



The Herald

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge
United Church of Christ

“Making God the Foundation of Everyday Living”

<p>85 Heritage Dr. Tallmadge, OH 44278</p> <p>Phone: 330.633.4931 Fax: 330.633.7010</p> <p>Website: www.fcctallmadge.org</p> <p>Facebook: First Congregational Church of Tallmadge, Ohio UCC</p> <p>Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm Fri: 9am-12pm</p>
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Good Friday?

Why in the world do we call it Good Friday?
A quick search on Wikipedia finds this:

In German-speaking countries, Good Friday is generally referred to as Karfreitag (Kar from Old High German kara, "bemoan", "grieve," "mourn," Freitag for "Friday"): Mourning Friday. The Kar prefix is a cognate of the English word "care" in the sense of cares and woes; it meant mourning. The day is also known as Stiller Freitag ("Silent Friday") and Hoher Freitag ("High Friday").

In the Nordic countries, it is called "The Long Friday." In Greek, Polish and Hungarian, Good Friday is generally referred to as Great Friday (Μεγάλη Πενήκωνη, Wielki Piątek, Nagypéntek). In Bulgarian, Good Friday is called either Велики петък - Great Friday, or, more commonly, Разпети петък (approximate pronunciation 'razpeti petak') which literally translates to "Crucified Friday."

As well as:

A common folk etymology claims "Good Friday" is a corruption of "God Friday." The term, in fact, comes from the sense "pious, holy" of the word good. The Oxford English Dictionary also gives other examples with the sense "of a day or season observed as holy by the church" as an archaic sense of good (good, adj.) as in good tide meaning "Christmas" or "Shrove Tuesday," and Good Wednesday meaning the Wednesday in Holy Week.

Well, that’s not really helpful, is it? Good Friday stands at the apex of the Lenten experience. After Jesus has a meal with his disciples, he goes to a garden to pray, as was his custom, and was arrested and sent off to the powers that be for judgement. On Friday, Jesus is executed on a cross on the hill called the “place of the skull.” The church relives this experience with special liturgies and services designed to bring the scenes of that “holy week” into our consciousness.



CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

This year, I am working with our Tech Team to present a very visual Good Friday service. It will include readings from the Passion Narrative. This narrative chronicles Jesus's last evening/day with his disciples. Each reading will take place over a slide show/video presentation. These presentations will take place around the themes of:

1. Betrayal
2. Denial
3. Aloneness
4. Accusation
5. Suffering
6. Crucifixion
7. Death

We will extinguish a candle and sing reflective hymns after each section. In that way, the sanctuary will continually become darker and darker. While the purpose of the service in its fullness is to recreate the betrayal, abandonment, and agony of the events, it is left unfinished, because we know that the story isn't over until Easter Day.

Following the Maundy Thursday service (Thurs., March 28th at 7:00PM), the Good Friday service (Fri., March 29th at 7:00PM) and the blowing out of the Christ candle, the sanctuary will become the tomb of Christ.

On Easter, we will gather around the fire pit (east side of building) and relight the Christ candle and celebrate in the "Son"rise, the resurrection of Jesus. Later, we will have the Glorious Easter Celebration in the Sanctuary at 10:00am. This service will feature many of our talented musicians and some guest musicians as well.

Make plans now to attend each of these moving services!

Grace for the journey,



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

MAR 24 — PALM SUNDAY/NEW MEMBER SUNDAY

Scripture: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Mark 11:1-11
Message: *"Covenant: What Happens When You Assume?"*

MAR 31 — EASTER SUNDAY

Scripture: John 20:1-18
Message: *"Belong, Behave, Believe"*

APR 07 — SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: Acts 4:32-35, John 20:19-31
Message: *"Belong, Behave, Believe: In Defense of Doubt"*

APR 14 — THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: Acts 3:12-19
Message: *"Belong, Behave, Believe: Christ Among Us"*

APR 21 — FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: John 12:11-18, Psalm 23
Message: *"Belong, Behave, Believe: When You Say Nothing at All"*

APR 28 — FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Youth Sunday

MAY 05 — SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Confirmation Sunday

MAY 12 — SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mother's Day/Graduation/Scholarship Sunday

MAY 19 — PENTECOST

Music Appreciation Sunday

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
 Cheyenne Andrews (Lucy Larson's mom)
 Brad Ashley
 Noreen Ashley
 Tim Ashley
 Marilyn Berta
 Rob Broocker (cousin of Kristin Yoho)
 Steve Burr
 Jim Caplinger
 Jim and Bonnie Collinson (friends of Connie Mason)
 Devin Devies (grandson of Patty Calvarese)
 Baby Matthew Engel
 Lyn Fendenheim (friend of Joe Labay)
 Eleanor Hall
 Alleen Hilbish
 Kenneth Holt
 Walt Holt
 Sandi Hughes
 Zell Lambert
 Yvonne Larson
 Bill Laymon
 Ray and Jackie Mohr
 Rebecca Moore
 Walt and Margie Nicholson
 Marie O'Neil
 LTJG John Norton (Connie Stone's grandson)
 Laura Orr (friend of Karen Sauerbrey)
 David and Jackie Parker
 Paulina Rodriguez (friend of Kim Stock)
 Dr. Mike Shimmel (friend of Sandy Farabee)
 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

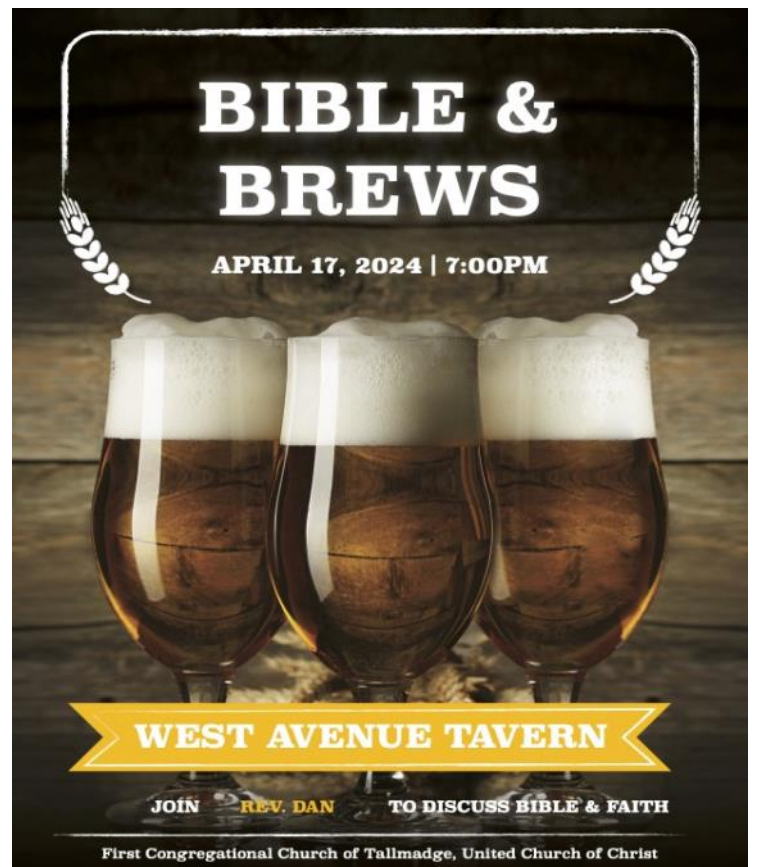


Spaghetti Dinner Menu

Spaghetti and Meatballs	\$9
Spaghetti and Chicken	\$11
Meatballs and Chicken	\$12
Special Dinner	\$12
Children 12 and Under	\$6
Side Dishes	\$2

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

To-go orders call: 330-630-0704



BIBLE & BREWS

APRIL 17, 2024 | 7:00PM

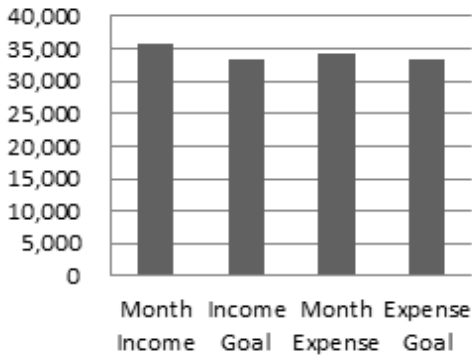
WEST AVENUE TAVERN

JOIN **REV. DAN** TO DISCUSS BIBLE & FAITH

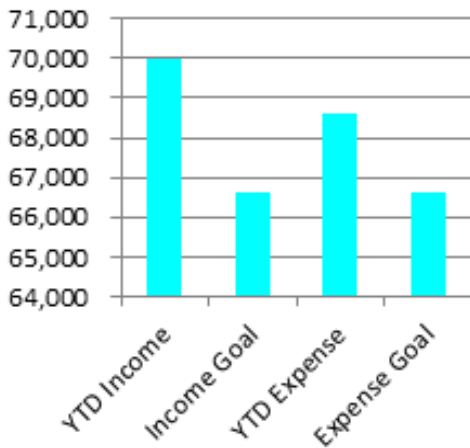
First Congregational Church of Tallmadge, United Church of Christ

MONTHLY FINANCIALS

February 2024



Feb. 2024 YTD



February, 2024 operating income of \$35,584 was \$2,262 **above** the monthly income budget. Operating expenses for the month were \$34,171 resulting in a **surplus** of \$1,414 in February, and a YTD **surplus** of \$1,368. The year 2024 brings new opportunities and possibilities for our ministries and programs. We look forward in prayer to a theology of generosity and the ability to strengthen the growth of our ministries as we move forward into the new year. 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.



In Person



Automatic Giving



Online Banking



Online



Mobile



Text



Digital Minister/Youth Ministries Coordinator

FCC, responding to the needs for digital content and social engagement across multiple platforms, has created a new part-time staff position for a **Digital Minister/Youth Coordinator**. Anne Pertick has accepted the call to this position. Anne will continue resourcing the office with digital content for our worship services and social media presence. She will also take on the duties of coordinating youth programming.

FCC currently uses a strong parent-led model of youth ministry. Anne will take over organizational pieces for our youth programming and coordinate events and fundraisers. These duties will include offering the same organizational oversight of our Confirmation process.

In many ways, this formalizes the ministry that Anne has already been carrying out for FCC. If you have any questions about this new position, you may contact Rev. Dan. Please take a moment to welcome Anne to this new roll!

FCC Women's Fellowship
April Luncheon
FARMER BOY

Thursday, April 4th | 12 PM



DONATE TO RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

The 3-5 grade Sunday School class will be touring the Ronald McDonald House after church on April 7th. We have been collecting pop tabs to take to them over the last year. Please deposit your pop tabs in the bowl in the Atrium by that date. R.M.H. works with a local recycler to turn those tabs into \$\$ for their Family Fund which provides assistance to families in emergencies, helps children having birthdays receive small gifts and a cake while staying there, and much more.



We are also accepting donations of gift cards to Acme, Aldi, Amazon, Giant Eagle, and Lowe's, as well as gas cards, cleaning supplies, Amazon Wish List items and non-perishable foods and snacks. For a complete list, go to the Ronald McDonald website.

Thank you for your support of the students and the Ronald McDonald House.

Dianne Drummond



Confirmation Boston Trip
 March 15-18, 2024



**SPRING
 CLEAN-UP**

Saturday, April 20th at 9:00 am

Help us clean up and mulch shrub areas and remove fallen tree branches.

Bring tools you may have

—rake, wheelbarrow, shovel

Questions: Call Wil Looman at 330-907-0293

Your help is needed. Please volunteer!

Youth Corner

Youth Faith In Action – On the 2nd Sunday of the month, students in grades 6-12th are invited to join in faithful discussion from 9-10 AM in the youth room.

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

Mark your calendars now:

Mar. 24– NO YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Apr. 14—Big Shots, 11:30 am -2:30 pm

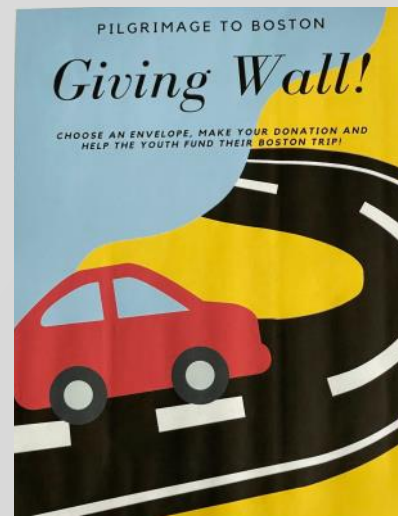
Confirmation Class – Our Confirmation students will meet in the David Bacon Room @ 11:30–1:30:

April 21 Service

April 28 Youth Sunday

May 5 Confirmation Sunday

Mission Experience – June 17-22 with Project Shine in Akron, OH.



The Giving Wall

We have concluded our Giving Wall donation drive. The funds raised will support our youth in their Confirmation Boston Trip and Project Shine Mission Experience.

In total, we raised \$3813 for the Boston Trip and the Mission Experience. This is amazing! Thank you so much to all that donated.

Project Shine

For our Mission Trip this summer, FCC Tallmadge will join Project Shine for a week of service, June 17-22. Project Shine brings people together to help make Christ known to residents of Akron as they work to provide basic home improvements. We will work, live and worship alongside other youth groups as we transform homes with basic outside home improvements such as painting, staining, yard cleanup, and small construction projects. This is open to ANYONE who is 12 years or older. We hope you consider working the entire week, but if only a day or two works for you, you can share that on this form. REGISTER for this work week by March 24, by clicking on this form, <https://forms.gle/Mb5cB5THCMTsFfm8A>. The cost is \$200 for the first family member and \$150 for any other members from the same family. This will cover the expenses for the week– work, travel, food, shelter and a fun day, which will be Saturday, June 22.



Big Shots

The youth group will be heading to Big Shots on April 14. This is a driving range, but you play like bowling. A reservation must be made so please RSVP by March 28 on this link; <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0A44A4AC2DA2F58-youth>.

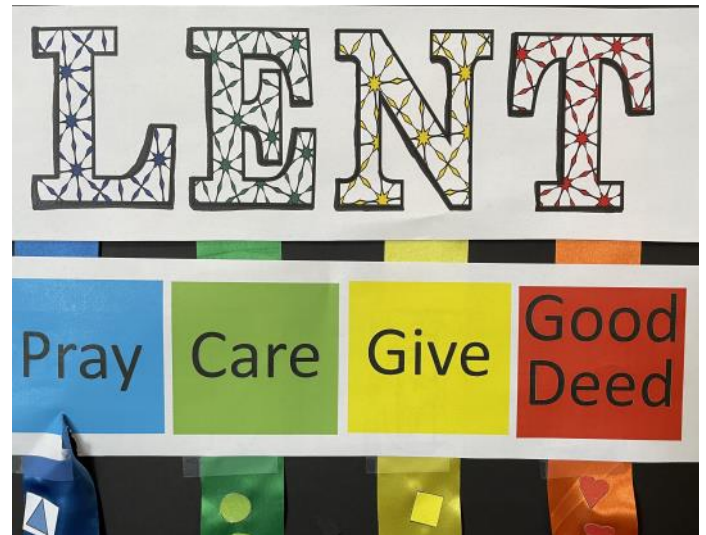
The cost is \$15 and that includes the golf, food and drink. We will leave after worship on April 14 and return by 2:30 pm.

Season of Lent

During the season of Lent, the children have been discussing four ways that they can share Jesus with other people. So often we talk about Lent and giving things up. We are asking them to “fill them up” by showing others they love Jesus. The four ways we can “fill up” our Lenten season was to

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Care for someone | Give to others |
| Do a good deed | Love others |

We encouraged them every day to do one of those items above. If they needed ideas, they could draw some out of the Lenten box they created.



Treehouse Preschool

We have opened registration for the fall. We are very full, but we have at least one opening in the 3s, 5s and Me and My Parent 2-year-old class. The Registration fee is \$50, and we would also need a copy of your child’s birth certificate. If you are looking for a preschool or know someone who might be, please call the office to arrange a tour, 330-630-0704.



Spring Basket Raffle was very successful. Thank you for supporting the fundraiser. Treehouse raised just \$3,041 to add sensory toys to the playground and muscle room.



We are hiring **substitute teachers**. To be a substitute, you are required to have a high school degree and take three health classes— first aid, CPR and child abuse awareness. You will also be required to have a fingerprint background check done. Treehouse will pay for all those expenses. Speak to Wendy if you are interested or have questions.

Opportunities for Children During Holy Week

We would love to have all children and youth participate in our Triumphant Entry on Palm Sunday, March 24. On Easter, we will have WAMM after the children’s message for all children 5th grade and younger. There will not be Faith in Action on that Sunday.





[Memorial Scholarship](#) applications are now available. Instructions and the application link can be found on our church website. Paper copies of the instructions can be also found at the Welcome Center. **The deadline for completed applications is Thursday, April 4th at 3:00 pm.**

NEW MEMBER
Sunday
MARCH 24, 2024

FCC will welcome 11 new members to the congregation on Sunday, March 24, 2024. They are: Joe Laby, Tom Laby, Margie Popio, Jeff and Edith Sullivan, Mary Flohr, Bob Williams, Marti Calderwood (Williams) Jill DiNunoscio, James and Amber Harr. Look for their bios in the next Herald and when you see them, welcome them to the family!



Greeters:

If you would like to be a Greeter on Sunday mornings, please call Cathleen Clark at 330-673-1305, and I will put you on the list for the Sunday of your choice. This opportunity will allow you to get to know more people of the church. Greeters should be here 20 minutes before service starts.

Many Blessings to you,

Cathleen

330-673-1305

BOY SCOUT

Plant Sale



The boy scouts will be selling hanging baskets and flats this spring. Stop in the atrium on Sundays April 7 and 14th to order. The proceeds will help the Scouts purchase a new trailer.

**MEN'S
PRAYER
BREAKFAST**



Saturday, March 23rd | 9:00 AM

Thank you!

Church Family,

We want to thank you for your prayers and support during this time of loss in our family. We love and appreciate you.

Sincerely, Lynette Kester and family

A huge thank you to everyone who generously gave to the Special Music fund! — Nancy Lynn Robinson



Several FCC members and friends came to see Dan perform with the BWMC at the Spring Concert on Sunday, March 10 at 4 PM in the Sanctuary.



Update from Yarning For Peace: the Prayer Shawl Ministry

We have given out an additional four prayer shawls since the last Herald, with one again going to California and one going to South Carolina. This is definitely an outreach program that goes wherever the need takes us. We have also received a generous donation to use for the purchase of yarn. We are very grateful for the donation. There are some very talented people making shawls for this ministry. We are also grateful for these individuals for their time and talent that goes

into making shawls. We are truly blessed. Call Elaine at 330-633-0896 if you or someone you know would benefit from a prayer shawl. They are there for the asking.

Thanks— Elaine



Worship Attendance

February 25	205	March 10	133
March 3	136	March 17	144

UPCOMING SUNDAYS

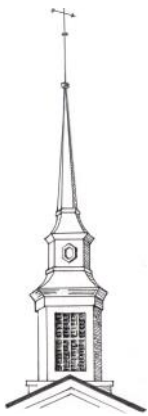
Greeters

Mar 24 Don and Judy Woerz
 Mar 31 Terri Poff
 Apr 7
 Apr 14
 Apr 21
 Apr 28

Altar Flowers

Mar 24 Denise Haynes
 Mar 31 EASTER FLOWERS
 Apr 7
 Apr 14 Jim Taylor
 Apr 21
 Apr 28 Denise Haynes

Sign up in
the hallway
\$28 per
arrangement



Ushers

Mar 24 Larry Robinson, John and Anita Lahrmer, Don Simmons
 Mar 31 Jim and Dee West, John and Anita Lahrmer
 Apr 7 Larry Robinson, Dave Marconi, Al Lytle, Gary Myers
 Apr 14 Sandy Haydu, Karen Huth, Kim Fulton, Jane Charles
 Apr 21 Dave Marconi, Bonnie Fordham, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
 Apr 28 Larry Robinson, John and Anita Lahrmer, Don Simmons

HE HAS RISEN

6:30
am

SONRISE
@ FIREPIT

&

10
am

GRAND
CELEBRATION

MARCH
31

EASTER

HOLY WEEK

MARCH
24

PALM
SUNDAY

10
am

MARCH
28

MAUNDY
THURSDAY

FELLOWSHIP HALL

7
pm

MARCH
29

GOOD
FRIDAY

7
pm

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

of Tallmadge

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

APRIL 2024

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 EASTER MONDAY OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 PM—Trustees Meeting	2 6:00 PM—Naranon	3 9:00 AM—Quilters 6:00 PM—NA	4 10:00 AM—Staff 12:00 PM—WF Luncheon 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir 7:00 PM—Quilting 101	5	6
7 8:45 AM—Social Action 9:00 AM—Women’s Book Club 10:00 AM—Worship	8 ECLIPSE DAY OFFICE CLOSED	9 6:00 PM—Naranon	10 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	11 HEARLD DEADLINE 10:00 AM—Staff 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir 7:00 PM—Quilting 101	12	13
14 8:30 AM—Prayer Chain 8:30 AM—Deacons 9:00 AM—EC Meeting 9:00 AM—Sun. School 9:00 AM—Book Club 10:00 AM—Worship	15 1:00 PM—Video Study 6:00 PM—Heritage	16 6:00 PM—Naranon 6:00 PM—Cards	17 9:00 AM—Quilters 10:00 AM—Herald Angels 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	18 10:00 AM—Staff 4:30 PM—Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir 7:00 PM—Quilting 101	19	20 9:00 AM—Spring Cleanup
21 10:00 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Confirmation Class	22 1:00 PM—Video Study 6:00 PM—Heritage 7:00 PM—Treehouse Parent Meeting	23 6:00 PM—Naranon	24 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	25 10:00 AM—Staff 6:00 PM—Bell Choir 7:00 PM—Choir 7:00 PM—Quilting 101	26	27
28 9:00 AM—CE Meeting 10:00 AM—Worship	29 1:00 PM—Video Study 6:00 PM—Heritage	30 10:30 AM—ACSG 6:00 PM—Naranon				

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PO BOX 420
TALLMADGE OH 44278
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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TALLMADGE OH
PERMIT NO. 30

DATE: March 20, 2024

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	