

Sunday Worship Services:

8:00 & 10:30 am

Bible Studies: 9:20 am

Sunday School: 9:15 am

The Living Light



TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LIVING LIGHT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025

Living Letters

You yourselves are our *letter*, written on our hearts, known and read by everybody. You show that you are a *letter* from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. **2 Corinthians 3:2-3**

Christians have been compared to branches in the vine, to sheep in the flock of the good shepherd, to lights in a dark world, to salt which flavors, which preserves, which sweetens and which creates thirst for the water of life. Yet in 2 Corinthians 3:2-3, Christians are compared to letters written with the spirit of the living God; letters carry messages.

There are friendly letters, thank you letters, letters of congratulation, letters of sympathy, letters of love. There are also letters of announcement, letters of recommendation, letters of instruction. There are demanding letters, threatening letters, critical letters, and dead letters. Dead letters are communications which due to a faulty address, can not be delivered. Christians are meant to be living letters of Jesus Christ, bearing a message of good tidings of great joy to all the world. Our lives point to the truth of Easter—that Jesus is truly ALIVE! Alleluia!

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This truth is: the world is watching. The people we work with and go to school with are gaining an understanding of who God is by watching how we live. Earlier in his correspondence to the Christians in Corinth, Paul said to them: Your indifferent attitude is hindering your delivery of God's message. Be mature in the faith, so that the people in your circle of influence might see that you are really Christian through and through, that you are going all out for Christ, and that your lives deliver His message.

In the early Church, the legions of Caesar could not stop followers of Christ from living out their faith. Persecution drove the Christians from one place to another. They left their possessions but the message went with them. They never left the Good News of Jesus Christ behind. Wherever they went, Jesus went with them. Jesus went with them to prison. In season and out, they tried to deliver the Good News of Jesus' life, death and resurrection.

Their Christian faith could be seen in action. They were Christ's. He had redeemed them. He had cleansed them. They belonged to Him, hands, feet, eyes, ears, lip, tongue, faculties, abilities, accomplishments, possessions, everything had been gladly given to Him for His service. And as a consequence of that love offering, their lives were as letters, carrying the love of God to a lost and needy humanity. Unbelievers could hear and see that God is love through the lives of these Christians. They could see friendship, they could see compassion, they could see sympathy, they could see kindness, they could see tolerance and justness. By the lives that they lived, they were openly declared to be letters of Jesus Christ.



My question for you to consider this month: How is your life a living letter filled with Jesus Christ, bringing a message of hope to the readers—those who are watching you? As others read us, do they openly declare us to be living letters of Jesus Christ?

The Corinthians were yielded to God. Their hands served others. Their feet took them on errands of mercy. Their ears were attuned to calls for help. Their lips spoke kind, helpful words. Their eyes could see far beyond themselves. They were living letters constantly receiving God's impressions and carrying them out. They carried the spirit of the Resurrection Christ to the world! May the Lord grant us the faith and the spirit to carry Christ to our homes, our work places, our schools and throughout our communities!

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Pastor Andy

Becoming a New Member at Tallmadge Lutheran Church

Pastor Andy will be leading a time of instruction for new members coming from outside the Lutheran Church as well as for members who would enjoy a “refresher” of their faith.

The New Member Instruction classes will take place on Saturday, May 10, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and Saturday, May 17, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

New members will be received at TLC on Sunday, May 18 at both services, with a reception during Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

If you would like to become a member at TLC, please talk with Pastor Andy or text him (330) 203-5474 or email him pastorandy@tlcoh.org.

Samaritan's Feet Sneaker Drive

Please find a bin 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.

Thank you for overflowing the bin with new and used shoes!! We have collected 15 new sneakers and 25 used sneakers. All other footwear will be donated.

The goal is 200 sneakers!

Let's make it happen!

Any questions, please contact Susan Olson, shireyolson7@gmail.com.

Prayer Buddies

Cards are due Sunday, May 4 - just in time for graduation ceremonies. Please put your prayer buddy folder in the bin to use for next year as well.

Thank you for supporting this ministry and praying for our children!

Youth Group NYG Applebee's Fundraiser

Monday, May 19 from 11:00 am - close.

Dine in at 220 Tallmadge Road, Kent or order on-line using code DOINGOOD.

Applebee's will donate 15% of your order to TLC's Youth Ministry.



TLC Book Club

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

The book for May is *What's a Christian, Anyway?* by Glenn Packiam.

In an age when Christianity has been corrupted and co-opted by cultural forces and personal agendas, pastor and theologian Glenn Packiam shows how an ancient Creed can save the modern church-and might just save your faith.

Join Pastor Andy to discuss this book on Monday, May 19.

Acme Cash Back Program

Thank you to everyone who turned in Acme receipts to Ruth Lynch. This year, TLC earned \$333.22 towards the pavilion/building fund!

The programs starts back up again in August.

Thanks for your support!

Women's Fellowship

Join the meeting on Thursday, May 29, 6:00 pm in Room 12.

The speaker for the evening is Barbara Rebentisch, a missionary serving the Lord in Taiwan.

Please sign up by the mailboxes. See you there!

The Altar Ministry Team

The Altar Ministry Team is seeking Adults to assist with the weekly Altar duties. We are an integral part of every Worship Service, working behind the scenes.

Our primary responsibility is preparing the Altar for Sunday Worship, including the prep and cleanup of Weekly Communion.

For more information please speak to or email:

Janet Buckles, jbuckles@neo.rr.com

Becky Springer, springer.becky@gmail.com



Marriage Connect Group

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!

If you plan to attend this event, please text Alisha at 330-354-6796, so we can have an accurate headcount.

~ Trent & Alisha Wright

Operation Christmas Child

For the month of May, I would like to maintain our emphasis on gathering "WOW" items. A "WOW" item is a unique toy that enhances each shoebox and generates excitement for children. This could include a small travel game, a toy, a baby doll, and more.

Let us unite, as we always do, to create numerous meaningful discipleship opportunities while striving to achieve our shoebox packing goal for the year.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you who contribute to this effort throughout the year.

~ Alisha

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Power Point Projector

Serve TLC by running the projector during service. Please call the office if interested.

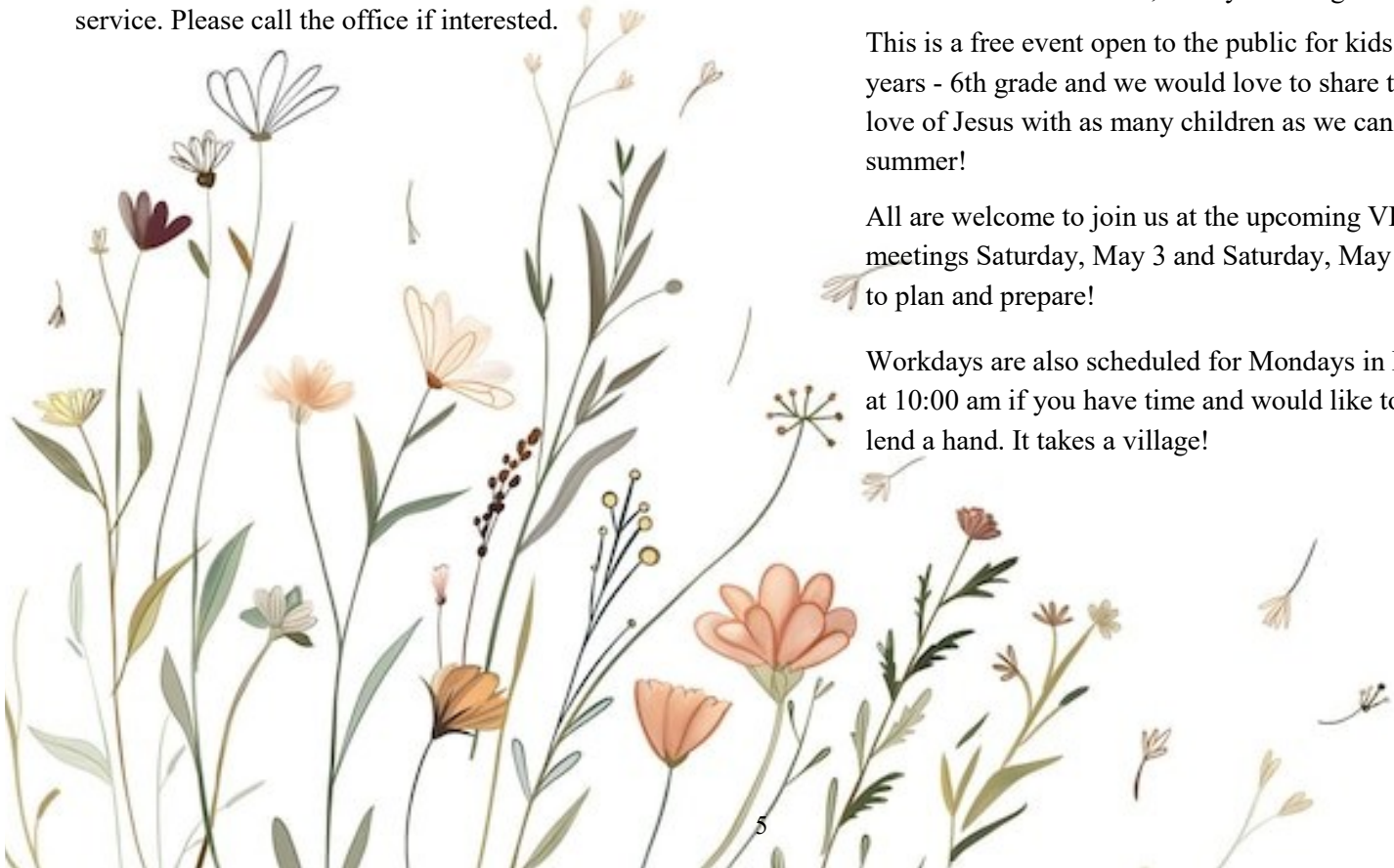
True North VBS- Trusting Jesus in a Wild World
June 9-13 Sign up today!

Please take a flier for details to register or grab a few to share with friends, family and neighbors.

This is a free event open to the public for kids four years - 6th grade and we would love to share the love of Jesus with as many children as we can this summer!

All are welcome to join us at the upcoming VBS meetings Saturday, May 3 and Saturday, May 10 to plan and prepare!

Workdays are also scheduled for Mondays in May at 10:00 am if you have time and would like to lend a hand. It takes a village!



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

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.

The Wise Owls

The speaker for May is Denise Liable from the Briarwood Healthcare Community. The main dish is meatloaf.

Please contact Sandy Dixon with questions.

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.

MITES Sunday

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



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
Eric Fink
Kevin Heilmeier

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
Kathy Vanaman

Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor	Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities
Annie Alberts, Music Ministry	Sue Pifer, Nursery attendant
LaVonne Dolliver, Organist	Lara Miller, TCP director
Chad Kendal, piano & AV	Patti Trettel, KK Director
Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager	Laurene Malish and Ben & Val Jews: Custodians

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

*Behold, I make
all things new.*



-REVELATION 21:5



Memorial Day Parade & Service

The Tallmadge Memorial Day Parade and Service is presented by the American Legion Kneil-Lawrentz Post 255 of Tallmadge and the City of Tallmadge.

The parade forms in the parking lot of Mack Burleson Field ("The Hole" 30 Wright Road) at 9:30 am; moving out onto West Ave at 10:00 am; turning east towards the Tallmadge Circle; exiting at Southwest Avenue to the Tallmadge Cemetery.

The services include welcoming remarks, a prayer, a speech, a ceremony, the placing of the wreath for our fallen Veterans, a rifle volley, and the playing of Taps.

TLC & THE COMMUNITY

A watercolor illustration of various flowers in shades of pink, purple, orange, and yellow, with green foliage, framing the text on the left and bottom.

Walk for Life with Jeff Carley

Jeff Carley will be walking in Akron Pregnancy Services' Walk for Life on Saturday, May 17 starting at 9:30 am.

He is asking for your support, prayers, and pledge donations to benefit APS and the programs they provide for many local pregnant women needing support and reassurance of what the future will look like in God's hands.

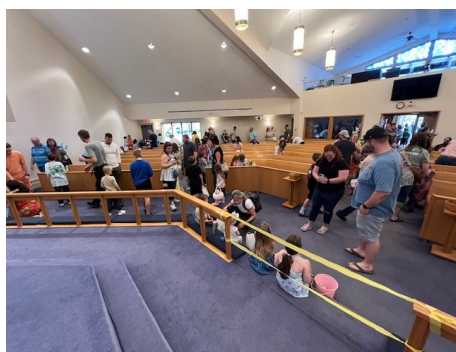
[Walk for LIFE 2025 – Akron Pregnancy Services](#)

Please see the pledge sheet by the mailboxes.

Please call Jeff Carley with questions, 330-606-6331.



We had a great event with **97 kids**, the Easter Story, and the Easter Bunny!



Our kids, including preschool families, members, grandkids, and a whole lot of visitors, joined us today to hunt for eggs in the sanctuary!



Games run by the youth, a VBS station, and a coloring contest!



Craft station, more games, and a "guessing contest"!

Thank you to all the youth, adult leaders, and volunteers who made today a HUGE success!

We made Jesus shine today!

Sunday School Corner

May Theme: *Initiative*

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

Initiative is seeing what needs done and doing it.



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!



Summer Sunday School starts on June 1st.

Same schedule, more games, a snack and some outside time!

Please join us! It's a great time to try us out!

May Memory Verse:

"None of you should look out just for your own good.

Each of you should also look out for the good of others." Philippians 2:4, NIrV

THE MUSIC MINISTRY

Happy Spring!

Our music ministry is wrapping up our "regular season" of music.
We typically take a break from our weekly rehearsals over the summer.

But, that doesn't mean that worship music stops!

Over the summer we have the opportunities for solos, small groups,
or individuals to share their musical talents in different ways.

If you have a favorite piece, or would like Annie to choose a piece, please let her know.

If you would like to sing or play something but are a bit shy,
you can share your anthem from the balcony.

We will set you up however you need to feel comfortable enough to join our ministry.

Just talk to Annie Alberts and we will make it work!

We are looking forward to a summer of amazing worship music!



Youth Group News

Beth Niermann

Jared Shoup

Jen Larson

Youth Group Meetings & Events

May 4: Confirmation

May 18: New Orleans Parent Mtg after late service, 11:30 am - 12:00 pm

May 18: 12:00 - 2:00 Meeting and working on memorial crosses.

May 19: Applebee's fundraiser for National Youth Gathering.

May 25: Youth places memorial crosses before first service.



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

Kitchen door reinforced with weather stripping

Upcoming:

Pest control - spraying of exterior

Paint kitchen



In REMEMBRANCE

Personalized Memorial Day Banners will be displayed on crosses in front of the Sanctuary on Sunday, May 25. Please fill out the form below indicating the number of banners and the name you would like written on the banner (one name per banner). Each banner is a \$5.00 donation toward the Youth Group Ministry. Please place orders in the *YOUTH* mailbox by Wednesday, May 14. Families may collect their banners Sunday, May 25. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Niermann at campdeac@yahoo.com



Remembering Your Loved Ones Memorial Banner

Your Name: _____

Number of Banners: _____

Name (s) for Banners: _____

Thank you!



Congratulations Preschool Graduates!

King's Kid's Last Day is Friday, May 23.

King's Kids Summer Camp begins
Tuesday, May 27.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Confirmation Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:00am Confirmation Reception (gym) 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 9:30am Confirmation Class Picture 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Member event (gym)	5 VBS Prep 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	6 7:00am - 10:00am TES Packing Party (FP)	7 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 8:30am - 10:00am Food pantry packing- THS to help 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 11:30am - 12:30pm TCP Graduation set up (gym) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	8 TCP Graduation (sanctuary) 9:30am - 10:30am TCP reception 10:00am Bible Study	9 TCP Graduation (sanctuary) 9:30am - 11:30am TCP reception	10 9:00am - 12:00pm New Member Instruction 10:00am VBS Meeting
11 Mother's Day 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 VBS Prep 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)	13	14 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	15 10:00am Bible Study 10:00am - 1:00pm Salad prep for the luncheon	16 9:00am - 2:00pm Kitchen prep for the luncheon 11:30am Police & Fire Appreciation Lunch (pavilion)	17 9:00am - 12:00pm New Member Instruction 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)
18 New Member Reception (both services) 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	19 VBS Prep 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TL/C Book Club (Rm 12)	20 Newsletter Deadline	21 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Choir	22 10:00am Bible Study	23	24
25 Memorial Banners (youth) 8:00am Worship 9-15am Sunday School (Rms 4 & 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	26 Memorial Day Church office closed No School/Kings' Kids VBS Prep 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	27	28 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm)	29 10:00am Bible Study 6:00pm Women's Fellowship (Rm 12)	30	31

Birthdays

3 Holly Dussel	16 Ed Huzzard, Jr.
5 Walter Fenske	18 Marti Heilmeier
7 David Graybeal	19 Parker Ripley
7 Beverly Goss	21 Sandee Mick
7 Donnie Groubert	22 Chuck Currier
8 Dan Capp	22 Hailey Freeman
10 Susan Young	23 Jay Springer
10 Eric Harsey	23 Eric Toepke
12 Dennis Klicman	25 Dennis Holzer
13 Lillian Vojtek	30 Todd Hedderly
14 Rocco Hovey	31 Thom Kenny

Anniversaries

14 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Dutka
 17 Mr. & Mrs. David Bass
 17 Mr. & Mrs. Paul Bomer
 18 Mr. & Mrs. Robert Knepper
 31 Mr. & Mrs. Jon Huck



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

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