</b> 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	1 Walther Academy Choir (Youth & Rm 12)			
	Saturday	Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Sunday

#### 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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