



TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LIVING LIGHT

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2025

True North VBS:

Finding Our Way with Jesus as Our Savior



What an incredible week we had at True North Vacation Bible School June 9-13! Over 60 children embarked on an unforgettable Alaskan adventure, discovering that no matter what challenges life brings, we can always **TRUST JESUS!** Against the backdrop of northern lights, majestic mountains, and wilderness wonders, our young explorers learned that Jesus is our True North—our faithful guide through every situation.

Throughout the week, our children didn't just play—they encountered Jesus in meaningful ways.

Each day brought new discoveries as our campers met special Bible Buddies and explored powerful truths from God's Word:

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Day 1 - When We Wonder, We Can Trust Jesus

Our adventure began with John the Baptist preparing the way for Jesus. Children learned from Matthew 7:24 that "Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise," setting the foundation for our week of trusting in Jesus.

Day 2 - When We Feel Alone, We Can Trust Jesus

Clawdia the Crab taught us about Jesus' invitation in Matthew 11:28: "Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." Our campers created beautiful Northern Lights on lanterns in Arctic Art and enjoyed delicious Bear Foot Feast cookies (homemade chocolate chip paw print cookies!). The highlight was our Cool Cube experiment in Compass Closing, where wiggly cubes seemed to disappear in water, showing that Jesus is always with us—even when we feel invisible.



Day 3 - When We Feel Powerless, We Can Trust Jesus

Kody the Bear reminded us of Jesus' words from Matthew 14:27: "Don't be afraid. Take courage. I am here!" Children made "God Guides Me" bracelets and played "The Trail is Lava" while learning to take courage during scary times. A powerful Roman soldier visited us in Wild Bible Adventures, demonstrating faith and trust in Jesus' power. We enjoyed Bear Paw treats and the beautiful weather during Glacier Games.



Day 4 - When We Need Hope, We Can Trust Jesus

Earnest the Eagle shared the truth from Matthew 12:21: "And his name will be the hope of all the world." Through a powerful ice cube activity, children held onto "icy sins" and watched them melt with God's forgiving love. They created personalized camping scenes in Arctic Art and received glowsticks as gifts from Jesus, reminding them that we don't have to live in darkness when we come to Jesus. The dramatic reminder of Jesus' death and resurrection brought home the eternal hope we have in Christ.

Day 5 - When We Need Help, We Can Trust Jesus

Bruce the Moose concluded our adventure with Jesus' promise from Matthew 28:20: "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Children experienced the wild wind and fiery flames of Pentecost, learning how the Holy Spirit came to be our helper. They finished their lantern art and received special Alaskan ornament keepsakes to remember their True North VBS experience. An egg-citing experiment reminded them that while things don't always go perfectly, we can always trust Jesus and find comfort in His presence.



Building a Foundation of Trust

In our rapidly changing world, children face uncertainties that can feel overwhelming. True North VBS equipped our young ones with the knowledge that Jesus is their constant compass—always faithful, always present, always trustworthy. Whether they wonder about the future, feel alone in difficult times, need power to face challenges, hope in dark moments, or help in daily struggles, they now know they can **TRUST JESUS!**

Thank You to Our Amazing Team

Our heartfelt gratitude goes to all the volunteers who transformed our church into an Alaskan wilderness and brought these Bible stories to life. Your dedication created an environment where children could encounter Jesus in fresh, exciting ways. From "Ranger Regina" to "Explorer Jared" to all our station leaders, craft helpers, and kitchen crew—thank you for making this week unforgettable!

In Christ,

Pastor Andy

Marriage Connect Group

Get ready for an exciting group date! Mark your calendars for Thursday, July 31 at 6:00 pm.

Join us for an evening dedicated to strengthening our community and enriching your marriage. We're diving into our Vertical Marriage study, and the next session is going to be a real game-changer: "Fight Me Like A Man! Resolving conflict in ways that improve your marriage."

And guess what? We're flipping the script for dinner with a breakfast theme (lots of our favorites!) Bring your favorite breakfast items to complement eggs and let's enjoy fellowship.

Can't wait to see so many of you there!

~ Trent and Alisha

Operation Christmas Child

As we push into the final months of the year, we've got an exciting mission ahead of us! With just 4 months left, our goal is to pack over 400 boxes this year during our annual November packing party—how amazing would that be for our church! Imagine that many more "Gospel opportunities" we can create as we reach the ends of the earth! What joy!!

Let's keep the momentum going this July by focusing on collecting clothing and fashionable accessories such as bracelets, necklaces, watches, sunglasses, etc. I love thrift shopping for shoes and clothes, always on the lookout for those like-new shoes and dresses in all sizes! It's a fantastic way to spend wisely while still providing quality items. Just be sure that the shoes look like they have barely been worn at all.

A huge thank you to everyone who supports this ministry—it truly makes a difference! Let's make this a memorable season together!

~ Alisha

Women's Fellowship - *Music By The Lake*

Tuesday, July 1

Munroe Falls Metro Park 521 S River Road

Enjoy a performance by the Metro Parks Ensemble at the Lake Area of Munroe Falls Metro Park.

Please bring your own chairs and blankets and something to share for a potluck picnic.

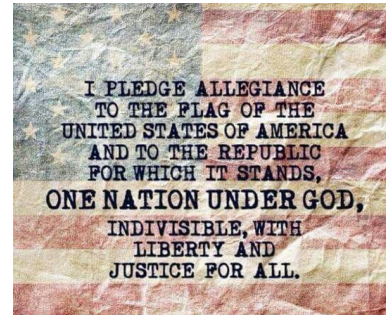
The concert will take place near the Main Shelter.



Women's Fellowship

Haven of Rest Women's Auxiliary luncheon and meeting is on Tuesday, July 1.

Please let Jeannine know, via email, if you are interested. jeanninescase@gmail.com



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.

We are half way to the goal of 200 shoes collected. When you clean out your closet over the summer to make room for back to school, please remember Samaritan's Feet.

Thank you to all who have donated their new, gently used and workout shoes to this effort. All sneakers work to get sneakers on those who need shoes!

For more information about this ministry go to <https://samaritansfeet.org/> or contact Susan Olson shireyolson7@gmail.com.

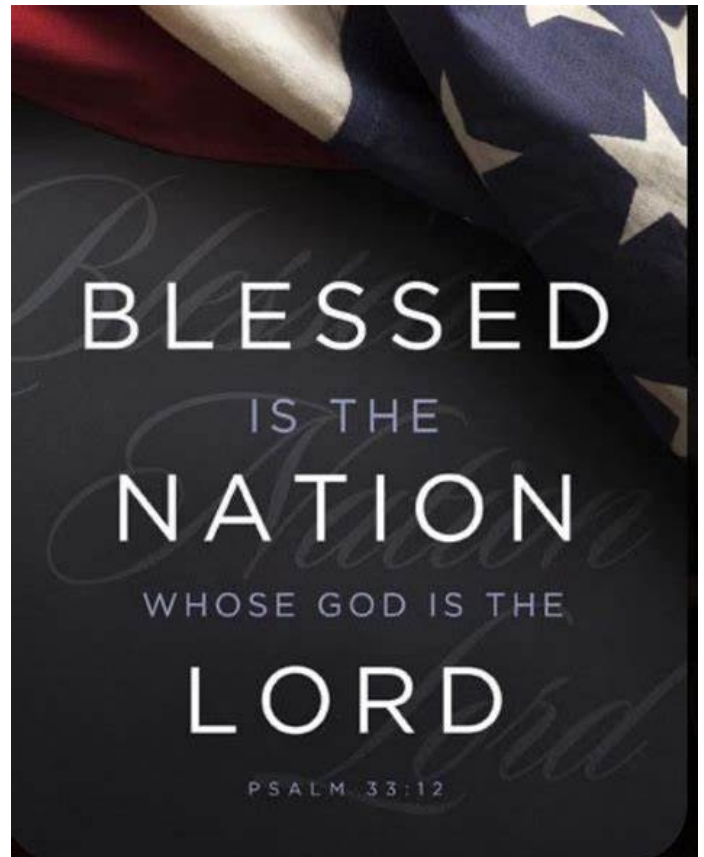


TLC Book Club

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

Book Club is taking July off.

See you in August!



The Wise Owls Dinner & A Show

The July Wise Owl meeting will be dinner and a performance in the Tallmadge High School auditorium.

On Saturday, July 19, please meet in Room 12 at 5:30 pm for a meeting and dinner.

Following supper, the Owls will head over to the High School to watch the performance of Tarzan.

15 tickets have been purchased for the Owls.

Please call Fae Broensen to reserved your ticket 330-297-5968

MITES Sunday

MITE collections are during both services on Sunday, August 31 and Sunday, November 30 this year.

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 330-256-8819



Back to School **BACKPACK** **DRIVE**

Now - August 3, 2025

Help fill a backpack with school supplies for the elementary children!

The goal is 70 backpacks overflowing with supplies for the 2025-2026 school year.

Please grab a pack or two, stuff it full of the suggested items,

and return to TLC by Sunday, August 3.



24-count box of Crayons

Stickers

Toy/Stuffed Animal

Washable Markers

Small packs of Tissues

Book about Jesus

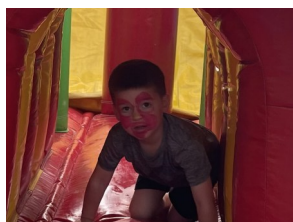
Coloring Book

Small Water bottle

Back-to-School Card

Please no scissors, glue, pens, or candy.

Any questions? Please contact Gail McAlister gmcalister@neo.rr.com



The 5th Annual Family Fun Night was a huge success!

The heat did not scare anyone away!
We had families from Kings' Kids, Preschool, VBS, friends of TLC members, and TLC families enjoy the bouncy house, lawn games, face painting, snow cones, dinner, and fellowship.

A wonderful crew of volunteers stepped up to help make this a success!

Special thanks to Gail McAlister for coordinating this awesome event!

Just look at those faces!

TLC's 5th
Family
Fun
Night

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

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
David Wallace, 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: Jared Shoup



COMMUNITY

Independence Day Weekend Float

Friday, July 4, 2:00 pm through Sunday, July 6 at 8:00 pm

2374 Front St to 2380 Front St

[FAQ - Cuyahoga River](#) | [Float The River](#)

Summer Concert Series at Maize Valley Winery & Craft Brewery

6193 Edison St NE, Hartville, OH 44632

Saturdays, July 5-August 30, 2025

[Ohio Wineries](#) | [Ohio Craft Brewery - Maize Valley Wine, Beer and Market](#)

Music On The Circle

Thursday, July 10: The Originals & The Brass (Motown, Disco, Country & Contemporary Dance Music)

Thursday, July 17: The FM Project (Steely Dan Tribute)

Thursday, July 31: Risk Factor (Rock, Pop & Country from the 60s to today)

[Music on the Circle](#) | [Tallmadge, OH](#)

Northeast Ohio Fireworks

Rubber Ducks Independence Day Celebration, Akron Friday, July 4

Blossom Music Center: A Salute To America, Cuyahoga Falls July 3 & 4

Barlow Farm Park, Hudson Saturday, July 5

FreedomFest at Boettler Park, Green Saturday, June 28

Four on the 4th Race, Hudson Friday, July 4

Old Fashion 4th of July Picnic, New Franklin Friday, July 4

Firecracker Run at Holy Family Church, Stow Friday, July 4

Fourth of July Parade, Stow Friday, July 4

Rock The Docks Festival, Springfield Lake June 27-June 29

[Ultimate Guide of 4th of July Fireworks in Northeast Ohio {2025}](#)

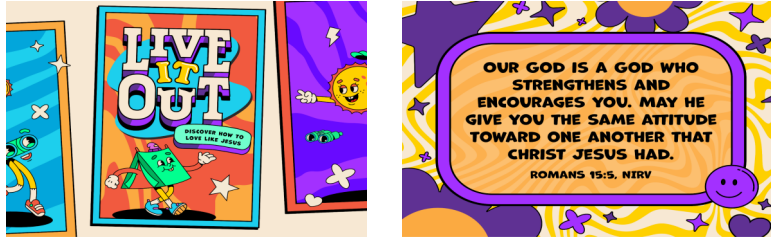


★Sunday School Corner★

★July Theme: *LIVE IT OUT*★

The connection between LIVE IT OUT and GOD'S CHARACTER as shown through God's story.

CORE INSIGHT: The theological foundation for LIVE IT OUT



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!



We are enjoying Summer Sunday School right now! Room 7- same schedule, more games, and a snack! Please join us! It's a great time to try us out!



THE MUSIC MINISTRY

June marks the last month that I will be the music director here at Tallmadge Lutheran Church. I have loved having such a strong influence on the music of our church and I am sad to step back but I am trying to make healthier choices for myself and my family.



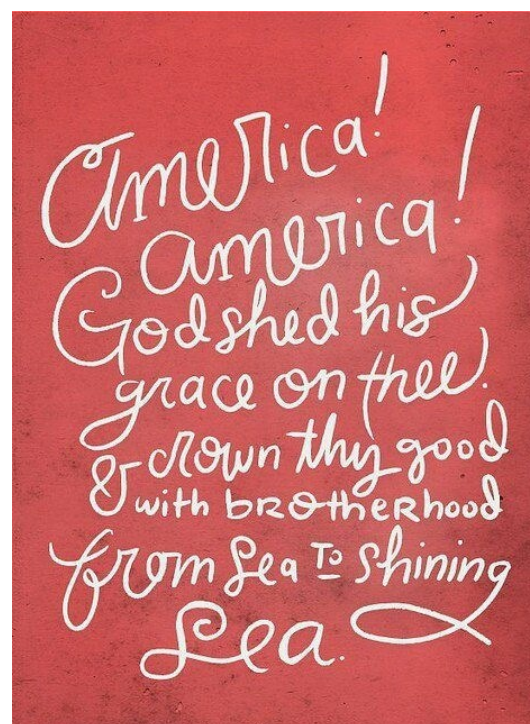
It has been an absolute joy to work with the amazing musicians at our church. I am hoping to stay active with the music ministry moving forward, but I may take a little step back as we transition to our new director, David Wallace. As we look forward to July and August, we are still hoping to involve a few more people with the anthems and special music.



If you are interested in putting together an anthem, I am more than willing to help you choose music, accompany you, or even sing or play with you. Just let me know!

Blessings on the rest of your summer!

-Annie Alberts



Youth Group News

Jared Shoup

Miranda Shoup

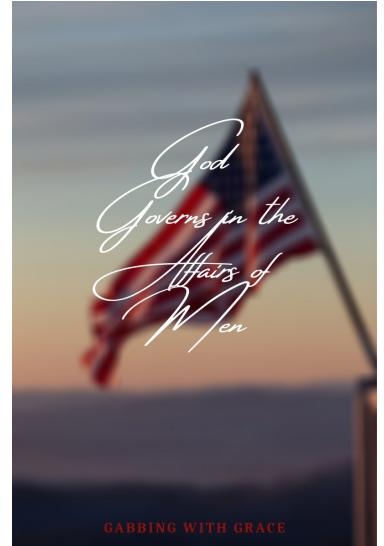
Youth Group Meetings & Events

Please keep the youth in your prayers as we head to New Orleans July 17-24 for the Lutheran Church National Youth Gathering.

All are welcome to join us in the parking lot Thursday July 17 at 8:20 am as we are being sent off with a prayer from Pastor Jim.

There is one last chance to support the youth monetarily, through an *envelope challenge*, found at the back of the sanctuary.

Thank you all for your ongoing support to help the kids have this once in a lifetime experience, to worship with 20,000 other Lutheran teens from across America!



TLC Building Projects

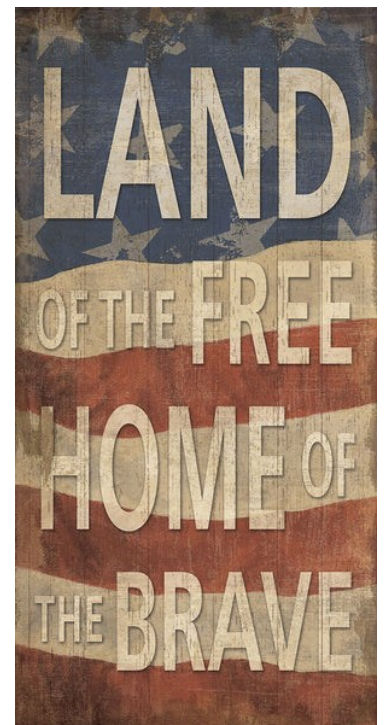
Your financial gifts help us care for God's House.

Completed:

Kitchen water heater & sink faucet repaired
Sinks & urinals in Edu wing repaired
Carpet in sanctuary repaired
Flowers planted for summer
Women's Restroom stall doors repaired
Boiler Inspection
Fire Marshal inspection

Upcoming:

Pest control - spraying of exterior
Paint kitchen
AC Repair
Downspout/drainage repair





King's Kids SUMMER -CAMP-



Week 1

The King's Kids kiddos are having a blast these first weeks of Summer Camp.

They have made stepping stones and garden sticks. Watched a magician do magic tricks.

They rode their bikes and played outside; watched movies, crawled in a tent, took naps and played seek and hide.

More fun is to come as the weeks go on: crafts, coloring & water day out on the lawn.

Stay tuned for more pics. Who knows what else is in Miss Patti's bag of tricks.



Week 2



Birthdays

- 1 Eden Parmelee

17 Christopher Harsey
- 1 Isaiah Alberts

16 Jacob Hanchett
- 2 Robert Knepper

18 Conrad Olson
- 9 Jeannine Case

20 Nicolas Ross
- 10 Mary/ Ann Kaiser

20 Michael Packy
- 10 Lisa Smith

22 Beth Hauser
- 11 Isaac Alberts

22 Gail McAllister
- 12 Ashley Fosnight

22 Owen Harsey
- 12 Maksim Kodzev

22 Alissa Ripley
- 13 John McDowell

23 Kathleen Hanchett
- 27 Mark Luke

Anniversaries

- 1 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Broemsen

4 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Detzel
- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Richard Goebelt

11 Mr. & Mrs. Trent Wright
- 12 Mr. & Mrs. Ray Olson

14 Pastor & Mrs. Andrew Alberts
- 16 Mr. & Mrs. Brian Kuntz

26 Mr. & Mrs. Steven Staszak
- 31 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Conley

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman)	3	4 Independence Day	5
6 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	7 7:00pm No Board of Elders meeting	8	9 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera)	10 2:00pm - 3:00pm Food pantry packing 6:00pm Mom's Group	11	12
13 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	14 8:30am Food Pantry Pick-Up 7:00pm No Board of Directors meeting	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera)	17	18	19 NYG (New Orleans) 5:30pm Wise Owls Dinner & A Show (Rm 12 & Talmadge High School)
20 NYG (New Orleans) 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	21 NYG (New Orleans) 7:00pm NO TLC Book Club	22 NYG (New Orleans)	23 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) NYG (New Orleans) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera)	24	25	26
27 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	28	29	30 King's Kids Field Trips (gym) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera)	31 6:00pm Marriage Connect Group (Rm 12)		



The Living Light is a monthly publication of
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Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director

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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.

The Living Light
Tallmadge Lutheran Church
Tallmadge Christian Preschool
King's Kids School-Age Child Care

