

the talon

SUMMER EDITION
2024



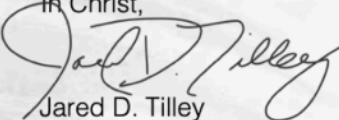
TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN
ANNUAL IV

from the **Head**

Since I began teaching, one of the most surprising aspects has been witnessing the growth and maturity of students between May and August. The summer months and time away from Tennessee Christian's campus significantly contribute to this transformation. I fully expect to see incoming fourth graders and sophomores at the Back to School Bash on August 12 and be amazed by how much they've grown. As a parent, it feels like one moment you blink, and suddenly, your child is growing up before your eyes. As Victoria says to Elliott, "I think you grew today."

A few seasons ago, I wrote in the Talon about Iris's struggle with the monkey bars. Her determination was evident, but she needed support to conquer her fears. She was timid about the height and length of the bars, often requiring me to help her move from one bar to the next until her hands grew tired, then we would take a break and try again later. This summer, I watched her play, and now she swings confidently from side to side with ease. She often calls out to me with a sense of shared success, saying, "Watch!" as she navigates the bars.

In these moments, we, as parents and family, can cherish our children's small victories. What may seem trivial can blossom into significant milestones contributing to their overall development. At Tennessee Christian, we prioritize valuing these moments, helping shape our students' character and equipping them for their life challenges. We wanted to take time in this Summer Talon to highlight the play and travel that shaped our students' summer and continued development.

In Christ,

Jared D. Tilley

FRESH *& changes* FACES



Ivelisse Acosta-Sierra

Mrs. Acosta will be teaching Spanish to our students starting in the Learning Cottage all the way through Upper School. Mrs. Acosta also works as a Spanish interpreter and we are eager for our students to meet her!



Sarah Barham

Mrs. Barham joins the Leadership Team as Director of Admissions. Her experience in corporate America has transferred well to her role at Tennessee Christian. She has a dedication to seeing our school succeed and our students educated with a foundation of faith.



Lee Cigliano

Dr. Lee Cigliano headed our successful 2024 reaccreditation through Cognia. Having completed our accreditation, Lee is transitioning to be our Lower School P.E. teacher and Athletic Director.



Rebecca Hake

Mrs. Hake is a bright and cheery face joining our Lower School team as our Second Grade Teacher. We are looking forward to her mentorship with some of our smallest Hawks!



Ginger Harness

Mrs. Harness is joining us as a seasoned educator. We are thrilled to have her head up our Upper School science classes. We are looking forward to her helping our students shine!



Kristian Henry

Mrs. Henry's work with Tennessee Christian as Athletic Director for the 2023-2024 school year was tremendous and we thank her for her dedication and willingness to help students in the classroom and in all athletic arenas. Mrs. Henry will be transitioning her role to a larger Upper School Math teaching Algebra II and Advanced Math.



Amanda Osborne

Mrs. Osborne's smiling face is moving down the hall from Second Grade to First Grade. The incoming First Graders are already looking forward to seeing Mrs. Osborne an entire year sooner than they expected!



Melissa Scannapiego

Mrs. Scannapiego is our new Middle School ELA teacher. She has been in private Christian education since graduating from Lee University, where she continues to be the head cheerleading coach. She has a strong love for middle school and we are happy to have her as part of our community!



WASHINGTON D.C.

This past May our 8th graders spent an unforgettable week exploring our nation's capital during our 2nd Annual 8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip. Our students were able to see everything that D.C. has to offer. The trip began with a visit to the awe-inspiring Museum of the Bible. We then visited every possible museum you could think of, from the American History Museum to the Aerospace Museum. We also ended up walking the National Mall several times to see every memorial from WWII to Vietnam. One highlight of our trip was when some of our group got to sit down and have a conversation with a Holocaust survivor at the Holocaust Museum. This trip is a fantastic end to two years of American History classes. The students get to visit many of the places that we talk about in class all year. Students were able to stand on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in the same spot that Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave his, 'I Have a Dream' speech. This trip was a wonderful way to end their Middle School experience as they transition on to High School. Our students had a blast on this trip and we are looking forward to many more in the future.





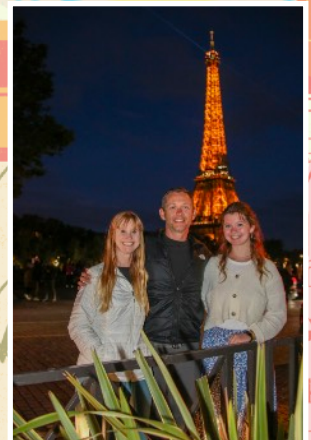
just a few TENNESSEE CHRISTIAN Summer ADVENTURES

the Henry Family



The Henrys traveled to Europe this summer. They visited Italy - Rome, Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast, Florence, Bologna and Venice; France - Nice, Cannes, Antibes and Paris; Monaco; and an unexpected stop in Austria for a few hours. Ashlyn has several favorite places from the trip. The first is Rome, especially seeing the Roman Forum and remembering all of the stories from Mr. Spear's 9th grade class. She is a huge Formula 1 and Ferrari fan so her trip to Bologna, home of all things Ferrari and visiting the circuits in Imola and Monaco will be lifelong memories. Mrs. Henry's favorite place was Venice! Coach George's favorite thing was trying all the gelatos in each city - 19 different times!

-George, Kristian & Ashlyn Henry (Senior)



the Conar Family



This is definitely a busy summer in a good way, but the highlight will forever be the wedding of these two former TCPS students who also happen to be extremely precious to many of us at Tennessee Christian. Having met in Mrs. Berger's 4th grade class at TCPS, their friendship grew into a beautiful romance as they began to realize that the Lord had indeed woven their lives together for His good purpose! June 8, 2024 was the day they finally were able to say "I do!" and begin their married life together! It was a perfect day! Congratulations to Samuel and Emma Conar!

-Michael & Rachel Conar

the Meir Family



We saw so much wildlife at Yellowstone including: bison, elk, pronghorn, foxes, coyotes, black bears, wolves, grizzlies, mountain goats, a bald eagle, a badger, moose, and a beaver. We even got to taste the wildlife when we had bison burgers and, my favorite, elk burgers. The Elk burgers were absolutely delicious because they were so tender and flavorful. We then went to see a rodeo in Cody, Wyoming and saw the Buffalo Bill Museum.

We then left for Spearfish, South Dakota and I was able to eat the largest and the greatest tasting pancakes in the world. We then experienced the largest flooding in South Dakota history on the way up to Sioux Falls, South Dakota which was very scary. On our way back home we were very upset as Tennessee lost the first game in the College World Series, but then we were relieved to watch, at home, the next two games that lead to Tennessee's first College World Series Title.

-Joey Meir (10th Grade)



TRAVEL WITH
Wanderlust

Fun on the River

TRAVEL WITH
Wanderlust



The Ford family took a variety of Tennessee Christian students out for some fun on the river on the boat!



Summer Twinning



You can find some of us on campus this summer accidentally coordinating our outfits!

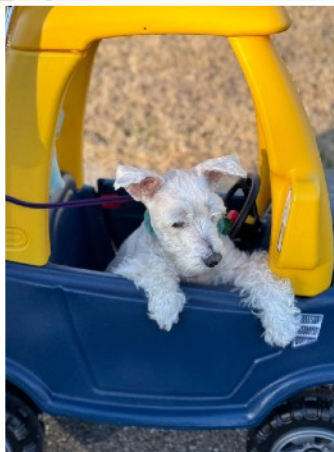


the Heaton Family



Ruby Heaton has been enjoying pool days, fun with brother, David, Lake Winnie, lots of naps, park, zoo, and walks with the dog, Bubbles. July will be Rubys 5th birthday and a beach trip!

-The Heatons
(Ruby, Kindergarten)



the Copic Family



Ashton has been having fun in the sun from the beach, to the pool, to the soccer field with all kinds of friends this summer!

-Ashton Copic (6th Grade)



the Van Dyke Family



Grant learned about bee keeping!



Esther and Grant spent time with cousins and helped their grandparents!



Esther attended Signal Mountain Youth Camp with friends!



Ellis and Mrs. Van Dyke saw To Kill a Mockingbird in Chattanooga!



Ellis went to the beach with a friend!



Fam and friends floating down the Hiwassee!

-Todd, Sarah, Ellis (10th Grade), Esther (8th Grade) & Grant Van Dyke (7th Grade)

the Barham Family



Our summer has been overflowing with adventures, friendship and new experiences. Two of our favorite experiences thus far have been Beckett learning to swim and Officer Rob teaching the kids how to fish. Filled with lots of family time, poolside cookouts, loads of crafts, science experiments, VBS and late night movies in the pillow forts, it is hard to believe that summer is halfway over.

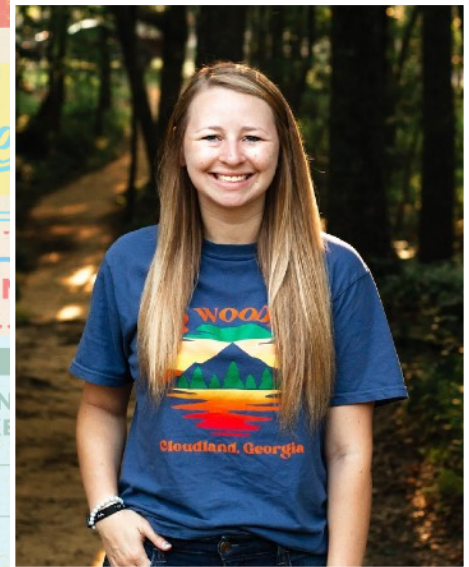
-Sarah, Daniel,
Charli (1st Grade), &
Beckett (PreK4) Barham



Camp Woodmont

A few of the 5th Grade boys got to experience life with Ms. Hinchcliff as their Camp Director instead of their Art Teacher early this summer! A week atop Lookout Mountain at Camp Woodmont was camp life at it's best for these friends. With all the fun packed into a week, chances are, Ms. H found a few future camp counselors out of this crew who loved their time at camp!

-Kai Ahlers, Lincoln Osborne
& Henry Sluder (5th Grade)



WE'VE GOT SPIRIT!
YES WE DO!
WE'VE GOT SPIRIT!
HOW 'BOUT YOU?

Tennessee Christian has partnered with
Sports Spectrum to offer our families new spirit gear!

They have an extensive catalog, and we invite you to take a look.
To view their products, visit our website:

tennesseechristian.org —> Campus Life —> School Store



YOU'RE INVITED!

BACK TOSCHOOL

BASH

**SCHOOLWIDE:
PRESCHOOL-12TH GRADE**





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.



LEE
UNIVERSITY

A TOP-TIER, CHRIST-CENTERED EXPERIENCE