TUESDAY TALON

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord.

Psalm 100: 1

When I was in my early 20s, I created a list of influential people in my life. The list was an activity rooted in thankfulness and gratefulness. Maybe not surprisingly, the majority of the list consists of family members. The activity also helped me better understand my faith, political philosophies, and love of history and music. I often return to that list and reflecting on the influential people twenty years later came with a realization that several on that list have passed away. Two individuals who have passed helped instill in me a love for music, specifically the guitar, Donnie (uncle) and Jonathan Miskelly (cousin).

Music has profoundly impacted my life. I joined the church youth praise and worship band in middle school and played well into college. I also got to know my wife, Victoria, through playing and leading worship. My desire to learn the guitar and music stems from Jonathan and Donnie Miskelly.

I was not older than ten when I sat in Jonathan's room hearing him play D.C. Talk's Jesus



Freak on his electric guitar. I had never heard someone create a sound like that unless they were rock stars. I was hooked. From how his fingers moved on the fretboard to the array of sounds coming from his amp and pedal board, all stirred my imagination about what was possible with a guitar. From then on, I wanted to play the guitar and Jonathan took time to teach me my first chords, Em and Am. Years later, when I started teaching guitar, the lesson that Jonathan taught me was the first lesson I would teach my students.

Annually, the Tilley family would venture to Gatlinburg for Christmas. I looked forward to the weekend for many reasons, but one main reason was to listen to the extended Tilley family sing to Uncle Donnie's guitar playing. He was a masterful musician with the ability to play by ear and a God-given gift in songwriting.

I was able to spend some time with

Donnie before his passing. During
that visit, Donnie ministered to
everyone around him by playing and
singing worship songs that he wrote.

His joyfulness and giving spirit in the



face of tremendous illness left an unquestionable impact on my life and challenged me to do better.

Christ calls us to be the salt and light to the world. This requirement of us is not a "if you feel like it" it is a command. Knowing that our students are watching our every move, how can we be influential examples of Christ's command? For the people that made an impact on my life, they share commonalities. They are loving, caring, inquisitive, and thoughtful. I pray that I can be more like these attributes.

In Christ

lared D. Tillev

LUNCH LECTURE SERIES - MEDICAL

To give students a better understanding of career fields, Tennessee Christian has expanded our Lunch Lecture Series with a February focus on the medical field. Last Wednesday, Mrs. Boros came to speak with students in Middle and Upper school about the her experience in the medical field and specifically respiratory therapy.





SENIOR TRIP

Tennessee Christian's Senior Trip was a success. The students had a relaxing and fun filled weekend sailing south from Tampa, FL to Cozumel. Here are a few fun pictures from our trip.









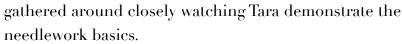


LOWER SCHOOL, FINE ARTS

The Allied Arts Council of the Cleveland/Bradley Chamber of Commerce awards Arts in Education Grants to local schools in our area. This year, TCPS was awarded several grants. One of those grants was an Embroidery Workshop with our very own Tara McSherry Bear. Tara is a beautiful hand embroiderer whose work is sure to make you swoon. She has graciously offered up her time and talents with our students teaching them all about

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hand embroidery. Last week, our lower school students had the pleasure of learning from Mrs.
Bear basic stitches to create their own pieces of art. You could hear the ooo's and aw's as they all



We only had enough time for every class to join us an hour, but that was all it took to get these students hooked on embroidery! We had many students leaving and inquiring what supplies they would need to continue hand embroidery on their own. Each

one of them did a wonderful job creating their very own hand embroidered felt and we are so grateful to Mrs. Bear lending her time and talents. We look forward to continuing the grant this week as our middle/upper school get a more in depth hand embroidery lesson and project.









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.