



“Do Not Be Afraid!”

What are you afraid of? We call fear by many names. We call it worry, tension, anxiety, and stress. One study looked at 500 different people and discovered 7,000 different fears – an average of 14 different fears per person! Being afraid is not some minor issue; dealing with fear is absolutely critical.

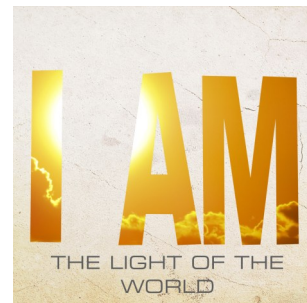
Why? Fear is contagious. Fear is limiting. It’s draining. Fear is the dark room where negativity develops.

This is why the life, death and resurrection of Jesus is so important for you and for me. Do you remember what the first words the angels said after Jesus rose from the dead? “Do not be afraid!” What were the first words Jesus said after he rose from the dead? “Do not be afraid!” What were the first words the disciples heard Jesus say when he met them as a group? “Don’t be afraid!” That’s the message of Easter.

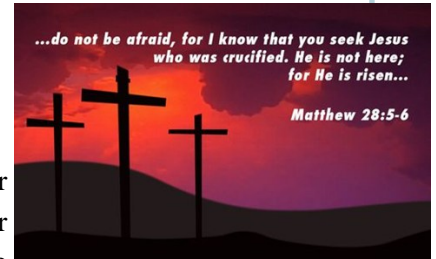
And, most importantly, God doesn’t want you to be afraid. Ephesians 3:12 says, “In Christ we can come before God with freedom and without fear. We can do this through faith in Christ.”

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When you wrestle with fears, keep these Easter realities to heart:



In Jesus' death and resurrection, God shows his perfect love for you. Our deepest need in life is to feel absolutely, totally, unconditionally loved ---- not for something we could be or should be - but loved just as we are. Only God can love us with as much love as we really need. God created us in His image so that we can live in love relationship with Him. God knows everything about us. And he wants us to know him and love him back. That's why God sent Jesus Christ to live a perfect life, to die on the cross for us to pay for our sins, and to rise again defeating death. That's what Easter is all about. When this truth sinks in our hearts, the words of 1 John 4:18 come to pass: "Where God's love is, there is no fear because God's perfect love drives out fear."



Commit your fears and your life to Jesus! Part of the reason so many people are so scared today is that we've placed our trust in the wrong places. At times, we have placed our trust in money, in our possessions, and in our natural abilities to solve our problems. When we place our trust in anything other than the Lord, in reality, that's idolatry. Anytime we let this happen, we are making something else into a god. And when something of this world becomes more important than God, fear is sure to come. If making money is the number one goal in a person's life, he or she will develop a fear of losing it all. If success is the most important thing, a fear of failure will develop. If you take a moment to consider what scares you them, there's a good chance you can discover what is competing with God in your life.

1 Peter 3:14-15 says, "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened. But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord." The only real antidote to the fear is a commitment to Christ. When you continue to make Jesus Lord of your life, you don't have to fear losing anything – nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus! When we fully rely on God, our fears are replaced by PEACE.

May your hearts and lives be filled with Easter HOPE and JOY and PEACE trusting that God loves you so much that He sent his only Son to die for you on the cross. May God's perfect love drive out all fear!



Pastor Andy

Lenten Worship Schedule

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

TLC Annual Egg Hunt

Games 10:00 am - 11:25 am

Egg Hunt begins promptly at 11:30 am

Annual Easter Breakfast

hosted by the Youth Ministry

Sunday, April 20 from 7:30 am - 12:00 pm

Empty Tomb

All are invited to create your own DIY Resurrection Garden on Sunday, April 6 following 2nd service.

Build a small empty tomb display for your home and help make a larger version to welcome guests for Easter at TLC.

Please rsvp so we have enough supplies!

See the flier posted in the narthex for more information.

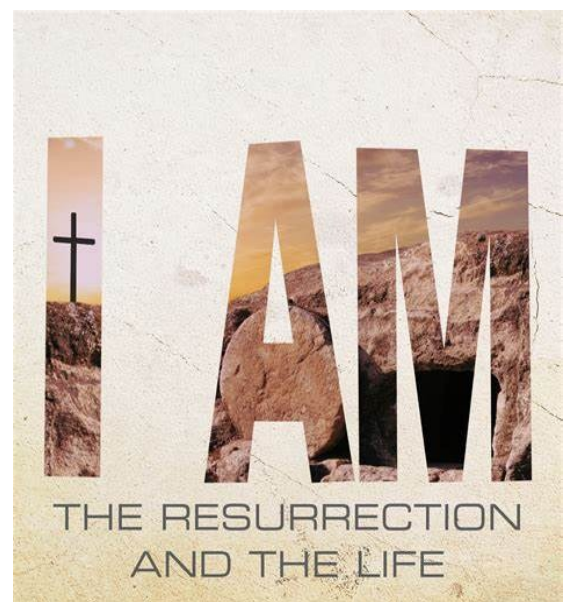
"He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay."

Matthew 28:6

Rsvp- Regina Kodzev

reginalouisekostko@yahoo.com

330-212-8365



TLC Book Club

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

The book for April 21 will be a Lenten Devotion by the author, Max Lucado: *“And the Angels were Silent – The Final Week of Jesus.”*

Join Pastor Andy to discuss this book on Monday, April 21 at 7:00 pm in Room 12.

Click this link to find this book on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Angels-Were-Silent-Final-Jesus/dp/0849947510/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0



LWML

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be having their Spring Rally on April 26.

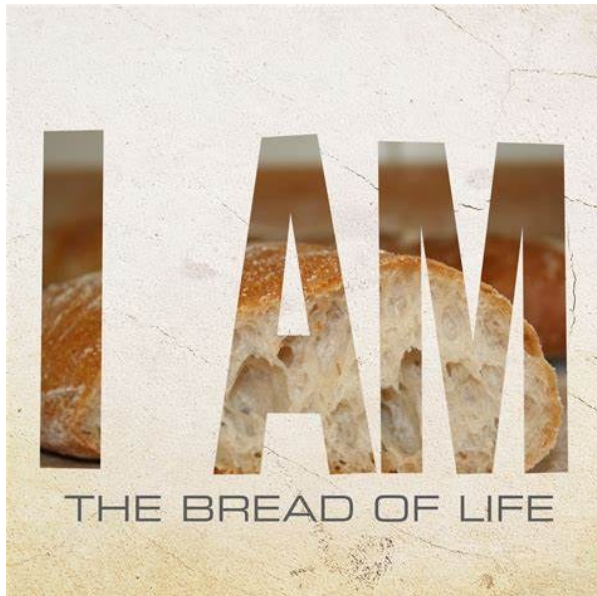
More information can be found on the flyer either on the bulletin board as you come into the door where the church mailboxes are on your right or on the LWML bulletin board on the left in the library.

Need a ride, call Sandy Dixon at 330-688-6258 or email her at sgtfroond@gmail.com.

MITES Sunday

MITE collections will be on the following Sundays in 2025: March 30, June 29, August 31, and November 30.





Operation Christmas Child

Spring has arrived, and we're kicking off the season with fantastic collections! I want to express my gratitude to everyone who has contributed throughout the year to this vital ministry. Its success relies entirely on your generous donations.

For April, I'd like to concentrate on gathering a variety of travel games and puzzles.

Please place all donations in the large bin in the library labeled for OCC.

Thank you once again for your kindness and for showing these children a tangible representation of Jesus' love.

~ Alisha

Marriage Connect Group

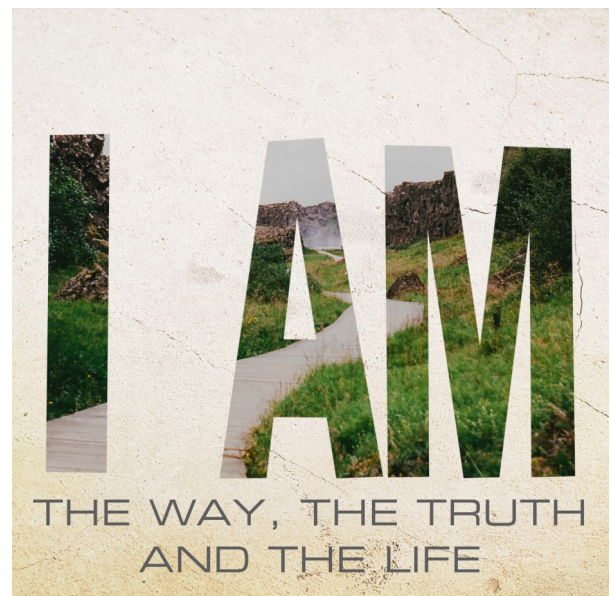
We've just completed our study on Cherish! With April being a busy month and Easter around the corner, we will not be meeting for our group in April. But get ready for an exciting event in May!

We're hosting our first annual Marriage Connect Group Chili Cookoff. A perfect chance to experience our community, have fun, and showcase your chili-making skills.

Join us on Thursday, May 8, at 6:00 pm for an evening of friendly competition, delicious food, and great company. Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

Does your chili have what it takes? Join us for a fun-filled evening of competition, great food, and community!

~ Trent & Alisha Wright



Prayer Buddies

April cards are due on April 13 (Palm Sunday).

If you haven't had a chance to purchase a book, there are extra's by the card drop-off box. Cost is \$6 each, put in Gail McAlister's mailbox.

Please wrap your book as well!

May cards are due on May 4 to have in time for graduation ceremonies!

Thank you for your dedication to these kiddos!

It's great that we have so many pouring love on them!

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.

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 or Sandee Mick 330-256-8819

The Wise Owls

Join Bev Goss as she leads the Wise Owls luncheon on Saturday, April 19, 12:00 pm in Room 12.

The Owls guest speaker is a representative of Park Services.

Be sure to invite your friends and family to these events!

Keep The Owls Going & Growing!!

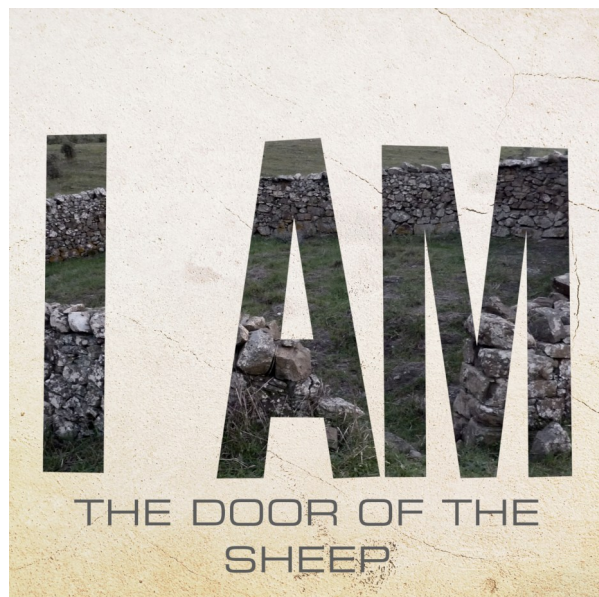
Members 50-70 – The Owls want to travel; have lunch in Hartville; see a play. TLC encourages all driving members to attend meetings and possibly carpool with members who are no longer behind the wheel.

Regular meetings are on the third Saturday of the month at 12:00 pm in Room 12.

Women's Fellowship

No April meeting. With all the Lent and Easter services, we find that slipping in a Women's Fellowship dinner meeting would be over the top for many of us.

We will have a meeting with a very interesting speaker on Thursday, May 29. Save the date! More on this soon. -Jeannine



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!



SAMARITAN'S FEET

Samaritan's Feet is a humanitarian aid non-profit that serves and inspires hope by providing shoes to those in need around the world. Since its founding in 2003, Samaritan's Feet and its partners have served over 10.5 million people across 111 countries and over 625 U.S. cities. Samaritan's Feet serves and inspires hope in children by providing shoes as the foundation to a spiritual and healthy life resulting in the advancement of education and economic opportunities. Their vision is a world with zero shoeless children.

Samaritan's Feet: How We Help

Samaritan's Feet believes that a pair of shoes and foot-washing can provide a tangible foundation of hope and the opportunity for a better life, prompting children to focus on school and families not to worry and protect feet to decrease the possibility of getting a foot-borne disease.

Why Donate Old Sneakers?

Most people throw away their used sneakers every 125-200 days without ever thinking of recycling them. Donating sneakers helps you clean out your closet, protect the environment, and support a non-profit. It may be time to donate your sneakers when you still have in your closet, but you just got new ones or simply have a pile you do not wear anymore. When you donate sneakers, you help create a sustainable program.

What Should You Do with Old Sneakers?

Whether your shoes are no longer reusable, or you simply do not want them anymore, there are several options for getting rid of unwanted sneakers.

Recycle: When Your Sneakers Might Not be Reusable

Unfortunately, there are shoes that are not eligible for donation. Not all sneakers can get reused as-is, as some are just too worn down. However, you can still recycle your sneakers when the textile components of your old footwear can be used to make something else. For example, heavily used footwear is recycled to reuse materials or convert to new energy sources.

Donate: When Your Sneakers are Still Wearable

If the shoes are still wearable, a great way to repurpose them is to give them to someone else who will wear them. By donating your shoes, you are providing hope and an opportunity for a better life to those in need. There are many organizations where you can donate your sneakers, both locally and internationally, including Samaritan's Feet. The simplest advice is to donate used sneakers.

New Sneakers

Donation of new or like new sneakers are also welcome. Please place these in a separate bag when donating. All sizes are welcome.



Please find a box in the Library marked **Samaritan's Feet** for the purpose of collection your new (or like new...place these shoes in a separate bag), used and worn-out sneakers to be used by others for the mission of Samaritans Feet. New and used sneakers (wearable) will go directly to those in need. Worn out sneakers will be recycled with funds going back to the ministry. For more information about this ministry go to <https://samaritansfeet.org/> or contact Susan Olson.

I Am



TLC (Tallmadge Lutheran Church) partnership with TCS (Tallmadge City Schools) Starting in March, TLC began partnering with Tallmadge Schools and their Special Education Classes (middle and high school) to find meaningful volunteer opportunities for students with different abilities.

The students came with their teachers, classroom assistants, and Speech and Occupational Therapy staff and completed the following tasks:

- Packed 90 bags of food for our monthly food pantry distribution.
- Assembled 90 bags of assorted stickers to use for our craft at the annual Easter Egg Hunt.
- Cleaned and disinfected all of the toys in the nursery.

We are so happy to start this partnership with them, and look forward to many more months/years ahead! ~ Gail



the **GOOD SHEPHERD**

I Am

Butterfly Garden



April 2025 Spring is the time for rebirth and change and you will see it in the Butterfly Garden! Things are starting to sprout through the mulch and showing signs of life! It's an exciting time as the weather grows warmer.

This past month, Jacob Folta (Senior at THS and Scout), chose to complete his Eagle Scout project in the garden.

Jacob and the scouts from Troop 412 built 2 square/raised planter beds, 2 benches, and 1 inground bed to be planted in front of the original bench. Those beds will be filled with more beautiful flowers in the next few weeks.

The benches are a great place to come and sit, and admire the beauty and enjoy the peace and quiet. It's just a short walk past the pavilion! Please come check it out!



The Gate



Sunday School Corner

April Theme: *Hope*

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

HOPE is believing that something good can come out of something bad.



Sundays 9:20- 10:15 am in Room 7!

Opening with all grades and lessons for PreK- 2nd grade & 3rd- 5th grade!

Hope to see you there!

April Memory Verse:

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." John 16:33b, NIV

THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Happy Spring!

Easter is just around the corner! Our music ministry is gearing up for a great season.

We have choir anthems, soloists, violinists, trumpeters, handbells and more!

If the melodious sounds inspire you to join our ministry,
please contact Annie Alberts or any of our musicians.

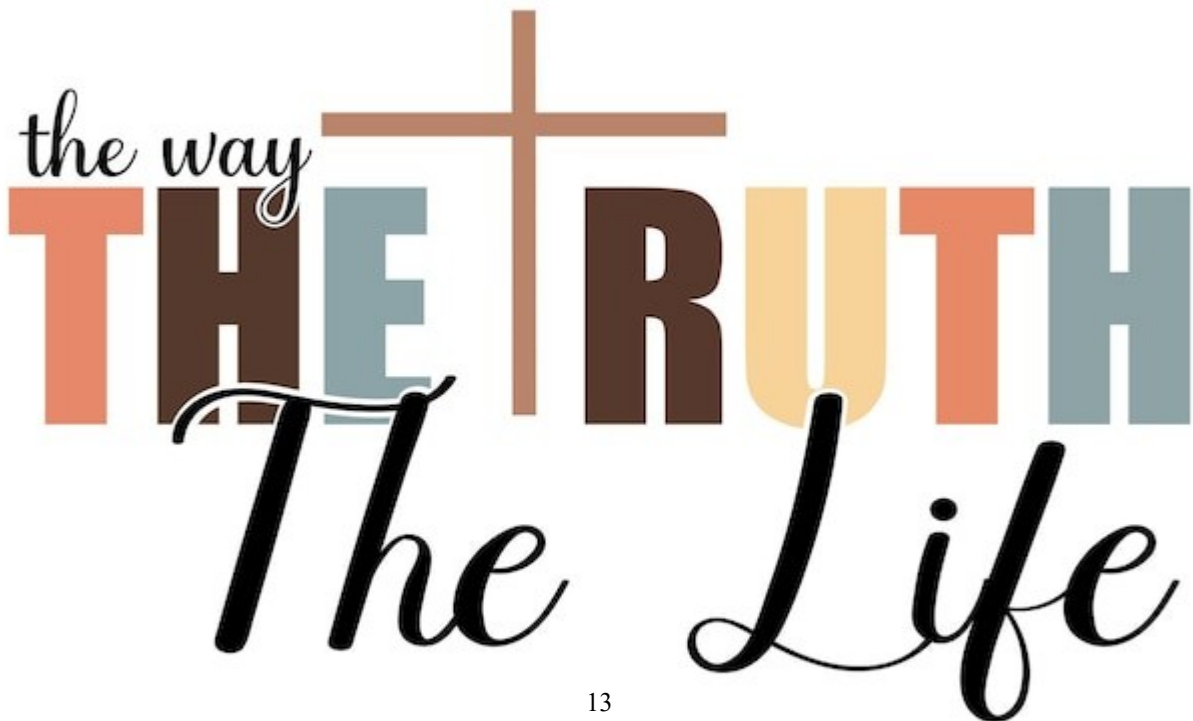
Also, summer music is coming up quickly!

Summer is a great time to 'try out' singing in small groups or performing in church.

Please let Annie Alberts know if you would like to give it a try.

She is happy to help you choose music and prepare it.

Looking forward to celebrating Easter with all of you soon!



Youth Group News

Beth Niermann

Jared Shoup

Jen Larson

Youth Group Meetings & Events

Youth to National Youth Gathering

Eight Tallmadge Lutheran teens and four leaders will be heading to New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering in July.

These youth and leaders will be joining 20,000 plus LCMS Youth from around the world to grow in faith through the workshops and Bible studies, work sided by side in service projects, and praise our Lord together in worship.

So many have supported the youth through our fundraising and gifts and we cannot thank you enough.

Keep a look out for a few special events yet to support the youth as we prepare for the gathering.

April - Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast

May - Applebee's Fundraiser

June - Cross/Envelope Challenge



TLC Building Projects

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



Completed:

Sanctuary is painted

Gym ceiling cleaned and caulked

Fire and safety inspections complete

Interior pest spray for spring

Upcoming:

Paint kitchen

Birthdays

- 1 Jim Scheck
- 4 Laura Miller
- 5 Aleksandar Kodzev
- 5 Carol Goebelt
- 5 Katharina Leisner
- 6 Madeline Alberts
- 6 Paula Vernon
- 7 Susan Capp
- 7 Kailyn Harsey
- 9 Lori Earles
- 10 Eric Fink
- 11 Jeanne Colosetti
- 11 Anya Toepeke
- 15 Heidi Beck
- 16 Dan Fosnight
- 27 Gerald Young
- 28 Monna Fenske
- 29 Fae Broemsen
- 29 Ava Groubert
- 30 David Bass

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 11:00am Women's Fellowship (Haven of Rest)	2 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 9:00am Police/Fire Drill at THS 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 5:00pm Lenten Supper 6:30pm Lenten Midweek Worship 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm Confirmation 7:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm)	3 7:00pm Bells	4 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	5
6 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study (Youth Rm) 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Empty Tomb Family Project	7 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	8	9 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)	10 9:00am - 11:00am TES group/Volunteers 10:00am Bible Study	11	12 9:00am Bells
13 Palm Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study (Youth Rm) 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	14 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	16 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir 7:30pm No Confirmation	17 Maundy Thursday 10:00am Bible Study 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship 7:30pm Bells	18 Good Friday 10:00am - 11:00am Set up for the Easter Egg Hunt 12:00pm Good Friday Worship 6:30pm Good Friday Worship	19 10:00am Easter Egg Hunt 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12) 2:00pm Youth breakfast prep
20 Easter 8:00am Easter Celebration Worship 9:00am - 11:00am Youth's Easter Breakfast 10:30am Easter Celebration Worship	21 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLCC Book Club (Rm 12)	22	23 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	24 10:00am Bible Study	25	26 1:30pm - 3:30pm Member Event
27 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) Friendship Sunday 10:30am Friendship Sunday Worship 11:30am Friendship Sunday Reception (gym)	28 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	29	30 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir			



The Living Light is a monthly publication of
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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

