



The Herald

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge
United Church of Christ

“Making God the Foundation of Everyday Living”

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Tallmadge, OH 44278

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 Church of Tallmadge, Ohio
 UCC

Office Hours:
 Mon-Thurs
 9am-3pm
 Fri: 9am-12pm

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Your True Colors

In a world where so much of the news can seem tragic, disheartening, or just downright “bad,” I get at least one respite a week. I subscribe to the CNN newsletter entitled, “The Good Stuff.” It comes on Saturday morning. Often, I don’t check my phone/email as regularly on the weekends as I do during the week. I sometimes miss this newsletter, but I have become committed to reading it each week whenever I can. It provides a healthy perspective on good things happening in our world. Whenever I read it, I actively feel a sense of calm and peace come over me.

While many of the stories and videos in the newsletter are captivating in their own right, the opening paragraph almost always has some really great thoughts. If you subscribe to this email (and I do recommend it), don’t ever skip that first paragraph. It is never a throw-away filler. I have found some deeply theological sentiments expressed in this part of the newsletter.

On Saturday, September 16, the opening paragraph had these lines:

“Did you know that the vibrant hues leaves turn in the fall are their actual colors? It's true — leaves that change color are naturally those orange, red and yellow shades, but during half of the year, those hues are overwhelmed by green chlorophyll. Colder, cloudier months mean less chlorophyll, which means the trees and flora can finally show their true colors. It's kind of poetic, isn't it? A lot of people see the changing colors of the season as a prelude to the barrenness of winter, but really it's a special show all its own — one full of unexpected, unique life.”

Do you see how deeply theological that is? We can easily get overwhelmed by the bad

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

news. We can let other, exterior things “color” us and our vibrant hues can hide.

Upon entering worship each Sunday, the hugs and handshakes begin to strip those overwhelming forces that hide our true colors. Hearing the gospel proclaimed, joining our voices in corporate hymn singing and prayer, clasping hands at the end of the service allow our true colors to return.

We know the call in Christ to work for justice, to be a voice for the voiceless, “to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God.” That’s our true “colors!” When we are connected to God and to each other, we can hold the overwhelming forces at bay and let our true colors shine.

In this stewardship month, we are celebrating that because of you (us), our church makes a difference. We can be most effective in making that difference when we let our true colors shine and we work for justice so that all God’s creatures can let their true colors shine too!

I’m thankful for each of you and your true colors. They are a blessing to me and a gift to this world!

Grace for the journey,



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

OCT 22 — LAITY SUNDAY

Scripture: Matthew 21:33-46

Message: *“All About the Service”*

OCT 29 — TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Matthew 22:34-46

Message: *“The Compassionate Life”*

FIFTH SUNDAY WORSHIP IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

NOV 05 — TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Matthew 23:1-12

Message: *“Don’t Just Think About It”*

NOV 12 — TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Matthew 25:1-13

Message: *“Because of You Our Church Changes Lives: What Does the Lord Require?”*

NOV 19 — TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Message: *“Extravagant Opportunity”*

NOV 26 — TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

Message: *“The Reign of Christ”*

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

October 22: Laity Sunday

October 29: 5th Sunday Worship
in Fellowship Hall

November 5: All Saint’s Sunday

November 12: Consecration Sunday/
Veterans Sunday

December 3: Advent Begins

WITH SYMPATHY

*Our condolences to the
family and friends of
Carole Nettle, who died
October 9, 2023.*



THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

We pray for the individuals listed below and also for many other church members and their concerns, which remain confidential. You may call or text Diana Caldwell with your prayer concerns @ 330-265-5723.

Bless be God who did not refuse me the kindness I sought in prayer. Psalm 66:20

Dorothy Achimasi
Brad Ashley
Noreen Ashley
Tim Ashley
Carrie Blaydes (Sherri Tanner's sister)
Marilyn Berta
Rob Broocker (Cousin of Kristin Yoho)
Steve Burr
Jim Caplinger
Bea Clarke
Jim and Bonnie Collinson (friends of Connie Mason)
Devin Devies (grandson of Patty Calvarese)
Dianne Drummond
Elaine Engle
Lyn Fendenheim (friend of Joe Labay)
Debbie Fickes
Kara Grant (daughter of Ken and Diana Caldwell)
Judy Gump
Eleanor Hall
Alleen Hilbish
Zell Lambert
Danielle Leonardi
Ron Mitchell
Katie Moore
Marie O'Neil
Walt and Margie Nicholson
David and Jackie Parker
John Triola (friend of Joe Labay)
Richard Thomason
Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group
Confidential Names on our Prayer List

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH SPAGHETTI DINNER

3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH | 4:30—7:00 PM
OCTOBER 19 | NOVEMBER 16

Spaghetti Dinner Menu

Spaghetti and Meatballs	\$9
Spaghetti and Chicken	\$11
Meatballs and Chicken	\$12
Special Dinner	\$12
Children 12 and Under	\$6
Children 4 and under—free	

All meals include salad, bread, dessert, and a beverage.



Did you know that it takes 32 volunteers and over 126 hours of volunteer labor to make our spaghetti dinners happen?

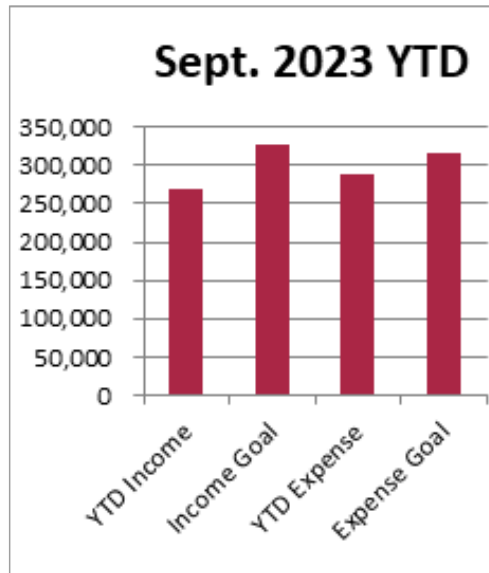
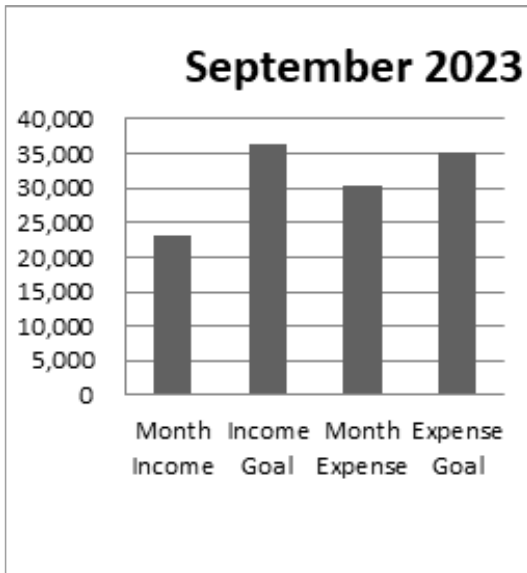
Please consider signing up to help!

To-go orders call: 330-633-3384

GIVE ONLINE HERE



MONTHLY FINANCIALS



September, 2023 operating income of \$23,236 was \$12,960 **below** the monthly income budget. Operating expenses for the month were \$30,357 resulting in a **deficit** of (\$7,120) in September, and a YTD **deficit** of (\$20,532). Faith offerings have hit their monthly low this past month, however, the cost of our ministries at work in the world continues. We look forward in prayer to a theology of generosity and the ability to strengthen the growth of our ministries as we move forward in 2023. Contact the Church office to find out how to sign up for automatic monthly giving. Offerings may also be made online through a link on our website, mailed to the Church or sent from your bank's online system.



ADVENT BEGINS

- Sunday, December 3rd -

*Prepare for the birth of Christ at
FCC Tallmadge!*



Join your First Congregational family as we decorate our home for the holy seasons of Advent, Christmas and Epiphany! The Christian Education Board will also be sponsoring the Advent Workshop. Both events will take place following worship on December 3rd. The workshop is a holiday crafting event for our young ones. Kick off the holiday season in style with your church family on the First Sunday of Advent!

Stewardship 2024

Because of YOU, our church changes lives....

It is a statement that is both bold and simple. It boldly expresses the truth about the ultimate nature and the purpose of the church: to engage in acts of transformation. It boldly asserts that we see our mission as one that gives assurance to every individual that their life matters, not because we say so, but because the gospel says so.

Our theme “Because of You, Our Church Changes Lives” is also simple. It recognizes that each of us, by our gifts and the decisions we make to employ them, power this sacred work. Our resources make ministry happen. The arithmetic is not complex. Our choice to grow in our generosity enables the church to increase the impact of the difference it makes. By choosing to give, even a little bit more, we will expand our shared quest to change lives – even our own. Be bold! Take a step forward in your generosity. It’s simple! The choice is yours.

MICAH 6:8

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you

but to **Seek**
Justice
and to
Love
Kindness
and to
walk Humbly
with God?

2024 Stewardship Series

This year we are hosting conversations with mission partners in the greater Akron area and beyond! Each Sunday (Oct. 15-Nov. 12), we will offer a light continental breakfast in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00am. Our mission partner will give a presentation on their particular ministry and how we can be a part of that work.

Make plans to attend these informative and inspirational presentations. Because of you and our collective work and witness, our church makes a difference in the lives of others in our world!

FCC Stewardship Series Dates



- OCT.**
- 15** STEWARDSHIP KICK-OFF
Joe Tucker • South Street Ministries
 - 22** Kim Polatas • Project Shine Akron
 - 29** Celeste Tannenbaum • i.C.A.R.E.
- NOV.**
- 5** Dr. Peter Makari • Global Ministries, UCC
 - *12** CONSECRATION SUNDAY
Sue Wimer • First Serve

SUNDAYS @ 9am in FH
Light Breakfast Provided

YOU'RE INVITED TO....



TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29TH | 3-4:30 PM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TALLMADGE

Trunk or Treat: October 29 @ 3:00-4:30 pm

We want many people involved in our annual Trunk or Treat. For those who plan to decorate their trunk, we have found that it works really well when you plan a little game for the children to play at your trunk to go along with the treat. Children must be accompanied by an adult while walking around the cars. If you are decorating a car, please plan to be ready by 2:45 pm.

To register your car for this event, please email Wendy Brown, wbrownfcc@sbcglobal.net. We are opening this to the community, so the number of children is unknown.



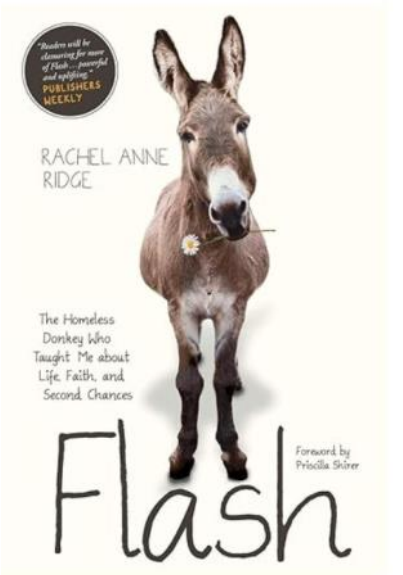
CROP walk THANK YOU!

We had a beautiful day to walk. We wanted to thank those of you who donated. We raised enough money to support a refugee family with groceries. We were helping end hunger one step at a time by supporting the CROP walk. Thank you again.



Women's Book Club

For the past couple of years, we have had a women's book club that met weekly. This is open to women of all ages. This year we are going to read the entire book and then meet to discuss the book. We have selected the book, *Flash: The Homeless Donkey Who Taught Me About Life, Faith, and Second Chances*, by Rachel Anne Ridge. We will share our thoughts about the book on Sunday, Nov. 5 at 9 AM in the David Bacon Room.



Treehouse Preschool Give Back Program

During the month of November, Treehouse Preschool is collecting books to donate to the Bright Star Book Program. They collect gently used and new books to give back to those in short supply of books. If you would like to donate children's books, please bring them to Treehouse between Nov. 1- 16. We will have bins in the Atrium.



Our Main Book Giving Programs:

Growing Young Readers: We give bags of about 5 books to the children of WIC clients (aged 0 - 5) twice a year



Free Book Fairs: We give reading-level appropriate books to children at Title I elementary schools at no cost



Story Time: We read, then give away, storybooks to children at WIC Clinics and other social service agencies



Worship Art Music Ministry (WAMM)

WAMM began Sept. 10. We ask that you take your children with you to worship, then after the children’s message, they can go to WAMM. We will be dividing into two groups this year, 2nd grade and younger and 3rd grade and older. The younger group will start with Wendy in the Fellowship Hall with the scripture object lesson while the older group will be in music with Amy. We will then switch. We are hoping that we can do more challenging activities and music options for the older children. If you have a middle schooler that would like to participate in the music opportunity, they are more than welcome to do so. They can then come back to worship after music. We hope to occasionally include their musical talents in worship as well.

NO WAMM on Oct. 22.
Ms. Wendy and Ms. Amy will be out of town.

Help Support FCC TALLMADGE!

SHOP ACME Fresh Market & EARN 5% CASH BACK

Community CASH BACK

IT'S EASY!

Save your Acme Fresh Market receipts dated August 1, 2023 – February 15, 2024 to help us raise money!

Earn 5% Back on Participating Brands!

Earn 5% Community Cash Back on these Participating Brands:

UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

Oct. 22, 5-7pm
HUMANS vs ZOMBIES: *Bring a Nerf gun to try and save the world from the invasion of zombies! (Julie Bozic).*

Nov. 12, 11-12:30pm
YOUTH LUNCH BUNCH

Nov. 26, 5-7pm
MOVIE NIGHT: Home Alone *Bring a pillow and blanket and enjoy the movie with popcorn and a candy bar. (Amber Headley)*

Dec. 10, 11-1pm
LUNCH BUNCH CHRISTMAS PARTY *(Erin Hoffman)*

CONFIRMATION CLASS – our Confirmation students, 8th grade and older, will be meeting in the David Bacon Room on the following dates from 11:30am– 1:30pm:

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|
| October 29 | Getting to know one another |
| November 19 | World Religions |
| December 17 | Bible/Christian History |

YOUTH GROUP
FCC TALLMADGE

Students who are in 6th—12th grade are invited to our youth group events.

Bring your BEST nerf gun!

Come and Join Us!

HUMANS vs ZOMBIES

October 22nd
5:00–7:00 pm

HOME ALONE

YOUTH MOVIE NIGHT

November 26
5:00-7:00 pm

Sign up @ <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A4AC2DA2F58-youth>

Wear comfy clothes
Bring Pillow & Blanket
Popcorn
Candy "Bar"

Youth Ministry

United - "As One in Christ"

Youth Ministries Update

Many have asked about the status of our Youth Ministries Coordinator. Unfortunately, our Youth Ministries Coordinator over the summertime chose to not complete the duties and responsibilities of his position. Numerous attempts to contact him over an extended period of time proved unsuccessful; accordingly, FCC and the Youth Ministries Coordinator have parted ways. We regret this action but need to move on so that our Youth programming can continue. Any questions about this situation should be directed to Rev. Doty.

Wendy, CE, youth parents, and Rev. Doty have met and mapped out youth activities for the year. While we have secured adult organizers for some of these events, we still need volunteers to ensure the vitality of the program year. Please see Wendy or Rev. Dan if you can volunteer some time to make an impact in the lives of our youth.



During the 11th AACC General Assembly held in Kigali, Rwanda, in 2018, on the theme, "Respecting the Dignity and God's Image in Every Human Being," delegates expressed their deep concern about the plight of widows in Africa. They called on the AACC General Secretariat to address the issue with urgency. Global Ministries was the first to respond with an offer to begin the process. In 2019, AACC established *Justice for Widows Campaign*. Because of harmful cultural norms and beliefs, widows in some African communities are subjected to dehumanizing practices, which rob them of their rights and dignity and expose them to poverty. These include denial of inheritance and land rights, eviction from the late husband's homes, humiliating cultural rites, and stigma.

The plight of widows is a global concern that has drawn the attention of the United Nations (UN). In 2010, the UN set apart June 23 as International Widows' Day to create awareness of the violation of human rights that widows suffer in many countries. The day also highlights the need for more research and statistics into violence, discrimination, and poverty suffered by widows.

Through the Justice for Widows Campaign, AACC has developed an Advocacy Tool Kit for Justice for Widows that offers practical advocacy skills for the rights of widows. As part of mission stewardship, AACC seeks to continue collaborating with Global Ministries in the capacity-strengthening process for heads of women/gender programs and widows to use the tool kit.





We would like to thank you for all the cards and prayers for our family during a difficult time. We are so blessed to have a caring prayer family.

— John and Fay James

I would like to thank you Hearts and Hands Quilters: Katie Higham, Elyse Raber, Lauren Scovern, Riley Hazlett, and Allison Byron for making eight quilts for Shelter Care. Great job, girls!

— Fay James

FCC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP
NOVEMBER LUNCHEON

Burntwood Tavern
IN CUYAHOGA FALLS

Thursday, November 2nd | 11:30 AM

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18 | 9 AM

Oktoberfest

Sun. Oct. 29, 2023

Brats & Pretzels Served

Bring a side dish/dessert to share!

Wear your Lederhosen!

5:00-? PM

Perhaps a group might like to hoist a beverage at a local establishment following the activities at the church?

Fellowship Hall



Worship Attendance

September 24	133
October 1	129
October 8	144
October 15	132



FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TALLMADGE

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

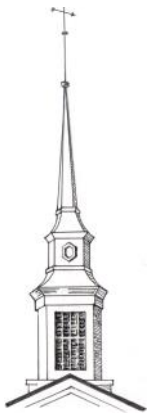
Greeters

Oct 22	Donna Marlow
Oct 29	Don and Judy Woerz
Nov 05	Terri Poff and Alice Sheeler
Nov 12	Walter and Ann Holt
Nov 19	Bob and Sandy Haydu
Nov 26	Bob and Sandy Haydu

Altar Flowers

Oct 22	Rosemary Richards
Oct 29	
Nov 05	
Nov 12	Don and Glenna Simmons
Nov 19	Barbara Rowles
Nov 26	Dianne Huth

Sign up in
the hallway
\$28 per
arrangement



Ushers

Oct 22	Larry Robinson, John and Anita Lahrmer, Ken Caldwell
Oct 29	Gary Marlow, Jim and Dee West, Larry Robinson
Nov 5	Larry Robinson, Dave Marconi, Al Lytle, Ken Caldwell
Nov 12	Terri Poff, Karen Huth, Kim Fulton, Larry Robinson
Nov 19	Dave Marconi, Bonnie Fordham, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
Nov 26	Larry Robinson, John and Anita Lahrmer, Ken Caldwell

September—May OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday:

9:00 am—3:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am—12:00 pm



JOIN US SUNDAY OCTOBER 29TH!

NOVEMBER 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	2 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 12:00 PM—WF Luncheon 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir	3	4
5 8:45 AM—Social Action 9:00 AM—Women’s Book Club 9:00 AM—Stewardship Speaker 10:00 AM—Worship/ Communion/All Saints Sunday	6 6:00 PM—Heritage 6:30 PM—Trustees Meeting	7 ELECTION DAY 6:00 PM—Naranon	8 9:00 AM—Quilters 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	9 HERALD DEADLINE 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir	10	11
12 9:00 AM—Stewardship Speaker 10:00 AM—Worship/ CONSECRATION SUN. 11:00 AM—Youth Lunch Bunch 11:30 AM—Pageant Practice	13 6:00 PM—Heritage	14 6:00 PM—Naranon	15 9:00 AM—Quilters 10:00 AM—Herald 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	16 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 4:30-7 PM— Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir	17	18 9:00 AM—Men’s Prayer Breakfast
19 10:00 AM—Worship	20 6:00 PM—Heritage	21 6:00 PM—Naranon 6:00 PM—Cards	22 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA	23 THANKSGIVING— CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	24 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	25
26 10:00 AM—Worship	27 6:00 PM—Heritage	28 10:30 AM—ACSG 6:00 PM—Naranon	29 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	30 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 5:00 PM—Pageant Practice 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir		

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
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DATE: October 18, 2023

Spiritual and Pastoral Care Ministry Contacts

Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group and Elders Ministry	Roberta Nehrenz	330.634.0713	rgnehrenz@att.net
Hearts in Service	Janet McCaulley Barbara Rowles	330.633.3775	34babs@sbcglobal.net
Prayer Chain	Diana Caldwell	330.265.5723	scdcg@icloud.com
Yarning for Peace	Elaine Engle	330.633.0896	elengle@aol.com

Staff E-Mail Addresses

Rev. Daniel Doty	Senior Minister	ddoty66@gmail.com
Cathy Cotter	Administrative Coordinator	tallmadgefcc@sbcglobal.net
Wendy Brown	Director of Family Ministries	wbrownfcc@sbcglobal.net
Nancy Lynn Robinson	Choir Director / Organist	nrbgp@aol.com
Amy Doty	Bell Choir Director	amydeandoty@icloud.com
Bill Hoover	Finance Administrator	bhooverfcc@sbcglobal.net
Teresa Snyder	Head Custodian	budrose42@yahoo.com
Gary Marlow	Sunday Custodian	