



ISSUE 7090—MAY 2025

The Herald

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TALLMADGE

United Church of Christ

"Making God the Foundation of Everyday Living"

Kirchentag 2025

At the end of this month, I will be traveling to Hanover, Germany, to take part in Kirchentag 2025. I was blessed to be a part of Kirchentag 2019 in Dortmund, Germany. So, what is Kirchentag?

If you simply look at the name, we find the two German words Kirche and Tag. Germans love to mash two words together to create a new word. In this case "Kirche" is the German word for church and "Tag" means day. So, one could reasonably think this word means Church Day. Well, in some ways that is perhaps correct. Kirchentag is, however, a multi-day festival for church folks.



This festival takes place over five days. Kirchentag is celebrated every two years and gathers tens of thousands of people in a different location. While the people are primarily made up of Germans, international partners are invited to take part in the festival.

The festival features large worship services, smaller devotional services, plenaries, panel discussion, concerts, bible studies, and many other things. There is a large exhibitor space filled with representatives from various ministry settings from across Germany and beyond.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE...

This Issue:

Worship Schedule
PAGE 2

Monthly Financials
PAGE 3

Holy Week 2025
PAGE 3

Prayer Chain
PAGE 5

VBS 2025
PAGE 6

Faith and Family
PAGE 7

United Youth Ministry
PAGE 8

Social Action Corner
PAGE 9

Upcoming Sundays
PAGE 10

May Calendar
PAGE 11

The UCC is invited by the Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD), the German Protestant Church, to send six representatives from across our denomination to participate in Kirchentag. We help set up the exhibition of the EKD and “work” at various times at the booth. There we meet many people from around the world and try to answer questions about Kirchengemeinschaft (our full communion partnership agreement between the UCC and the EKD).

The UCC delegation is also in charge of planning a Feierabendmahl (Friday evening communion service). Yours truly has been asked to head up the creating and leading of this service in conjunction with the other UCC participants. Our guest preacher for that evening is The Rev. Michael Blair, the General Secretary of the United Church of Canada. This service will take place at St. Petri, Am Lindenhof 16, Döhren-Wülfel (St. Peter’s church in Hanover.) You can see this church by clicking or navigating your browser here: <https://www.stpetri-doehren.de> I am both honored to be a part of this delegation as well as plan and lead worship for that Friday evening.

The picture that accompanies this article is from my time as a delegate to the Kirchentag in Dortmund in 2019. I helped with worship that evening as well. While the delegation will be different this time, I’ll be happy to see my good friend Antje. Antje is the woman on the far left of the picture and it was in her church that we worshiped! Her husband Volker is the man just over her right shoulder in the picture.

While it is always a joy to travel to Germany, being able to participate in Kirchentag is especially joyful. This intense experience means full days of non-stop participation in all things offered at the Kirchentag. It is always a good time to renew and strengthen relationships as well as create new ones.

I’m deeply grateful to my FCC family for their allowing me to attend this festival. As always, I take the gracious presence of FCC into all of these things, and our partners are deeply grateful for your partnership in working together for a just world for all.

Grace for the journey,



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

APR 20 EASTER

Scripture: Psalm 19

Message: “What’s Next?”

APR 27 YOUTH SUNDAY

Message “Greater Love”

MAY 4 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: Psalm 100, John 15:1-7

Message: “The Never Lost 99”

MAY 11 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER/ APPRECIATION SUNDAY

Scripture: Acts 9:36-43, John 10:22-30

Message: “Life-Giving Acts”

MAY 18 GRADUATION/SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY

Scripture: Acts 11:1-18, Rev. 21:1-6

Message: “Vision”

MAY 25 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: Acts 1:11, Luke 24:44-53

Message: “Unexpected Ministry”

JUNE 1 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Scripture: Acts 16:16-34, John 17:20-26

Message: “Breaking Chains”

Holy Week 2025 @FCC!

Maundy Thursday | April 17, 7:30 PM

Join your church family this year for interactive Holy Week services. On Maundy Thursday, we will be “led” through a few stations for personal reflection. These stations are to be experienced at your own pace. Each station will lead to another and we will all end up in the Fellowship Hall for a service remembering Jesus’ last meal with his disciples.

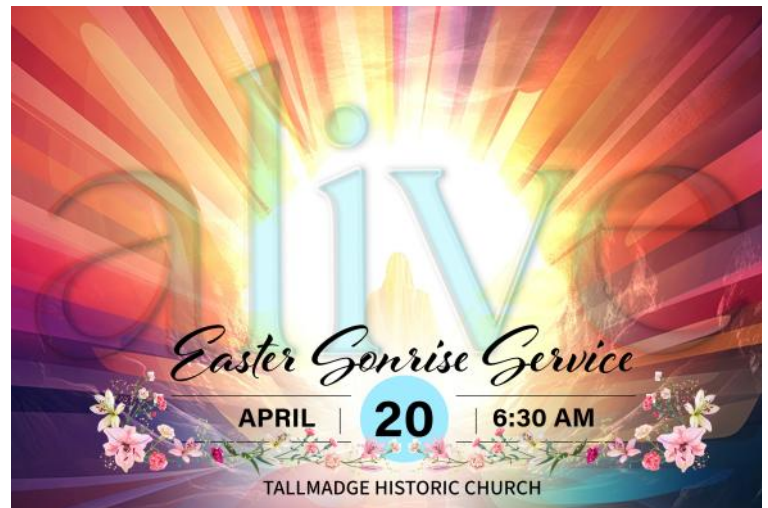


Good Friday | April 18, 7:30 PM

On Good Friday, we will again have a few interactive stations that will bring us into the sanctuary as we focus on the crucifixion of Jesus. This service will feature readings, brief reflections, a choir anthem, and a time to bring forth items we picked up from the stations prior to the service.

Easter “Son”rise Service in the Historic Tallmadge Church | April 20, 6:30 AM

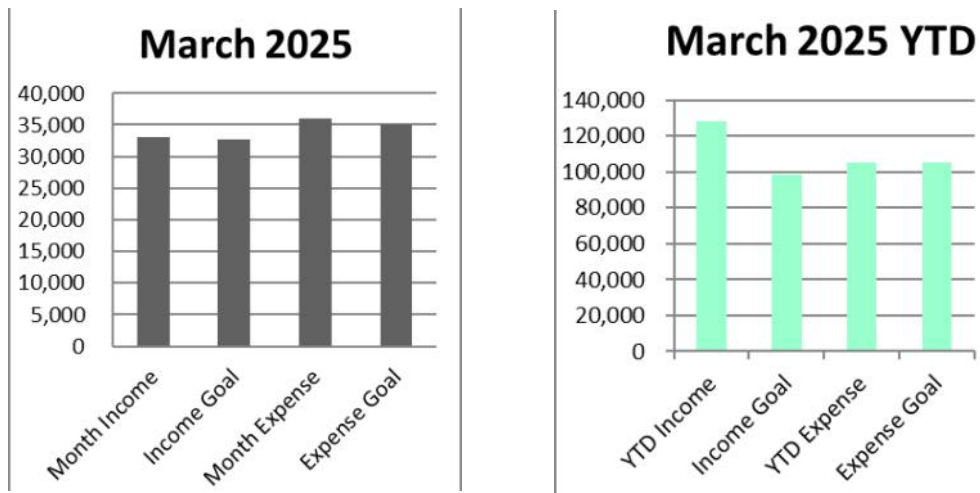
We invite you to gather for a community-wide “Son”rise Service this Easter morning, April 20, 2025. The service will take place in Tallmadge’s Historic Church on the Circle at 6:30am. Come celebrate the joy of Christ’s resurrection with your brothers and sisters in Christ this year!



Grand Celebration Easter Worship April 20, 10:00 AM

Join your FCC Tallmadge family on Easter morning at 10:00 AM in our sanctuary for our Grand Celebration Worship Service. Our service will include prayer, scripture and special music, including a brass quintet. Hallelujah, He is risen! Come and celebrate with us!!

MONTHLY FINANCIALS



March 2025 operating income of \$33,056 was \$306 **above** the monthly income need. Operating expenses for the month were \$36,947, resulting in a **deficit** of (\$2,890) in March and a YTD **surplus** of \$22,614. We are thankful for the early fulfillment of 2025 pledges, and are hoping this bodes well for our ministries in 2025. We look forward in prayer to a theology of generosity and the ability to strengthen the growth of our ministries as we move through the 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.

Strengthen the Church Special Offering

Through the Strengthen the Church Offering, people across the United Church of Christ support the formation of new congregations and the renewal of existing ones, fund new programs for youth and young adults and sponsor leadership development for the whole church.



We will collect the Strengthen the Church Offering during the month of May and will dedicate the offering on June 8th.

JOIN US FOR A FREE CONCERT!

LIVE MUSIC

TENOR/BASS POP

A CAPPELLA

CONCERT

MAY 16TH — AT 7PM



**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH OF TALLMADGE**

85 HERITAGE DRIVE
TALLMADGE, OH 44278

FREE ENTRY

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

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.

Jennifer Arch
 Brad, Noreen, and Tim Ashley
 Sharon Bible
 Jim Brown (Sandy Pressler's son-in-law)
 Steve Burr
 Jim Caplinger
 Scott & Connie Carter (relatives of Rev. Ed & Carol Carter)
 Diane Drummond
 Lyn Fendenheim (friend of Joe Labay)
 Debbie Fickes
 Eleanor Hall
 Angela Hammelman (Wally & Donna Atwood's daughter)
 Alleen Hilbish
 John James
 George Kunzin (friend of Sandy Haydu)
 Zell Lambert
 Roberta Lewis
 Michael Liggett (brother of Terri Poff)
 Linda Moreland (Mike Cammel's cousin)
 Lynn Norton
 David and Jackie Parker
 Marie O'Neil
 LTJG John Norton (Connie Stone's grandson)
 Bonnie Rains
 Matthew Rains
 Heather Read (Ronda's daughter)
 Roger Riddle (friend of Wally Atwood)
 Darlene Ries (Donna Atwood's twin sister)
 Sara Rooks
 Eddie Showalter (Linda Kester's cousin)
 Lt. Maxwell Spear (Connie Stone's grandson)
 Sunny Speegle (friend of Linda Kester)
 Jeff Sullivan
 John Triola (friend of Joe Labay)
 Richard Thomason
 Anne Varian (friend of Barb Dolensky)
 Kaitlyn Wetter (Kester's granddaughter)
 Don Woerz
 Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group

*Bless be God who did not refuse me
 the kindness I sought in prayer.*

Psalm 66:20

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

SPAGHETTI DINNER



4:30-7:00 PM

3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

**TO-GO ORDERS CALL
330-630-0704**

SPAGHETTI DINNER UPDATE

Join us for our upcoming Spaghetti Dinner on Thursday, May 15th. We won't have a dinner in April because it falls on Maundy Thursday.

Women's Fellowship
May Luncheon

Bring a side dish &
 your favorite tea cup.
 Sign up in the atrium!

**Ladies
 Tea Party**

Thursday,
 May 1st | 12 PM
 FELLOWSHIP
 HALL



First Congregational Church Vacation Bible School

Maker Fun Factory; Created by God, Built for a Purpose

Who? For all children age 4 through 5th grade (as of May 2025)

What? VBS is a great time to be with friends, new and old, as we explore the message of our relationship with God as our creator through bible stories, crafts, science, games, snack and music.

When? June 23 (Monday) to June 26 (Thursday) from 6-8 PM

Where? First Congregational Church (85 Heritage Dr, Tallmadge)

Registrations form you can fill out this form electronically: <https://forms.gle/fTEYkyNSqz4aqT3A>. We also have a paper form if you prefer. **We also need adult and youth helpers all week.** If you are able to help or teach, please contact Wendy with your available days.

Parent name: _____ Parent email: _____

Parent address: _____

Children information: Please enter all information as of the date May 1, 2025.

Child 1 Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Does this child know someone who attends FCC, if so who _____

Child 2 Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Does this child know someone who attends FCC, if so who _____

Child 3 Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Does this child know someone who attends FCC, if so who _____

Child 4 Name: _____ Age: _____ Grade: _____

Does this child know someone who attends FCC, if so who _____

Any allergies that we need to be aware of (please put child's name and allergies if so): _____

Would you like more information about our church and the ministries we offer? _____

Are you able to donate \$5/ child or \$10/ family? _____

Emergency Contacts:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Important Dates to Note:

May 4– Last Faith in Action Sunday

May 11– Appreciation Sunday

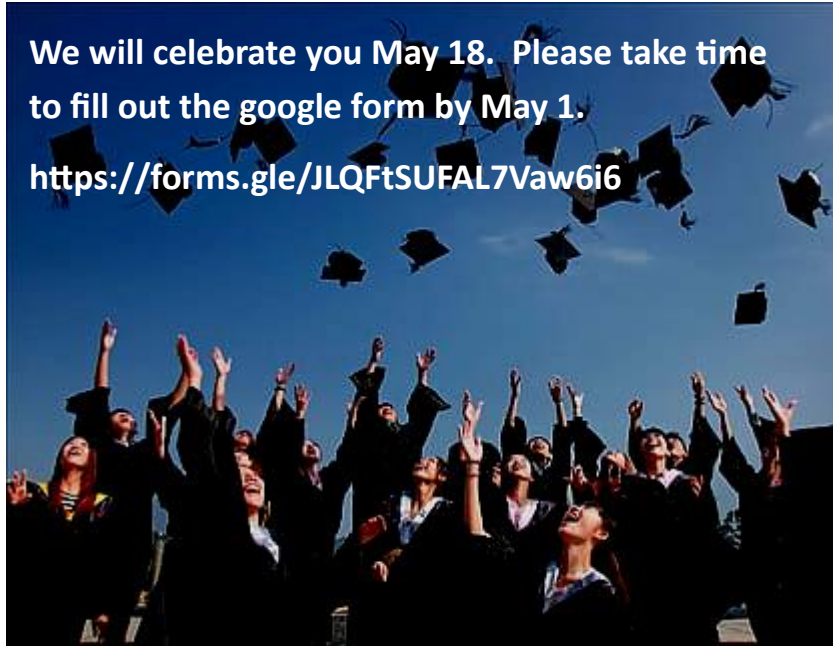
May 18– Graduation Sunday



High School Graduates

We will celebrate you May 18. Please take time to fill out the google form by May 1.

<https://forms.gle/JLQFtSUFAL7Vaw6i6>



CPR

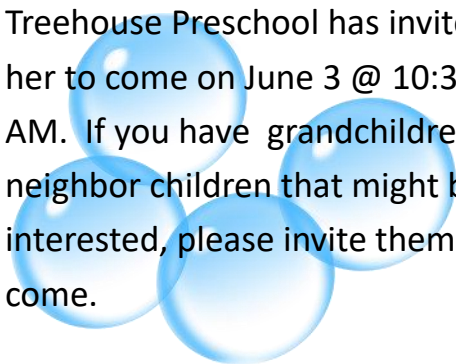
Treehouse Preschool will be hosting a CPR class on May 12 from 9 am–12 pm at First Congregational Church. This is for infant through adult. If you would like to attend, the cost is \$38 and checks can be made out to Treehouse Preschool. Please let Wendy know by May 1 if you would like to join them.

Bubble Lady At

Treehouse Preschool

If you haven't heard of the Bubble Lady, she is quite a sensation for preschool and elementary students. She makes bubbles do unusual and interesting things.

Treehouse Preschool has invited her to come on June 3 @ 10:30 AM. If you have grandchildren or neighbor children that might be interested, please invite them to come.



Thank you, Mrs. Faluotico!

In 2007, Mrs. Faluotico joined the Treehouse Preschool staff. She brought quite a few years of experience with her, but she really crafted her teaching skills during her years at Treehouse. Thank you, Mrs. Faluotico, for sharing your skills, knowledge and love with many Treehouse Preschool families. You will be missed, Lisa!



UNITED YOUTH MINISTRIES

Hand to Hand Youth Mission Food and Hygiene Drive

This summer, the youth and leaders of United Ministry are heading to Cincinnati for a week of service with Washington United Church of Christ. Washington UCC is deeply involved in outreach throughout their neighborhood and the city, including their ministry, *Camp Cupboard and Closet*—a resource store that provides clothing, household items, hygiene kits, and food for those in need.

As part of our mission work, our team will be organizing a **Food & Hygiene Drive** to support *Camp Cupboard and Closet* and help provide lunches for those experiencing homelessness.

How you can help:

Donated items can be dropped off at the church throughout the month of May and placed in the designated donation box located in the atrium. Monetary donations are also welcome—please mark the donation as *Youth Mission Drive*.

Requested donation items include:

- **Plastic grocery bags**
- **Individually wrapped snacks:** peanut butter crackers, cookies, chips, fruit cups, cupcakes, juice boxes, etc.
- **Non-perishable food:** rice, noodles, boxed side dishes, canned goods, pasta and sauce, peanut butter, canned/pouched tuna, etc.
- **Full-size hygiene products:** soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, floss, mouthwash, deodorant, lotion, moisturizer, lip balm, razors, shaving cream, etc.

Thank you for supporting our youth as they serve and make a difference!

Youth Sunday

Join us on Sunday, April 27th, 2025, as the youth of United Ministry lead us in a special **Youth Sunday worship service!** Come celebrate and honor their message, presence, and the many gifts they bring to our congregation. Following the service, we invite you to a reception in the atrium to connect with and support our amazing youth!



MAY 2025

calendar

SUN
4

FAITH IN ACTION @ 9AM
(Last one till September)

Class with Kyle and George
📍 Youth Room

SUN
11

NO SUNDAY IN SERVICE
Mother's Day

SUN
18

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP @5PM

Supporting our UM Seniors at Tallmadge Senior Parade. Meet @ 5pm to make signs; Parade @ 6:30pm

WED
28

MISSION TRIP MEETING

Mission Meeting for youth participants and parents. 7:30pm David Bacon Room

JUNE 2025

calendar

JUNE
8-12

YOUTH MISSION TRIP

📍 Cincinnati

JUNE
23-26

VBS-YOUTH HELPERS

JUNE-AUG 2025

calendar

There will be one Youth Fellowship outing/ event for the summer months. TBD. Look out for updates from Ms. Anne.

UNITED MINISTRY



SOCIAL ACTION CORNER

What do you think when you hear the word “missions”? Are missions about working globally, teaching, helping improve food supply, or providing medical care, or could they include being on the streets of Akron? The Social Action Committee would like to inform the members of our congregation about our support of missions.

In 1972, a young man, David Fair, began a program for troubled youth who were brought into the court. These young people had non-delinquent charges. They were running away from family conflicts/abuse and neglect. This was the beginning of Shelter Care. Their mission statement is: To provide Healing, Restore Hope and Recognize the value of young people and families in need.



Today, Shelter Care has five different programs to support troubled youth in our community: Safe Landing, Highlands, Street Outreach, and the Drop-In Center.

Shelter Care was the first program and continues to serve young boys and girls ages 12-18 years in a two-parent home. These children are sent to schools in the area they reside in and are helped with their studies and provided with counseling sessions. Individuals can utilize the program even into a long-term arrangement, extending to high school graduation.

Safe Landing is a short-term care program for youths in a family crisis. The stay is 1-2 weeks and there are up to 12 youths in the home. They receive counseling along with their family.

Highlands started in 2005. This facility was the first Ohio state licensed facility to care for a young mothers and their babies. This home is for those who no longer have a home. Here they are taught how to care for their child. The goal is to provide a stable environment for young mothers to learn and become providers for their children. Once again, counseling is a part of the program. This helps to give the mothers stability and train them for parenthood.

Street Outreach has a team of four counselors who minister to homeless youths. They can drop in for counseling and job training, or talking with a compassionate listener who listens without judgement.

Drop-In Center is a respite care for homeless youth where there is food and snacks, laundry facilities, a shower room, computers, and counseling if requested.

Shelter Care is a private, non-profit service that has ministered to 700-750 residential youths and over 10,000 in non-residential outreach. The next time you think of social action (missions), think of your local community and Shelter Care.

A WORD OF THANKS!

** John and I would like to thank you for the prayers, cards, and phone calls. We are blessed to have caring people to help in a time of need! - John and Fay James*

** Hello, I was a guest of the Taylors. It was a blessing to attend your service on March 23, 2025. Thank you for your warm welcome. Many Blessings— Anita Hollis*

Worship Attendance

Mar 23	140	Apr 06	136
Mar 30	112	Apr 13	170



UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Greeters

Apr 20	Mark and Cathleen Clark
Apr 27	
May 4	Donna Phillips
May 18	
May 25	

Altar Flowers

Apr 20	Easter Flowers
Apr 27	Denise Haynes
May 4	
May 11	
May 18	The Ross Family
May 25	The Scovern Family

Sign up in
the hallway
\$28 per
arrangement

Ushers



Apr 20	Jim and Dee West, Ann and Patrick Hagan
Apr 27	Larry Robinson, Ann and Patrick Hagan, Don Simmons
May 4	Larry Robinson, Dave Marconi, Al Lytle, Ken Caldwell
May 11	Sandy Haydu, Karen Huth, Kim Fulton, Jane Charles
May 18	Dave Marconi, Bonnie Fordham, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
May 25	Larry Robinson, Ann and Patrick Hagan, Don Simmons

BIBLE & BREWS

MAY 21, 2025 | 6:00PM

WEST AVENUE TAVERN
87 West Ave, Tallmadge Ohio

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

First Congregational Church of Tallmadge, United Church of Christ

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST



SATURDAY, MAY 17 | 9:00 AM

The Monday Ladies Study is taking a break until April 28th

MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 10:00 AM—WW 12:00 PM—WF Luncheon 1:00 PM—Yoga 6:00 PM—WW 7:00 PM—Choir	2	3 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
4 9:00 AM—Faith in Action 10:00 AM—Worship/Communion	5 1:00 PM—Video Study 5:00 PM—Social Action Meeting 6:00 PM—Heritage 6:30 PM—Trustees Meeting	6 PRIMARY ELECTION 6:00 PM—Naranon	7 9:00 AM—Quilters 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	8 10:00 AM—WW 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 1:00 PM—Yoga 6:00 PM—WW 7:00 PM—Choir	9	10 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
11 APPRECIATION SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 AM—EC Meeting 10:00 AM—Worship	12 1:00 PM—Video Study 6:00 PM—Heritage	13 6:00 PM—Naranon	14 9:00 AM—Quilters 6:00 PM—NA 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	15 HERALD DEADLINE 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 10:00 AM—WW 1:00 PM—Yoga 4:30 PM—Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM—WW 7:00 PM—Choir	16 7:00 PM—Ten40! Concert	17 7:30/9:00 AM—WW 9:00 AM—Men's Prayer Breakfast
18 GRADUATION/SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY 9:00 AM—CE Meeting 10:00 AM—Worship 6:30 PM—Youth Fellowship	19 1:00 PM—Video Study 2:30 PM—WF Meeting 6:00 PM—Heritage	20 6:00 PM—Naranon 6:00 PM—Cards	21 9:00 AM—Quilters 10:00 AM—Herald Angels 6:00 PM—NA	22 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 10:00 AM—WW 1:00 PM—Yoga 6:00 PM—WW 7:00 PM—Choir	23	24 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
25 10:00 AM—Worship 6:00 PM—WJHM	26 OFFICE CLOSED: MEMORIAL DAY 6:00 PM—Heritage	27 10:30 AM—ACSG 6:00 PM—Naranon	28 9:00 AM—Quilters 6:00 PM—NA	29 10:00 AM—Staff Meeting 10:00 AM—WW 1:00 PM—Yoga 6:00 PM—WW 7:00 PM—Choir	30	31 7:30/9:00 AM—WW

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PO BOX 420
TALLMADGE OH 44278
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
TALLMADGE OH
PERMIT NO. 30

DATE: April 16, 2025

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	seniorminister@fcctallmadge.org
Cathy Cotter	Administrative Coordinator	info@fcctallmadge.org
Wendy Brown	Director of Family Ministries	wbrownfcc@sbcglobal.net
Nancy Lynn Robinson	Choir Director / Organist	nrbgp@aol.com
Anne Pertick	Digital Minister/ Youth Ministries Coordinator	digitalministry@fcctallmadge.org unitedministry@fcctallmadge.org
Bill Hoover	Finance Administrator	bhooverfcc@sbcglobal.net
Teresa Snyder	Head Custodian	budrose42@yahoo.com
Gary Marlow	Sunday Custodian	