



CLASS OF 2023



“Oh the places you’ll go”
That’s what they all say
You may receive that book
On your graduation day

12 years have passed
Graduation day is no here
You may be full of joy
Or you may shed some tears

Kindergartener to Senior
How fast time has flown
So very small then
But my, how you've grown

You learned how to read
You learned how to write
You learned critical thinking
You learned wrong from right

Many books have been read
Math problems were solved
Papers were written
Science Fair projects evolved

Some played a sport
Some sang in a play
Some danced on a stage
Some carried a tray

Growth happened of course
By leaps and by bounds
Some growth can’t be measured
By inches or pounds

Most growth you have grown
In these years that have passed
Is your mind and your Spirit
With every new task

Everything you’ve been through
All the trials and tears
Every victory and loss
With each passing year

It all fits together
Like a puzzle completed
To make you who you are
God’s beloved, His created

He took joy in forming you
He smiled while creating
The you that you are
Now as you are graduating

And now you are grown
Your wings ready to fly
A new journey beginning
To high school it is time to say
goodbye



If you have seen Tylen Arnwine on the basketball court, you might have been impressed with his incredible hands, speed, and decision-making. If you talk to him about music, he might surprise you with interests both new and old. If you can sit down and talk to Tylen, you will realize that he is a Renaissance man with a wide range of interests and thoughtful conversation.

The first one-on-one conversation I had with Tylen was a question. What was on his bucket list? In our conversation, Tylen was thoughtful, unique, and genuine. I would begin to realize that this demeanor was standard for Tylen. After thinking, he said that he wanted to travel the world. I asked, "What do you want to see?" Tylen's response was, "All of it." In the two years Tylen has been with us at Tennessee Christian, Tylen has visited five countries and a few states. Tylen has traveled the Gulf of Mexico and crossed the Irish Sea; he has toured the Ring of Kerry in Ireland and kissed the Blarney Stone; he has witnessed the juxtaposition of Cozumel and London. While I have enjoyed seeing Tylen's adventurous spirit when trying new foods or seeing new things, what I admire most about Tylen is his ultimate goal: to help people in need and travel the world doing it. He wants to pursue a career as a traveling nurse. Quoting Tylen from his senior capstone, "Choosing nursing as a profession provides many opportunities to make a meaningful impact on the lives of others. As a nurse, I will have the chance to care for patients during some of the most vulnerable and challenging times of their lives. Through this, I must offer comfort, compassion, support, and help to promote healing and recovery." I pray that God opens doors unknown to Tylen and allows him to use his smile, humor, talents, and servant's heart to help those in need and be God's hands and feet, feeding the Bread of Life to a hungry world.



McKenzie Michelle Chittum, also known as Z, what can I say? From the day Z arrived at TCPS in August of 2021 her presence here was known. Z may be framed in a little package, but there is nothing little about her other than that 1 letter nickname. Well, that and her giant, jacked-up, black Ford Ranger. When you have met Z your life will forever be changed, but when you get to know Z your life will forever be blessed. There are no less than a zillion ways to remember her, from her sweet smile and Harley stories, to her welcoming personality to name a few.

As we all learned in from her senior speech Z has attended a lot of different schools both near and far. This experience, I believe, has made Z one tough nut to crack, but once you do you find a passionate, thoughtful, hard-working, young lady who will do anything for the ones she loves and to succeed. I began the cracking process last year when Z was my office aid. She quickly jumped in and I got to encounter her helpfulness as she covered the front desk buzzing in fobless students and answering the phone when I had to step away. We also got the chance to talk and get to know one another a bit and I learned that Z only lets you know what she wants you to know. Last year when I was out for an extended period of time, she took the time to reach out and let me know she missed me! That meant



so much, and I knew then the shell was cracking.

This year I missed having her in my office on the daily, but we made up for it at our impromptu gym meetups:) Her time here on campus recently has been brief due to Z's dual-enrollment schedule but the shell cracking has continued by scheming with her mom to make sure she would attend her senior prom. Although, she most certainly didn't need the gym that night due to the muscle she built just wearing that beautiful dress made of lead, Z made it a night to remember with her classmates from last minute shopping, to getting ready at her place, to the afterparty. Z let me know in her own way that I continue to break through her shell last month on my birthday. Z disappeared during her break, only to return with my favorite Starbucks, flowers, and a singing card to which we jammed, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun! Moving forward I pray you both bless and are blessed and see nothing less than fun and success!



Attention! Attention!

There has been a criminal on the loose since 2021. Anna Grace Conar, a senior at TCPS, has been stealing people's phones and taking multiple pictures of her and others.

Authorities are astounded that the Student School President, who has kept good grades and is on good terms with teachers, could do such a heinous act. She shows no sign of criminal activity in class. In fact, she is usually attentive and engaged in class, but that is how she tricks you. Then, with the help of others, she will get you off topic by mentioning your favorite band or artist. As you are distracted, you will not notice the hundreds of photos being stored in your phone. It will only be 5



minutes, but 5 minutes is all she needs to take up the storage on your phone at alarming rates; making some unable to download their favorite games until they go through and delete the evidence. The perfect crime! Be on the lookout for Anna Grace Conar!

Olivia Divel is a quiet, hard-working, selfless, and generous student. She has volunteered 206 hours of her time to service projects. She has helped with fundraisers and events. Also, Olivia acts as a representative in the Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership Program, where she has organized and raised money on behalf of Habitat for Humanity. Despite all the hours of service she has given, She has found time to participate and perform in theater productions every year, including this year where she was Belle in *Beauty and The Beast*. She is part of the Chapel worship team. Olivia brings all these attributes of dedication and hard-work to the classroom. She has kept a 3.9 G.P.A and has been involved in dual-enrollment at Lee



University where she recently received the Outstanding Freshman Writer Award. Upon graduation she will be majoring in English and Spanish at Lee University.

In communicating with Olivia, she told me most of her free time during the spring has been spent practicing for the play and painting the sets. She also indicated her love for theater and that she might continue to be involved in theater in college. She also spends time practicing for choir/a cappella and pep band. Olivia enjoys reading. In high school, some of her favorite memories have been in theater or with her friends on the senior cruise trip.

Olivia, we wish you great success in all your endeavors as you continue life's journey in your next phase of life. You have been an inspiration to us all at TCPS. Congratulations!

Hear one! Hear all!

I am here to announce the graduation of Sir Cole Hamilton Douglas. He has undertaken his studies at Tennessee Christian Preparatory School for the majority of his schooling career minus a couple of strange years. During this time he has been involved in a myriad of things. He is known as the “Hit by Pitch King” of the baseball team, while also participating in other sports such as basketball and soccer. He also has been a part of National Honor Society, Beta club, and Interact while being at TCPS.

Cole is a part of the legendary Douglas clan being the youngest of five boys who all have graduated from Tennessee Christian Preparatory School previously with Darrin and Kathi Douglas as his parents. Cole is known by all to be quite funny and hard working at times that is; however, Cole also is a caring individual who will go out of his way to help others, even if he includes a snarky remark.



Cole’s plans for the future include attending Lee University where he has chosen the popular major of Undecided. Though he is unsure of what exactly he wants to do, he is nevertheless ecstatic at what the future holds for him. Tennessee Christian Preparatory School wishes you the best of luck and your brother didn’t see that one coming my dear reader now did you, what a twist! I must wish you Godspeed.

Congratulations Cole! We are all proud of you and are excited to see what God has in store for you!

When playwright William Shakespeare asked the question, “What’s in a name?” in *Romeo and Juliet*, he was referring to the idea that names themselves are a convention to distinguish things or people, but that names themselves do not have any worth or meaning.

I asked myself this question as I began to think about a very special senior named Daisy Jane Munoz and the persistent reminder that time is almost up for our seniors. I wanted to find out just what was in a name like Daisy Jane and if in fact there was meaning behind the name. Here is what I found.

According to thebump.com, “Daisy” is a feminine name of British origin, synonymous with purity and innocence. Often related with the cheerful flower and derived from Old English, Daisy literally means “day's eye.” Much like the beloved bloom, it's a name that embraces the sweetest elements of daylight, unfurling itself to the sun's rays. Simply captivating, it's no wonder Daisy has inspired so many spirited, mesmerizing characters, from Henry James's *Daisy Miller* to the central figure of *The Great Gatsby*.



So does a name itself have any worth or meaning? The answer is clear when it comes to our Daisy. Yes! She does indeed brighten even the darkest days with her radiant personality and dazzling smile, as if she blooms to reassure those around her that it will all be okay. She is quiet and reserved at times, like the blossom of a daisy. Not elaborately decorated but steady in its splendor. Our Daisy has a beauty that is all her own and she offers a love and care for people that can be deeply felt. She is a bright spot in the toughest of days, offering up encouragement to those who need it most.

Although it may take some time for her to fully bloom on school days....because let’s face it. “Senioritis” is a real thing that hits hard in the spring! As the sun rises after the storm, so does Daisy. And not to forget her second given name, Jane. This name means “God is gracious.” I want to take a moment to encourage Daisy to lean into this truth, for God is gracious in many ways and this truth alone will be the sustenance you need to continue. On the days that seem like nothing is going right and no matter what you do, troubles undoubtedly find you at your lowest. Just know that God sees you, and in His abundance of grace, He is perfecting a work in you. His love is true, and His grace will never run out. I pray blessings over you, Daisy Jane, as you embark on a new journey full of possibilities where God will use your beautiful gifts to touch many lives!

Mark Trouten is a true inspiration. As a senior at Tennessee Christian, he had to face a significant setback—a knee injury that put something he loves on hold, playing soccer. But instead of giving up, Mark faced the challenge, despite it being scary, with determination and a positive attitude. It is this unwavering character that defines Mark.

After suffering a knee injury requiring surgery, he faced a long road to recovery. But he didn't let that setback define him. Instead, he faced the challenge head-on. Through hard work and dedication, While Mark is still working on his recovery through physical therapy, he has reached milestones and goals by staying consistent and determined. After his surgery, Mark said to me that he wanted to be to a point he could swim on the senior trip. Sure enough, Mark reached his goal and could swim and move about without assistance!

While his playing for Tennessee Christian ended abruptly, Mark will be remembered on the field as someone with excellent skill on the ball, quality decision-making off the ball, and a loyal teammate. If you have ever spent time with Mark, you would know that his passion for soccer does not just exist between the lines, he is an avid Arsenal fan. Some of my favorite moments with Mark are talking about European soccer. It would be common to hear Mark ask, "Did you see the score of the Arsenal match?" He would also be gracious while listening to me rant about my team.

Mark will be remembered on Tennessee Christian's campus as a thoughtful and kind individual looking for ways to put other people before himself, a faithful servant's heart. He supported his friends and developed lasting relationships. I pray that Mark continues to grow in the Lord and that the grace of God clearly illuminates his path.



If you have not had the privilege of meeting Hunter White, then you are missing out. For his two years at TCPS, Hunter has been a great athlete, particularly excelling in basketball, with the best 3 point shot the school has ever seen. Hunter is an exciting athlete to both watch and play with. However, although Hunter is a phenomenal basketball player, he says his biggest regret is not being as good as Mr. Hammond and never being able to beat him in a 1 on 1 game. Nevertheless, Hunter has shined on the basketball court and if you have had the privilege of seeing him play, you know just how entertaining he is to watch. Hunter, we're proud of you for all you have done for TCPS athletically!

Not only is Hunter entertaining on the court, but he is also entertaining to be around in the classroom. With a great sense of humor, you can bet you're going to get a good laugh whenever he is around. The best joke of his is how he claimed the whole year that his least favorite class was Math, when, in fact, we all know of his great love for the subject. But, Hunter, more than most, knows how to make life entertaining with his humor and knack for messing around with people. You will always have something interesting and fun happen when Hunter is around!

Hunter, we are so proud of you for who you are and the impact you have made here at TCPS. Without a doubt you will be greatly missed, never forgotten, and never replaced! We wish you the best going forward in life wherever it takes you! You will always be welcomed back with open arms! Congratulations for pushing through and graduating! We're so happy for you and we love you!

