

# ★ *the* POP *Salon*

April 8, 2025

 TODAY



TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN  
Volume V Issue XXVIII



# from the Head

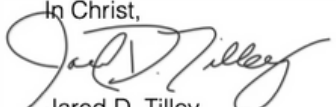
One of the most delightful parts of being Head of School is meeting prospective families on tour. I enjoy talking about the wonderful things Tennessee Christian is doing and how we are growing. One of the remarkable statistics of our enrollment process is that Tennessee Christian's enrollment has increased by over 60% over the past five years. Families are joining our God's mission for this school, and we have seen significant growth and impactful additions to our community.



This past week, a young prospective student came and toured our Lower School. I usually greet them by learning more about them and a simple handshake. This young boy was not comfortable upon introduction to greet me with a handshake. As the tour progressed, the young boy began opening up and asking questions, talking with Mrs. Sluder and her office friends, and generally feeling more comfortable. The one person that he kept going back to was Officer Rob.

At the end of the tour, I still didn't get my handshake, but I got a hug instead. He collected a few rocks on our tour and gave them to everyone nearby, asking us to keep them so we could remember him. As he left, he waved goodbye, thanking us for the tour.

Our school's mission is to mentor students from the earliest age, educating them from a biblical worldview and equipping them to face the challenges they will encounter with God's grace and love. We try to share the critical mission with our families in all ways, even tours.

In Christ,  
  
Jared D. Tilley

# MASCOT TO MATRIMONY



Second grader Addie Ramirez had a very special experience recently—she appeared on the *Today Show* alongside her mother, RheaAnne Ramirez. The two were interviewed about the heartwarming story of how RheaAnne, a former MLB mascot, met and married Erasmo Ramirez (Addie’s dad!), a current pitcher for the Minnesota Twins. Their charming love story has captured national attention!

The story was also recently featured in *People Magazine*, where readers got a deeper look into the couple’s unexpected journey. During the *Today* show interview, Addie sat proudly beside her mom, flashing a bright smile giving viewers a glimpse into their fun and baseball-loving family life.

It was such fun to see one of our very own students on national television! We’re proud of the Ramirez family for representing our community with such warmth and positivity. If you missed the segment, be sure to check it out—it’s a feel-good story that reminds us how love can find us in unexpected places.



-Lindsay Sluder



# NEED FOR SPEED

*Abel Shopen*



This year our school community gained a new student with a serious need for speed; first grader Abel Shopen. While many kids his age are just learning to ride a bike, Abel is already making a name for himself in the world of competitive racing.

At just seven years old, Abel recently competed in the K1 Speed National Kart Racing event, where he secured 3rd place. But that's only the beginning of his racing journey. Abel participates in a wide variety of motorsports, and in the coming weeks, he'll be kicking off his Bandolero/Junior NASCAR racing season.

Abel drives everything from go-karts to motorbikes, and he's currently learning to handle a manual transmission in a full-sized car, an impressive feat for someone his age. His love for racing started early; he was steering Power Wheels at 18 months old and pulling off donuts in modified ones by the time he was 2.5 years old. By age three, he was riding a bicycle without training wheels.

It's clear that Abel has a natural talent and passion for racing. We're thrilled to have him as part of our school family and can't wait to see where his racing dreams take him!



-Lindsay Sluder



# gentleness

## **Beckett Barham (PreK)**

"Gentleness encompasses a humble and meek attitude. It involves the willingness to bear through challenges with patience and understanding. It also involves an empathetic attitude towards others.

Beckett Barham is a great example of this. He reminds us that God is above us and that no one is perfect aside from Him. He uses a positive attitude towards his peers school work, never stating that his is better. When Beckett notices others are sad or having a hard day he offers us an exceptional amount of grace and understanding. As a class we are grateful for the gentle spirit he shows us all on a regular basis." - Jennifer Roe



## **William Propes (Kindergarten)**

"William has a kind spirit and works hard to show compassion and love to those around him. He enjoys making his classmates and teachers feel love and laughter each day!"

-Ashley Dodson and Phyllis Hope

## **Leona Fletcher (3rd)**

"Leona consistently shows kindness and a gentle spirit toward her classmates, always speaking tenderly and offering help when needed. Her caring attitude makes everyone feel safe and valued, and she handles difficult situations with grace and patience. Leona's gentleness shines through in all her interactions, making her a true example of this Fruit of the Spirit." -Audry Paul





# gentleness



**Henry Sluder (5th)**

"Henry's easy-going and friendly nature make him an approachable and agreeable classmate. Henry is never quick with his words, but holds his tongue and thinks before he speaks. Henry's actions are always gentle and humble whether in our class or with other lower school students. His big smile welcomes everyone, but especially stands out as he serves on Safety Patrol. It is an honor to nominate Henry for this Fruit of the Spirit Award." -Sarah Van Dyke

**Eliana Adams (6th)**

"Ellie is gentle in nature. She is always treating others with kindness and in a gentle way. She exhibits gentleness when dealing with adversity." - Kelly Owens



**Charlie Chittum (9th)**

"Charlie approaches circumstances head on but with care. She knows when to speak and when to refrain from speaking. Charlie is a well-rounded individual and I am blessed to be her teacher." - Ivelisse Acosta-Sierra







# HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

It was an exciting and encouraging week for TCPS spring athletics as our student-athletes continued to compete with passion and make great strides across the board.

## **Middle School Girls Volleyball**

The Lady Hawks had a full week, playing three matches and showing tremendous growth and fight. The team earned a big win over Belvoir and battled hard in a match with Grace, a close, hard-fought loss in one of the most competitive matches of the season. They also faced again with St. Jude, a rematch from the previous week, falling just short in the second set of the contest.

Coach Georgia McPherson praised her team's progress, saying: "This team has shown remarkable improvement as the season progresses. At the start of the year, many were still adjusting to the pace of competitive play. Through consistent practice and dedication, they've improved immensely. The teamwork and communication on the court has been fantastic, and I'm proud of how far they've come. I'm confident the wins will continue as they keep working hard and supporting one another."

Many sets throughout the season have gone down to the wire, and the Lady Hawks continue to rise to the occasion each time.

## **High School Tennis**

Both the Hawks and Lady Hawks faced off against tough competition in Boyd Buchanan and Walker Valley. While the overall team scores came up short, several individual victories stood out. Thomas Nicolaus and Audrey Lyles each secured impressive wins at the #1 singles spot against Boyd Buchanan - an established program in the area.

Joey Meir also picked up a singles win against Walker Valley, showing strong promise for the team. They now look ahead to a big match versus Cleveland High School on Tuesday, April 8, at Tinsley Park.

## **High School Baseball**

After a one-year hiatus, TCPS baseball is back! The Hawks took the field for the first time in a doubleheader against RCA (Dayton) where they scored their first runs in two seasons and showed encouraging signs of progress. The momentum carried into Saturday's matchup against East Hamilton, where the team continued to develop under new head coach Brantley Cutler. Contributions came from strong pitching by Thomas Nicolaus and Eli Ahlers, while key hits were delivered Nicolaus, Elijah Smith, and Ahlers. On defense, Franklin Campbell executed a stellar putout and double play early in the East Hamilton game, with solid fielding support from James Shiflet at second base and Nicolaus at shortstop.

Coach Cutler, who has been a blessing to our program this spring, will be playing professionally for the High Point Rockers in the Atlantic League. We are thankful for his leadership and will be praying for him as he follows God's plan in his baseball journey.

Let's continue supporting our athletes as they finish the spring season strong.

## **Go Hawks!**





# TCPs

**FRIDAY 4.25  
5-8 PM**



**2025 FINE ARTS  
FESTIVAL**

# ART

**FEATURING MIDDLE SCHOOL  
POETRY, K-8 ART WORK, US ART  
ELECTIVES, PRESCHOOL ARTWORK,  
AND PERFORMANCES FROM OUR  
MUSICAL ACADEMY, ALADDIN CAST,  
AND US CHAPEL BAND**

**TCPS GYM FRIDAY APRIL 25TH 5-8 PM**

Thank you to the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce Allied Arts Council for the grant that funded our Art Workshop and Theater Scripts



TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN FINE ARTS

*presents*

Disney

# Aladdin JR.

©Disney



TENNESSEE  
CHRISTIAN  
PREPARATORY  
SCHOOL

Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm  
Lee University Dixon Center

Tickets	\$15
Students/ TC Faculty	\$10

Use the QR  
code to  
purchase  
tickets!



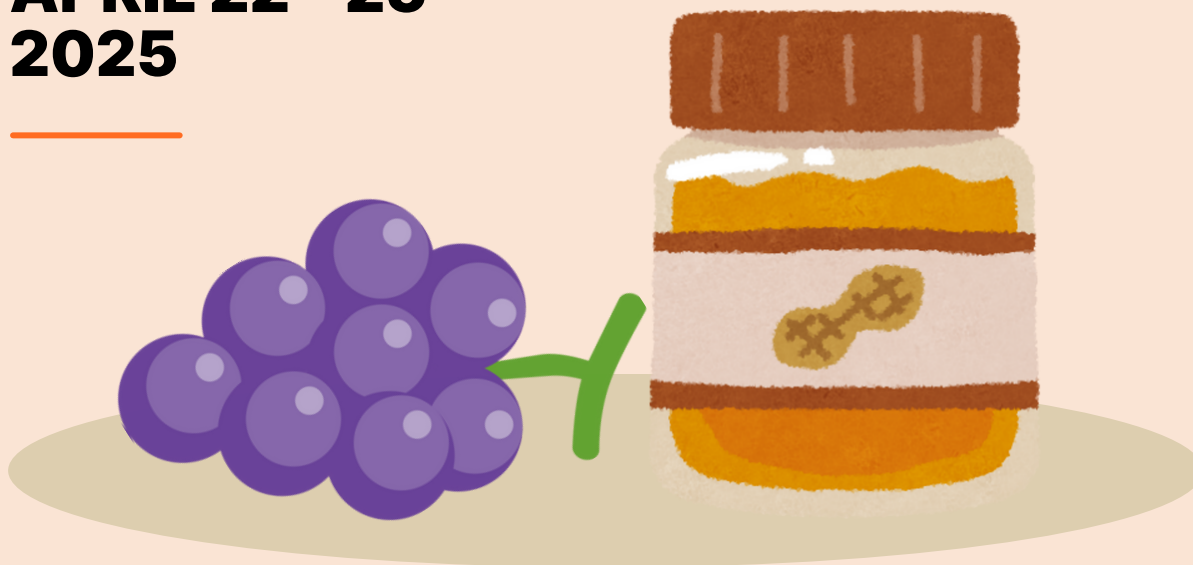


# PB&J DRIVE



**APRIL 22 - 25  
2025**

---



We are excited to announce our PB&J Drive, where we come together as a school to make a positive impact on our community.

## **DROP-OFF LOCATION**



Outside School during  
dismissal or arrival

## **ITEMS NEEDED**

- ▶ Peanut Butter or other Spreads
- ▶ Jelly or Jam

---

For More Information : [asopczak@tcpsk12.org](mailto:asopczak@tcpsk12.org)



# TC SUMMERS

**REGISTRATION  
NOW OPEN!**

[WWW.TENNESSEECHRISTIAN.ORG](http://WWW.TENNESSEECHRISTIAN.ORG) →  
→ CAMPUS LIFE → TC SUMMERS

**SUMMER DAY CAMP CLINICS  
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS  
RISING FIRST-SIXTH GRADE**

**1 week Camp  
\$230**

**Summer Bundle  
\$210**

**Monday-Friday  
8AM-3PM  
Aftercare Available  
Lunch Provided**

## 2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

**JUNE 2-6:** VOLLEYBALL CAMP

**JUNE 9-13:** MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

**JUNE 16-20:** SOCCER CAMP

**JUNE 23-27:** CHEERLEADING & TUMBLING  
CAMP

**JULY 7-11:**

**PAINTING & DRAWING  
CAMP**

**JULY 14-18:**

**BASKETBALL CAMP**

**JULY 21-25:**

**STEAM CAMP**

**JULY 28-AUG 1:**

**HAND SEWING/  
EMBROIDERY CAMP**

[tennesseechristian.org](http://tennesseechristian.org) 423-559-8939 [chinchcliff@tcpsk12.org](mailto:chinchcliff@tcpsk12.org)

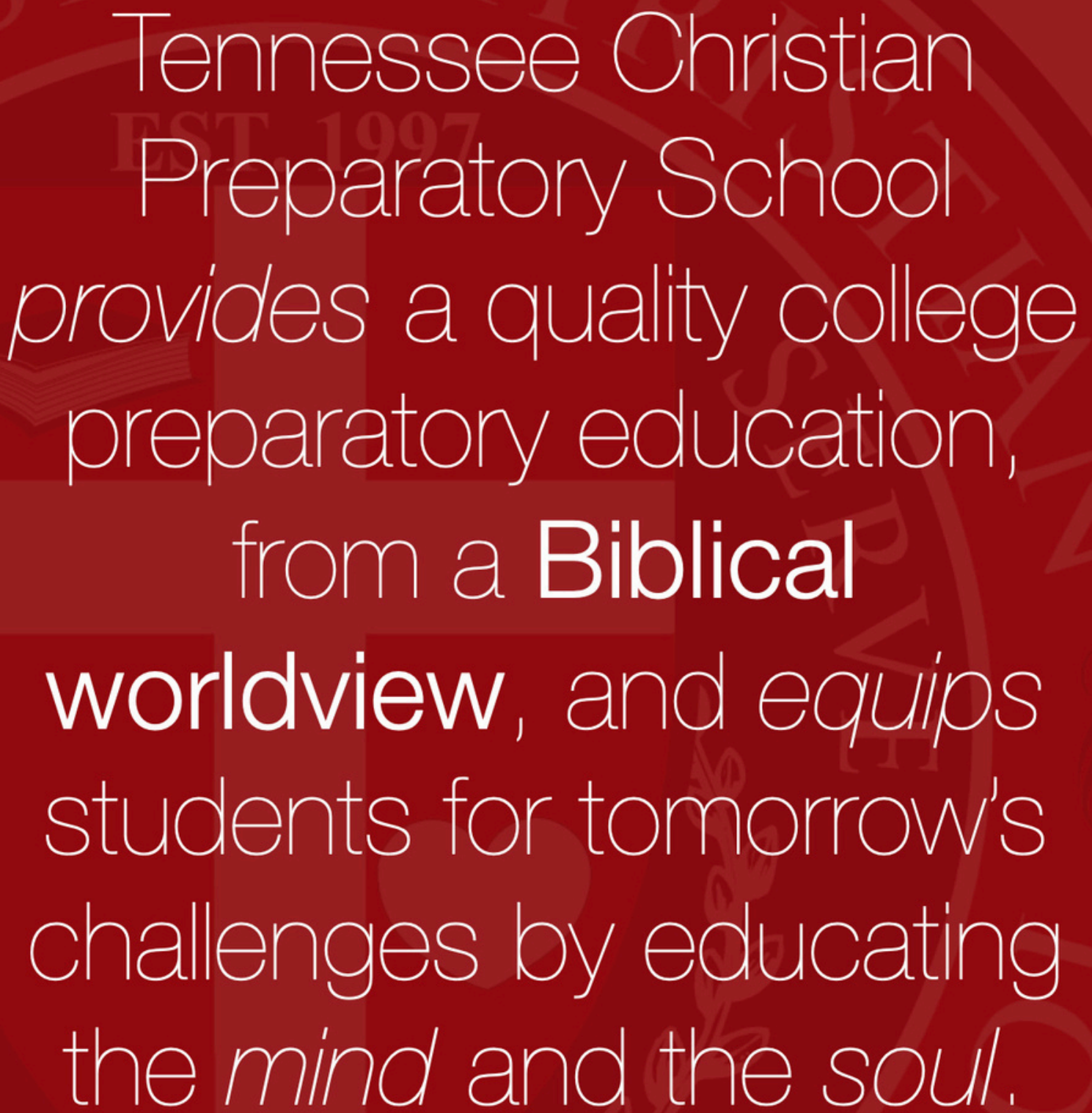




LEE  
UNIVERSITY

# A TOP-TIER, CHRIST-CENTERED EXPERIENCE





Tennessee Christian  
Preparatory School  
*provides a quality college  
preparatory education,  
from a **Biblical  
worldview**, and equips  
students for tomorrow's  
challenges by educating  
the *mind* and the *soul*.*