



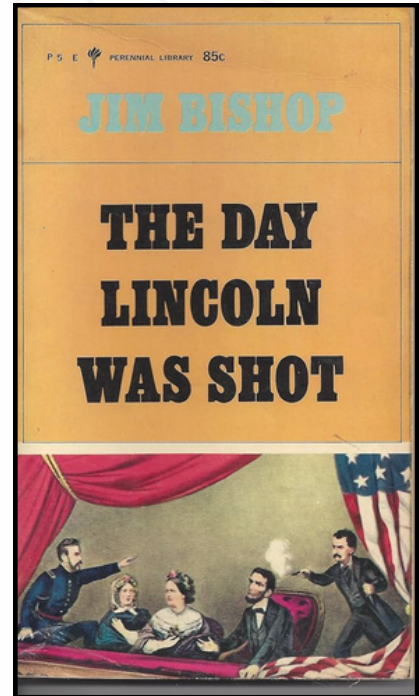
the talon

January 21, 2025

TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN
Volume V Issue XVIII

from the Head

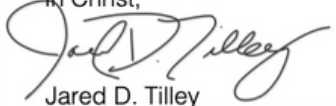
Traveling to Washington D.C., at the age of six sparked a passion for politics that has shaped my life to this day. That trip opened my eyes to the importance of governance and history. I purchased my first history book on the trip, *The Day Lincoln Was Shot* by Jim Bishop. Long before the internet, I found myself watching C-SPAN, trying to understand the debates on the House and Senate floors, often creating rosters of every member of Congress and who they represent. This fascination with politics was not a solitary pursuit, it was instilled by my father.

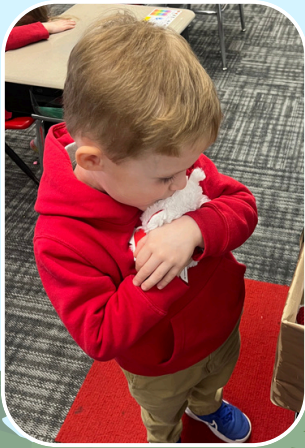


Road trips with the Tilley family were more than journeys; they were opportunities for spirited discussions, debates, and shared learning about the political landscape. Yet, as much as my father and I loved politics, one thing always took precedence: our faith in God. My father demonstrated that, while understanding history and politics is important, the greater pursuit is emulating Christ in all we do and faith is our foundation.

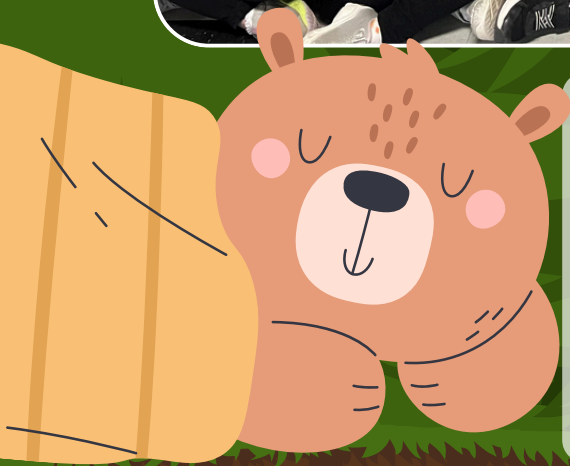
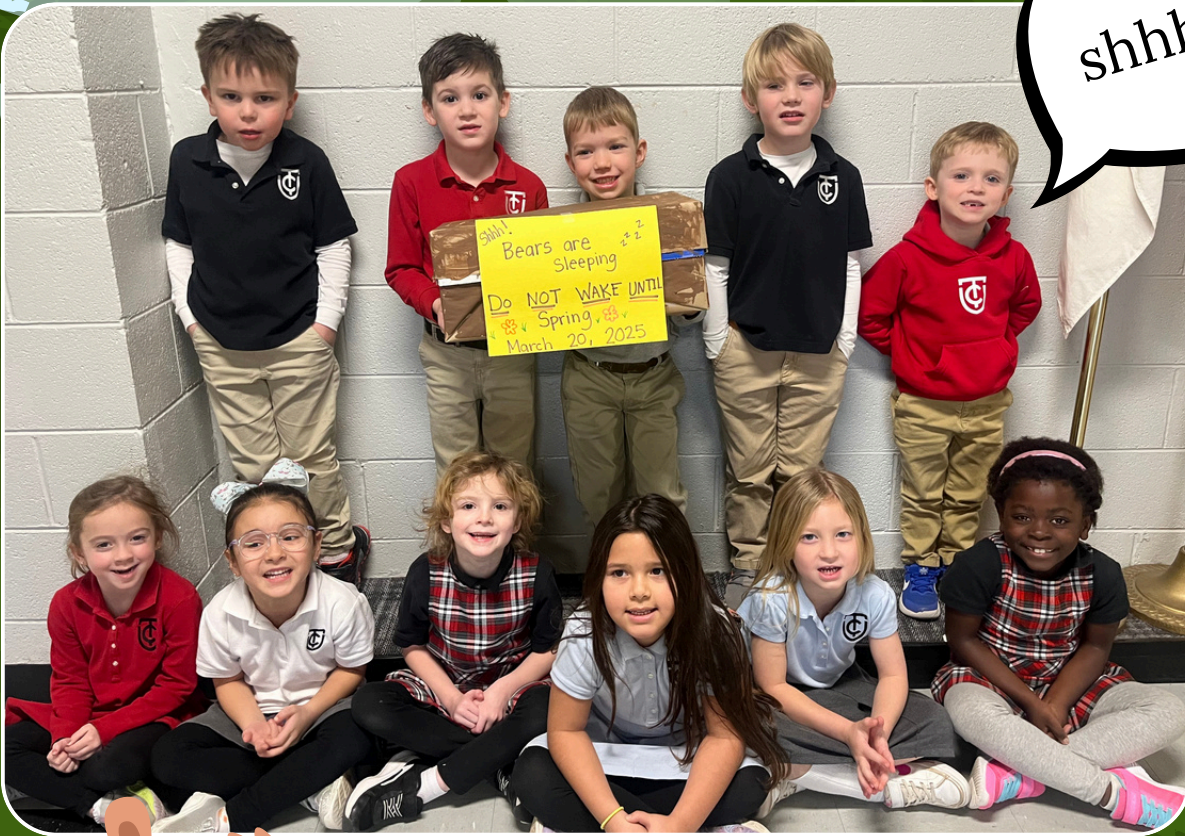
Yesterday, we witnessed the inauguration of the 47th President of the United States, an event that reminds us of the weighty responsibility our leaders carry. At Tennessee Christian, we recognize the significance of prayer in supporting those in authority. Just like we did in 2021 and the elections before then, our students and faculty will gather to pray for our local, state, and federal officials on Wednesday, January 22.

I invite you, as a member of the Tennessee Christian community, to join us in this act of faith. Let us pray, not only for wisdom and discernment for our leaders, but also for unity. We, as followers of Christ, can be leaders in unifying through Christ's love.

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley



shhhhhhh!



This week Kindergarten concluded a unit on hibernation. Students learned about the animals that hibernate and why it is important for some animals to hibernate. Students then had the opportunity to place their own bear into hibernation. Students named their bears, gave them a hug, and said a temporary goodbye. Students will be able to wake their bears on the first day of spring: March 20, 2025. Until then we hope our bears are snug and happily hibernating in Kindergarten!

Written by Ashley Dodson

HIBERNATING

in Kindergarten



On Friday, Tennessee Christian School held its annual Move Up Day, a fun and exciting tradition for students in pre-kindergarten through 5th grade. During this special event, students spent time in the classrooms of the next grade level to get a preview of what next year will be like. While most students are somewhat familiar with their upcoming teacher, they got a taste of the lessons, expectations and activities they'll experience next year. Whether it was kindergartners exploring first grade or fifth graders getting a glimpse of middle school with Ms. Kesley, the afternoon helped students feel more confident and excited for the upcoming school year.

We count ourselves privileged to watch your students grow spiritually, academically, socially, and physically year after year. It is one of our greatest honors. Thank you, families, for sharing them with us!

Written by Lindsay Sluder



8TH GRADE RETREAT

CLASS OF 2029



Last week, our 8th graders set aside their textbooks and laptops for an exciting and meaningful day that was all their own at the 8th Grade Retreat. This day is designed to introduce and prepare students to the joys, opportunities, and challenges of Upper School at Tennessee Christian. By taking them off-campus, we aimed to give them a focused and fresh perspective on what's to come in the next four years. Throughout the day, we emphasized that their success will depend not only on their perseverance but also on the community they build around them. Whether it's elite athletes scaling Mt. Everest or individuals in wheelchairs being pushed across a marathon finish line, the message was clear - no one succeeds alone. "It takes a village." We are honored to be that village for this remarkable group of students as they embark on their next chapter.

Written by Kylie Machacek



HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

TCPS Basketball Teams Battle Through the Season

As the basketball season heats up, TCPS teams have been battling hard on the court, showing determination and growth before and after the Christmas break.

LOWER SCHOOL BOYS

The 2nd and 3rd grade boys basketball season is off to a promising 2-0 start. With wins at 31-8 and 29-13, our little Hawks are powered by a fast paced offense and tough-nosed defense. They work hard, listen well, and take their performance seriously. We are excited for this strong start to the season.

The 4th and 5th grade boys basketball team has fought hard against two strong opponents. With two hard-fought wins at 26-21 and 25-14, our team's conditioning has aided in clinching these victories in the final minutes. The 4th and 5th grade team has used their size and aggressiveness to overpower their opponents.

Each team's confidence continues to grow and we have a lot to be excited about. Our team word this year is ATTACK and they are doing it well already.





HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL BOYS

Before the break, the Middle School Hawks, led by Coach Jonathon Hammond, faced tough losses against Berean Academy, the Bradley Knights, and the Patriots. Despite the setbacks, Elliot Tilley and Ashton Murray made strong contributions. Following the break, the team dropped a hard-fought home game to Oakwood, with Tilley and Murray again leading the way. The Hawks look to secure their first win of 2025 this week against Belvoir Christian and St. Jude.

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY GIRLS

The Lady Hawks kicked off the new year with a big 51-45 conference win over Rhea Academy, overcoming a slow first half with a dominant offensive push in the third and fourth quarters. Maggie Botts and Morgan Armstrong led the charge, combining for 39 points. The victory improved their record to 5-1 overall and 3-1 in SCAA play. Before the break, they secured a commanding 48-17 win over Temple Baptist, with Botts and Armstrong again leading the scoring.

HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY BOYS

The varsity Hawks started 2025 with crucial conference wins, defeating Rhea Academy 53-36 and Knoxville Christian 55-44. Freshman Thomas Nicolaus and senior Tucker Myers paced the offense, helping the team improve to 9-3 overall and 6-2 in conference play. Before the break, the Hawks split two games, falling to Temple Academy 43-23 but bouncing back with a thrilling last-second victory over Cleveland Christian, with Meirs hitting the game-winning three-pointer.

With the final stretch of the regular season ahead, TCPS basketball teams are pushing hard for strong finishes. Stay tuned and keep cheering on our Hawks!





IT'S ALMOST TIME TO RE-ENROLL!

**2025-2026
SCHOOL YEAR**



- **RE-ENROLLMENT**

LAUNCHING JANUARY 21, 2025

FOR ALL STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED: *Take advantage of our early bird special with a discount! This special offer is only available from January 21 through January 31, 2025.*

- **PRIORITY ENROLLMENT**

BEGINNING FEBRUARY 3, 2025

FOR WAITLISTED STUDENTS OR SIBLINGS NOT CURRENTLY ENROLLED: *This offer is subject to our availability and pre-screening for admission.*

- **OPEN ENROLLMENT**

OPENING FEBRUARY 10, 2025

FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS SEEKING ENROLLMENT: *This offer is subject to our availability and admission eligibility.*



SUMMERS

**ENROLLMENT OPENING
FRIDAY, JANUARY 31**

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

**1 week Camp
\$225**

**Summer Bundle
\$200**

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

2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

JUNE 2-6: VOLLEYBALL CAMP

JUNE 9-13: MUSICAL THEATER CAMP

JUNE 16-20: SOCCER CAMP

JUNE 23-27: CHEERLEADING & TUMBLING
CAMP

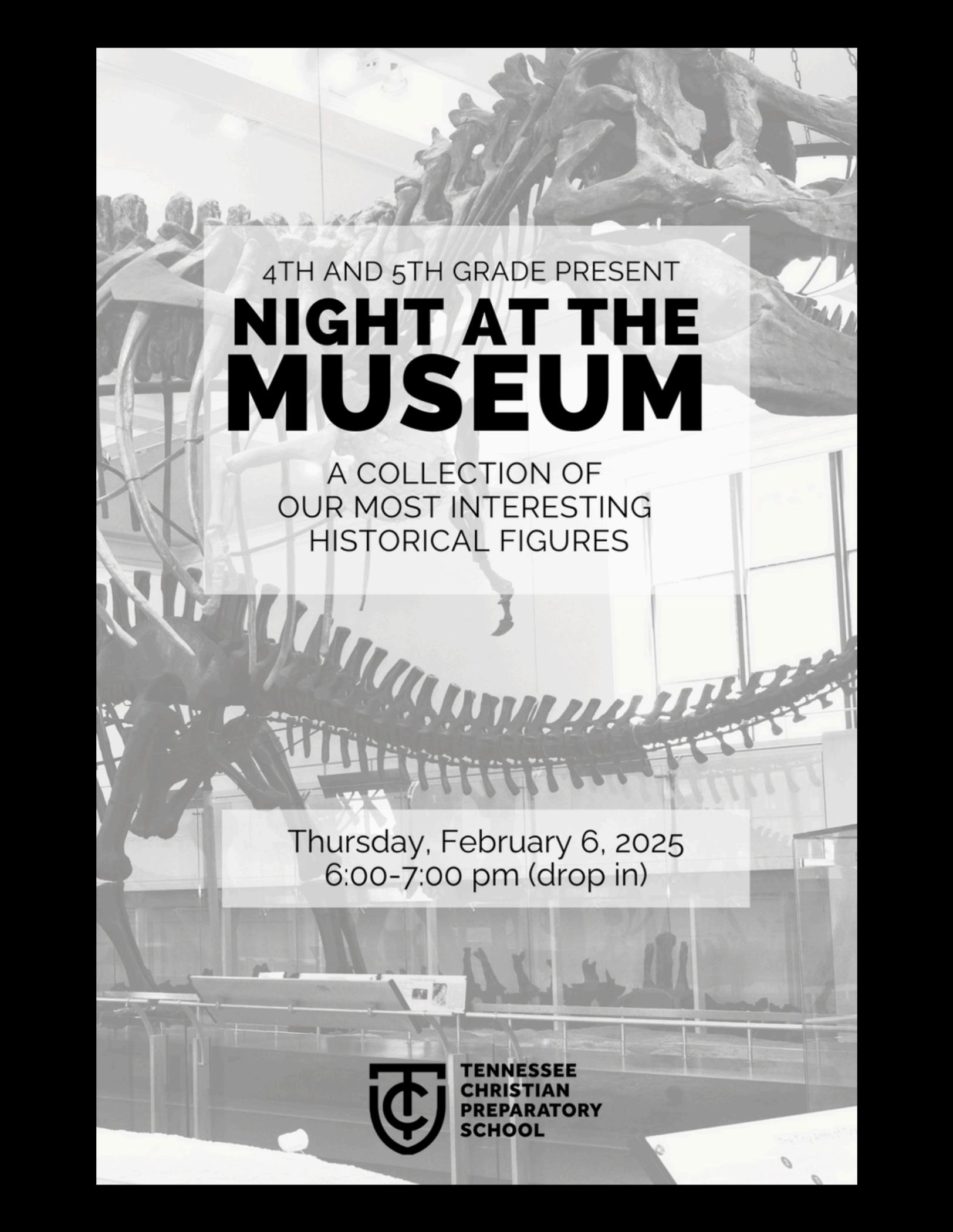
JULY 7-11: PAINTING & DRAWING
CAMP

JULY 14-18: BASKETBALL CAMP

JULY 21-25: STEAM CAMP

JULY 28-AUG 1: HAND SEWING/
EMBROIDERY CAMP





4TH AND 5TH GRADE PRESENT
**NIGHT AT THE
MUSEUM**

A COLLECTION OF
OUR MOST INTERESTING
HISTORICAL FIGURES

Thursday, February 6, 2025
6:00-7:00 pm (drop in)

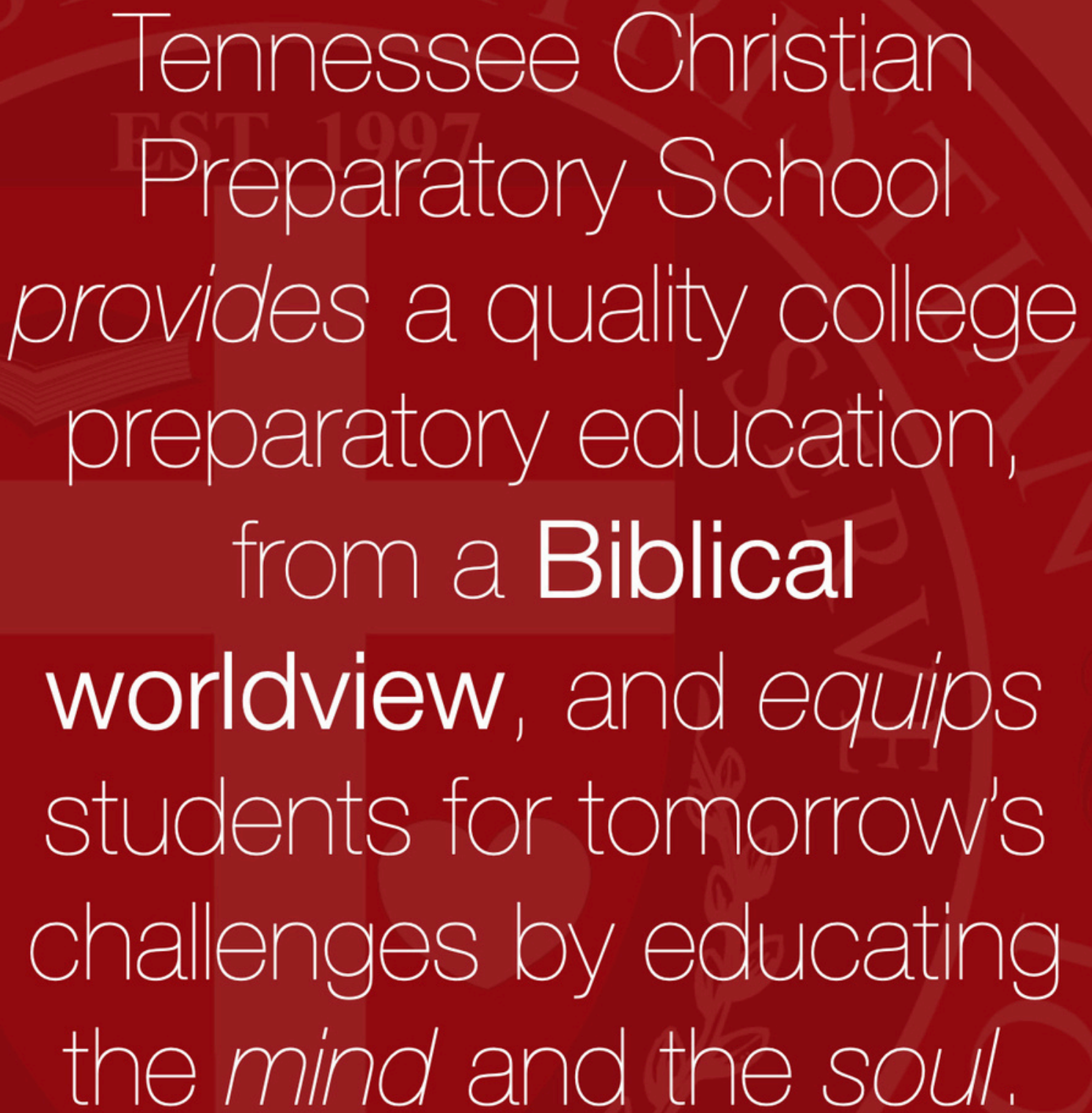


**TENNESSEE
CHRISTIAN
PREPARATORY
SCHOOL**



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*.*