

TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

Following Jesus is a Team Sport



Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love,

as each part does its work. Ephesians 4:15-16

The Christian church is God's team. Jesus has defined what winning looks like for us by commanding his team, "Go and make disciples of all nations... baptizing and teaching" (Matthew 28:19-20). Today some Christians are tempted to think they can be disciples and make disciples best *without* the church. They feel that the church (the corporate body) doesn't hold up its end. Because of this, they are sometimes tempted to quit the church and go the Christian life alone.

Following Jesus is a *team sport*. No matter how gifted or talented an individual is, he or she needs the church to be able to successfully make disciples and to be a disciple. A "go it alone" philosophy is simply unbiblical. The church is part of God's design for disciple making. We can only win (making disciples of all nations) through a team effort by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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In the passage above, the Bible makes it clear that although the church is made up of individuals, we must work together to succeed. Together we grow up into Christ as each of us does its work. All this is done in love – Loving God and Loving Others.



Paul writes that we are all part of the church—God's team. We were chosen to be on this team and to play the role He has gifted us for. We all have abilities and gifts to be used for the good of the team and the cause of Christ. Everyone is important and everyone plays. The church is also important because no one person has all the abilities, gifts, and wisdom of Jesus. We need each other to fulfill Christ's command. Though we are responsible to share Jesus with those people God brings across our paths, we were never intended to do it alone. Working as a team helps us to keep Jesus first and avoid exalting one player's importance above another.

Here's another way of thinking about it... There are different vantage points from which to experience any game. There have always been followers of Jesus who believe that the Christian life can be played from the stands. They never get on the field. In other words, they don't have a place of ministry and they don't share Christ with anyone. Instead they watch their pastors and ministers play, as they are the paid professional players.

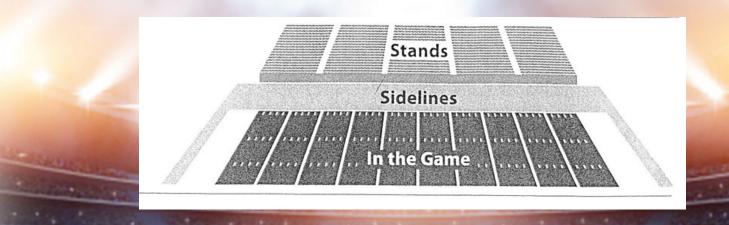
As Tallmadge Lutheran Church seeks to implement the TLC Vision 2030, we need everyone to be in the game ... to fulfill our mission of GROWING as a disciple of Jesus, CARING for one another as the Body of Christ, and SHARING the love of Jesus in the community. It's my hope and prayer that together as the Body of Christ we may make heaven a more crowded place as we share the love of Jesus Christ with all people!

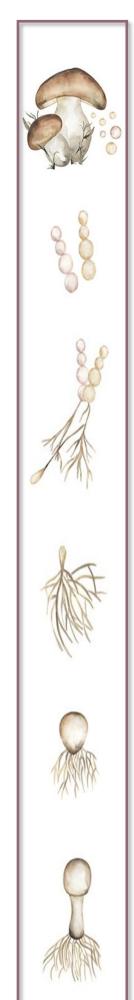
Cheering you on in Christ!

Pastor andy

Put an "X" where you think you have been most of the last two years as a follower of Jesus who makes disciples.

Have you been on the stands, on the sidelines, or in the game?







Purpose: To awaken Christians to the mission that is all around us by deepening the habits of our <u>responsibility</u>, <u>permission</u> and the <u>access</u> we can give others who desperately need Jesus.

Friday October 17, 2025 5pm – 7pm Saturday, October 18, 2025 8:30am – 1pm

Tallmadge Lutheran Church

4-Session Journey to Sharing Jesus

*each Session is 75 minutes

Session 1: Discover the Essentials

Begin your journey with an overview of the 3 Essentials for Sharing Jesus in a relational way. You'll receive a practical tool and an assignment to help you take your first step.

Session 2: Embrace Your Responsibility

Dive deeper into the importance of your role in sharing the Gospel. Learn how to identify and overcome the barriers that may hold you back.

Session 3: Step into Permission

Recognize the Permission you already have to boldly step out in faith. Explore ways to take action with confidence and authenticity.

Session 4: Create Access

Discover how to open your life to provide Access for others to encounter Jesus. Learn practical ways to make your faith visible and inviting.

By the End of Your Awaken Journey, You Will:

- Gain Practical Tools inspired by Jesus's life to effectively share Him with others.
- Develop New Habits through intentional exercises to engage with non-Christians.
- Build Confidence and Creativity to share Jesus in ways that align with your unique personality and gifts.

Friday October 17, 2025 5pm – 7pm Saturday, October 18, 2025 8:30am – 1pm Tallmadge Lutheran Church 759 East Avenue Tallmadge, OH 44278



TLC Beginners Bible Event

Sunday October 5, 2025, Pastor Andy will lead a special Bible Event for preschool students and their parents from 9:15am to 10:15am in TLC Fellowship Hall (gym).

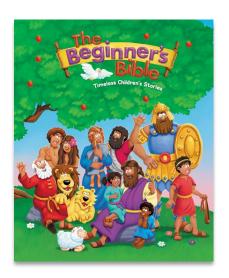
Pastor Andy will lead fun activities using *The Beginner's Bible*, teach fun songs, and share some ideas for meal-time prayers, family devotions, family faith events, and talk about using *The Beginner's Bible* at home.

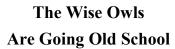
Siblings are welcome!

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. 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. Participating in the blessing of the Bibles is optional.





On Saturday, September 20, 12:00 pm in Room 12, The Owls will be taking a trip down memory lane.

Bring in your old yearbook, pictures, or items from your childhood.

Join in for a time to refresh some good memories.

Menu to be announced.

Weely Bible Studies this Fall

Monday Morning Bible Study led by Pastor Andy at 9:30 am in Room 12. Class is discussing the Solid Declaration of The Formula of Concord. *No Bible Study September 1 & 8*.

Monday Night Bible Study led by Jeanne Colosetti at 5:30 pm in the Youth Room resumes Monday, September 15.

Wednesday Morning Men's Bible Study led by Chris Tywon, 7:00 am, Panera Bread on Howe Rd.

Wednesday Evening High School Bible Study led by Jared Shoup at 6:30 pm in the Youth Room

Thursday Morning Bible Study led by Kathy Vanaman at 10:00 am in Room 12. The class resumes September 11 with a look at the Book of Revelation.

Confirmation

The first night of confirmation instruction is Wednesday, September 3, 2025 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in Room 1.

Students are encouraged to attend in person.

You may also join the class via Zoom https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86711680074?
pwd=UDtsaby6ZUo3aCYDnCarIrC2qseLXO.1

or complete the handout by watching the recorded lesson at https://www.tlcoh.org/confirmation-2025-26/.



He set the Earth on its foundations, never to be moved. Psalm 104:5



Marriage Connect Group

Our next Marriage Connect group night will be Thursday, September 25 at 6:00 pm.

We're adding a little extra fun with a special "mid-series" Game Night!

If you've been thinking about joining us, this is the perfect time to jump in. Just bring your favorite game along with an hors d'oeuvre or dessert to share, and get ready for a great evening of friendship and fellowship.

We can't wait to see you there! ~ Trent & Alisha

Operation Christmas Child

We are nearing the final stretch of our giving season with just two and a half months left! Let's make our 2025 packing party a success by reaching our goal of 400 shoeboxes. This month, we are focusing on collecting travelsized games and toys.

Each shoebox sent overseas has the power to touch a heart and point someone to Jesus—and that's just from one box! Imagine the impact as we pour our love into as many shoeboxes as possible, spreading the Gospel and watching it multiply in homes and villages around the world.

Please place your donations in the designated area in the library for Operation Christmas Child. I am so grateful for each and every one of you. Thank you for your continued support ~ Alisha

Samaritan's Feet Sneaker Drive

Please find a bin in the Library marked *Samaritan's Feet* for the purpose of collection your new, like new, and used sneakers to be used by others for the mission of Samaritans 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.



"How many are Your works, Lord! In wisdom, You made them all, the earth is full of Your creatures." Psalm 104:24

Education "Rally Day" Sunday

All ages!
All abilities!
Any experience!
All invited!

Sunday, September 14, 9:15 - 10:10 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Please join TLC for an intergenerational time to kick off the new Sunday School year through fellowship, food and art!

Check out the Donation Nook by the main entrance for a sneak peak of the fun we are going to have!!

Snacks served. Please contact Gail with questions.

New Members From the Last Four Years

Please stop by the library on Rally Day (September 14) to pick up your family afghan after both services on from the Prayer Shawl Ministry as a welcome gift.

Women's Fellowship

Mark your calendar to attend and/or serve at The Haven of Rest Women's Auxiliary Meeting on Tuesday, December 2.

TLC Book Club

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

The book for September is *The Spirituality of the Cross: The Way of the First Evangelicals* by Gene Edward Veith, Jr.

This book explains the spiritual concepts and principles of Lutheranism, which are supported by the ideology of Martin Luther and Jesus Christ's death and resurrection.

See you Monday, September, 15, 7:00 pm in Room 12.



The Who's Who at TLC

Board of Elders Board of Directors

John Dailey, head Jim Bergmann, president

Marty Hauser Kris Kodzev, vice chair

Chris Tywon Brian Kuntz, treasurer

Jim Case Ellen Tywon, secretary

Todd Hedderly Daryl Parma
Bob Knepper Heidi Wojcik

Eric Fink Dan Conley

Kathy Vanaman



Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

David Wallace, Music Ministry

LaVonne Dolliver, Organist

Chad Kendall, piano & AV

Sue Pifer, Nursery attendant

Laura Miller, TCP director

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 Jared Shoup

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

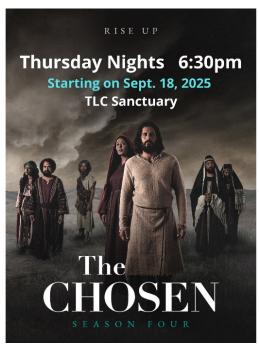
Thanksgiving Dinner: Gail McAlister, coordinator;

Kevin Heilmeier, head chef

Vacation Bible School (VBS): Regina Kodzev

Wise Owls: Fae & Larry Broemsen
Women's Fellowship: Kathy Vanaman

Youth Ministry: Jared Shoup



The CHOSEN at TLC

Follow Jesus as He wraps up His ministry on earth. From the death of John the Baptist to the raising of Lazarus to the Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem, Angel Studios has created an engaging account of Jesus' ministry in a mini-series called "The Chosen." Come watch and experience **season 4** of *The Chosen* at TLC on Thursday nights starting on Thursday, September 18, 2025. Each Thursday we will watch one episode starting at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

Thursday, Sept. 18 6:30pm – 7:45pm

EPISODE 1 – Promises *Mark 6:14-29; Luke 1; John 1:6-8, 19-23*

An intoxicating dance leads Herod to put an end to John the Baptizer, but no one can stop what—or Who—he's ushered in.

Thursday, Sept. 25 6:30pm – 8:00pm

EPISODE 2 – Confessions *Matthew 10:34-37; Matthew 16:13-20;*

Matthew 18:21-22

Jesus founds his church on unholy ground and Simon goes public with Jesus' true identity, getting a new name in the process. But can the new "Peter" forgive old wrongs?

Thursday, October 2 6:30pm – 7:45pm

EPISODE 3 – Moon to Blood *John 9; Luke 11:27-32, 39-43; 12:1-3, 51*

When Jesus heals a blind man on the Sabbath, religious leaders confront him, drawing a riotous crowd. Gaius defies a direct order leading Quintus to take matters—and someone's life—into his own hands.

Thursday, October 9 6:30pm – 7:50pm

EPISODE 4 – Calm Before *Matthew 8:5-13; Mark 10:32-45*

Beginning with a funeral procession, time marches rapidly toward the final days of Jesus' ministry. While the disciples seek status for themselves, a Roman ruler comes with a humble request.

Thursday, October 16

6:30pm – 7:55pm

EPISODE 5 - Sitting, Serving, Scheming

Matthew 5:38-42; 20:1-16; Luke 10:38-42

Roman soldiers demand the disciples carry their armor, but Jesus goes one step farther. Frustrated by the direction of Jesus' ministry, Judas visits an old friend for advice.

Thursday, October 23 6:30pm – 7:50pm

EPISODE 6 - Dedication *John 10; John 11:1-16; Matthew 7:7-11*

Jesus and the disciples celebrate Hanukkah. Matthew confronts Judas about irregularities, and the festival turns into a fight, then flight. The disciples escape with their lives, but learn a friend hasn't been so lucky.

Thursday, November 6 6:30pm – 8:00pm

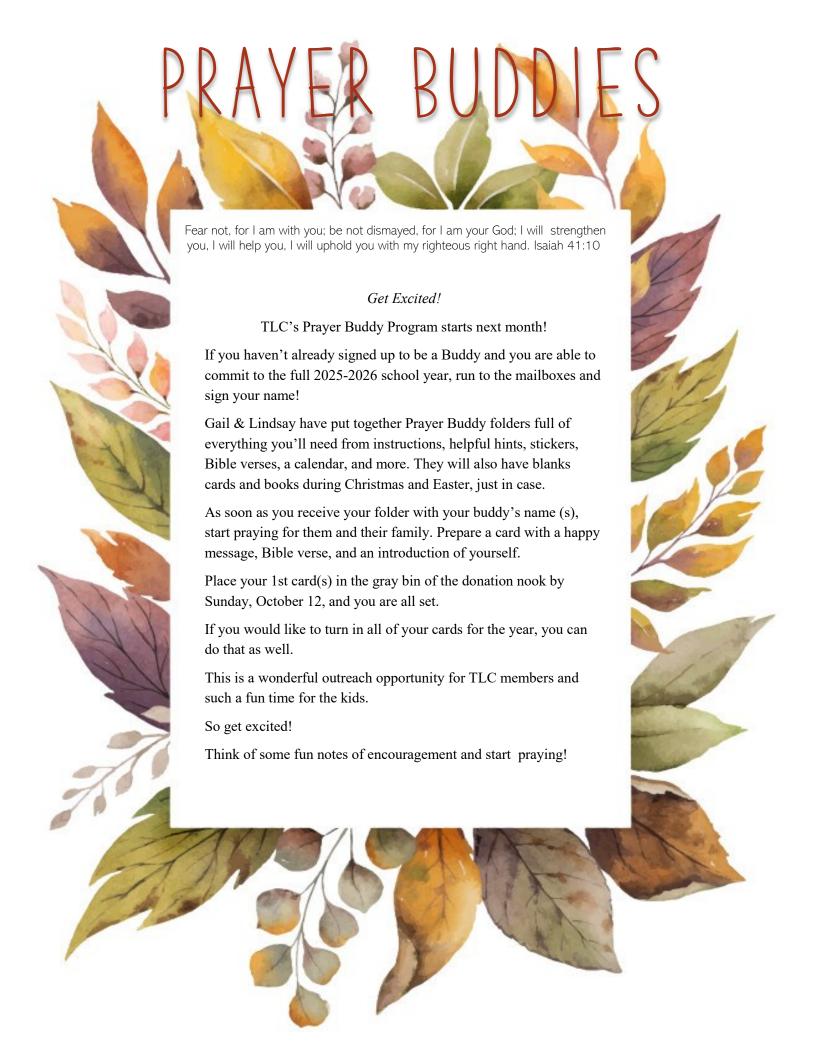
EPISODE 7 - The Last Sign John 11; Deut. 30:19; Psalm 13; Isaiah 53:3

Jesus brings Lazarus back to life—and sets off the chain of events that will lead to His own death.

Thursday, November 13 6:30pm – 8:15pm

EPISODE 8 - Humble *Matthew 25:31-46; John 12:1-8; Matthew 21:1-7*

Jesus refuses to look and act like the Messiah everyone expects—arriving like a lamb instead of a lion and riding a donkey instead of a war horse.



Annual Back to School Night

Each year, the Preschool Staff welcomes parents back to school with a Spaghetti Dinner and Open House. This year's event was on August 21.

Parents enjoyed a delicious meal and then got a chance to hear about the upcoming school year, learn about some of the wonderful activities that are being planned for the 2025-2026 school year, important dates and reminders, and got a chance to meet their teachers!

A special thanks goes to Gail McAlister and her volunteer crew:

Sandee Mick, Janet Buckles & Betty Scaif, who helped prepare and serve the meal for all to enjoy!

God's blessings!



Please meet your Preschool Staff for the 2025- 2026 School Year!

(L - R) April Freeman, Monique Avantino, Diana Nicholson, Kara VanSickle, Laura Miller (Director), Alonie Rackley, and LeeAnne Bright

Annual Church Picnic



























TLC's Annual Church Picnic is a wonderful time to gather together in Fellowship.

We had great food, tons of games, laughter, fun AND some new faces!.

Thank you to all who served and help make this day successful!



COMMUNITY

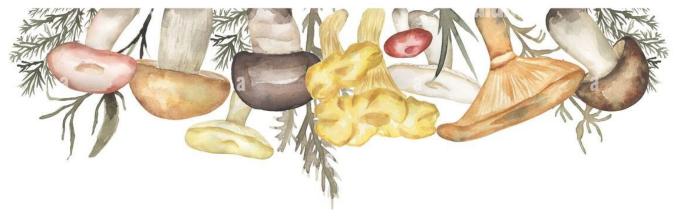
Labor Day is Monday, September 1. Schools and City Offices are closed.

On September 11, the Circle lights up in memory of the firemen, police officers, military personnel and civilians at the World Trade Center, Pentagon and in Shanksville, PA who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

The Farmers Market is every Thursday from 4:00 - 7:00 pm in the Tallmadge Rec parking lot through October 9.

The Great Dussel Farm Pumpkin Festival - October from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm.1109 Olde Forge Road. Enjoy pumpkin picking, face painting, the corn maze, cider, kettle corn, candies apples and more!

The-Tallmadge-Circular



Sunday School Corner

September's Theme: Learn From God's Word

The connection between GOD'S WORD and GOD's CHARACTER as shown through God's Big Story.

Courage: When God helps you to be brave enough to do hard things.



EDUCATION SUNDAY is September 14! All ages in the Fellowship Hall!

Starting on September 21 - 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!

Teachers for 2025- PreK-2nd- Ms. Holly & Ms. Angie 3rd- 5th - Mrs. Bergmann & Ms. Gail

And though your beginning was small, your latter days will be very great. Job 8:3

SNACK & SCRIBBLE SUNDAY

Please join TLC for an intergenerational time to kick off the new Sunday School year through fellowship, food and art!

All ages! All abilities! Any experience! All invited!

Sunday, September 14, 9:15 10:10 in the Fellowship Hall.

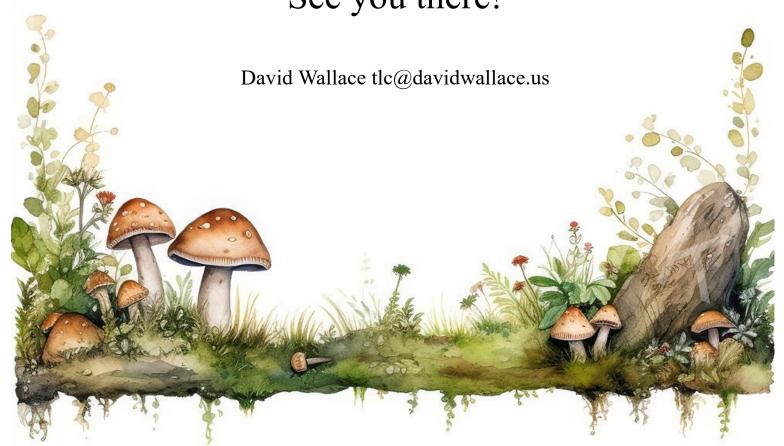
Snacks & juice served.

Please contact Gail with questions.



THE MUSIC MINISTRY

TLC fall Choir Rehearsals will be
Wednesday evenings
from 7:15 - 8:45 pm.
The first practice is
Wednesday, September 3.
See you there!



You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. Psalm 32:7

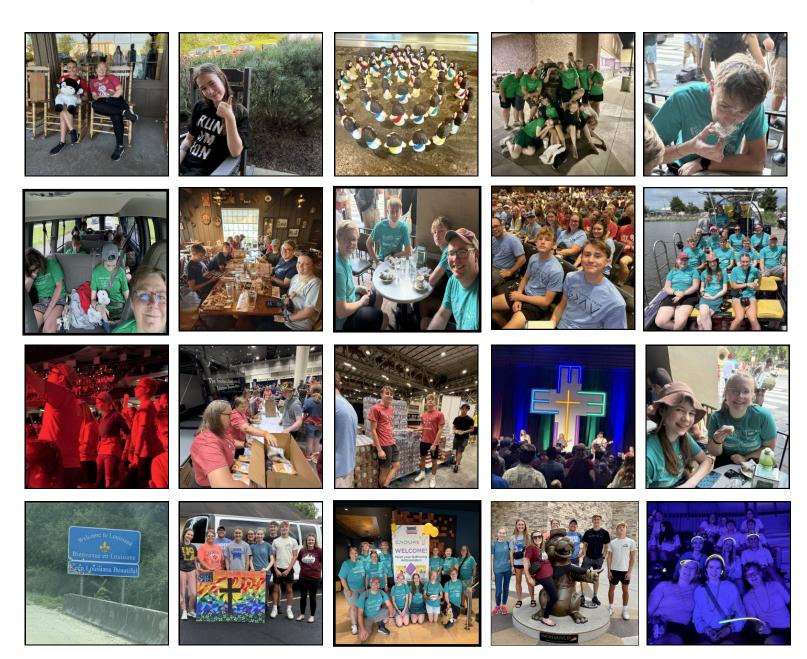
Youth Group News

Jared Shoup Miranda Shoup Pastor Andy

It's time to kick-off another year of TLC Youth Group! All 6^{th} – 12^{th} grade students are invited to participate in the Youth Group Kick-Off meeting on Sunday, September 7 from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Lunch, a devotional, and fun games will be part of this first gathering. Bring a friend!

Youth and their families are invited to go mini-golfing on Sunday, September 21 after late worship. After eating a quick lunch, we will head to Rolling Greens Miniature Golf located at 2939 Edison St NW, Uniontown, OH 4468. After golfing, we will be bringing youth back to TLC. Adult drivers will be needed and families can also join us for the mini-golf outing!

National Youth Gathering



"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move." Matthew 17:20

TLC Building Projects

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

Completed:

Laurene scrubbed the Youth Room carpet and it looks fantastic!

Ben & Val deep cleaned the Education Wing and gym for the start of the new school year and it looks amazing!

Large tree in courtyard cut down.

Edu AC units replacement

Upcoming:

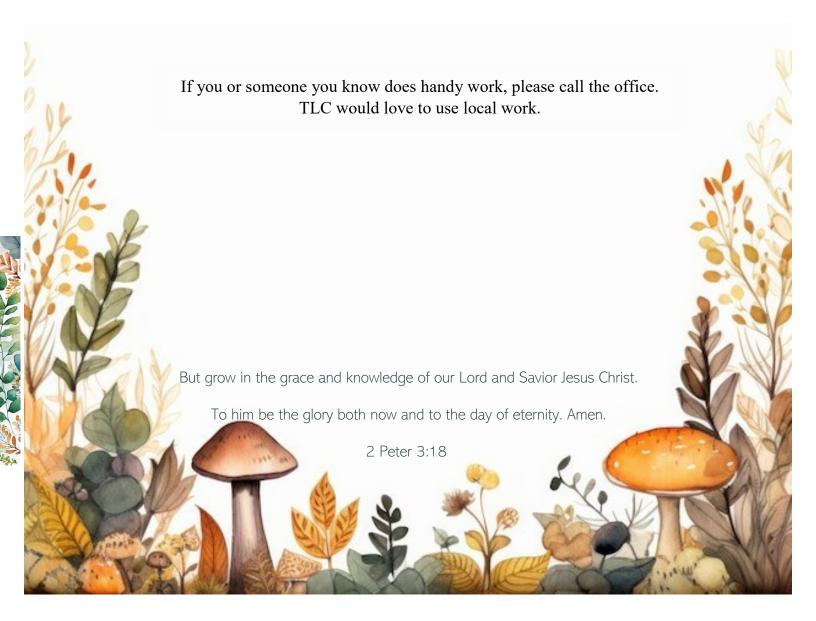
Wood removal in courtyard

Youth Room AC unit replacement

Downspout/drainage repair

A space for Altar Guild

Paint kitchen















Tallmadge Christian Preschool



TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



Hi! My name is Monique Avantino. I have been happily married for almost 12 years and am the mom to two amazing boys. I enjoy spending time outdoors with my family or curled up with a good book. I have been the PreK teacher at TCP for the past 3 years and looking forward for year 4!

						9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	TLC Vision #3 Service & Participation Partic
					30	29	28
			10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:00pm Marriage Connect Group 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	Jam Men's Bible 3y (Panera) 3y (Panera) 3ym Confirmation 1) 1) 17 18 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19		aam Bible Study 112) 100 pm - 3:00pm Food 12 k Annual Inspection 12 he Food pantry 13 pm Bible Study 14 h Rm)	S Vision #2 Faith elopment Dam Worship Sam Sunday School 17) Dam Bible Study Dam Youth Bible dy (Youth Rm) Soam Worship Dopm Youth Mini Golf ing (Uniontown)
	27	26	25	24	23	22	21
	12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)		10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	TCP Picture Day (youth room) 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	Newsletter Deadline TCP Picture Day (youth room)	9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	Rally Sunday/Kick off Sunday TLC Vision #1 Connection to The Community 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm)
	20	19	18	17	16	15	14
12 10 9 8	13	12	11 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12)	10 7.00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6.30pm No Confirmation 6.30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7.15pm - 8.45pm Choir Rehearsal	ဖ	8:30am Food Pantry Pick-Up 9:30am No Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Directors (Rm 12)	7 9:15am Sunday School 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth Group Initiation
2284427		9:00am - 10:00am TMS work crew 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	7:00am - 9:00am THS work crew	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	Preschool's 1st Day	Labor Day Church Office Closed No Board of Elders 9:30am No Bible Study	
	6	S	4		2		

Birthdays

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2 Annie Alberts
2 Natalie Harsey
3 Ava Gregg
4 Molly Kuntz
4 Ruth Lynch
4 James Riley
5 Sara Vanaman
7 Lindsay Harsey
8 Kaleb Wendland
9 Kathryn Byers
10 Paul Dussel
12 Addison Byers

12 Avyana Broemsen
13 Jeffrey Carley
13 Barbara Fink
14 LouEllen Kirkendall
18 Sandra Dixon
21 Kasey Parmelee
21 Kaye McDowell
24 Kathryn Ord
d 26 Regina Kodzev
26 Mary Huck
28 Myra Barrett
28 Walter Ruggles

Anniversaries

1 Mr. & Mrs. James Kirkendall 4 Mr. & Mrs. Gary Sandmann 7 Mr. & Mrs. Jim Scheck 18 Mr. & Mrs. Ty Taylor 28 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Holzer



The Living Light is a monthly publication of

Tallmadge Lutheran Church, 759 East Avenue, Tallmadge OH 44278 330-633-4775 www.tlcoh.org facebook.com/tallmadgelutheranchurch



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David Wallace, Music Director

TLC@davidwallace.us

Laura Miller, Preschool Director

Imiller@tlcoh.org

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.

