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September 10, 2024

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TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN
Volume V Issue IV

from the **Head**

On September 10, 2001, I received my selective service card to fill out before turning 18. Without much thought, I completed the card and dropped it into the mailbox with the flag raised. The next morning, during English class, my teacher approached me, likely because I was one of the tallest students, and said, "Jared, turn on the TV." Noticing her nervousness, I understood that the choice of channel might not matter. As I turned on the TV, the classroom fell silent as we saw smoke billowing from a building in New York. I recognized it as the World Trade Center, where a plane had crashed into it. The news was filled with confusion and uncertainty. Questions about how a plane could crash into a building, whether it was a commercial or private aircraft, or if there was an instrument malfunction, were all overshadowed when the second plane struck the other tower. The silence in the classroom was profound; it was the quietest I had ever experienced. The broadcasters were stumbling over their words, and it was clear that this was an attack on New York and the United States. Shock set in as English class ended.

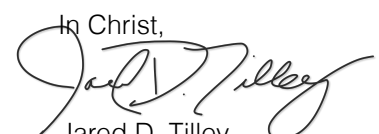
I navigated the crowded hallways to Government class, where the TV was already on. We learned that another plane had crashed, this time into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. My government teacher had a list of 20-30 potential next targets on the board, which I found both shocking and disconcerting. What was even more shocking was when the bell rang and the teacher turned off the TV, saying, "Now time for your test." My disbelief must have been visible, as I took my test paper and wrote, "I do not care!" without answering any questions. In retrospect, I don't think I ever got that test back.

In that moment, I realized that my generation had just lived through its defining event — our version of the Vietnam War and the 60s for my parents was 9/11 for us. School let out early that day.

As I watched the news that evening, the unfolding tragedy made me reflect on the selective service card I had mailed the day before. As a 17-year-old on the brink of turning 18, I worried about my future and the looming prospect of war. I felt a pang of guilt for my selfish concerns amidst such a monumental crisis. I was reminded that my plans are not God's plans.

The following week my government teacher handed me 200 American flags and asked if I wanted to place these around the school grounds. I was honored to perform the task.

Tomorrow, as the United States honors the lives lost on September 11, 2001, through a day of remembrance and reflection, please keep in your thoughts and prayers the families who remember this day with profound sadness.

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley

CONNECT CLUB

LEARNING COTTAGE

There is a magical place on campus where you can creatively build, draw, explore various careers, or anything else you can imagine all while walking around in your slippers. On Wednesday, September 4th, the Connect Club found such a place. The members of Connect excitedly spent time connecting with our youngest friends at the Learning Cottage.



Member Grant Van Dyke was an instant success among the boys as he played with playdough and built train tracks and pirate ships. Members Charlie Chittum and Madelyne Ladd helped a group with crafts, played with playdough and read stories to their group.

Members Sophia Adams and Scarlet McPherson sat by cots and played with the youngest members of the Learning Cottage.

It is hard to say who had the most fun. However, I do know that the Connect club members were in agreement that they can't wait until the next club day when they

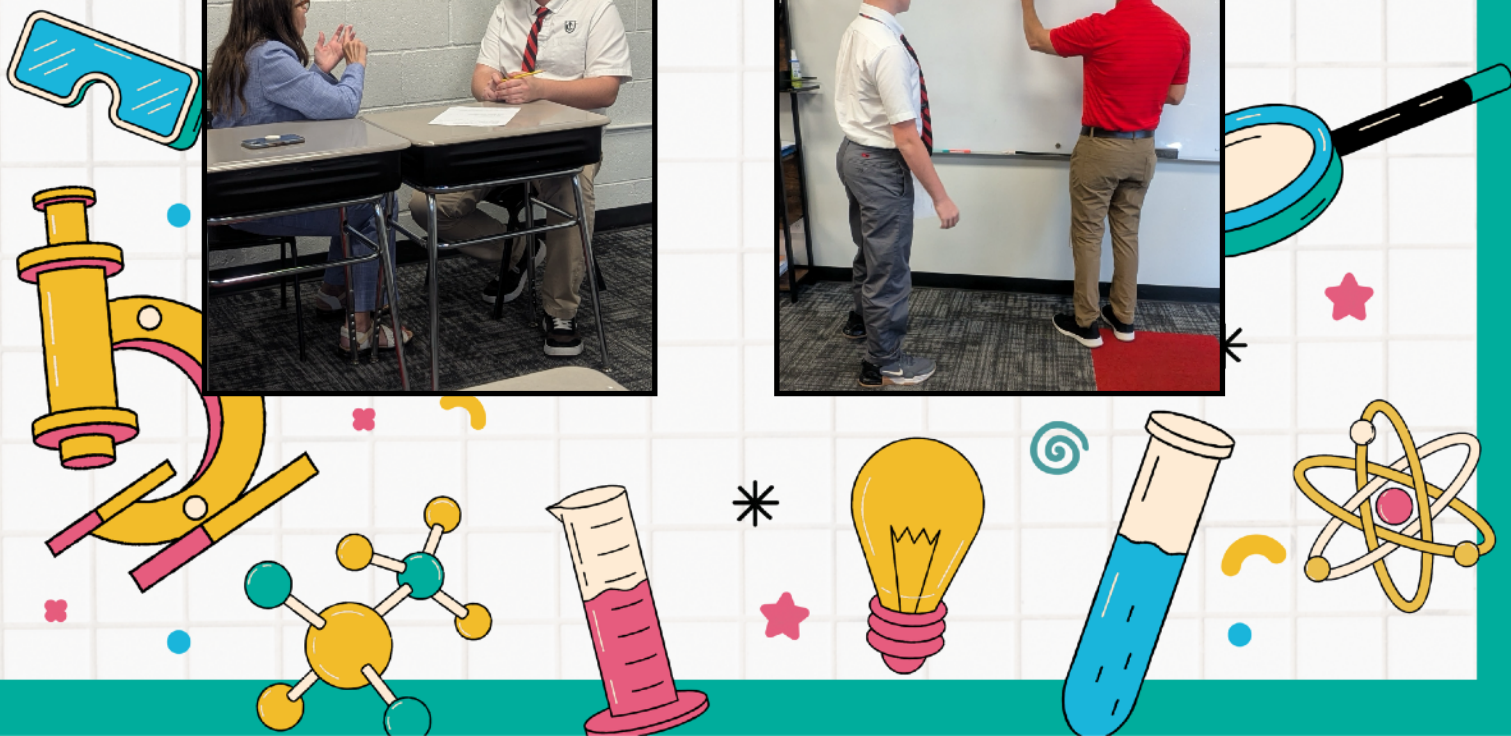
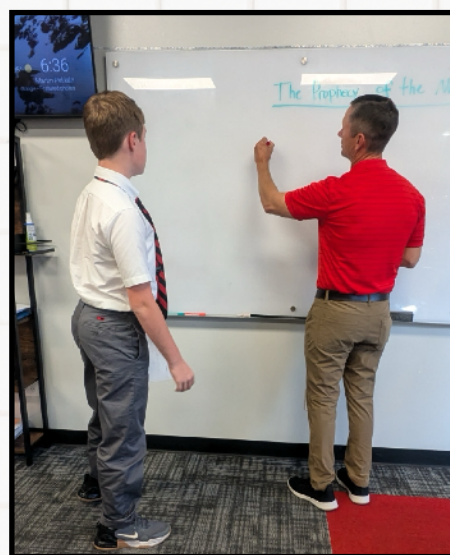
again enter this magical place and spend time with their new young friends.



Written by: Angie Kesley



Tennessee Christian students benefit immensely from Science Fair Topic Night, a tradition at our school that officially kicks off Science Fair season. This tradition connects students with professionals across various scientific disciplines, offering invaluable advice, insight, and maybe redirection. Ms. Kelsey's efforts have turned the event into a pivotal moment in students' middle school journey, fostering critical creative thinking. Thank you to all the scientific experts who took time to sit with our students and be a mentor.





HAWK HIGHLIGHTS

The cross-country teams at Tennessee Christian Preparatory School are on fire this season, showcasing impressive growth and tenacity from our lower and middle school athletes. In last week's meet at Woodland Park, our lower school runners made significant strides. Notably, Greyson Laws, sliced two minutes off his personal best, a testament to his hard work and determination. Leona Fletcher, the lone female competitor from TCPS in the lower school division, has earned a Gold Star for her consistent weekly improvements, demonstrating incredible perseverance and dedication.

The middle school cross-country team continues to shine, with Eli Ahlers earning a third-place finish in his division. Eli's strong performances keep him among the top contenders in the ISC meets for the Chattanooga area, highlighting his skill and commitment to the sport.

On the volleyball courts, the high school team remains steadfast and resilient. Despite being a young squad, they "continue to grow and mature, showing improvement in each match and building strong camaraderie," according to Coach Georgia McPherson. Their efforts are evident in their tenacity and teamwork on the court.

While the high school soccer team, as well as the middle school boys' and girls' tennis teams, and high school golf teams had a break last week, they are gearing up to return to action this week with renewed energy.

Spotlight on Our Athletes

In our new weekly feature, "Athlete Spotlight," we dive into the inspirations that drive our student-athletes. This week, we asked: Who is your biggest role model and how have they influenced your athletic career?"

Freshman multi-sport athlete Thomas Nicolaus shared, "My biggest role model is Stephen Curry because he is a hard worker, a dedicated family man, and follows Jesus."



Sophomore Volleyball player Amelia Shepherd added, "My sports role model is Georgia McPherson, my coach and former teammate. Coach Georgia is not just a coach - she's a firecracker! She pushes us hard, but she also knows how to keep the energy up and help us bounce back when we mess up. She knows her stuff when it comes to the game, and you can feel how much she believes in us. Her passion is like a spark that gets the whole team fired up. Like Proverbs 27:17 says, 'As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.' Coach Georgia is always sharpening us and making us better."



Stay tuned each week for more insights into the lives of our talented athletes and coaches and their sources of motivation. Go TCPS!

Written by: Lee Cigliano

WATER EROSION

6th Grade Geography

Last Thursday, 6th grade spent some time exploring the effects of water erosion. They discovered firsthand what happens when water meets sand with nothing to stop it. They also experimented with some ways in which to stop ocean water from eroding the shoreline.

Written by: Matthew Mullins



[Carolina Machacek, Eliana Adams]



[Mr. Mullins, Elliott Tilley, Ashton Copic]





At the start of each year, lower school students gather in the hallways to admire a charming art display created by our second graders. This "Tiny Art Show" is a unique community art project that places miniature galleries in surprising locations. The project was initiated by contemporary artist McKay Lenker Bayer, who first showcased her tiny art pieces on her college campus to inspire people to notice the amazing things happening around them. Our second graders explored the Tiny Art Show Instagram to see a variety of exhibits displayed across the country, and then they set to work creating their own exhibitions using sticky notes and various other materials!

Written by Chloe Hinchcliff



**Shake, Rattle, &
Roll on Over for**

THE LEARNING
COTTAGE
CRUISE-IN

Friday, September 13th

10am-12pm

Families Welcome





grandparents
day

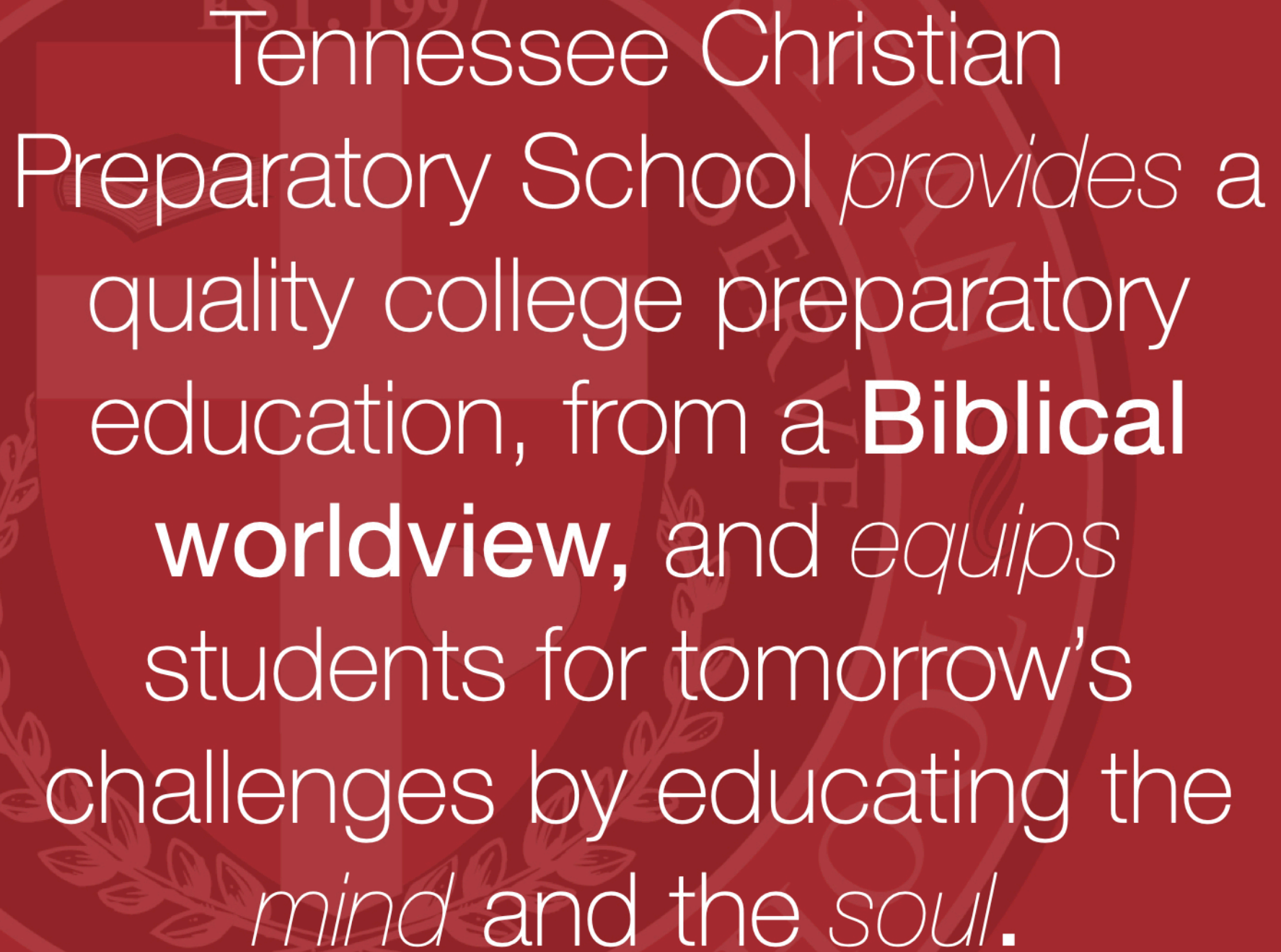


Friday | September 20, 2024



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.