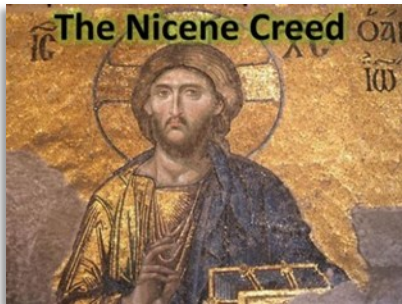


TALLMADGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2025



What's a Christian, Anyway?

In our age of endless hot takes and social media arguments, many Christians find themselves asking a fundamental question: "What's a Christian, anyway?" We live in a world where popularity has replaced credibility, where everyone is an expert, and where even fellow

believers seem to be arguing about everything from theology to politics to lifestyle choices.

The church has been here before. In the early centuries of Christianity, communities were growing rapidly with insufficient accountability, competing interpretations of the faith were emerging, and believers needed guidance to distinguish authentic Christianity from dangerous counterfeits. Our spiritual ancestors crafted a powerful resource to help them find their way: **The Nicene Creed**.

Pastor and theologian Glenn Packiam reminds us that farmers in prairie days would tie a rope from the house to the barn when a blizzard was coming so they wouldn't get lost in the whiteout conditions. The Nicene Creed serves as our rope—not just a statement of beliefs, but a lifeline to lead us home to the heart of authentic Christianity.

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- Building Projects (p 15)
- TCP & King's Kids (p 16)
- Monthly Calendar (p 17)

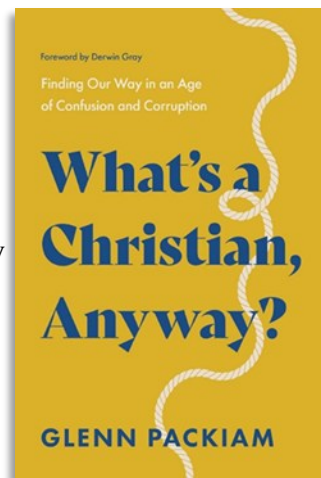
Written in AD 325 at the Council of Nicaea and refined in AD 381, this ancient confession has stood the test of time. It's the only confession affirmed by every major stream of Christianity—Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant alike. It's both inclusive enough to unite us as believers and sharp enough to distinguish Christian faith from counterfeits.

Together we confess "I Believe In..." We confess the Nicene Creed together as a family of faith. Even though the church is made of individuals, our common faith unites us. The power of community faith means we don't have to carry the weight of belief on our own—we carry it together.

"I believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth..." This confession reminds us that God is the source of every good gift, the author of our story, and sufficient for all our needs. We don't have to write our own stories or manufacture our own hope.

"I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ..." The longest section of the Creed focuses on Jesus—the eternal Son who became incarnate "for us and for our salvation." He is both our saving King and the eternal Son of God who came down to the very bottom of human experience to rescue us.

"I believe in the Holy Spirit..." The Spirit is not a force or feeling, but the Lord and giver of life who calls us by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, makes us holy through faith and then empowers us to share the love of Jesus Christ to all the world.



The Story We Enter

The Creed tells a sweeping story: from the Creator of all things visible and invisible, to the Redeemer who died and rose again, to the Spirit who gives life to the church, to the ultimate hope of resurrection and the life of the world to come.

This isn't just ancient history—it's the story we enter when we confess together "I believe." As the Creed reminds us, we belong to "one holy catholic and apostolic Church." We acknowledge "one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins" and look forward to "the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come."

Living the Creed Today

How do we live as people who believe this story?

- **Stay in the boat:** Lean into Christian community rather than trying to navigate faith alone
- **Move beyond knowing about Jesus to knowing Jesus:** Faith requires humility and surrender to mystery
- **Remember our baptism:** We are both one and holy in Christ—realities we must live into
- **Put up our sails:** Surrender areas of our lives to the Holy Spirit's leading

Live now as it will be then: Proclaim the Good News, pray for the sick, work for justice, and love like Jesus. Missionary theologian Leslie Newbigin once asked how the strange story of God made flesh could become credible to a world conditioned to believe only what can be explained without God. His answer: "I know of only one clue... only one hermeneutic of the gospel: a congregation which believes it."

Pastor Andy will begin a 7-week sermon series on The Nicene Creed starting on Sunday, October 5. The world yearns for Christ's joy, peace, and hope, but the gospel is only believable if Christians live like it's true. The Nicene Creed isn't just a statement we recite—it's a story we embody, a hope we carry, and a vision of what it means to be Christian.

Trusting in Christ,

Pastor Andy

5 Things You Need to Know About Genesis Leader

1. The Vision and Mission.

We believe God is calling Multipli to awaken the evangelistic heartbeat in the People of God as we share tools, training, coaching and confidence that help mobilize people to create and lead communities where anyone can discover Jesus.

2. Who should participate?

Christians who...

Are ready and willing to be trained to live out and lead the mission of God.

Have a heart that loves Jesus.

Long to share Jesus.

Have a humble and teachable spirit.



3. New Training Groups start October 19 and November 9, 2025!

Nine months of formalized online training to shape a lifetime of discipleship habits. Leaders will learn tools to help engage in relationships, lead with influence, navigate our changing culture, and develop the ability to see where God is at work in their context.

4. Your Commitment.

Time: 10-20 minutes of on-demand online teaching and 75 minutes of live zoom video coaching per week with additional time spent intentionally in existing and new relationships. We know life is busy, but this training can integrate really well without adding a ton to your schedule over these 9 months.

Whole-Hearted Participation: Our training works best when the greatest effort possible is given and when participants put the training into practice. (But don't worry, there's lots of grace. We know life happens.)

Cost is \$495.00 per participant (Option: 10 payments of \$49.50) *Grants available from TLC!*

5. Our Heart.

We believe that God's mission of going and making disciples can be led by all of His people. So we're passionate about training every Jesus follower to lead God's mission. We've seen this training extend the reach of the local church as God's people — leaders everywhere and everyday — carry out God's mission. This is why Genesis Leader exists.

Questions, details and conversation?

Contact Erin Guelzow at 615-543-6788 or 901-634-4880.

Check out our website: www.multipli.org



AWAKEN

YOUR ROLE IN SHARING JESUS

Tallmadge Lutheran On-Site Training

Friday, Oct 17 and Saturday, Oct 18

6pm - 8pm

8:30am - 1pm

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.

 **multipli**

www.multipli.org

Marriage Connect Group

Our next study will be held on Thursday, October 30 at 6:00 pm.

If you missed us last month, we had a blast with game night and now we are ready to dive back into our Vertical Marriage study.

Our session is titled, "God in the Bedroom".

Onion baked chicken thighs will be served.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.

Hope to see you there.

~ Trent and Alisha Wright

Operation Christmas Child

Let us wrap up the year on a high note with just 2 months remaining for contributions!

Help us meet our goal of packing 400 shoeboxes. May you experience the JOY of giving a tangible gift of love to those who need to feel God's love. May that motivate us as we approach the year's end.

We are still in need of toys, travel games, nail clippers, nail files, and fun children's adhesive bandages. We appreciate all your support during the year!

Thank you for helping this ministry be a success.

~ Alisha



Youth Group Ministry

On Sunday, October 5, TLC youth and their families are invited to head together to Dussel Farm (1109 Old Forge Rd, Kent 44240) where we will navigate the corn maze, pick out a pumpkin, and then head across the street for food and fellowship at Chris & Holly Dussel's house.

Our timeframe is to have lunch together after church, head to Dussel Farm, and then be back to church around 3:00 pm.

Youth Bible Study for high schoolers is on Wednesday nights from 6:30 – 8:30 pm.

Samaritan's Feet Sneaker Drive

Over 250 sneakers have been collected!

Thank you to all who have donated their new, gently used and workout sneakers to this effort.

Donations (sneakers only please) can go in the Library bin.

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

MITES Sunday

MITE collections are during both services on Sunday, November 30.

TLC Book Club

The book for October and November is *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World* by Eric Metaxas.

Written in riveting prose and impeccably researched, *Martin Luther* tells the searing tale of a humble man who, by bringing ugly truths to the highest seats of power, caused the explosion whose sound is still ringing in our ears.

Luther's monumental faith and courage gave birth to the ideals of liberty, equality, and individualism that today lie at the heart of all modern life.

This book is lengthy, so we will take two months to read and discuss this book.

See you Monday, October 20, at 7:00 pm in Room 12.

Wise Owls

On Saturday, October 18, the Owls will be joined by Megan E Raber, the Director of Law for the City of Talmadge.

Maegan will talk about scams and how to avoid them.

Luch will be pork and squash.

Sign up by the mailboxes.



Operation Christmas Child

2025 National Collection Week

Drop-Off Dates & Times



Monday November 17 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Tuesday, November 18 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Wednesday, November 19 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

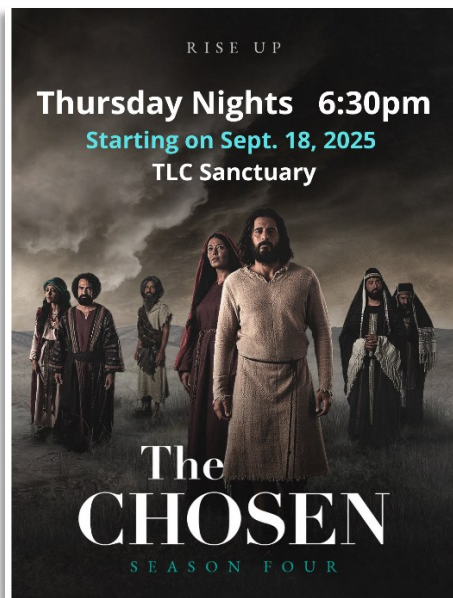
Thursday, November 20 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Friday, November 21 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Saturday, November 22 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Sunday, November 23 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Monday, November. 24 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM



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 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

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.

PRAYER BUDDIES

Here We Go!! The Prayer Buddy program begins NOW!!

The first cards are due the second Sunday of the month - Sunday, October 12.

Introduce yourself, leave an uplifting message & a Bible verse, cover the envelopes with stickers, use the name label, and start praying!

All cards go in the grey bins of the Donation Nook. Feel free to complete all cards for the year - we will hold on to them for you.

No candy or gifts; only books for Christmas & Easter, please.

GOD
SAYS
you are

UNIQUE
Psalm 139:13
SPECIAL
Ephesians 2:10
LOVELY
Daniel 12:3
PRECIOUS
I Corinthians 6:20
CHOSEN
John 15:16
FORGIVEN
Psalm 103:12



For more information and if you are interested in this wonderful outreach program, please contact Gail McAlister, gmcaster1@neo.rr.com or Lindsay in the church office, secretary@tlcoh.org

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.

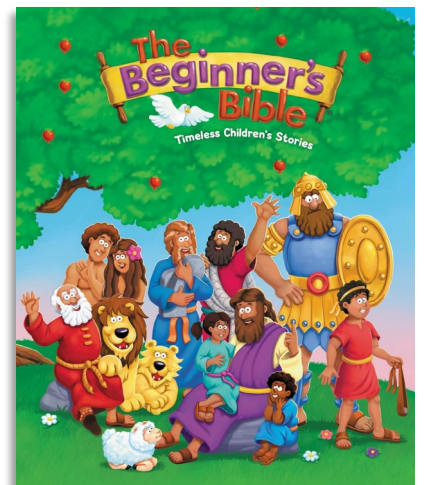
Siblings are welcome!

Teaching children about
JESUS
is the best job ever

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.



The Who's Who at TLC

Board of Elders

John Dailey, head
Marty Hauser
Chris Tywon
Todd Hedderly
Bob Knepper
Eric Fink

Board of Directors

Jim Bergmann, president
Kris Kodzev, vice chair
Brian Kuntz, treasurer
Ellen Tywon, secretary
Daryl Parma
Heidi Wojcik
Dan Conley
Kathy Vanaman

Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor
David Wallace, Music Ministry
LaVonne Dolliver, Organist
Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager
Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities
Sue Pifer, Nursery attendant
Laura Miller, TCP director
Patti Trettel, KK Director
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

COMMUNITY

Farmers Market - Thursday evenings from 4:00 - 7:00 pm in the Rec's parking lot through October 9, 2025

Electronics Recycling Drive - October 11 from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the Rec Center

Fall Street Festival - Saturday, October 18 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm in the Rec Center parking lot

Tallmadge Beggars' Night - Thursday, October 30 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm

The Great Dussel Farm Pumpkin Festival - everyday from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm. 1109 Olde Forge Road.

Enjoy pumpkin picking, face painting, the corn maze, cider, kettle corn, candied apples, and more!

[The-Tallmadge-Circular](#)



Sunday School Corner

October Theme: Wisdom

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

Wisdom: Finding out God's best and doing it.



Join us every Sunday from 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

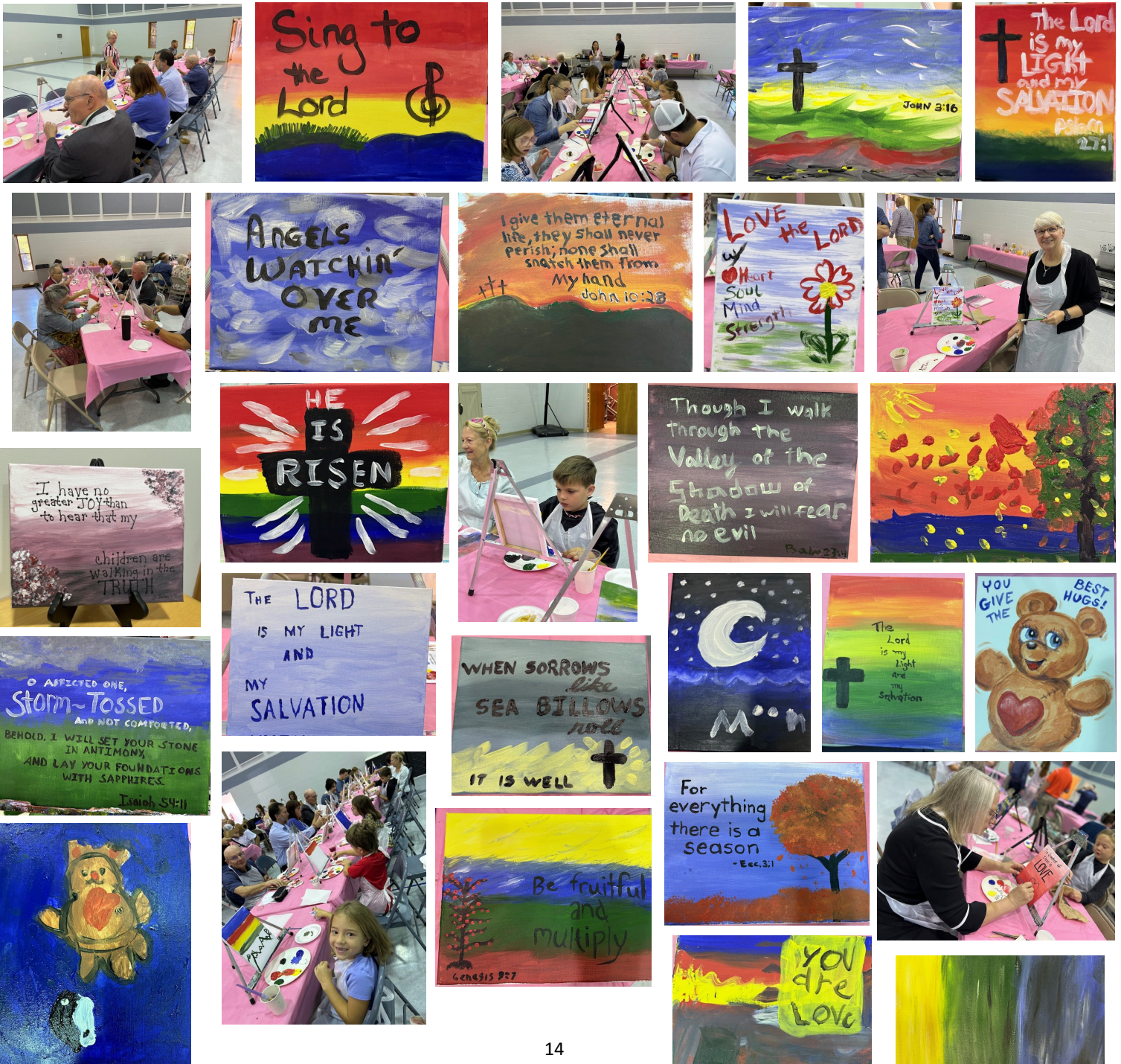
Rally Sunday was **AWESOME!**

With the help of Kat Scoff, Art Teacher from CF, everyone from ages 5 to 75 became an artist for the day and created something beautiful with just a little bit of direction!

As you can see by the canvases below, this group was PRETTY creative!

What a great way to start the new education year at TLC!

Thank you to all who came and participated!



TLC Building Projects

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

Completed:

4 HVAC units replaced: 2 Youth Room & 2 Office/Edu Wing

Old Pest control sprayed for fall/winter

The Sink in Edu Wing boys' restroom repaired

Fire extinguishers, kitchen hood and fire door inspection completed

Large tree in courtyard taken down

Please call the office for fire wood

Gas lines throughout the building inspected and approved

Kitchen Stove serviced

Food Pantry inspection compete with a 100%



*When the time is
right, the Lord
will make it happen*

Isaiah 60-22

Upcoming:

Rerouting drainage

Gutter repair

Altar Guild storage area





Tallmadge Christian Preschool

TALLMADGE CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL TEACHER SPOTLIGHT



Hi! My name is April Freeman. I was born November 24, 1986 in Cuyahoga Falls, and continue to reside there. I have been married to my high school sweetheart, Ryan, since 2010. We have two daughters, Hailey and Alyssa, and two dogs named Buck and Lillie. Our family joined Tallmadge Lutheran Church in 2025.

I attended the Early Childhood Development career program at Theodore Roosevelt High School, a school in the Six District Compact, during my junior and senior years of high school. I then moved on to receive my bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Akron. I worked in childcare during and after college for a total of 6 years, before leaving to have my children. I was a stay-at-home mom for 10 years before joining the staff at Tallmadge Christian Preschool in 2023.

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with family and friends, as well as reading, crafting, gardening, and camping.

I am looking forward to getting to know your children and families in the coming school year!

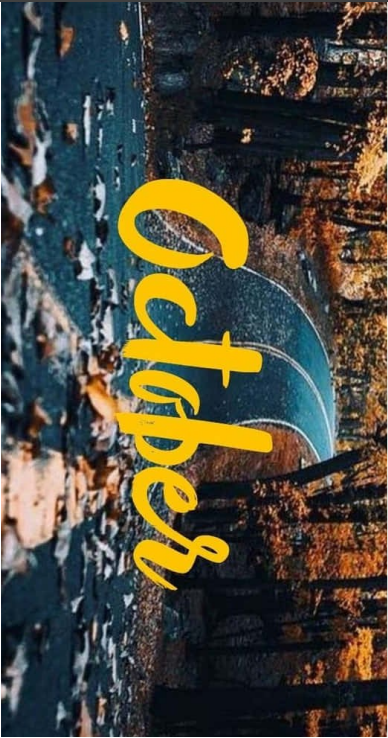
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	2 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	3 TMS work crew 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	4
5 8:00am Worship 9:15am - 10:15am Beginners Bible Event 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth - Dussel Farm 4:00pm Circuit Open Forum (Rm 12)	6 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	7	8 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	9 9:00am - 10:00am THS work crew 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	10	11
12 Prayer Buddy cards due 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship	13 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)	14	15 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	16 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	17 6:00pm - 8:00pm AWAKEN Retreat (sanctuary, library)	18 8:30am - 1:00pm AWAKEN Retreat (sanctuary, library) 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)
19 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 12:00pm Youth Meeting	20 9:00am - 10:00am TCP Field Trip (gym) 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00am - 10:00am TCP Field Trip (gym)	22 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	23 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 6:30pm The Chosen (sanctuary)	24	25
26 Reformation Sunday 8:00am Worship 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 10:30am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm)	27 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	28	29 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	30 10:00am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Tallmadge Beggars' Night 6:00pm Marriage Connect Group 6:30pm No Chosen	31 Halloween	

Birthdays

- 1 Kristi Conley
5 Anders Redman
6 Peggy Menke
6 Kathleen Detzel
6 Kevin Elia
7 Michael Pifer
8 Quinn Harsey
8 Susan Olson
9 Kathy Alleshouse
13 Ty Taylor
16 Andrew DeWolf
- 16 Luke Byers
17 John Scartatelli
18 Gabriella Vojtek
18 Julianna Bailey
19 Debbie Rugles
22 Ava Harsey
23 Janice Cobb
23 Diana Sferra
26 Debra Smith
27 Emma Hedderly
30 Michelle Wendland
30 Nicolas Harsey
31 Robyn Casteel

Anniversaries

- 1 Mr. & Mrs. Dan Capp
1 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vernon
3 Mr. & Mrs. Brent Hovey
7 Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Richard
7 Mr. & Mrs. Ethan Ord
20 Mr. & Mrs. Walter Fenske
23 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Barrett



The Living Light is a monthly publication of
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administrator@tlcoh.org

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

secretary@tlcoh.org

David Wallace, Music Director

TLC@davidwallace.us

Laura Miller, Preschool Director

lmiller@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.

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



The Living Light