

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

† LENT

— 40 Days Of Renewal —

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LIVING LIGHT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

Jesus - I AM



As we journey through Lent this year, the Gospel of John offers us a treasure trove of comfort and certainty in the words of our Savior. Among its many riches are the seven "I Am" statements of Jesus—powerful

declarations that reveal who He is and what He graciously provides for us, His people. Rooted in the Old Testament name of God, "I AM" (Exodus 3:14), these statements show us that Jesus is no mere teacher or prophet, but the eternal Son of God, come to deliver us from sin, death, and the devil.

When Jesus uses the "I AM" language, He boldly claims His divine identity. Each statement illuminates a different aspect of Christ's relationship with believers and His saving work. Our cries of "I am empty" are met with "I am the bread of life." Our pleas of "I am lost" are countered with "I am the way, the truth, and the life." Two simple words addressing every one of our fears, doubts, and pain: I AM.



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"I Am" Sunday Morning Lenten Sermon Series

March 9 - "I am the bread of life" (John 6:35)

Just as physical bread sustains our bodies, Jesus nourishes our souls. After feeding the 5,000, Jesus explained that He provides spiritual sustenance that truly satisfies. In Holy Communion, we receive this bread of life as Christ comes to us in, with, and under the elements.

March 16 - "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12)

In a world darkened by sin, Jesus illuminates our path to the Father. Through His Word, we find guidance, truth, and the ability to recognize our sin and His salvation.

March 23 - "I am the door" (John 10:7)

Christ is the exclusive entrance to salvation. Through Baptism and faith, we enter His fold and receive eternal protection.

March 30 - "I am the good shepherd" (John 10:11)

Unlike hired hands who abandon their flocks, Jesus willingly laid down His life for us. He knows each of His sheep by name and leads us through all of life's valleys.

April 6 - "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6) In our pluralistic world, Jesus' exclusive claim stands firm: He alone bridges the gap between sinful humanity and the holy Father.

April 13 - "I am the true vine" (John 15:1)

Connected to Christ, we bear fruit. Apart from Him, we can do nothing. Through Word and Sacrament, we remain grafted to the vine, receiving His life-giving grace.

April 20 – EASTER "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25) Before raising Lazarus, Jesus declared His power over death. Through His own resurrection, He guarantees that all who believe in Him will live eternally.

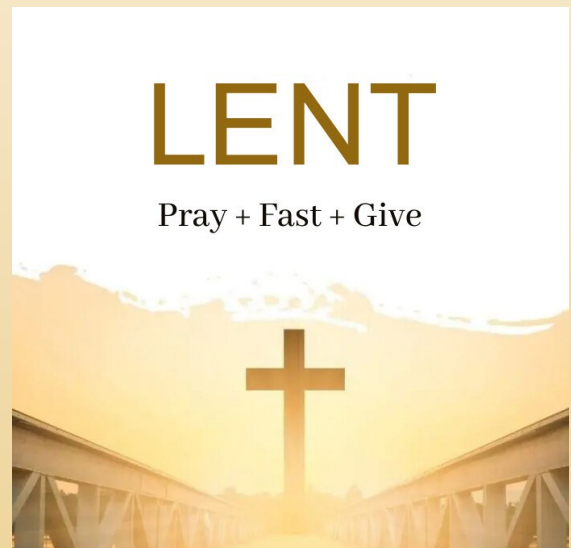


These "I Am" statements are more than poetic words; they are divine promises. Throughout this season of Lent, we cling to the certainty that Christ speaks them still—to us, for us—in the preaching of the Gospel and the celebration of the Sacraments. Here, in worship, Jesus meets us as Bread, Light, Door, Shepherd, Way, Vine, and Resurrection, sustaining us until He returns.

So, dear friends, as life presses in with its challenges, take heart. The great "I AM" has claimed you as His own in Baptism, forgiven you through His blood, and will never leave you. Rest in His words, and let them echo in your hearts: "I am... everything you need."

In Christ's service,

Pastor Andy



2025 LENTEN MIDWEEK SERMON SERIES



Gathered by the waters of Babylon, Judean exiles wistfully wondered: Is God for real? If so, does He really care about us? What does our future hold? Will this ever change? God's people had watched their world shatter into a million pieces. They were demoralized and disillusioned. Their disaster looked terminal.

Do you feel this way? Does it look as though your current problems are more than you can bear? Do you find yourself asking: Why did this happen? Why did God allow it? Is there any order in the world? Will God really deliver on what He said?

Isaiah answers these questions in chapters 40–55 of his book. He announces that just when Israel's history seemed closed and controlled by hopeless Babylonian imperial policy, to the shock and surprise of everyone the Lord will stir up a king named Cyrus and a new exodus will explode in the desert! A Servant will be wounded for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities. And barren Zion will be given so many children that, like the old woman in the shoe, she won't know what to do!

Standing behind these marvelous promises is God's almighty Word. "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever" (Isaiah 40:8). The exiles are going home!

Come worship on Wednesday nights at TLC as we are **"Singing with the Exiles" as they are restored to their home.**

- March 5 **Ash Wednesday: "God Has a Word for That"** (Isaiah 41:14–16)
- March 12 **"He Only Has Eyes for You"** (Isaiah 43:1–7)
- March 19 **"Marked"** (Isaiah 44:1–5)
- March 26 **"Breaking Down the Gates"** (Isaiah 45:1–8)
- April 2 **"Get Out!"** (Isaiah 48:17–22)
- April 9 **"One Little Word Can Fell Him"** (Isaiah 49:1–6)
- April 17 **Holy Thursday: "He Prepares a Table"** (Isaiah 49:7–13)
- April 18 **Good Friday: "All"** (Isaiah 52:13–53:12)

Lenten Worship Schedule

Ash Wednesday, Wednesday March 5, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper hosted by the Board of Elders

6:30 pm Worship

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper

6:30 pm Worship

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper

6:30 pm Worship

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper hosted by the Youth Ministry

6:30 pm Worship

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper hosted by the Music Ministry

6:30 pm Lenten Worship

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

5:00 pm Lenten Supper hosted by the Women's Fellowship

6:30 pm Lenten Worship

Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17 6:30 pm Worship

Good Friday

Friday, April 18 12:00 & 6:30 pm Worship

Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship

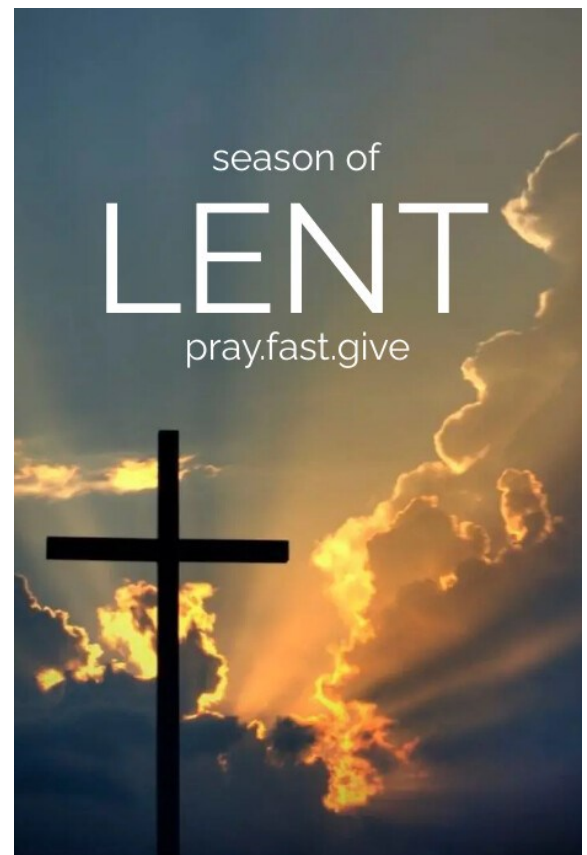
Join Tallmadge Lutheran Church

Would you like to become a member of Tallmadge Lutheran Church?

New members will be received on Sunday, March 2, 2025.

Talk with Pastor Andy about becoming a member today!

Email at pastorandy@tlcoh.org or call/text at (330) 203-5474.



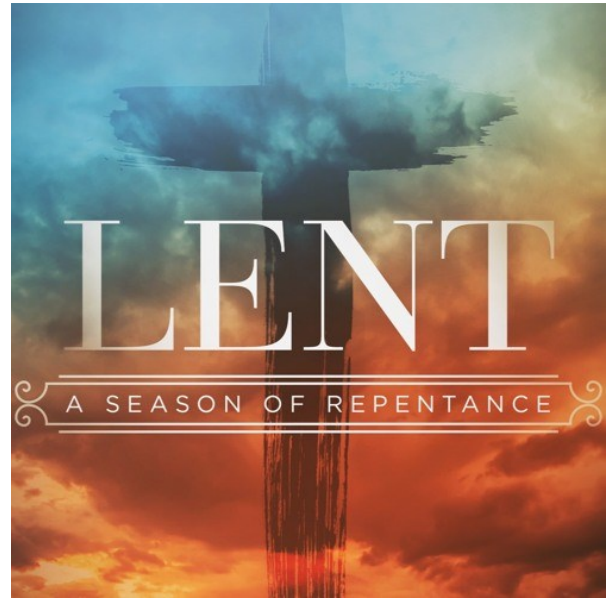
TLC Book Club

Join Pastor Andy on the third Monday of each month to discuss a book. The class meets at 7:00 pm in Room 12.

The book for March is *Soundtracks: The Surprising Solution to Overthinking* by Jon Acuff.

This book will help turn overthinking from a super problem to a superpower.

Join Pastor Andy to discuss this book on Monday, March 17 at 7:00 pm in Room 12.



Prayer Buddies

Cards are due Sunday March 9.

Easter Flowers for the Altar

It is time to order flowers to celebrate our Risen Lord!

This year we will be offering Easter Lilies, Tulips, Hyacinths, Daffodils, including Tete a Tetes, Chrysanthemums and Hydrangeas to adorn the Altar.

Easter Flower Order envelopes are available by the mailbox. Indicate quantity, color and if in memory of a loved one or a blessing. Place a check, payable to "Tallmadge Lutheran Church" in the envelope and place in Becky Springer's mailbox.

Orders should be placed by Sunday, March 30 to guarantee availability.

Flowers can be picked up after the late service on Easter Sunday, April 20.

Women's Fellowship

Tuesday, March 4 Haven luncheon. Carpoolers meet in the parking lot at 10:45 am. The entertainment will be Bagpipers!

The first meeting of 2025 is Thursday, March 20 at 6:00 pm for a pot luck dinner. Please sign up by the mailboxes.

The speaker for the evening is Jesse Coontz from Moms On Target.

Don't forget about the Shelter Care donation bin in the library.

Donation suggestions: full size deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, sizes 3,4 & 6 diapers, teen and adult size underwear, individually wrapped snacks, bottled water, tissues, baby wipes, Lysol spray, disinfectant wipes, adult size socks, grocery tote bags.

Wise Owls

Join the Wise Owls on Saturday, March 15, 12:00 pm in Room 12 for stuffed pork chops & potatoes casserole.

The Owl's will have board games, Bingo, and silly prizes. It's going to be a lot of fun!!

In April, a member of the Park Services will join the Owls for lunch.

MITES Collection

Sunday, March 30, 2025

MITE collection will also be on the following Sundays:

June 29, August 31, and November 30, 2025

Operation Christmas Child

We have had a rather slow start for the year with hats, gloves and fashion accessories (hair ties, sunglasses, jewelry, etc.). Please continue to keep your eye out for great sales and discounts for these items.

For March, I would like to focus on collecting "WOW" items. This is a special toy that just brings the shoebox together for a child. What they would get excited about, such as a baby doll, a special toy, a deflated ball with a pump, etc.

The "WOW" items are truly the most important part of what goes into packing a shoebox. You will never know the impact your items that you donate bring to a child, but we do know that it is not wasted.

Thank you for your support !

~ Alisha Wright

Marriage Connect Group

The next group study date is Thursday, March 27 at 6:00 pm in Room 12.

We will be doing our last study in the Cherish series called..."Keep on Cherishing".

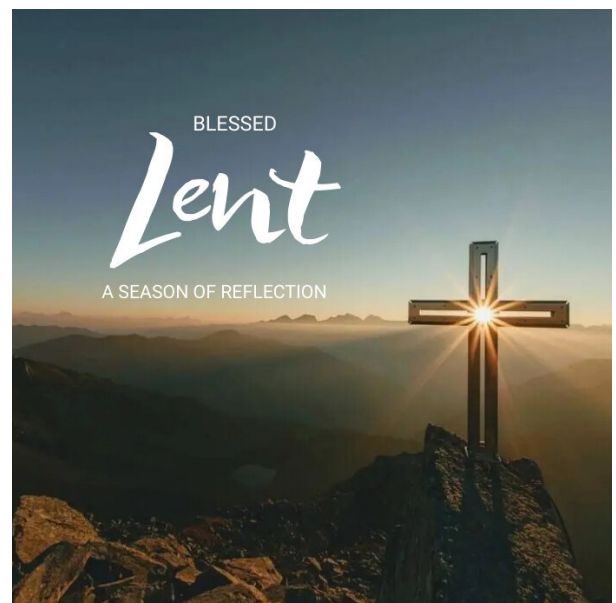
Onion baked chicken thighs will be provided. Please bring a side dish to share.

Looking forward to being with everyone.

~ Trent & Alisha

Vacation Bible School

Save The Date: June 9 - June 13, 2025



The *Who's Who* at TLC

Board of Elders

John Dailey, head

Marty Hauser

Jim Bailey

Chris Tywon

Jim Case

Dan Fosnight

Todd Hedderly

Bob Knepper

Board of Directors

Jim Bergmann, president

Kris Kodzev, vice chair

Brian Kuntz, treasurer

Ellen Tywon, secretary

Bert Holz

Daryl Parma

Heidi Wojcik

Cindy Strand

Dan Conley

Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor

Annie Alberts, Music Ministry

LaVonne Dolliver, Organist

Chad Kendal, piano & AV

Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

Sue Pifer, Nursery attendant

Lara Miller, TCP director

Patti Trettel, KK Director

Altar Guild: Becky Springer, head; Janet Buckles, Kathy Vanaman, Ellen Tywon, & Gail McAlister

Altar Flower Orders/Flower Chart: Lindsay Snyder/Becky Springer

Bible Study Leaders: Pastor Andy, John Dailey, Chris Tywon, Brian Kuntz, Gail McAlister, Jeanne Colosetti, Kathy Vanaman, and Jeannine Case

Book Club: Pastor Andy

Master Calendar: Lindsay Snyder

Children's Ministry/Sunday School: Gail McAlister

Confirmation: Pastor Andy

Easter Breakfast: Youth Group

Facility Rental: Lindsay Snyder

Finance/Auditors: Denise Larson & Denny Gearhart

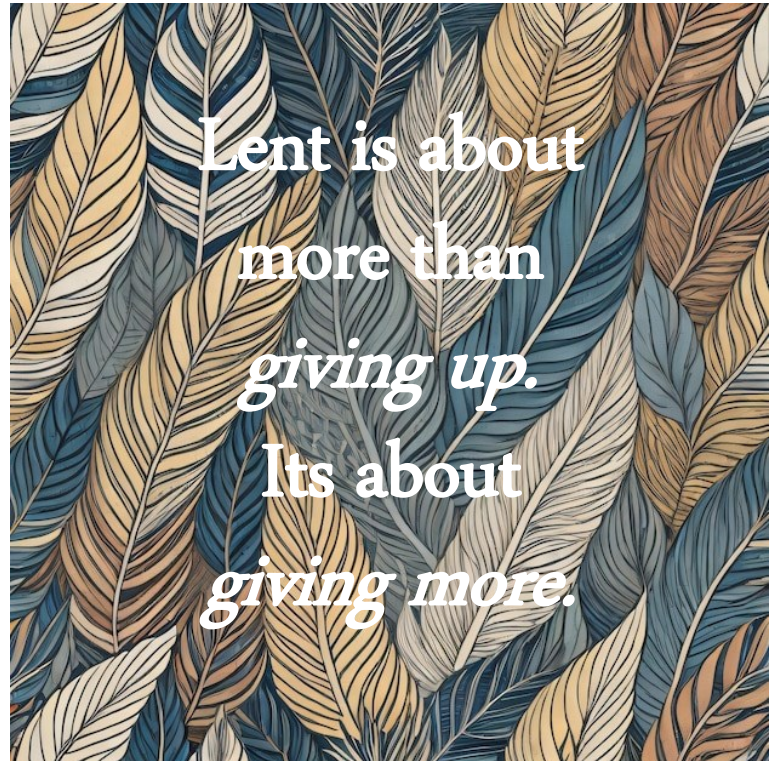
Food Pantry: Gail McAlister

Funeral Luncheons: Gail McAlister & Pam Klicman

Historian: Ethel Walent

KidMin Ministries: Regina Kodzev

Librarian: Denise Larson



Lillies at Easter & Poinsettias at Christmas: Becky Springer

Marriage Connect Group: Alisha & Trent Wright

Operation Christmas Child (OCC): Alisha Wright

Outreach Activities for Preschool & King's Kids:

Gail McAlister, coordinator

Prayer Buddies: Lindsay Snyder & Gail McAlister

Prayer Chain: Kathy Vanaman, Sandee Mick

Prayer Shawl, MITES & LWML: Sandy Dixon

Readers for Worship/Scheduler: Lindsay Snyder

Sewing for Service: Pam Klicman

Shelter Care (donations): Jeannine Case

Strat Op/2030 Vision: Marty Hauser, facilitator

Thanksgiving Dinner: Gail McAlister, coordinator;
Kevin Heilmeier, head chef

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Regina Kodzev

Wise Owls: Fae & Larry Broemsen

Women's Fellowship: Jeannine Case

Youth Ministry: Jen Larson, Jared Shoup

Easter Egg Hunt

at Tallmadge Lutheran Church

759 East Avenue, Tallmadge, OH 44278

Saturday, April 19, 2025

Games 10:00 am - 11:25 am

Egg Hunt begins promptly at 11:30 am

Ages 0 - 8th Grade

Balloon Artist! Games! Crafts! Coloring Contest! Snacks!
Prizes for all! *And...* A special visit from the Easter Bunny!

Join us for a FREE Day of FUN!



IN THE COMMUNITY

Tallmadge Rec Center Memberships are on sale at the Rec or online [Recreation Center | Tallmadge, OH](#)

7-day Free Trial

Summer memberships are only \$99 (June 1-30)

Silver Sneakers Coffee Talk - Thursday, March 13, 10:00 am at the community Center

Maca Pool Memberships are on sale at the Tallmadge Rec Center. [Maca Pool | Tallmadge, OH](#)

Tallmadge Park Rentals - Please call Chris at 330.633.0855

Civic Organization in the Community YOU can be a part of: [Civic Organizations | Tallmadge, OH](#)

The Tallmadge Circular.: [cbc13663-7d0d-4002-bb14-2b4caa471f06.pdf \(eschoolview.com\)](#)



Sunday School Corner

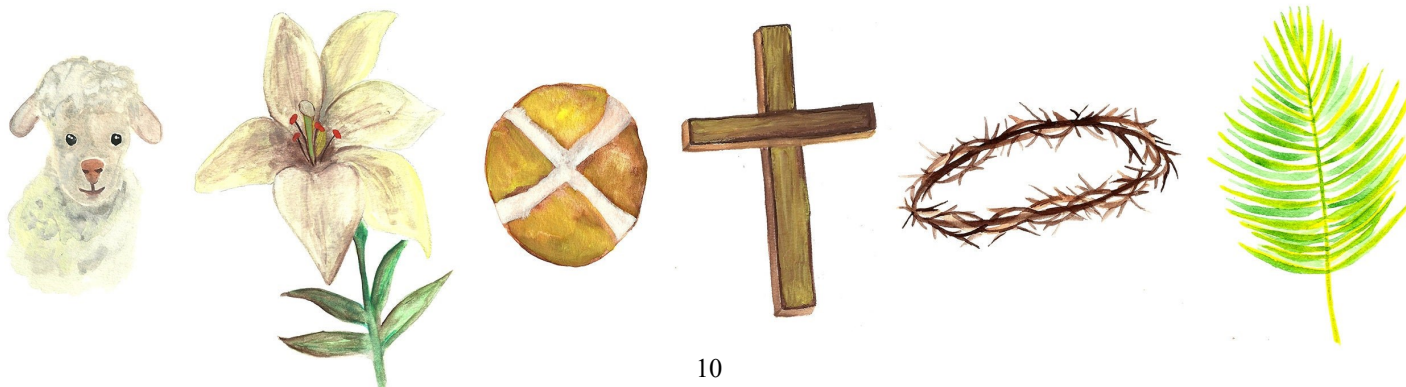
March's Theme: *Cooperation*

The connection between COOPERATION and GOD's CHARACTER
as shown through God's story.

COOPERATION is about working together to do more
than you can do alone.



Opening with all grades and lessons for PreK- 2nd grade
and 3rd- 5th grade! Hope to see you there!



THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Lent

As we move into Lent, our music ministry ramps up!

Our choir and bells (hopefully) will be sharing a lot more music as we get closer to Easter and Holy Week.

If you would like to join the choir or handbells, everyone is always welcome!

The choir rehearses on Wednesday evenings at from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

During Lent, the choir rehearses after the Wednesday evening Lenten service until about 9:00pm.

If you would like to play handbells at Easter please let me know ASAP and we will see if we can once again pull something together as we did at Christmas.

We can still make amazing music with our smaller numbers. Please spread the word!

We are also looking for a new Music Director as I am stepping back at this time.

If you know anyone who is musically inclined and would be interested, please give them my information or connect them with Pastor Andy.

We are praying that God will send just the right person to keep this amazing ministry moving forward.



Youth Group News

Beth Niermann

Jared Shoup

Jen Larson

Super Bowl Subs

Thank you to all congregation members for your support with the youth Superbowl Sub fundraiser.

We sold 164 sandwiches and donated 60 to Haven of Rest.

All funds raised will be used for the National Youth Gathering this summer.

Senior High Bible Study

Join Jared Shoup, Youth Ministry leader, on Wednesday nights

at 6:30 pm for the Senior Youth Bible Study.

Youth Group Meetings & Events

Come join us Sunday, March 23 for a regular youth meeting, 12:00 - 2:00 pm.

Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 am

Easter Breakfast prep - Saturday, April 19 at 2:00 pm



TLC Building Projects

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

Completed:

Backflow, fire alarms, & sprinklers inspected

Kitchen stove exhaust repaired

Upcoming Projects:

Spring grounds prep

Community garden info

Sanctuary painted

Fellowship Hall ceiling cleaned and sealed.





TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL



My name is Kelly Rose and I've been married for 22 years to my husband, Joe.
We have two sons, Max and Leo and a dog named Ruby.

I worked in corporate banking before having my sons. I was lucky enough to be able
to be a stay at home mom while my sons were little.

I worked at Tallmadge Elementary before coming to
Tallmadge Christian Preschool in 2024.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, listening to music
and enjoying the great outdoors.

I grew up in Medina but Tallmadge has been my home for 19 years!



TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL POPCORN FUNDRAISER!



Help us raise money with this tasty fundraiser featuring over **40 different flavors** of delicious gourmet popcorn made locally in Cuyahoga Falls & Hudson!

We earn 40% of every sale!

Scan here to order online:

Or go to ThePopcornFundraiser.com
Scroll down & click on our logo!



Deadline to Order is March 3!



3 Convenient Ways to Get Your Popcorn!

1) Choose Deliver to School/Organization at Checkout and Metropolis will deliver to us about 2 weeks after the fundraiser ends.

2) Choose Shipping to ship QUICKLY straight to you!
Order \$100 or more and get **FREE SHIPPING!**

3) Choose In-Store pickup only if you plan to pick up at Metropolis Popcorn in Cuyahoga Falls or Hudson!
You'll receive a call when your order is ready to pick up.

Questions? Call Metropolis Popcorn at 330-928-6446 x3



**40%
Profit!**

**All Bags
\$10**



All popcorn comes in a resealable, 1/2 gallon bag.



**Birthday
Cake**



**Buffalo
Ranch**



**Caramel
Butter**



**Caramel
Peanut**



**Cheddar
Cheese**



**Cheesy
Jalapeno**



**Cleveland
Blend**



**Kettle
Corn**



**Midnight
Caramel**



**Puppy
Chow**



**Theater Style
Bonus Size!
1 Gallon Bag!**



**White
Cheddar**

**Over 30 flavors available at
ThePopcornFundraiser.com!**



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 Transfiguration Sunday Receiving New Members 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9-20am Bible Study 9-20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 1-00pm - 5:00pm Member event (Rm 12)	3 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	4 11:00am Women's Fellowship (Haven of Rest)	5 Ash Wednesday 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Ash Wednesday Worship 6:30pm No Confirmation 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm)	6 9:00am - 11:00am Food party packing- Tailnadge Schools 10:00am Bible Study	7 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	8 9:00-10:30am Deacon Training (sanctuary)
9 Daylight Savings 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9-20am Bible Study 9-20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	10 8:30am Food Parity Pick-Up 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	11	12 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Midweek Worship 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm)	13 10:00am Bible Study	14	15 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)
16 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9-20am Bible Study 9-20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Sunday School Choir 10:30am Worship	17 St. Patrick's Day 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	18 Newsletter Deadline	19 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Midweek Worship 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm)	20 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Women's Fellowship (Rm 12)	21	22 8:00am - 6:00pm Member event
23 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9-20am Bible Study 9-20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	24 Spring Break 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	25 Spring Break	26 Spring Break 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Midweek Worship 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm No Confirmation 7:30pm No Youth Group Bible Study	27 Spring Break 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Marriage Connection Group	28 Spring Break	29
30 MITES Sunday 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9-20am Bible Study 9-20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	31 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)					

Birthdays

- 2

Miya Kuntz

15

Trent Wright
- 4

Pam Meece

20

Betty Dodd
- 5

Steven Packy

23

Robin Bergmann
- 6

Gregory Redman

24

Steven Staszak
- 7

John Darmstadt

26

Kanon Ord
- 9

Lily Casteel

29

Marjorie Ray
- 10

Phil Bonner

29

Jessica Riley
- 11

Molly Conley

30

Annalise Hovey
- 13

Felicity Fisher

31

Marty Hauser
- 31

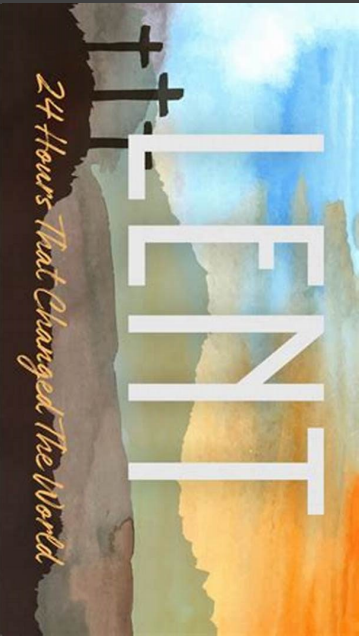
Blake Miller

Anniversaries

- 2

Mr. & Mrs. David Dailey
- 26

Mr. & Mrs. Jay Springer



The Living Light is a monthly publication of
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Laura Miller, Preschool Director

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Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director

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

