



the talon

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TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN
March 31, 2026

from the Head

The Tennessee Christian Legacy fundraiser is an annual event held last Friday, March 27. It was a time filled with gratitude, celebration, and auction fun. One of my favorite moments each year is the recognition of the Fourth Person Award. The Fourth Person Award is inspired by a powerful passage from the book of Daniel, chapter 3, verses 24 and 25: "Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire....Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire..." This award recognizes a volunteer who serves the school family with unwavering dedication and excellence, excelling at providing support and encouragement. The recipient of this prestigious award is chosen by the school's faculty and administration—a group that knows well the importance of selfless service, dedication, and humility.

This year's recipient is Melody Workman. If you know Melody Workman, you know of a calm presence that provides care and support in all she does. Her consistent volunteerism on campus has provided invaluable support to teachers and administrators. Her attention to the "little things" that we, as teachers, need is no little thing; it is imperative.



Thank you, Melody Workman, for all you pour into the teachers and students at Tennessee Christian.

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley

TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN

LEGACY



Board of Trustees: Adam Osborne, Matt Workman, Jean Eledge, Freddie Bryson, Patricia Sluder, Jared Tilley (Head of School), Ian Lyles, Mark Shepherd, Dewayne Thompson, Steve Hartline (not pictured)



TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN LEGACY

SPRIT OF SERVICE

Duane Goff received the 2026 Spirit of Service Award, an award that is given to someone who demonstrates, through his or her lifestyle, a commitment to the Lordship of Jesus Christ. He has displayed service to our community as a local business owner for more than two decades, as a firefighter and engineer with Bradley County Fire and Rescue, a senior member of the Civil Air Patrol, a current member of the Cleveland City Council, a board member of the Jetport Authority, an advisor to the Cleveland Entrepreneurial Task Force, a member of the North Cleveland Church of God Church and Pastor's Council, and a member of the Board of Trustees of Tennessee Christian for more than eight years.



A graduate of Lee University, he is an exemplary athlete, participating in ultra running and cycling, scuba diving and is also an airplane pilot. He and Candace have been married for more than 25 years and both their daughters, Brooklyn and Sydney, are graduates of Tennessee Christian.

Duane's diverse background and dedication to his community reflect his commitment to leadership, service, and lifelong learning. His life is a testament to the faithfulness of God.

-Patricia Sluder



BRAD H. BENTON

BUSINESS LEADERSHIP

In 2019, the Board of Trustees awarded the Brad Holland Benton Business Leadership Award for the first time. This award was so named to honor our longtime Board president when he stepped down on March 1, 2019 after 16 years of service on the Board, with 12 of those as Board President. This award recognizes those who, like him, are committed to our school, and are solid business leaders who give back to our great community.



Eric Boston has always followed an uncommon road, growing up in Parkersburg, West Virginia and observing the influence of his grandparents. After giving his life to Christ at a church youth amp at the age of seven, his creative mind first took him to the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, Ohio, then to Lee University in Cleveland, Tennessee to obtain his degree in Business Administration. His love of music went back to his boyhood days singing for his neighbors in the back yard, and he started a singing ministry, recording cassette tapes, and singing in churches and nursing homes. After marrying Linda in 1997, his career as a healthcare executive took him to nursing homes in six states, where he used his talents to create unique branding while operating, building and renovating facilities. In 2017, while cultivating the unique brand identities and signage for each facility, he decided to purchase equipment for the products needed and manufacture them himself

in the 900-square-foot basement of his home, the first official home of Boston Uncommon, LLC. As the operation grew, Eric was quickly running out of space, and he was introduced to Jason Corley, who had space available for rent in the former Duracell facility. Four years and 10,000 square feet later, Boston Uncommon's machines are working overtime. And now, after Eric decided he wanted to take a giant leap into the unknown world of buying land, getting a loan, and trying to build his own building, Boston Uncommon will open in a new 15,000-square-foot building, built from the ground up with Eric's creative ideas incorporated to include technology that will welcome conferences and collaboration with clients. Meeting with mission-based partners will develop uncommon solutions to cultivate the next generation of uncommon people. Eric Boston is an uncommon man who has left his mark all over the world and at Tennessee Christian Preparatory School, on our walls, our buildings, our driveways, our streets, OUR SCHOOL, and best of all, in our hearts.

-Patricia Sluder





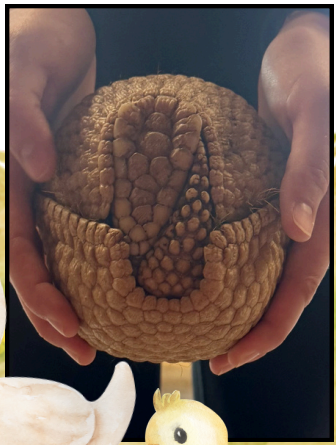
Our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade students spent the day at Ocoee Riverside Farm recently, and it was a hit from start to finish. With beautiful weather and room to explore, it didn't take long for the fun to begin.

Students got up close with all kinds of animals; armadillos, hedgehogs, sugar gliders, llamas

and alpacas (and yes, they now know the difference!), and even camels. Feeding the sheep, pigs, lambs, and goats quickly became a favorite, especially for those who weren't afraid to get a little messy.

Horseback and pony riding was a standout moment, along with visiting the kangaroos. A few parents even got to hold a joey, which was hard to top.

It was one of those days where learning just happened: outside, hands-on, and full of moments they'll be talking about for a while. Safe to say, Tennessee Christian will definitely be back to visit Ocoee Riverside.



PASTOR APPRECIATION CHAPEL

This past Wednesday, we had the joy of hosting Pastor Appreciation Chapel, which is a sweet and meaningful time spent honoring the pastors who pour so faithfully into the lives of our students.

One of the highlights of the morning was hearing directly from our students. Their words were equal parts funny, heartfelt, and insightful by sharing everything from the things that make their pastors laugh to the ways they see them as real-life heroes. There's something special about hearing faith through the lens of a child, and it brought so many smiles to the room.

After chapel, it was a gift to watch pastors connect with students more personally by meeting their friends, sitting together, and sharing conversations that don't often happen on a Sunday morning. Those moments felt just as meaningful as the program itself.

We are continually reminded that raising and shaping these students in truth and love takes a village. We are grateful to partner with our students' families and pastors in pouring God's goodness into the hearts of our children. It is a privilege to walk alongside them in this important work.

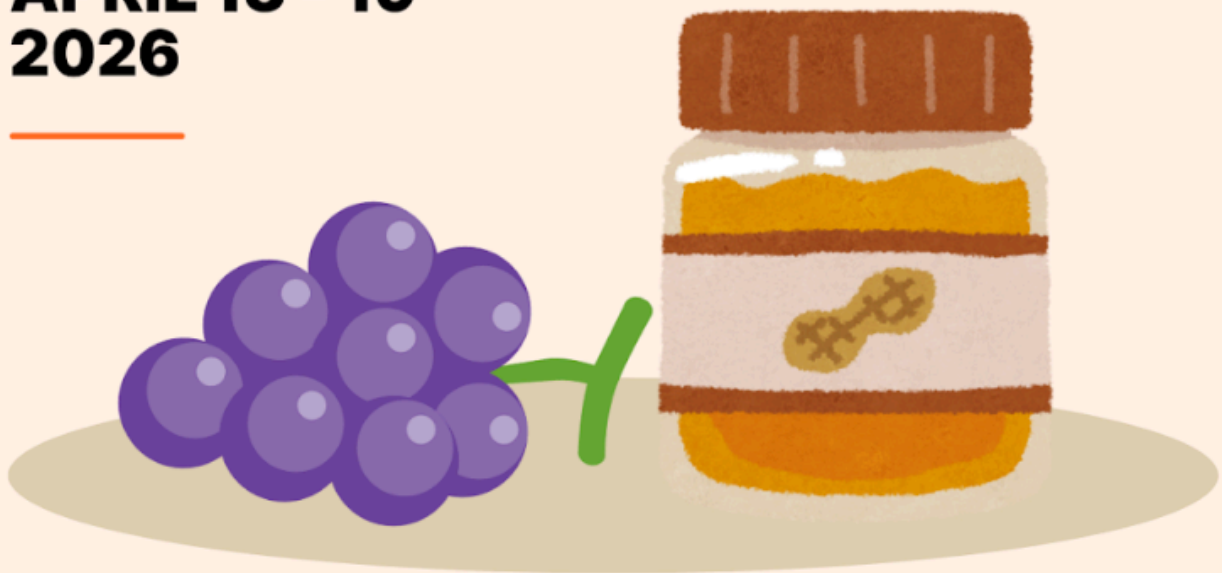




PB&J DRIVE




**APRIL 13 - 19
2026**



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

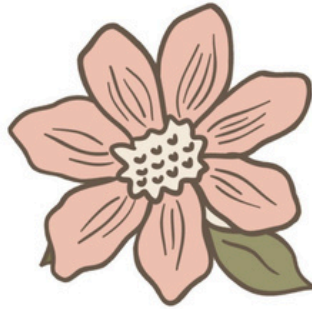
DROP-OFF LOCATION

 Outside School during dismissal or arrival

ITEMS NEEDED

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

For More Information : asopczak@tcpsk12.org



daddy-daughter
DANCE

SAT | APRIL 18 | 6-8 PM

THE BARN AT HICKORY HILLS
891 OLD CHARLESTON RD NE
CLEVELAND, TN 37312



TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN PRESENTS:

The Odyssey

A Comedy
(Until It's Not)



24

APRIL

DIXON CENTER @
LEE UNIVERSITY

25

APRIL



TC SUMMERS

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

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW
UNDER THE CAMPUS LIFE TAB
AT TENNESSEECHRISTIAN.ORG

1 week Camp
\$225

Summer Bundle
\$200

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

2026 SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE 1-5: THEATER CAMP

JULY 6-10: DANCE CAMP

JUNE 8-12: TENNIS CAMP

JULY 13-17: VOLLEYBALL CAMP

JUNE 15-19: CHEER CAMP

JULY 20-24: BASKETBALL CAMP

JUNE 22-26: SOCCER CAMP

JULY 27-31: S.T.E.A.M. CAMP





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*.*