

### Hearts of Gratitude Hands of Generosity

As November arrives with its crisp air and changing leaves, we find ourselves naturally drawn to reflection on God's abundant blessings. This season of harvest and Thanksgiving provides a beautiful opportunity to

consider how gratitude and generosity flow together in the Christian life—not as separate virtues, but as two streams from the same fountain of God's grace.

St. Paul's words to the Thessalonians ring with extraordinary power: "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). Notice that Paul doesn't say to give thanks *for* all circumstances, but *in* all circumstances. This thanksgiving isn't rooted in our shifting situations but in the unchanging character of our God.

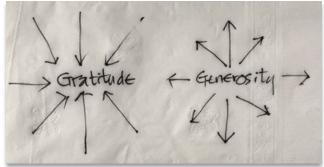
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The Psalmist knew this truth well, proclaiming, "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good. His love endures forever" (Psalm 136:1). This verse begins a psalm where "His love endures forever" appears twenty-six times—a powerful reminder that God's steadfast love is the bedrock of our gratitude. When we anchor our thanksgiving in God's eternal love rather than temporal blessings, we discover a joy that circumstances cannot shake.

In his letter to the Colossians, Paul reveals another beautiful dimension of thankfulness: "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful" (Colossians 3:15). Here we see that gratitude and peace are companions. When Christ's peace reigns in our hearts, thankfulness naturally follows. And remarkably, when we practice thanksgiving, we find our hearts more open to His peace.

As we gather for worship, share in fellowship, and live as the body of Christ, this thankfulness becomes not just an individual practice but a communal celebration. We give thanks not only for what God has done in our own lives but for His work in our congregation and throughout His Church.

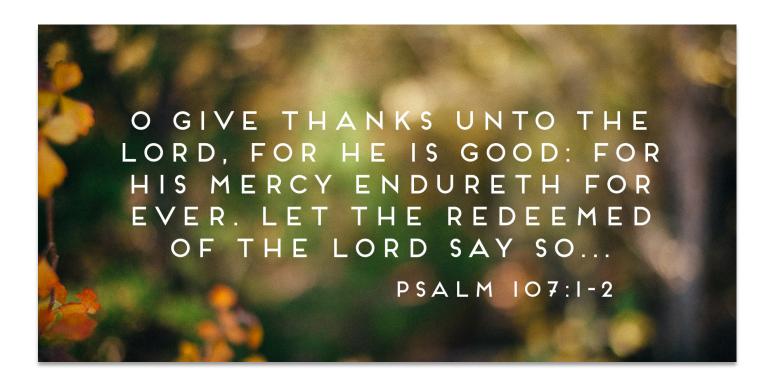


Here's where our November theme takes a beautiful turn: *hearts filled with gratitude naturally overflow in generosity*. Jesus teaches us, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you" (Luke 6:38).

This isn't a prosperity formula but a kingdom principle. When we truly grasp how generous God has been to us—giving His only Son for our salvation—how can we not respond with open hands and hearts? The

image Jesus paints is vivid: grain pressed down and shaken together to make room for more, then heaped so high it spills over. This is how God gives to us, and it's how we're called to give to others.





### Living Gratitude & Generosity Out This November

As we move through this month of thanksgiving, I encourage you to consider:

**In Your Personal Life:** Begin each day by naming three specific blessings, no matter how your circumstances look. Let gratitude shape your first thoughts and your last prayers.

**In Your Family:** Share your thanksgiving around the dinner table—not just on Thanksgiving Day, but throughout the month. Help your children see God's faithfulness in both big and small ways.

**In Your Giving:** Prayerfully consider how God might be calling you to generous action. Perhaps it's supporting our food pantry ministry, being part of Operation Christmas Child, volunteering additional hours, or reaching out to someone who needs encouragement. Remember, generosity multiplies joy—both in the giver and receiver.

**In Our Congregation:** Let's make this a month of extraordinary encouragement. Share with others how you've seen God work through their service. Write that note of thanks you've been meaning to send. Celebrate the ways God is using our church family to bless our community, especially as we continue taking steps to enact TLC Vision 2030. Complete the 2026 Pledge Card and return it at worship services on November 23.

This November, may we be people marked by overwhelming gratitude and openhanded generosity. May our thankfulness be rooted not in our circumstances but in our Savior's steadfast love. And may our generosity flow not from obligation but from joy, as we share the blessings God has so freely given us.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Andy

### TLC's Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Come to the Annual Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 16 after the late service.

The meal will consist of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, cranberry relish and rolls/corn muffins with butter.

Last name starting A - L, please bring a dessert to share.

Last name M - Z, please bring a a non-perishable item for the Food Pantry

A sign-up sheet is by the mailboxes.

Please remember to sign-up so we have plenty of food!



Sunday, November 2.

Don't forget to turn "fall back" and set your clocks back an hour.

### Refill - Restore - Revive

Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm in the library to refill, restore, and revive our faiths to better parent together.

Men will head off for a time of devotion and conversation to grow together as leaders of their families.

Women will be reading through You Bet Your Stretch Marks by Abbie Halberstadt at home and discussing one chapter a week.

The conversation will apply regardless so feel free to come chat and pray together any time you're able. Older kiddos are attending confirmation and youth group at this time so drop them off and head over for some adult revival!

If there is enough interest for child care for littles we are happy to organize an option for that as well. Just let us know!

Kris and Regina Kodzev
330-212-8365 reginalouisekostko@yahoo.com









### TLC's 2025 Holiday Schedule

Sunday, November 16 11:45 am Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

Wednesday, November 26 6:30 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 3 5:00 pm Advent Supper 6:30 pm Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 10 5:00 pm Advent Supper 6:30 pm Advent Worship

Sunday, December 14 8:00 & 10:30 am TLC's Christmas Cantata

Wednesday, December 17 5:00 pm Advent Supper 6:30 pm Advent Worship

Sunday, December 21 10:30 am Children's Sunday School Program

Wednesday, December 24
6:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship
10:00 pm Candlelight Service

Thursday , December 25 10:00 am Christmas Day Worship

Wednesday, December 31 6:30 pm New Year's Eve Worship



### Wise Owls

On Saturday, November 15, the Owls will enjoy a lasagna lunch while learning about mental health in the elderly and grief support from speaker, Theresa Niewiadomski, family care giver and support specialist.

Please sign up by the mailboxes. See you at 12:00 pm in Room 12.

The Owls will not meet in December or January.

### Women's Fellowship

The TLC Women's Fellowship is invited to attend the Women's Auxiliary Meeting at The Haven of Rest on Tuesday, December 2, 2025.

Mark your calendars.

### The Akron-Youngstown LWML Fall Retreat

The Retreat will be on Saturday, November 1 at Birch Hill Cabin at the Mill Creek Park in Youngstown.

Registration is \$15.00 per person. The cost includes a light breakfast, lunch and a takehome craft. Ingathering will be for the Heart of Ohio Diaper Bank.

For more information, see the flyer on the LWML board in the TLC library.

### MITES Sunday

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

### Poinsettias for the Altar

It is time to order your Poinsettias to adorn the Altar this Christmas. We will be ordering double stem Poinsettias in 7.5" pots, the cost per plant is \$16.00.

To order your plant(s), complete a Poinsettia Order envelope, indicating quantity, color (red, white or jingle bells), and if in memory of a loved one or a blessing.

Place a check, payable to "Tallmadge Lutheran Church" in the envelope and place in Becky Springer's mailbox.

Orders should be placed by Sunday, November 23rd to guarantee availability.

Poinsettias can be picked up after the Christmas Eve service.

### Marriage Connect Group

Our upcoming marriage connect group is scheduled for Thursday, December 4 at 6:00 pm. The month of November is typically quite hectic for us due to Operation Christmas Child and Thanksgiving, so we appreciate your understanding.

There will be no study during this time, as our December meeting will be our "Christmas party white elephant gift exchange." Please bring one gift per person (NOT per couple!) and there is no need to purchase anything.

Also, please wear your favorite Christmas sweater for a fun filled festive evening. There will not be a specific dinner theme. Bring your favorite holiday dish to share. We look forward to seeing many of you there

~ Trent and Alisha Wright

### TLC Youth Ministry

Youth LOCK-IN Saturday, November 1 at 8:00 pm through 8:00 am worship on Sunday morning.

Come enjoy a night of games, devotion, and FUN!

Leaf Raking Sunday, November 16 at 1:00 pm

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

### Samaritan's Feet Sneaker Drive

Collecting new, gently used and workout sneakers (only).

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



### TLC Book Club

The book for November continues with 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.

Chapters 11-Epilogue for November.

See you Monday, November 17, at 7:00 pm



# Give

### Advent Kick-Off

Sunday, November 30 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a friend and enjoy lunch, crafts, and learning about the Advent Season.

### Sunday School Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21 at the 10:30 am Worship Service. Join us to hear the Good News. Jesus was born!

### Happy Birthday Jesus!

Sunday, December 21 after the late service in the Fellowship Hall. Celebrate the reason for the season. Cake will be served along with crafts and activities. Invite a friend.

### Operation Christmas Child

It's that time of year again. Operation Christmas Child is here! Collection week is from November 17 - November 24. Drop-off hours are posted throughout the church. We encourage you to take as many empty shoeboxes from the Narthex as you'd like to fill and return them during one of the drop-off times. Every shoebox is a "Gospel Opportunity"!

Please remember the \$10 shipping cost per box. The \$10 suggested donation for each shoebox covers much more than just shipping, including the cost of collecting, processing, and transporting the gifts globally, as well as providing ministry materials like gospel booklets and training for local church volunteers. This donation is critical for ensuring the shoebox gift, and the accompanying Christian message, reaches a child in need. If God moves you to help with the shipping costs for the shoeboxes we pack at the packing party, please make the checks payable to "Samaritan's Purse" and give to Alisha Wright.

Thank you for all your generous donations throughout the year. If there are items you see while shopping and would still like to donate them, that would be great!

Our big shoebox pizza packing party will be held on Thursday, November 20 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm. There is a sign up sheet by the mailboxes. This is a great night of joy and fellowship as we prepare shoebox gifts. If you want to participate this year, please sign up. I do need a headcount so I know how many pizzas to order.

Thank you in advance to everyone who helps in every way. This ministry is bigger than one person and bigger than one church! I appreciate everyone's willingness to give their time and resources.

The last request would be for your prayers. Please pray as you fill your box for the child who will receive it that he/she would believe in Jesus Christ (as well as their families) and be saved. Please also pray for all the volunteers at all the drop-off sites to be strengthened and encouraged and for the week to be the most successful yet.

Thank you all so much ~ Alisha Wright



### 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 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
Todd Hedderly Ellen Tywon, secretary

Bob Knepper Daryl Parma Eric Fink Heidi Wojcik

Dan Conley

Kathy Vanaman

### Staff

Pastor Andy, Pastor

David Wallace, Music Ministry

Laura Miller, TCP director

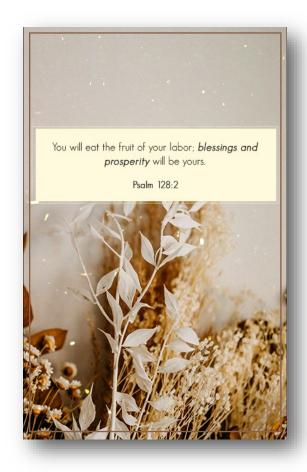
LaVonne Dolliver, Organist

Patti Trettel, KK Director

Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

Ben & Val Jews, Custodian



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;

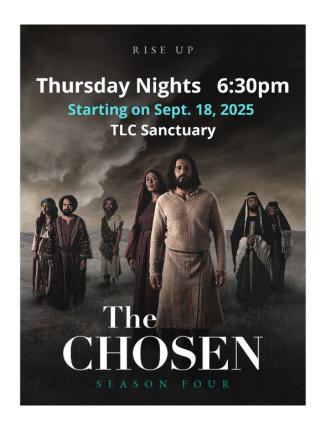
Kevin Heilmeier, head chef

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 at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

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

### We Are Off To A GREAT Start!

November cards are due Sunday, November 9.

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.





For more information and if you are interested in this wonderful outreach program, please contact Gail McAlister, gmcalister1@neo.rr.com or Lindsay in the church office, secretary@tlcoh.org

### **COMMUNITY**

### Winter Wonderland Dinner Dance

Saturday, November 7, 5:00 - 10:00 pm at the Venue

Tickets are \$35/person and go on sale November 1. This includes music from Ronnie Clinton, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, dessert, and dancing.

### 2025 Leaf Collection

Monday, November 3 for four weeks. Pick-ups begin at 7:00 am daily

### Veterans' Breakfast & Celebration

November 7, 9:00 - 10:30 am in the THS Rotunda. Join the students for food, fellowship, and recognition in honor of you!. RSVP civics5k@tallmadgeschools.org

### THS Presents: CLUE

November 13 - 15, 7:00 pm. Additional 2:00 pm showing on November 15.

### Santa's Mailbox

Located at the Tallmadge Red Center. Mai your letters between November 15-December 15. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope so Santa can write back.

### Tree Lighting Ceremony on The Circle

November 30, 4:00 - 6:30 pm. THS Choir sings at 4:30. Mayor Kilway will light the tree at 5:00. There will be hot cocoa and cookies, a balloon twister, local craft vendors, live reindeer, and a special children's craft area.



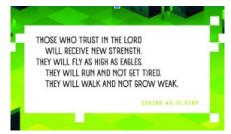
### Sunday School Corner

### November Theme: Confidence



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

Confidence: Living like you believe God it with you.



Join us every 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!







2025 Teachers:

Ms. Holly &

Ms. Angie,

PreK - 2nd and

Mrs. Bergmann & Ms.

Gail, 3rd - 5th



### 2025 Christmas Program

Sunday, December 21 at the 10:30 am Worship Service Join us to hear the Good News.

Jesus was born!

### **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, & fire door annual inspection completed

Large tree in courtyard taken down

Please call the office for fire wood

Gas lines inspected and approved

Kitchen Stove serviced

Food Pantry inspection compete with a 100%

Furnace & Boiler PM

Gutter repair

Door 6 hydraulic system replaced

### Upcoming:

Rerouting drainage

Altar Guild storage area

Paint kitchen









### Tallmadge Christian Preschool





I am Mrs. Bright, and I will be the Lead teacher in the 4's class this year! This will be my 5th year teaching at TCP. I am married to my awesome husband Jeremy, and we have 3 kids ages 9-15. We also have 2 dogs, 2 bunnies, and many chickens! I enjoy hiking, traveling, gardening, reading, movies, and spending time with my family. All my kids have gone to Tallmadge Christian Preschool and have had such great experiences here! I really love working with children and discovering how smart, creative, funny, and talented each of them is! I'm looking forward to the school year ahead and having fun with your kiddos!

30 9:15 9:20 9:20 10:3	Pledge 8:00am 9:15am (Rm 7) 9:20am 9:20am 9:20am Study ( 10:30a 12:00p Drop C	23	Vetera (obser 7:00am Thanks 8:00am 9:15am (Rm 7) 9:20am 9:20am 9:20am 9:20am 9:20am 1:030a 1:00pm	16	Prayer Receivi 8:00am 9:15am (Rm 7) 9:20am 9:20am Study ( 10:30ai	All Sai Dayligh 8:00am 9:00am 9:15am (Rm 7) 9:20am 9:20am Study ( 10:30ai 11:45ai	
30  8:00am Worship (MITES) 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Study 10:30am Worship 12:00bm Advent Kick-Off	dge Sunday Jam Worship Jam Sunday School Jam Bible Study Jam Youth Bible Jay (Youth Rm) Jam Worship	C	ns' Day ved) ved) ved) i - 1:00pm Annual i - 1:00pm Annual gliving Dinner i Worship i Sunday School i Bible Study i Youth Bible Youth Rm) m Worship i Youth Group sking		Buddy cards due ing New Members I Worship I Sunday School I Bible Study I Youth Bible Youth Rm) m Worship	All Saints Day All Saints Day Daylight Savings 8:00am Worship 9:00am Youth Group Lock-In 9:15am Sunday School (Rm 7) 9:20am Bible Study 9:20am Youth Bible Study (Youth Rm) 10:30am Worship 11:45am TLC's Open Forum	
	8:30am - 2:30pm TCP Conferences (education wing) 9:00am - 11:00am OCC Drop Off 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm)	24	9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 4:30pm - 6:30pm OCC Drop Off 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm TLC Book Club (Rm 12)	17	10 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)	3 9:30am Bible Study (Rm 12) 5:30pm Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:00pm Board of Elders (Rm 12)	
		25	Newsletter Deadline 12:00pm - 2:00pm OCC Drop Off 5:00pm Youth Bread	18	11 Veteran's Day	4	
	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship	26	7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 11:00am - 1:00pm OCC Drop Off 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Refill Restore Revive (library) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	19	7:00am Men's Bible 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Refill Restore Revive (library) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	5 7:00am Men's Bible Study (Panera) 10:00am Sewing for Service (Klicman) 6:30pm Confirmation (Rm 1) 6:30pm Refill Restore Revive (library) 6:30pm Youth Group Bible Study (Youth Rm) 7:15pm - 8:45pm Choir Rehearsal	
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		28	3:00pm - 5:00pm OCC Drop Off	21	4	7 1:00pm - 3:00pm Prayer Shawl (Rm 12)	
		29	11:00am - 1:00pm OCC Drop Off	22	9:00am - 4:00pm Set up for Thanksgiving Dinner/ Food prep 12:00pm Wise Owls (Rm 12)	8:00am - 7:00pm Member event (kitchen, gym)	1 8:00pm Youth Group Lock-In
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### Birthdays

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

2 Howard Davis
5 Dorothy Murray
6 Kris Kodzev
7 Holly Fisher
9 Susan Pifer
11 Ethel Walent
11 Shelia Cambern
14 Daryl Parma
16 Brent Ralston
18 Deborah Cochran
18 Beth Niermann

19 Henry Schuster
19 Cheryl Luke
20 Emery Harsey
22 Chris Tywon
22 Walter Fowles
24 Rebecca Bailey
24 Alisha Wright
24 April Freeman
25 Chase Groubert
27 Denise Larson
28 Dorothy Taiclet
29 Joyce Downey
29 Mason Ripley

## Anniversaries

6 Mr. & Mrs. Chuck Currier 24 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Elia





### 330-633-4775 www.tlcoh.org facebook.com/tallmadgelutheranchurch Tallmadge Lutheran Church, 759 East Avenue, Tallmadge OH 44278 The Living Light is a monthly publication of

David Wallace, Music Director

TLC@davidwallace.us

Bro.doolf@tliml

Laura Miller, Preschool Director

Patti Trettel, King's Kids Director

ptrettel@tlcoh.org

pastorandy@tlcoh.org Rev. Andy Alberts, Pastor

administrator@tlcoh.org Debbie Ruggles, Finance Manager

Lindsay Snyder, Secretary & Facilities

secretary@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.



King's Kids School-Age Child Care

Tallmadge Christian Preschool

The Living Light