

ISSUE 7095—OCTOBER 2025

The Herald

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TALLMADGE
United Church of Christ

"Making God the Foundation of Everyday Living"

This poem just came across my desk in a daily email I receive:

*First day of autumn,
stepping from summer's ease,
letting go, mindful of letting go,
trees surrendering so much,
the thin mist of regret in the meadow,
shedded leaves of loss gently falling,
shallow stream of time flowing away,
so many things no longer in season,
and yet,*

*first day of something.
For my friends on the other side of the
world,
the first day of spring.
From the other side
every departure
is an entrance,
every loss a liberation,
every end
a new beginning.*

(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)



It seems to me there have been some departures from the norms of the society that most of us grew up in. Though there have been stressors in our lives that we may not have experienced before, the God of our growing up years is still the same God. So when I say that I am struck by "every departure is an entrance," as a glass-half-full guy, I choose to see the new possibilities in our midst.

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85 Heritage Dr.
Tallmadge, OH 44278
Phone: 330.633.4931

New Possibilities

On my sabbatical to Turkey several years ago, I was able to see some wonderful historic ruins. I remember seeing beautiful marble facades that had been destroyed with just bits and pieces left over brick underwork. It was the practice of Roman emperors to have their names etched into the marble of buildings that were built during their reigns. Succeeding emperors would seek to “erase” the names of their predecessors as if to signal that they never existed.

Our spiritual forebears’ names have been etched on our hearts and they will never go away and we will never forget them. We treasure their energy to make this the spiritual home it has become.

In some ways, we always live in the “first day of something” mode. We have the opportunity to mold the future going forward. I firmly believe the truth in the poem that “every departure is an entrance.” It is up to us to collectively discern what’s next. What new possibilities do we see unfolding? What new ministries might we engage in even as we continue the historic partnerships with our cherished partners?

Perhaps if we keep asking questions like this, we can find some normal or some “new” normal so that we begin to model a future we want to live in!

Grace for the journey,




Join Our Bell Choir

If you’ve ever played handbells or if you’ve always wanted to try, consider joining the FCC Handbell Choir. We meet on Thursday nights in the sanctuary at 6:00pm.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SEP 21 15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-7, Luke 16:1-13

Message: “Prayerful Disciples”

SEP 28 16TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31

Message: “Surprising Investment”

OCT 5 17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Psalm 137, Luke 17:5-10

Message: “Free to Grieve”

OCT 12 18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture:

Message:

OCT 19 19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Luke 18:9-14

Message: “We Gather Together”

OCT 26 20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Message: “Beside Us to Guide Us”

NOV 2 21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: Luke 20:27-38

Message: “We All Do Extol Thee”

NOV 9 22TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Scripture: John 6 :25-35

Message: “All Glory Be Thine”

THE PRAYER CHAIN CONNECTION

To our Church Family and Friends:

We have an update on changes to our Prayer Lists. Beginning in October, due to a growing increase in prayer requests:

- * We will list in the Sunday bulletins church members and their families.
- *We will list in the monthly Herald church members, their families and friends.
- *We will continue to maintain a confidential list for all other concerns.

(If you would like a hard copy of the Herald list please request one from Cathy in the office.)

We thank you for your faithfulness in praying for all in need. And, thank you for trusting us to offer prayers for all of you.— Diana and Your Prayer Chain Family

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

Please remember in prayer:

Brad, Noreen, and Tim Ashley

Sharon Bible

Margarete Boschert

Zander Boyd

Jim Brown (Sandy Pressler's son-in-law)

Patti Calvarese

Jim Caplinger

Jim Collinson (friend of Connie Mason)

Sean and Sara Doty

Lyn Fendenheim (friend of Joe Labay)

Debbie Fickes

Eleanor Hall

Angela Hammelman (daughter of Wally & Donna Atwood)

Alleen Hilbish

Andy Holcomb (friend of Sandy Haydu)

Jim Jackson (Bonnie Fordham's son-in-law)

John James

Zell Lambert

Roberta Lewis

Ellen McKee

Ron Mitchell

Linda Moreland (Mike Cammel's cousin)

Lynn Norton

Bob Poff

David and Jackie Parker

LTJG John Norton (Connie Stone's grandson)

Bonnie and Matthew Rains

Heather Read (Ronda's daughter)

Roger Riddle (friend of Wally Atwood)

Sara Rooks

Alice Sheeler

Eddie Showalter (Linda Kester's cousin)

Lt. Maxwell Spear (Connie Stone's grandson)

Jeff Sullivan

John Triola (friend of Joe Labay)

Richard and Karen Thomason

Anne Varian (friend of Barb Dolensky)

Kim and Noel Walters

Ensign 2 Kaitlyn Wetter (Kester's granddaughter)

Don Woerz

Alzheimer's Care Giver Support Group



Tallmadge Historic Church 200th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 28 | 1:00-4:00 PM

Join the Tallmadge Historical Society for a discussion on the history of the Church, a rededication of the Church, live music, refreshments and a special nooks and crannies tour!



Community CASH BACK

Help Support Our Organization!

SHOP & EARN 5% CASH BACK

IT'S EASY!

Save your Acme Fresh Market receipts dated August 1, 2025 – February 15, 2026 to help us raise money!

Acme receipts will support our youth in United Ministry to help fund their mission trips! Turn everyday purchases into a powerful impact!


Place in the marked box in the atrium




SHOP & EARN 5% CASH BACK

Earn 5% Back on Participating Brands!






UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
NEIGHBORS IN NEED 2023
ucc.org/nin



Behold!

"God saw everything God made and behold, it was very good."

Artist: Alexis
Age: 15
Congregation: Trinity United Church of Christ, St. Louis MO



SUPPORT SPECIAL OFFERING NEIGHBORS IN NEED

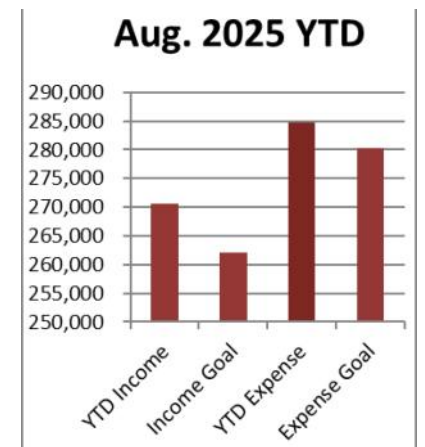
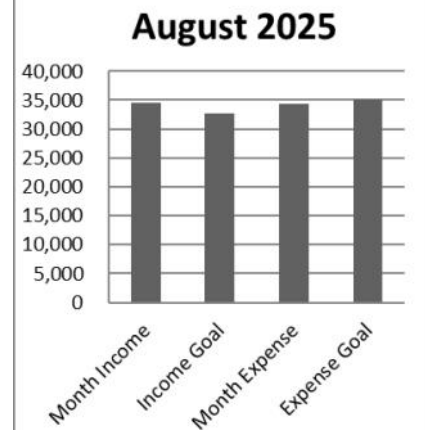
With your generous support, The United Church of Christ, through the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering, helps its members live out their beliefs via acts of service. Please donate today! Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants. One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM. www.ucc.org/nin. Thank You!

The Neighbors in Need Offering is a Special Mission Offering of the United Church of Christ. Your gifts support ministries of justice and compassion, the Council for American Indian Ministries (CAIM) and Neighbors in Need grants. Thank you for your generosity!

GIVE ONLINE HERE



MONTHLY FINANCIALS



August 2025 operating income of \$34,560 was \$1,810 **above** the monthly income need. Operating expenses for the month were \$34,322 resulting in a **surplus** of \$240 in August, and a YTD **deficit** of (\$14,190). We are hoping to see the summer decline in Faith Offerings rebound in September as we start the fall church season. Expenses were just below budget in August. 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.

“WE GATHER TOGETHER”

FCC Stewardship Campaign 2025

In the UCC in general has turned from speaking about stewardship and toward speaking about philanthropy and generosity. While it may feel merely semantics but I choose to see it otherwise. Consider this from Christian Smith’s definition from his work with the Generosity Project at Notre Dame University

“Generosity is the virtue of giving good things to others freely and abundantly. It is a learned character trait that involves attitude and action entailing both the inclination and actual practice of giving liberally. It is not a haphazard behavior but a basic orientation to life. What generosity gives can vary: money, possessions, time, attention, aid, encouragement, and more but it always intends to enhance the true wellbeing of the receiver. Like all virtues, generosity is in people’s genuine enlightened self-interest to learn and practice.”

This definition calls us to move from the one four-week time of focusing on a stewardship campaign to making generosity a “basic orientation to life.” It also reminds us that stewardship is not just a money issue. As a short list of “other” things that could be “stewardship” Smith says is, “possessions, time, attention, aid, encouragement.”

For example, one week has 168 hours. What would “tithing” on those hours look like? If we went with the biblical tithing model, ten percent would be around 16 hours. Where would you give those 16 hours in service to the gospel? Would you dare come to your minister and say, “I’m giving you 16 hours, what can I do for you?” I don’t see you beating a path to my door, but I would ask you to explore other ways that your “generosity” can go beyond just what you put on your pledge card!



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The first Sunday of October we celebrate World Communion Sunday. World Communion Sunday (originally called World Wide Communion Sunday) originated in the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 1936, for the first time, the first Sunday in October was celebrated in Presbyterian churches in the United States and overseas. From the beginning, it was planned so that other denominations could make use of it, and after a few years, the idea spread beyond the Presbyterian Church. The Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches (a predecessor body of the National Council of Churches) was first associated with World Wide Communion Sunday in 1940 when the department’s executive secretary, Jesse Bader, led in its extension to a number of churches throughout the world. Today, this special observance has taken on a new relevancy and depth of meaning in a world where globalization often has undermined peace and justice—and in a time when fear divides the peoples of God’s earth. On this day, we celebrate our oneness in Christ in the midst of the world we are called to serve—a world evermore in need of peacemaking. Come prepared to receive the gifts of the table from God who makes us one!!!



SPAGHETTI DINNER UPDATE

Make plans to join us for our Women's Fellowship Community Spaghetti Dinner. We'll kick-off the year with our first dinner on Thursday, September 18th. Coming up in October, we will have a new menu item, a Meatball Sub, for \$11. Like all of our entries, The sub will come with salad, a beverage, and dessert. Please join us and bring your friends!

SPAGHETTI DINNER MENU

Spaghetti &
Meatballs \$12

Spaghetti &
Chicken \$12

Meatballs &
Chicken \$13

Spaghetti Only \$11

Meatball Sub \$11

*All meals include salad, bread,
dessert, and a beverage!*

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP **SPAGHETTI** DINNER



4:30-7:00 PM

3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

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

LET'S EAT DONUTS

Looking for a way to serve your church family? Stop by the Atrium kitchen and sign up to provide donuts on Sunday mornings. This opportunity to serve a "sweet something" to all the members of our church family will be greatly appreciated, especially by our kids and, of course, all of our "kids-at-heart." This opportunity is open to any of our church groups or individuals.

Duties:

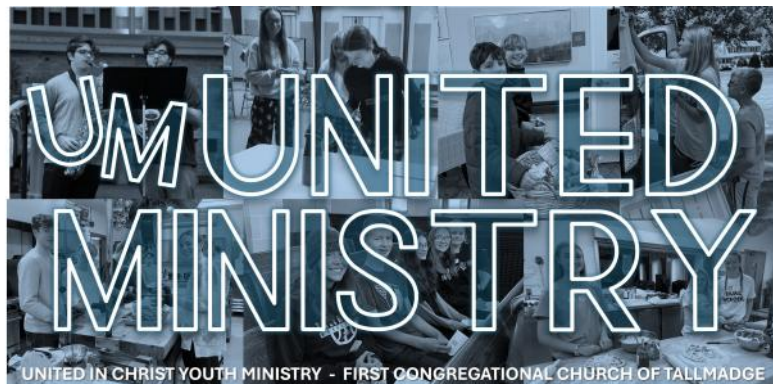
*Buy, cut, wrap (unwaxed pastry paper provided) two dozen mixed varieties of donuts and two dozen donut holes (about \$28) or provide an equivalent of homemade "sweet somethings." Use the platters from under the counter.

*Make one pot of coffee and one pot of decaf and put them on the warming plate. Turn on warming plate. Set out some cups, napkins, sugar, cream and stir sticks (in cupboards).

* After church, clean up, and turn off warming plate. Take home any leftovers or place them in the fridge for the staff the following morning.



The LATEST



A Wonderful Day of Service with First Serve!

What an amazing day we had participating in First Serve's annual day of service! FCC was proudly represented by nine of our youth, five adults, and Rev. Dan, who took part in the powerful sending service that launched the day.



The morning began with a moving time of worship and unity—a service that brought us together in purpose, celebrated the beauty of diverse faiths, and reminded us of our shared humanity. From there, our team joined over 500 volunteers from across the community, all coming together with open hearts and helping hands.

FCC's crew got to work at a local preschool, helping clean and refresh classrooms to create a healthier, more welcoming learning environment for young

children. Our volunteers rolled up their sleeves with joy, care, and commitment—living out our call to serve with love and kindness. Thank you to everyone who showed up, stepped in, and served faithfully for an impactful day!

What We're UP TO

We're back to our regular UM schedule this month!

Faith in Action class meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:00 AM in the youth room with Mr. George and Ms. Kyle.

Please note: There will be no Sunday in Service this month on October 12th.

Youth Fellowship Night

Join us at the church for a cozy fall night around the bonfire—complete with s'mores, a caramel apple bar, and fall treats!

Bundle up, bring a friend, and enjoy fellowship, devotions, and some tasty seasonal favorites.

Grades 6-12	
UM OCT. 2025	
SCHEDULE	
SUN 5	FAITH IN ACTION ⌚ 9 AM 📍 Youth Room
SUN 12	NO SUNDAY IN SERVICE
SUN 19	FAITH IN ACTION ⌚ 9 AM 📍 Youth Room CONFIRMATION ⌚ 11:30 AM 📍 David Bacon Room
SUN 26	YOUTH FELLOWSHIP ⌚ 6:30-8PM 📍 FCC
UNITED IN CHRIST	

Ways to Support our United Ministry Youth



Acme receipts

United Youth Ministries is collecting Acme receipts to help raise money for Youth activities and missions. Turn in your receipts to the box in the atrium from now until February 15th.

Election Day Bake Sale



We are once again holding our Election Day Bake Sale to support the United Ministry Youth, and we need your help to make it a success! The CE board is seeking donations of baked goods—cookies, breads, pies, and other treats—as well as volunteers to help throughout the day. Please drop off baked goods at the church by Saturday, November 2nd. Please mark the baked good item. If you're available to help, please contact Anne Pertick at anne.pertick@fctallmadge.org. Thank you for supporting our youth through this sweet fundraiser!

Capture the Spirit Christmas Photo Fundraiser



Are you looking for a family photo for the holidays? Get into the holiday spirit and support a great cause with our **Christmas Photo Shoot Fundraiser**! Gather your loved ones for a festive photo session—complete with two holiday backdrops to choose from. All proceeds go toward supporting our United Youth Ministry program experiences and mission trips. We are also looking for a volunteer photographer to help make this event a success. If you're interested in sharing your talent, we'd love to hear from you! Contact Anne Pertick if interested. Spots will be limited, so mark those calendars for November 8th and 9th. Sign-ups and more details coming soon!

Holiday Pecan Sale



United Youth Ministries is taking over the Holiday Pecan Sale. Keep an eye out for more information soon.

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

A Life-Changing Tool That Millions of
People Can't Stop Talking About

THE
**LET
THEM**
THEORY
Mel Robbins
and Sawyer Robbins

WOMEN'S BOOK STUDY

Women's Book Study will begin on Oct. 5 at 9-10 AM. We will be reading **The Let Them Theory** by Mel Robbins. Chapters 1-3 will be discussed Oct. 5.

The Let Them Theory will forever change the way you think about relationships, control, and personal power. Whether you want to advance your career, motivate others to change, take creative risks, find deeper connections, build better habits, start a new chapter, or simply create more happiness in your life and relationships, this book gives you the mindset and tools to unlock your full potential.

FAITH IN ACTION

We are ready to start the fall session. We will meet Sunday mornings at 9:00 AM on the 1st and 3rd Sundays.

Rm 207 **Roberta Nehrenz for ages 4 to 2nd grade**

Rm 204 **Dianne Drummond for grades 3rd– 5th**

Rm 102 **Kyle & George Herron for grades 6th–12th**

Confirmation will be also be meeting this year after worship. This is for students 8th grade and older who would like to learn more about our church, our history, the traditions and the foundations of our faith.



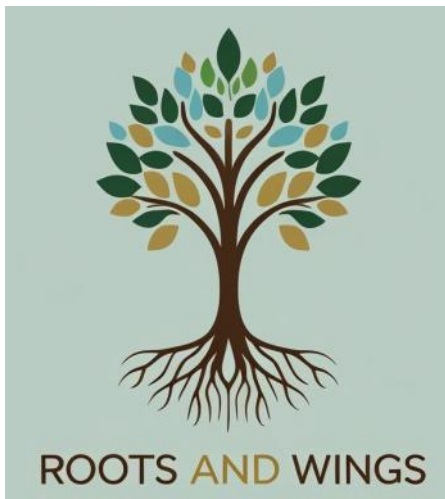
WORSHIP ART MINISTRY (WAM)

We have started meeting weekly for WAM, where children 5th grade and younger will discover the weekly scripture through art and activities. We will head to the Fellowship Hall most Sundays following the Children's Message.

We would love for your child to bring his or her bible to WAM if they have received it.



ROOT AND WINGS



Roots and Wings is a new fellowship group for grandparents and grandchildren to grow in faith and friendship together. Inspired by Colossians 2:6–7, we seek to be “rooted and built up in Him” as we share activities, stories, and time that strengthen family bonds and create lasting memories. This is open to all children, but our activities will be geared for elementary-aged grandchildren. If your child wants to come and doesn't have a local grandparent, we can find an adoptive grandparent that would like to participate. The next few meetings will be

Oct. 12 @ 4:30

Pumpkin Crafts

Nov. 9 @ 4:30

Edible Thanksgiving crafts/snacks

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRACTICE

We are going to have a Christmas Pageant on December 14. We invite all children who are in 5th grade or younger to participate. We do ask that those who want speaking parts (actors) be in 2nd—5th grade. We will be practicing with our actors on **Oct. 29 @ 4:30 pm**. Those who want to be in the pageant with non-speaking parts (1st grade and younger) will be added to practice in December.

TREEHOUSE PRESCHOOL

Our school year has begun and we are eager to play and learn. Our first fundraiser, Metropolis Popcorn, begins October 21-29, look for details and an ordering link in the next herald. **Please remember, the kitchen door entrance will be LOCKED at all times when school is in session.**



Worship Attendance

Aug 24	121	Sep 7	115
Aug 31	59	Sep 14	121



UPCOMING SUNDAYS

Greeters

Sep 21	Dorothy Seal and Roy Martin
Sep 28	Roberta and George Nehrenz
Oct 5	Jeff and Edith Sullivan
Oct 12	Tom and Joe Labay
Oct 19	Nan Nagel and Sue Canavan
Oct 26	Dan and Dianne Drummond

Altar Flowers

Sep 21	
Sep 28	
Oct 5	Donn Johnson's Family
Oct 12	Karen Thomason
Oct 19	Bonnie Fordham
Oct 26	Cliff and Sue Yeager
Nov 2	

Sign up in
the hallway
\$28 per
arrangement

Ushers



Sep 21	Dave Marconi, Jane Charles, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
Sep 28	Joe Labay, Ann and Patrick Hagan, Larry Robinson
Oct 5	Larry Robinson, Dave Marconi, Tom Labay, Ken Caldwell
Oct 12	Sandy Haydu, Karen Huth, Kim Darkow, Jane Charles
Oct 19	Dave Marconi, Jane Charles, Sandy Haydu, Gary Myers
Oct 26	Joe Labay, Ann and Patrick Hagan, Larry Robinson

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TALLMADGE

FCC Tallmadge
WORSHIP
Schedule

SUNDAYS

@10:00 AM

ALL YEAR LONG!

**"No matter who you are, or where you are on
life's journey, you are welcome here."**

*We celebrate a
universal welcome in
the name of Christ
who loves
unconditionally, and
we invite seekers
and disciples into
worship, spiritual
care, growth, and
connection to
mission and ministry
as we walk together
the journey of faith.*

OCTOBER 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	2 10:00 AM—WW 12:00 PM—WF 1:00 PM—Staff Meeting 6:00 PM—WW 6:00 PM—NA 6:00 PM—Bells	3	4 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
5 9:00 AM—Faith in Action 9:00 AM—Women's Book Study 10:00 AM—Worship	6 12:30 PM—Ladies Study 2:15 PM—Chair Yoga 5:00 PM—Social Action Meeting 6:00 PM—Heritage 6:30 PM—Trustees	7 6:00 PM—Naranon	8 9:00 AM—Quilters 3:30 PM—Spirit Wear Sale 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	9 HERALD DEADLINE 10:00 AM—WW 12:00 PM—WF 1:00 PM—Staff Meeting 6:00 PM—WW 6:00 PM—NA 6:00 PM—Bells 7:00 PM—Choir	10	11 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
12 9:00 AM—EC Meeting 10:00 AM—Worship 4:00 – 6:00 PM - Roots and Wings	13 12:30 PM—Ladies Study 2:15 PM—Chair Yoga 2:30 PM—WF Meeting 6:00 PM—Heritage	14 6:00 PM—Naranon	15 9:00 AM—Quilters 10:00 AM—Herald Angels 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	16 10:00 AM—WW 4:30—7 PM—Spaghetti Dinner 6:00 PM—WW 6:00 PM—NA 6:00 PM—Bells 7:00 PM—Choir	17	18 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
19 Stewardship Campaign begins 9:00 AM—Faith in Action 9:00 AM—Women's Book Study 10:00 AM—Worship 11:30 AM—Confirmation Meeting	20 12:30 PM—Ladies Study 2:15 PM—Chair Yoga 2:30 PM—WF Meeting 6:00 PM—Heritage	21 6:00 PM—Naranon	22 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	23 10:00 AM—WW 12:00 PM—WF 1:00 PM—Staff Meeting 6:00 PM—WW 6:00 PM—NA 6:00 PM—Bells 7:00 PM—Choir	24	25 7:30/9:00 AM—WW
26 9:00 AM—CE Meeting 10:00 AM—Worship 6:00 PM—WJHM 6:30 PM—Youth Fellowship	27 12:30 PM—Ladies Study 2:15 PM—Chair Yoga 6:00 PM—Heritage 6:00 PM—Treehouse Board Meeting	28 10:30 AM—ACSG 6:00 PM—Naranon	29 9:00 AM—Quilters 12:00 PM—Book Study 1:00 PM—Bible Study 4:30 PM—Pageant Meeting 7:00 PM—Cub Scouts	30 10:00 AM—WW 12:00 PM—WF 1:00 PM—Staff Meeting 6:00 PM—WW 6:00 PM—NA 6:00 PM—Bells 7:00 PM—Choir	31	

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
PO BOX 420
TALLMADGE OH 44278
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PERMIT NO. 30

DATE: September 17, 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	