

A group of six people, three men and three women, are standing in a desert landscape, looking at a large, balanced rock formation. The rock is a reddish-brown color and has a unique shape, with a large, flat top that appears to be balanced on a narrow base. The people are dressed in casual outdoor clothing, including jackets, pants, and hats. The ground is dry and rocky, with some sparse vegetation. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

the talon

March 18, 2025

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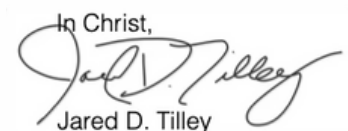
from the Head

The Tilley family enjoys camping and tries to trade technology and modern convenience for a tent and a fire as much as possible. So, over Spring Break, we scheduled a night camping. The ritual of packing for a camping trip is successful in the details, and Victoria owns that. My strength comes in handy when making sure everything fits into the car. Could anyone do this? Yes, but let me have my moment. Our favorite campsite, forty minutes from our house, is accompanied by music and the windows rolled down, enjoying last week's great weather. Once we arrive at the campground, we pitch our tents, lay out our bedrolls, and play catch.

Soon after we arrived, the warm day was greeted with a thunderclap. Surprised, we look up at blue skies but start to see a dark grey cloud clip the mountain and come into view. We picked up our chairs so they would not get wet from the drizzle expected. Soon, the raindrops started to fall. Victoria and Iris went to the restroom while the boys continued to play. I sat in the car to avoid getting wet while finishing a great book. Soon, the sprinkle turned into a downpour, the downpour into hail. From a distance, Iris and Victoria are walking quickly back to the camp. Victoria walks straight to the tent and, sure enough, zips closed the wide-open tent. An hour after the rain had started, it slowed and stopped. We begin to assess the damage. All our sleeping gear in the tent was drenched.

Not to be outdone by the weather, we pull out our dry firewood and start a fire. The weather had dropped roughly 20 degrees since the rain. The fire started, and the family began cooking dinner. We devised a plan to stay the night with wet sleeping bags while eating. We had a semi-feasible plan when it started to rain again. Victoria and I looked at each other and said, let's call it a day.

We packed our gear in the rain and headed away from the campsite. It was not a mile or two down the road before we realized it had not rained there at all. It was sunny and beautiful. It was not till later that Martin said, "that was an adventure and I had fun." Is that not what it is all about? Developing memories and stories of adventures is why we explore and travel. Through those moments, we can learn more about ourselves and those around us. I am thankful for our misadventure great adventure and look forward to the next one!

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley



INTERNATIONAL DAY

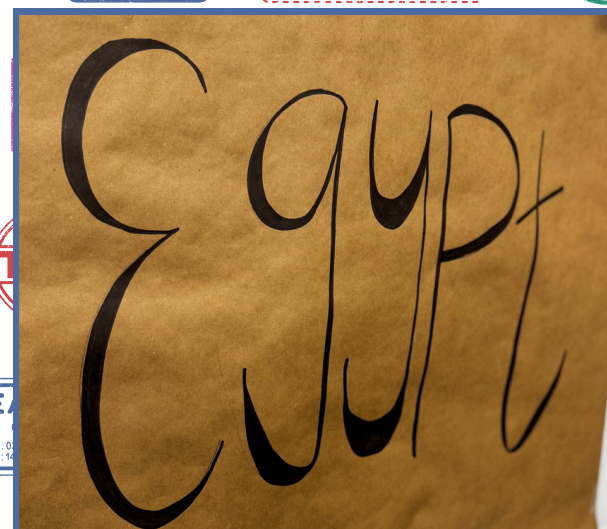
The Friday before Spring Break is an exciting time for all the students at Tennessee Christian. Annually, we have one of the most significant events of the year sponsored by the history department, International Day.

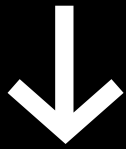
International Day is a chance for middle and upper school students to build booths representing countries worldwide. This year, we represented nineteen countries like Turkey, Jamaica, Denmark, Monaco, and many others. The students began this project earlier in January of this year with the country draft, in which they had to answer trivia questions about the country they would like to represent. Once the countries are selected, the students go to work at recreating the tastes, sounds, and culture from their country.

The seniors have a special task of organizing and creating the main attraction in the Lower School hallway and the center of the gym. This year, our country of focus was Egypt. With the masterful help of Chloe Hinchcliff, the students created a walkthrough experience through a pyramid that included hieroglyphics and a mummy. Within the gym, touring students were first greeted by prayer flags from each country, with specific prayers for all countries represented and written by our middle and upper school students. Once the touring students arrived and saw our version of the Great Pyramid of Giza, it was amazing to see their faces light up with awe.

I want to thank Kori Weaver, Matt Mullins, and Chloe Hinchcliff for the hard work and dedication in making this a memorable event each year. Also, thank you to the faculty, staff, and students who stayed and helped set up the gym and give a fantastic experience for the touring students.

-Jared Tilley





INTERNATIONAL DAY

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

TIME:08:15

MADRID

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

TIME:08:15

MADRID

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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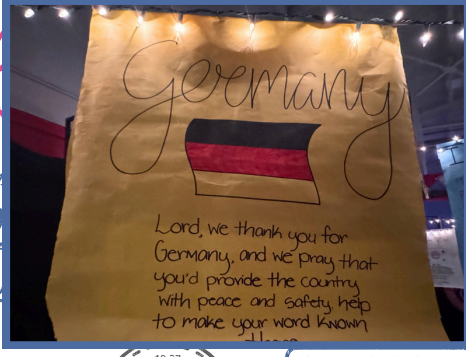
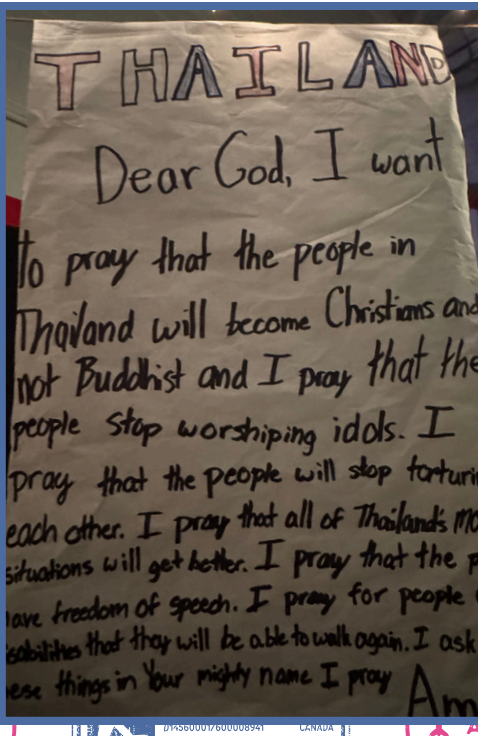
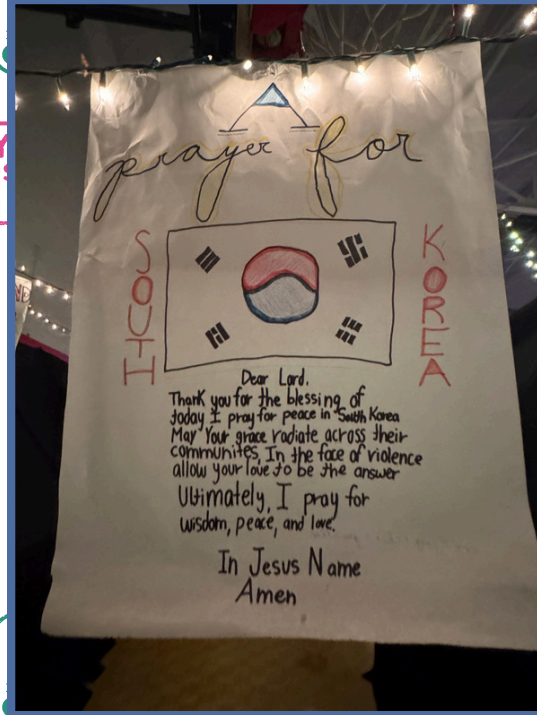
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INTERNATIONAL DAY

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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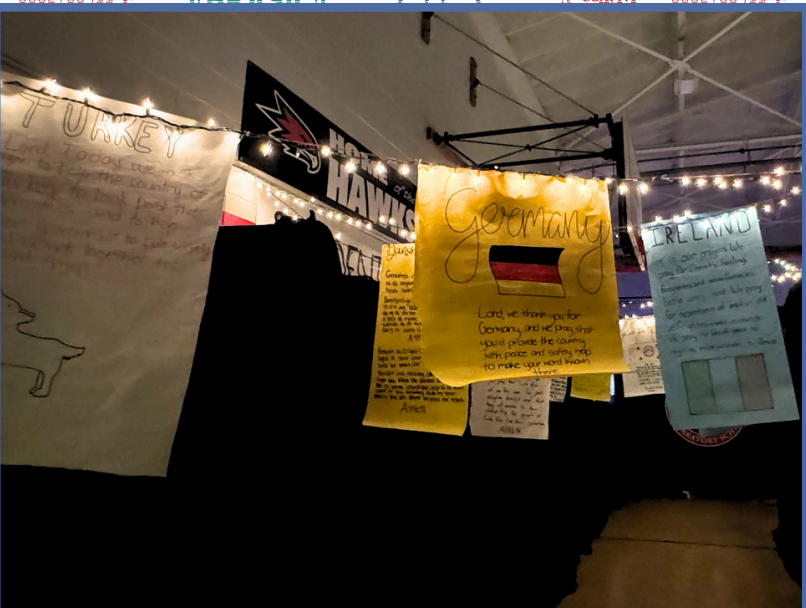
MADRID

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

TIME:08:15

MADRID

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



UTAH & COLORADO



Over spring break, a group of Tennessee Christian students and staff embarked on an unforgettable outdoor adventure, exploring the breathtaking landscapes of Utah and Colorado. From towering arches to deep canyons, every day was filled with exciting hikes, scenic drives, and immersive experiences in nature. By the end of the week, our group had logged an impressive 120,923 steps, covered 59.4 miles on foot, and climbed the equivalent of 280 flights of stairs—a true testament to the challenge and excitement of our journey!

Our adventure began with an early morning flight from Atlanta to Grand Junction, where we picked up our trusty 15-passenger van, affectionately nicknamed Bessie. Over the next week, Bessie carried us through winding desert roads, towering canyons, and rugged trails. What started as just a vehicle quickly became a beloved part of our journey, a place of laughter, naps, and endless snack breaks.

The next day, we kicked off our exploration at Arches National Park, hiking to iconic formations like Windows, Balanced Rock, and Delicate Arch. The stunning red rock scenery set the tone for the days ahead.

Monday took us to the San Juan National Forest, where we set out to hike the San Juan Bear Creek Loop. What was supposed to be a moderate 2-hour, 12-minute hike turned into a grueling 4-hour, 30-minute adventure. We scaled up and down the mountain through a foot of snow, slipped on ice, got covered in mud, and even discovered some questionably large tracks in the snow—sparking plenty of wild theories about what else might be roaming the forest with us. Despite the unexpected

UTAH & COLORADO



challenges, the experience became one of the most memorable moments of the trip, pushing us to embrace the unpredictable nature of the great outdoors.

The next morning, we switched gears for an adrenaline-pumping UTV excursion before returning to Arches for another round of hiking. This time, we explored the Devil's Garden area, where we discovered Landscape Arch—the longest arch in the park, stretching the length of a football field. The stunning rock formations and winding trails made for an unforgettable day of exploration.

Midweek, we ventured to Canyonlands National Park, where we took in breathtaking views at Mesa Arch, hiked Aztec Butte—where we had an exciting encounter with mountain goats—and trekked up Whale Rock for panoramic desert views.

Thursday morning, we took advantage of our own backyard and hiked Ken's Lake and Faux Falls, a scenic 3.5-mile adventure right in our neighborhood. The peaceful trail, cascading waterfall, and

refreshing morning air made for a perfect start to the day. Later, we traveled to the Navajo Reservation to visit the Four Corners Monument, where we stood in Utah, Colorado, Arizona, and New Mexico all at once! It was a unique way to mark our journey through the Southwest.

On Friday morning, we spent some time shopping in downtown Moab before heading out on our longest hike of the trip at Dead Horse State Park. The expansive views and rugged trails provided a challenging but rewarding end to our adventure.

After packing up Saturday morning, we said goodbye to the red rock landscapes—and to Bessie, who had faithfully carried us through every mile—before catching our flight back to Atlanta. Tired but filled with unforgettable memories, we left with a newfound appreciation for the incredible natural beauty of the Southwest and the bonds formed along the way.

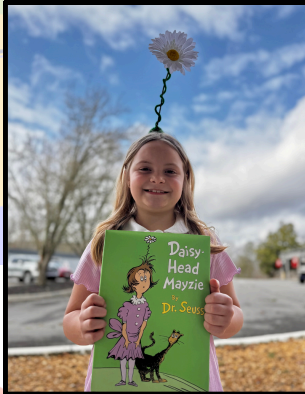
A huge shoutout to our incredible students and parents—this trip was as amazing as it was exhausting, and I couldn't have imagined a better group of families to embark on this adventure together! From the countless laughs to the perseverance through tough hikes, each person brought something special to the experience, making it truly unforgettable.

-Chloe Hinchcliff

UTAH & COLORADO



READ ACROSS AMERICA



During the afternoon of March 5th, our Learning Cottage and Lower School celebrated Read Across America Day with excitement and creativity. Preschool through fifth-grade students arrived dressed in costumes that celebrated books and imagination, filling the school with vibrant characters from their favorite stories, including their favorite Dr. Seuss characters.

The highlight of the day was a special 1-on-1 reading time, where older students from grades 6-12 paired up with younger students for shared reading. These moments allowed the older students to serve as reading mentors, offering encouragement and reading together with our younger Hawks. The connection between students of all ages was fun to witness, with both groups enjoying the chance to explore stories and bond over their love of books.

One of the most amazing and unique things about our school community is the commitment to foster relationships across ages, creating a warm and inclusive environment where students support and inspire one another. Events like this not only celebrate the joy of reading but also help us grow a holistic child—one who is not only academically strong but also emotionally and socially connected to others. By bringing together students of all ages, we nurture the values of empathy, collaboration, and mentorship, all of which contribute to a well-rounded education.

—Lindsay Sluder

The background of the poster is decorated with various botanical and fauna illustrations. In the top left, there are small red berries on a branch. Next to them is a white flower with yellow centers. To the right is a red, cone-shaped flower. Further right is a butterfly with a grey body and orange and white patterned wings. In the top right corner is a large yellow flower. On the left side, there is a large blue-outlined flower. Below it is another large yellow flower. At the bottom left is a white flower with a yellow center. In the bottom center, there is a blue-outlined branch with leaves and a yellow and orange butterfly. On the right side, there are blue-outlined branches with leaves and a yellow flower. The text is centered on the poster.

Wild at Heart

DADDY-DAUGHTER DANCE

join us

March | 22 | 6-8 PM

THE BARN AT HICKORY HILLS
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\$40 for Daddy + Daughter
\$45 for Daddy + Daughters



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2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE 2-6: VOLLEYBALL CAMP

JULY 7-11:

**PAINTING & DRAWING
CAMP**

JUNE 9-13: MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

JULY 14-18:

BASKETBALL CAMP

JUNE 16-20: SOCCER CAMP

JULY 21-25:

STEAM CAMP

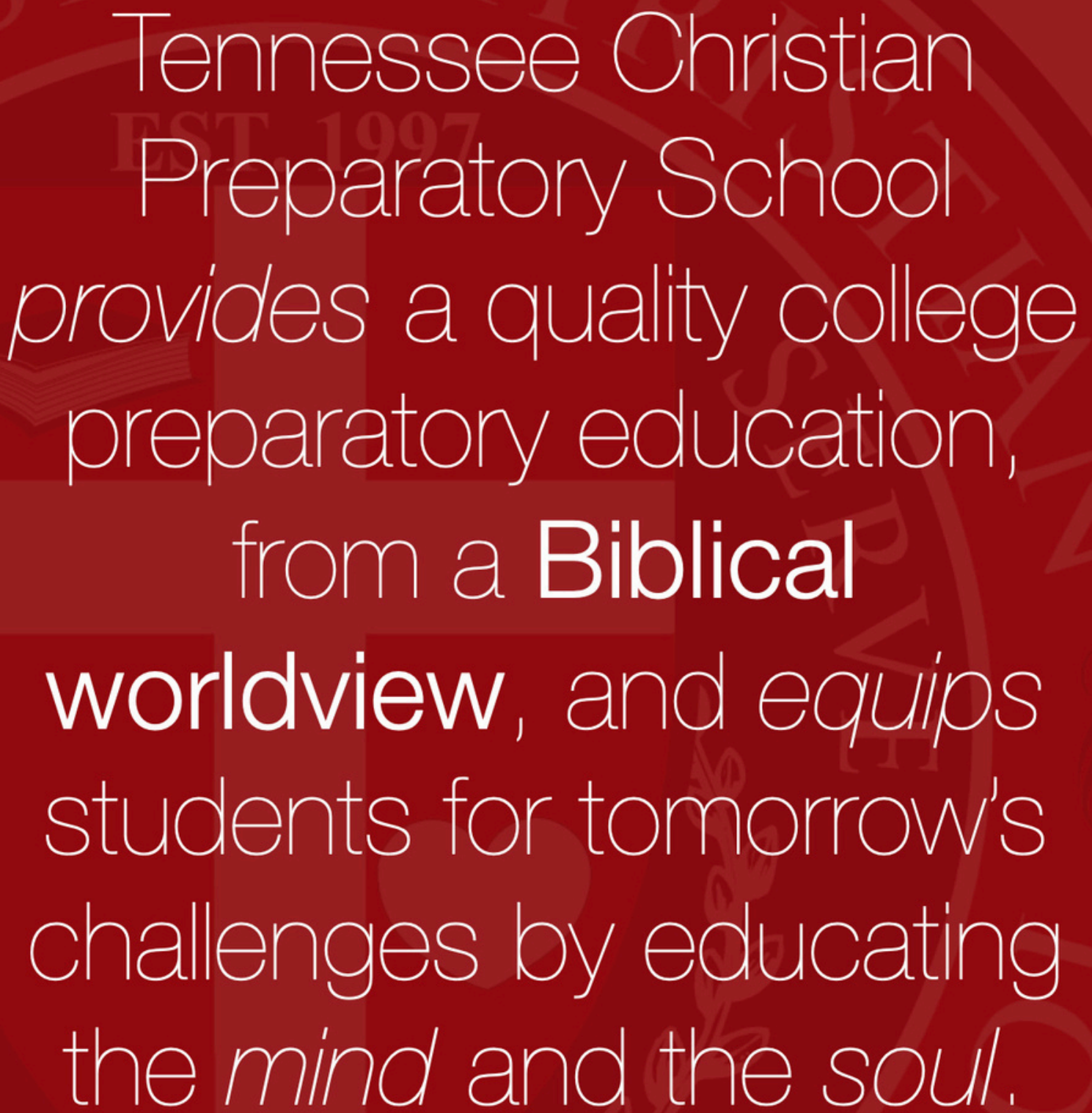
JUNE 23-27: CHEERLEADING & TUMBLING
CAMP

JULY 28-AUG 1: HAND SEWING/
EMBROIDERY CAMP



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