

SUMMER EDITION

JULY 2026

THE TALON

TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN



PHOTO COURTESY OF
Ashley Lyles, Senior
Glacier National Park



FROM THE HEAD

It seems as though travel is at the core of my being. Since I was a young child, the idea of travel has been inspirational and aspirational. Over the past five years, I have had an opportunity to see other cultures by traveling to ten different countries, exploring majestic national parks, and visiting historical cities here in the States and overseas. I find great value in the lessons travel provides. From the rural lands of Alaska to the narrow, historic streets of Boston, each offers value that builds a sense of wonder and purpose.

One image from those travels has remained with me more than any other. A photograph I took in Glacier National Park now hangs in my home, serving as a daily reminder of the breathtaking beauty that exists beyond the familiar. The towering peaks divided by a lone tree and sweeping valleys almost seem otherworldly, as though they belong to a place untouched by time. Yet despite their seemingly alien appearance, they are part of the same creation that God spoke into existence. That photograph reminds me that no matter how vast or unfamiliar the world may seem, every corner of it reflects the creativity, majesty, and intentionality of its Creator.

It is this same sense of awe that immediately came to mind when I saw a picture sent to me by a Tennessee Christian senior, Ashley Lyles, and is on the cover of *The Talon*. Captured by Ashley during her own visit to Glacier National Park, the photograph evokes the same wonder that first drew me to preserve my own experience there. Her image does more than showcase an extraordinary landscape; it invites viewers to pause, appreciate, and recognize the marvel throughout creation. In many ways, it reflects the heart of travel itself: the opportunity to encounter places that expand our perspective while pointing us back to truths that remain constant.

Whether viewed through the lens of a camera or experienced firsthand, places like Glacier National Park remind us that the world is far larger, more beautiful, and more intricate than we often imagine. They inspire curiosity, empathy, and gratitude. Ashley's photograph captures that spirit perfectly, transforming a single moment into an invitation for others to experience the same wonder and enchantment that make travel such a meaningful part of life.



ABOUT MRS. PACE

MUSIC TEACHER

Hello everyone! My name is Brooklyn (Goff) Pace. I am a lover of music, art, fun food, and the Bible. A few things to know about me is that I am getting married this August to Micah Pace, I am a Tennessee Christian alumna, and I recently graduated from Lee University with a degree in Theology and a minor in Music.



While at Lee, I was a member of the Voices of Lee and DZT. I currently serve in the youth ministry at North Cleveland Church of God as well! While a student at Tennessee Christian, I was involved with chapel leadership, and I am excited to say that I get to return to this wonderful program... but this time as a teacher! My vision for the music department is for students of all ages to develop confidence in their individual voices and to create fertile ground for the love of worship so that it stands as a foundational part of their walk with Christ.

brooklynpace

ABOUT COACH DOUGLAS

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR, LOWER SCHOOL PE

My name is Carter Douglas and I am excited to be part of a school such as Tennessee Christian Preparatory School. From growing up in Cleveland, to attending Tennessee Christian as a student, gaining a degree from Lee University, and now serving alongside those teachers and faculty that helped form me into the person I am today today is a blessing I am beyond thankful for.

Living in a house with four brothers meant that there was always some sort of athletic competition going on, but outside of playful games between siblings, athletics has always been a passion of mine. I began my love of sports by playing t-ball as a kid, to playing sports like tennis, basketball, soccer, golf, and football while attending Tennessee Christian. I am zealous to continue my passion for athletics, and put to use the lessons I have gained throughout my life thus far.



Carter Douglas

ABOUT MRS. STEINBACH

4TH GRADE CLASSROOM TEACHER

Hello! My name is Amond Steinbach. I am so excited to be part of the Tennessee Christian family. Teaching has been a calling and a joy for me for many years. I have a master's degree in Educational Leadership and have spent 11 years in the classroom. In addition, I homeschooled my own three children for 10 years, which gave me a unique perspective on meeting students where they are and helping them grow with confidence.

My husband is the Senior Pastor at Inspiration Church where we attend. Our family loves spending time together. We have three wonderful children, two dogs, and enjoy staying active and exploring the outdoors whenever we can. Whether we're hiking, playing outside, or simply enjoying God's creation, we cherish making memories together.

One of my favorite Bible verses is Colossians 3:17: "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." This verse reminds me to approach every day with gratitude and to serve others with excellence and love.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of my students and their families. My prayer is that this school year will be filled with meaningful learning, encouragement, growth, and many opportunities to see God's faithfulness at work in our classroom.



amond steinbach

ABOUT MR. SLUDER

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

My name is Ben Sluder and I'm excited to be at Tennessee Christian as a member of the staff after graduating from TCPS in 2024. Since graduating, I've had the opportunity to work at Duracell and with Alpha Land Works, both where I gained experience operating heavy equipment and further continued a strong work ethic through hands-on work.

I enjoy spending my free time with my family and friends, especially on the river or lake. I also love traveling to new places, coaching tennis, working on my truck, and fixing just about anything I can get my hands on.

One of my favorite Bible verses is Colossians 3:23-24: "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ." These verses remind me to give my best in everything I do, knowing that my work is ultimately for the Lord.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to invest in our students and give back to a community that had such a big piece of shaping me who I am today.



ABOUT MRS. HAGE

SUPPORT SERVICES

My name is McKenzie Hage, and I am so excited to be joining the Tennessee Christian family this school year! I graduated from Lee University this past May with my Bachelor's degree in Psychology, and officially started my Master's in School Counseling this summer. I am married to my college sweetheart, Luke, and we just celebrated our son, Bennett's second birthday in July. We love all things Disney in our household, and will be closing out the summer with a trip to Disney World!

My favorite bible verse is Philippians 3:13-14: "Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."

I am so honored to have the opportunity to serve Tennessee Christian as Support Services part time while I am in school completing my license. To be a small part of the students lives means so much to me, and I am so excited to get to know everyone this upcoming year!



McKenzie Hage

ABOUT MR. TYNDALL

K-12 SPANISH TEACHER

Greetings! I'm Jonathan Tyndall, and I'm thrilled to join Tennessee Christian as a Spanish teacher this year! I hold a BA in Modern Foreign Language/Literature (French and Spanish) and a Master of Arts in Teaching, both from Lee University in Cleveland, TN. My teaching journey includes teaching Spanish in McMinn County, teaching Spanish and theater arts at Bachman Academy, and freelance ESL instruction.



Outside the classroom, I'm a musician and actor at heart. I play guitar, I am a songwriter, and lead worship on my church's praise team. I have also enjoyed acting in local Cleveland theater productions. My favorite verse, Philippians 4:13, "For I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength," reflects the faith and encouragement I hope to bring to every student I teach.

I can't wait to get to know you all this year!

ABOUT MRS. MULLINS

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Hi! My name is Gabby Schicker-Mullins and although many of you know me already, I am so excited to introduce myself! I am the wife of Mr. Mullins, mom of Wren & Kai, and now your front office admin! If you asked me 5 years ago where I would be, I could have never imagined this journey God has lead me on. I am so very grateful to be a part of TCPS staff! This school feels like home!

One of my favorite verses is Romans 15:13. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." In my spare time you will find me coaching cheer, helping with the school play, crafting, anything outdoors, and loving on my babies.

I look forward to an amazing year and wish all the students, faculty, and families a most amazing start to the school year!

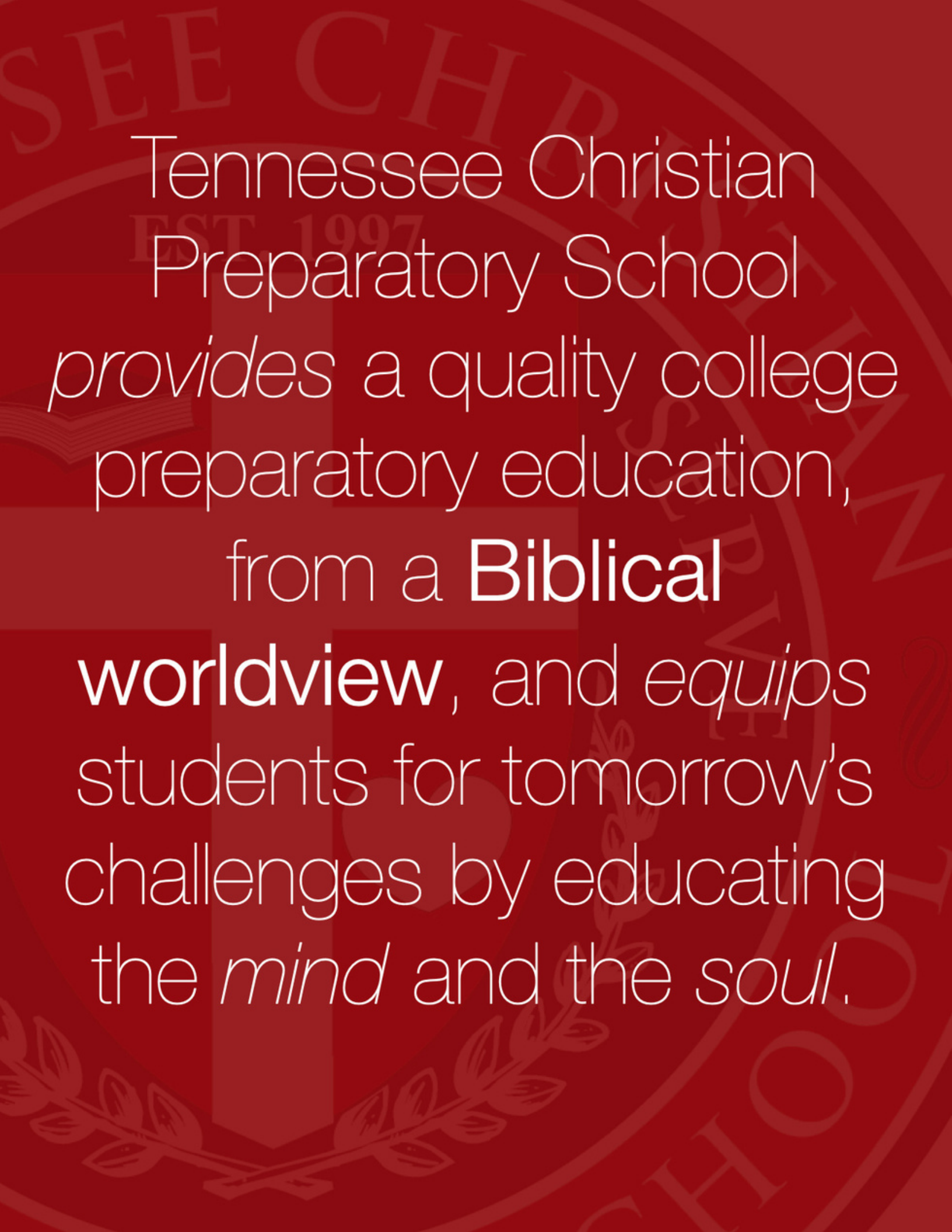


gabbymullins



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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*.*