

the talon

Volume VI Issue VIII



TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN
October 14, 2025

from the Head

On October 12, 2020, the Tennessee Christian community marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter. We officially opened our doors at 1100 Stuart Road with great anticipation. It was our first day on campus! The energy of the moment was palpable, especially when our leadership team gathered to discuss how best to name this milestone event. In the midst of the brainstorming session, the Assistant Upper School Principal, Justin Spears, filled with enthusiasm, suggested calling it "Celebratation" Day. The name, in all of its quirkiness, stuck.



This past Sunday, we joyfully celebrated our fifth "Celebratation" Day! For me, it is a day dedicated to reflection, and as I look back over the last five years, Tennessee Christian has much to be proud of. Our school has nearly doubled in enrollment and launched our weekly newsletter The Talon to celebrate the achievements of our community. We expanded our athletic program to include new sports, and developed a thriving art program, complete with drama performances each semester. Additionally, we introduced The Academy, a new initiative designed to cultivate artistic expression among our students and much more.

In short, our school has flourished in every area—and we're excited to continue growing in the years to come. In short, Happy "Celebratation" Day!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jared D. Tilley'.

Jared D. Tilley

LEARNING COTTAGE TRIKE-A-THON

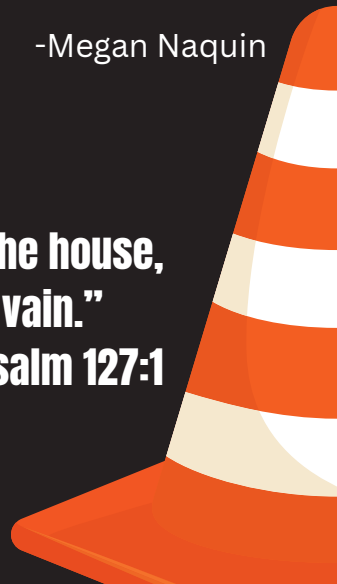
The fourth annual Learning Cottage Trike-a-Thon went off without a hitch on October 2nd. I thank the Upper School students who worked all morning setting up, cleaning up, and sticking out endless laps with our riders. A big thank you to our Middle and Lower School for cheering us on. The support of all of you is what makes this event special in so many ways. We also thank the parents and family members who came out to show their support and help get everything ready to go.

Our theme this year was 'Under Construction'. While it was born from the children's love for all things dump truck, excavator, and construction-related, this theme spoke volumes upon the reflection of all the things God is doing in our program. If you have visited the Cottage lately (or really any division of Tennessee Christian) you know that our cup runneth over both physically and metaphorically. This was our largest Trike-a-Thon to date with the most children this campus has seen. What a blessing to be in a place of growth! More importantly, this theme was a reminder that our students of all ages are under construction in the most important way, preparing to fulfill the role God has planned for them. As educators and family members we must remain under construction as well, ensuring that we may give the support and guidance they will need along the way.

-Megan Naquin



**"Unless the Lord builds the house,
the builders labor in vain."
Psalm 127:1**





FUTURE focus

As we're all getting older, we have to make bigger and harder decisions. Juniors and seniors are having to make the difficult decision of which college to attend and what career to pursue. If you are struggling with deciding what career to choose, maybe consider accounting! Last Wednesday, Sandy Rice visited the junior class to talk about her career as an accountant. She told us that, believe it or not, accounting doesn't require a ton of math, so you don't have to be a math genius to pursue this career.



Do crime and law interest you? Perhaps Forensic Accounting is for you. This kind of accounting requires the use of investigative skills to uncover fraud and financial crimes. You have to become an accounting detective of sorts. Maybe you picture yourself in a quiet office job. If that's the case, corporate accounting might be for you. Corporate accounting deals with managing and recording financial transactions for a single corporation. To work as a corporate accountant, you have to be accurate and compliant. Preparing financial statements is also a large part of this type of accounting. Perhaps you're not a people person or do your best work on your own. Auditing might be for you. Auditors individually examine an organization's financial records at the end of the year. Last but not least is tax accounting. This kind of accounting follows specific government tax laws. A tax accountant ensures that individuals and businesses follow these laws and regulations.

Accounting is a reliable career, and almost anyone can be one. Whether you know what you want to do in your future or not, Mrs. Sandy and I encourage you to look into accounting.

-Karis Nelson, 11th Grade



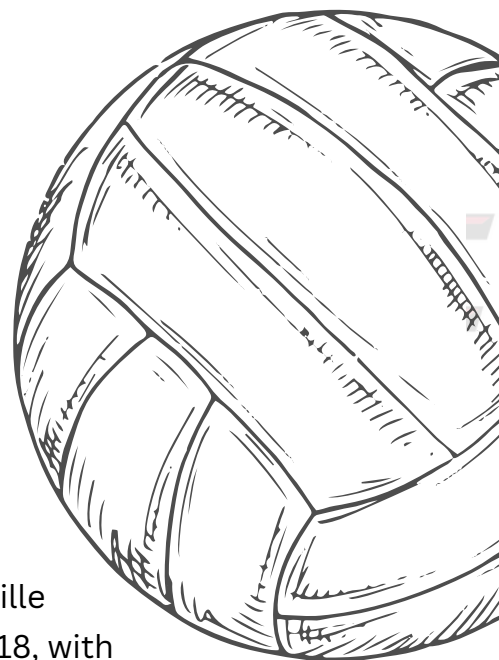
HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

It was a proud week for Hawk Nation, as Tennessee Christian Preparatory School's fall sports teams wrapped up competition ahead of Fall Break with energy, determination, and teamwork. From the volleyball court to the flag football field, to the cross country paths, TCPS athletes represented their school with excellence and continued to build momentum heading into the final stretch of the fall season.

High School Volleyball

The Lady Hawks Volleyball Team had a superb week, winning all three of their matches to close out the stretch on a high note. The team opened with a solid victory over Temple Academy and capped off the week with a commanding sweep in a home Tri-Match, defeating both Knoxville Apostolic and Fairview Christian. With these wins, the Lady Hawks improved their overall record to 9-8 and moved to 8-5 in SCAA play.

The Lady Hawks will take the court tonight in their final regular-season Tri-Match at Cleveland Christian, facing both the host team and Knoxville Apostolic. The SCAA Volleyball Tournament begins Saturday, October 18, with seeding and match times to be announced later this week. Stay tuned for updates as the Lady Hawks look to carry their momentum into postseason play.



High School Coed Flag Football

The Hawks Coed Flag Football Team turned in an impressive performance in postseason play. Competing in the East Tennessee Tournament at Knoxville Christian, TCPS opened with a dominant 43-12 win over the host school to advance to the semifinals. There, the Hawks battled Mt. Pisgah, a team that had handed them a tough loss earlier in the season. This time the Hawks played with heart and determination, keeping the game competitive throughout before ultimately falling 25-13.

The loss ended what has been an outstanding inaugural season for the program, as the Hawks finished with an overall record of 5-3, a remarkable achievement in the school's first year fielding a flag football team.



HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

Lower and Middle School Cross Country

This past Saturday, seven TCPS runners qualified for the State Cross Country Meet, which will be held in Knoxville on Saturday, October 18, at Victor Ashe Park. Representing the Lower School, Millie Canfield and Graham Osborne each turned in personal best performances to earn their state qualifications - an outstanding accomplishment for both runners.

From the Middle School division, Henry Sluder, Kai Ahlers, Kayden Swilley, Canyon Swilley, and Greyson Laws also qualified for the state meet, with Sluder, Ahlers, Kayden Swilley, and Zoey Miller achieving personal best times. Congratulations to all of our runners for their hard work, dedication, and continued success. We wish them the very best as they prepare to compete at state in Knoxville on October 25th.

We're proud of all our TCPS student-athletes for their dedication, teamwork, and commitment to excellence - both on and off the field.

GO HAWKS!



TCPS FTO PRESENTS - 5TH ANNUAL



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

Presenting:

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON
(LIVE ACTION)

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2025

MOVIE STARTS AT 7:00PM

TCPS COURT YARD

**Bring chairs & blankets
for a comfortable
viewing experience**

CASH ONLY

FOOD TRUCK AVAILABLE 5:00 - 6:30PM

CANDY

DRINKS

FREE POPCORN

THIS
**MURDER
WAS STAGED**

A COMEDY PRESENTED BY
TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT



24 + 25
OCTOBER OCTOBER
6 PM 6 PM

DIXON CENTER
@ LEE UNIVERSITY

SCAN FOR TICKETS

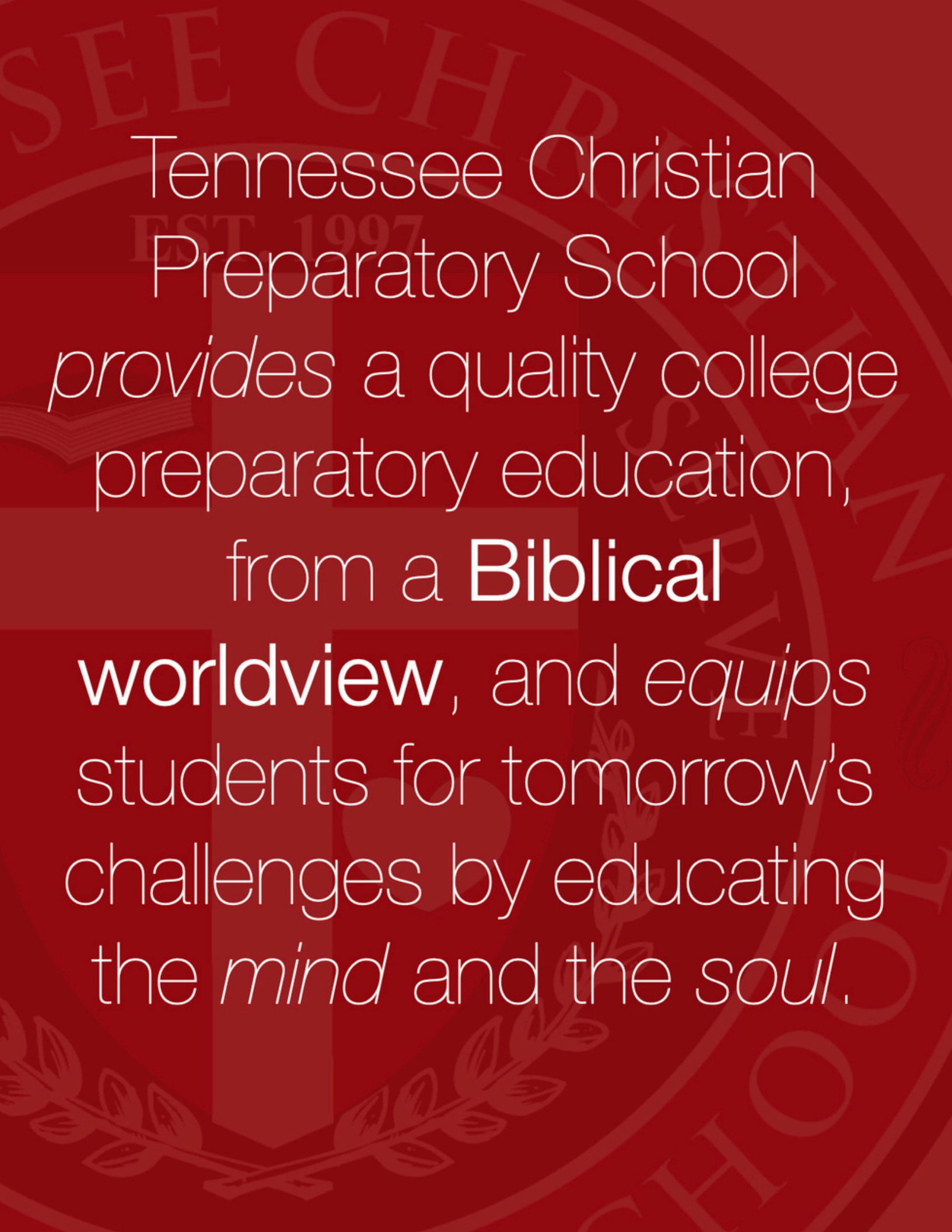


\$20 FOR ADULT
\$10 FOR STUDENT



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*.*