



TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LIVING LIGHT

OCTOBER 2024

## GRATITUDE

**"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks  
in all circumstances,  
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**

It is not always easy to give thanks (especially in an election year!), but God's instructions for His followers in the verses above show the importance of being thankful in all situations. I believe that gratitude should be one of the most visible attitudes in the lives of Christians. By living thankful lives, Jesus followers move into a deeper faith relationship with God that changes our hearts, our families, our communities, and even our nation.

Our gratitude as Jesus followers is based on the fact that *"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* (Romans 5:8). The best thing that's ever happened to you and me is having our sins forgiven and being ushered into the family of God through the waters of baptism, beginning now and continuing for all eternity! I know that sometimes I take my salvation for granted. Life gets busy and complicated; followers of Jesus can go for weeks—or longer—without being swept away by the magnitude of our salvation.

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I've heard Romans 5:8 paraphrased this way: "God demonstrated His love toward us in this: while we were in open, hostile rebellion toward Him, having no interest in Him—not only that, but also actively despising Him and all that He stands for—Christ died for us." How can we not be inexpressibly thankful? The salvation we have in Christ is a "many-splendored thing," a diamond with countless brilliant facets. I challenge you to stand in grateful awe of His work for you today.

Two ways that I am trying to practice gratitude are through keeping a Gratitude Journal and going on Gratitude Walks. Intentionally making time each day to "count my blessings" and to give thanks to the Lord has affected my mood and my outlook on life. I am learning that giving thanks for the little things makes a difference in how I see the big things in life. Through it all, I am reminded over and over again that God is good. That God is with me. That I am so richly blessed

The month of October, I am challenging the members of TLC in a Gratitude Challenge. Every day for 30 days, find a way to intentionally express your gratitude...to the Lord, to your spouse, to your children, to your parents, to your co-workers, to your boss, to your teachers, to your friends. Gratitude journals will be available to pick up in the church narthex and the tote outside the office doors to help guide and organize your expressions of thankfulness. In this crazy election time, gratitude will serve as a remedy to anxiety, an outpouring of praise, and a celebration of all the ways the Lord has and will provide.

Grateful for you in Christ,

*Pastor Andy*



Thank you, Pastor Andy  
for your ten years  
of service at TLC.



## TLC Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is looking to recruit new members to the board for 2025.

The board meets once per month, members serve a two-year term, and handles the business of the church.

Openings include(4): Treasurer, Secretary, and two At-Large positions

If you would like more information about the board or would like to sit in on a meeting, please reach out to any board member for information:

Jim Bergmann, Chair

Kris Kodzev, Vice-Chair

Denny Gearhart, Treasurer

Gail McAlister, Secretary

John Dailey, Head Elder

At-Large positions, Ellen Tywon, Daryl Parma,

& Denny Holzer

## Jubilate Bells - New Director

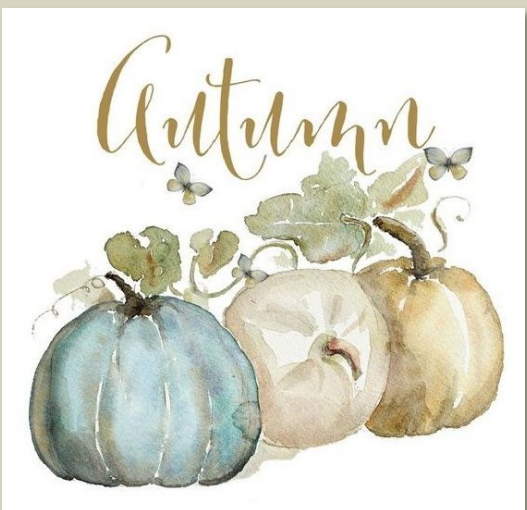
The Music Ministry is looking for a new handbell director.

This can be someone who has played bells in the past, is currently playing or has a general knowledge of reading music.

Annie Alberts is happy to help you choose music and give you all the support you may need.

Please contact Annie if you are interested in serving in this capacity or if you would just like some more information. [music@tlcoh.org](mailto:music@tlcoh.org)

## Preschool Bible Event



TLC children and their parents are invited to join Pastor Andy on Sunday, October 6 in the TLC Fellowship Hall (gym) from 9:15 am – 10:15 am for a time of learning using *The Beginner's Bible*.

All children who attend this event will receive a free copy of the Bible used by teachers at TCP: *The Beginner's Bible*. Families will have the opportunity to have these Bibles blessed at the 10:30 am Worship Service at Tallmadge Lutheran Church.

During this service, Pastor Andy will dedicate these Bibles and then have the children give the Bibles to their parents and the parents will be asked to promise to read the Bible with their children.

## TLC Book Club

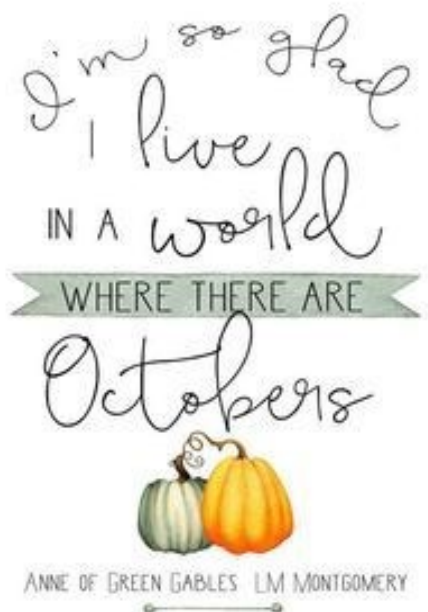
Join Pastor Andy on the third Monday of each month throughout 2024 to discuss a book.

On Monday, October 21, we will be talking about *Faithfully Different: Regaining Biblical Clarity in a Secular Culture* by Natasha Crain.

In *Faithfully Different*, author and apologist Natasha Crain shares how you can live out your faith with conviction, discernment, and courage.

You'll be equipped to:

- 1) identify and respond to today's most significant worldview pressures, such as cancel culture, secular social justice, progressive Christianity, deconstruction, virtue signaling, and more;
- 2) engage effectively with a world that ridicules biblical truths; and 3) defend your faith from misguided influences and live as a bold witness for the Lord.



## Marriage Connect Group

Our next group will be on Thursday, October 17 at 6:00 pm in Room 12.

We had a great time last month. We would love to see our community grow as we begin to know each other.

Session 2 of our Cherish study is titled, "Your Honor." Carnitas and all the 'fixin's' will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

~Trent & Alisha

## 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.

## MITES Sunday

MITE collection boxes can always be found in the Narthex and on the Donation Nook.

Please place boxes in Sandy Dixon's mailbox.

The next MITES Sunday is November 10.

Thank you for your support! -Sandy Dixon

## The Acme Cash Back Program

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 project and pavilion.



## Operation Christmas Child

I cannot believe it is October! Our packing party is quickly approaching. Thank you for your support all year long with this mission.

We have one more full month to collect items for our shoeboxes. Take advantage of all those sales and clearance items you find. Pick up a "suggestion sheet" by the donation bins if you're wondering what to donate.

We do need individually wrapped bars of soap as well as school supplies.

Thank you again!

## OCC Collection Week

Monday, November 18, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Tuesday, November 19, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Wednesday, November 20, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Thursday, November 21, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

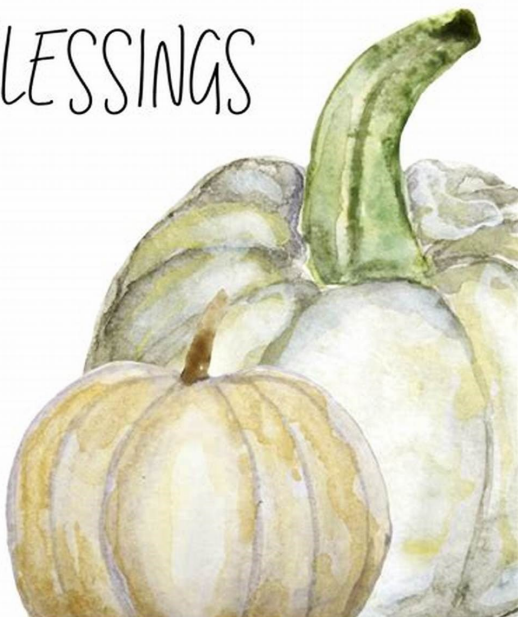
Friday, November 22, 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Saturday, November 23, 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Sunday, November 24, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Monday, November 25, 9:00 am - 11:00 am

HARVEST  
BLESSINGS



## The Women's Fellowship

Spend a fun day together in fellowship, enjoying a day on the beautiful Stan Hywet's grounds for Ohio Mart, and of course, shopping! Saturday, October 5 from 1:00 am – 5:00 pm. Carpoolers meet at TLC at 10:00 am.

\*If you have NOT been receiving Women Fellowship emails, please contact Jeannine [jcase006@neo.rr.com](mailto:jcase006@neo.rr.com).

## Prayer Buddies

Thank you for your overwhelming response! Your packet is ready for pick up and located on the table in the library.

**First card is due Sunday, October 13!**

- Gail and Lindsay

## Wise Owls

The next Wise Owl meeting is Saturday, October 19, 12:00 pm in Room 12.

The Owls will be learning about owl conservation!

Leaders, Bev Goss & Ethel Walent.

## 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 [semick13@att.net](mailto:semick13@att.net) or Sandee Mick 330-256-8819

# TLC Food Pantry

The Food Pantry has MOVED! Since we are getting food from The Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank each month, they require all pantries to be in a locked area. This past month, the old church “kitchen” was transformed into the new pantry space- cupboards removed, fresh paint, and new shelving units purchased. With the support of the Board of Directors, we can continue to serve families in our area with this needed service that has continued to grow since COVID.

In 2023, the pantry served an average of 19 families per month. In 2024, that number has increased to 28 families.

In 2023, we purchased over 6,000 lbs. of food from the food bank at a significantly reduced cost. I have used Thrivent Action Grants to help cover costs of some foods that we cannot get at the food bank: paper bags with handles to pack the food in, a refrigerator, extra shelving and even meats for holidays!

This year, I have a local 4-H group that comes and helps me pack bags each month- which totals around 100 bags to have ready for distribution! The Preschool program does a food drive each year to help supplement what we have in the pantry.

I appreciate the continued support of the board and the congregation in this outreach ministry of TLC. Monetary donations are always appreciated!

In Christ,

Gail McAlister



# IN THE COMMUNITY

**Farmers' Market** -In the Tallmadge Rec Center parking lot through October 10 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm

**Tallmadge Fall Festival** - Saturday, October 12 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm. Hayrides, games, food trucks, inflatables & music

**Electronic Recycling Drive** at The Tallmadge Rec on Saturday, October 19 from 10:00 - 2:00 pm

**Halloween Costume Parade** - Tallmadge Rec Center parking lot, Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 pm

**Moonlight Movie Night** - In the Tallmadge Rec Center parking lot following parade

**Beggars' Night** - Thursday, October 31 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm

**Tallmadge Circular:** [The-Tallmadge-Circular---Summer-2024---Issue-2 \(tallmadge-ohio.org\)](https://tallmadge-ohio.org/the-tallmadge-circular---summer-2024---issue-2)

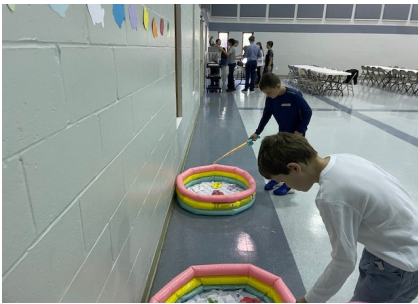




# Sunday School Corner

## October's Theme: *Self Control*

The connection between SELF CONTROL and GOD'S CHARACTER as shown through God's story. SELF CONTROL is choosing to do what's best even when you don't want to.



Here are a few pictures from Sunday School Kick-Off Sunday.  
Thank you to the Youth for serving Snow Cones!



Sundays, 9:20- 10:15 am in Room 7!  
Opening with all grades and then we will split into 2 groups for additional lessons!  
Hope to see you there!





# THE MUSIC MINISTRY

## Happy Fall!

The chancel choir has resumed rehearsals on Wednesday evenings from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. ALL are welcome, regardless of your music ability. We have a very strong choir and help each other to grow and become better musicians (and have a lot of fun along the way!) Please come and join us as we worship the Lord through song!

For those of you who like to join for the Christmas Cantata, there is a special retreat on Saturday, October 26 from 9:00 - 12:00 pm. We will begin with a light breakfast and fellowship at 8:30 and will sing in sections and as a large group until noon. This is a great way to get a head start on the loads of music that we learn for Christmas. We will continue working on the Christmas pieces on Wednesday evenings.

Also, please check your calendars as the Cantata date has been changed for this year. The Cantata is on Sunday, December 15 at both services. It's a bit earlier this year due to some conflicts on the following Sunday.

Jubilate Bells is looking for a new director. This can be someone who has played bells in the past, is currently playing or has a general knowledge of reading music. Annie Alberts is happy to help you choose music and give you all the support you may need but she has a prior commitment on Tuesday evenings. Please contact Annie if you are interested in serving in this capacity or if you would just like some more information.



# Youth Group News

Beth Niermann

Jared Shoup

Jen Larson

## National Youth Gathering

All registration forms and a \$200 deposit are due by Sunday October 6.

## Dussel Farm

Youth Fall Fun Day is Sunday October 13 from 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm. Please rsvp.

# TLC Building Projects

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

## Completed:

Ac/Furnace PM Completed  
Doors 1, 2 & 3 repaired  
Food Pantry moved to its new location  
New boiler pump installed  
Storm clean-up complete  
Grounds fall clean-up complete  
Fire door inspection complete

## Upcoming Projects:

Gutter & downspout work  
Office floor vent repair





## TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



My name is April Freeman.

I've been married for 14 years to my high school sweetheart, Ryan. We have two daughters, Hailey and Alyssa, and two dogs named Buck and Lillie.

I was born and raised in Cuyahoga Falls, and continue to reside there.

I have a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education and worked in childcare for 6 years before having my children. I was a stay-at-home mom for 10 years before joining the staff at Tallmadge Christian Preschool in 2023.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family, as well as reading, crafting, gardening, and camping.

I am looking forward to getting to know your children and families in the coming school year!





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	2 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Kilcman) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir	3 10:00am Bible Study	4 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	5
6 8:00am Worship 9:15am Preschool Bible Event 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Strategic Planning Meeting	7 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	8 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	9 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir	10 10:00am Bible Study	11	12
13 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth to Dussel Farm	14 Fall Pastor's Conf (Columbus) 8:30am Food Pantry Pick-Up 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	15 Newsletter Deadline 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	16 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir	17 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Women's Fellowship (Rm 12)	18	19 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)
20 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	21 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 11:00am TCP/OCC Collection 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	22 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	23 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 7:00pm Choir	24 10:00am Bible Study	25	26 9:00am - 12:00pm Cantata Retreat (sanctuary, library, Rm 12, Youth Rm)
27 <b>Reformation Sunday</b> 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	28 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	29 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Kid/lin meeting (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	31 <b>Halloween</b> 10:00am Bible Study 5:30pm - 7:00pm Tallmadge Beggars' Night		

# Birthdays

- 1 Kristi Conley  
5 Anders Redman  
6 Peggy Menke  
6 Kathleen Detzel  
7 Michael Pifer  
7 Madison Fosnight  
8 Pamela Gates  
8 Quin Harsey  
9 Kathy Alleshouse  
14 Travis LeVan  
16 Andrew DeWolf
- 16 Luke Byers  
18 Gabriella Vojtek  
18 Julianna Bailey  
19 Debbie Ruggles  
19 Ellen Correll  
22 Ava Harsey  
23 Janice Kobb  
23 Diana Sterra  
26 Debra Smith  
27 Emma Hedderly  
30 Michelle Wendland  
30 Nicolas Harsey  
31 Robyn Casteel

# Anniversaries

- 7 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Richard  
20 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Fenske
- 20 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Himmelmreich  
23 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Barrett



**The Living Light** is a monthly publication of

Tallmadge Lutheran Church, 759 East Avenue, Tallmadge OH 44278

330-633-4775 [www.tlcoh.org](http://www.tlcoh.org) [facebook.com/tallmadgelutheranchurch](https://facebook.com/tallmadgelutheranchurch)



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**Annie Alberts, Music Director**

[music@tlcoh.org](mailto:music@tlcoh.org)

**Laura Miller, Preschool Director**

[lmiller@tlcoh.org](mailto:lmiller@tlcoh.org)

**Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director**

[ptrettel@tlcoh.org](mailto:ptrettel@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



*The Living Light*