



February 28, 2022

Dear Tusculum family,

We thank you for reading The Pioneer Press! If you would like to suggest content for a future edition, please email Jim Wozniak, director of communications and marketing, at jwozniak@tusculum.edu.

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President's Perspective

As I write this from Dubai, United Arab Emirates, I am reminded of the many student trips I have led over Spring Break to Israel, Greece, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, Italy and England. You may not be able to travel as far over your spring break, but I hope you are able to get some rest and adventure. While staff will not get the entire week off, I am glad they will be able to enjoy the Thursday and Friday of Spring Break. You have all worked hard and deserve this break.

From here in Dubai, I recall the wonderful and stimulating experiences in the Middle East. This summer (June 17-29) you have the opportunity to experience a different culture, meet fascinating people, taste wonderful food and engage in some adventure while visiting places mentioned in the Bible. You will have the experience of a lifetime while growing in your faith.

A donor is providing two \$2000 “scholarships” to reduce the cost of the trip for students. The first two students to register for the trip will receive \$2000 applied to the cost of their trip. There is no better time to experience Israel. Students also have the option to earn three hours of academic credit, or they can just enjoy the trip without credit. The deadline to register for the trip to Israel is Monday, March 7.

We have a couple of new and innovative events taking place this week that I urge you to place on your calendars. We will have a food truck on campus Wednesday – and the first and third Wednesday of each month moving forward. That same day, the Office of Student Affairs has arranged for a reading of the entirety of the four gospels. While both are different styles of events, both of them illustrate the variety of offerings faculty, staff and students have on campus.

When we return from Spring Break, we will once again be extremely busy with registration for the fall and final preparations for the Chili Cook-off on Thursday, March 17, and the Academic Symposium Friday, April 29.

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Word of the Week

“It is good to praise the Lord and make music to your name, O Most High.” – Psalm 92:1 NIV

Photo of the Week



Members of the 2021 softball team, who captured the South Atlantic Conference postseason tournament title, received their championship rings Thursday. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Coronavirus update

No students and employees are positive.

Tusculum no longer universally requires faculty, staff, students and community members to wear face coverings indoors on campus. We still recommend that you wear one as a way to protect themselves and others from the coronavirus.

You should continue taking appropriate safety measures, such as not coming to class in person or to work when ill. We strongly encourage everyone to be vaccinated and to receive a booster against the coronavirus.

Should you develop coronavirus symptoms, be diagnosed or be identified as a contact, you must immediately inform the appropriate group at Tusculum.

- Students need to email the Office of Student Affairs at studentaffairs@tusculum.edu or call the COVID-19 hotline at 423-636-0500. They should also alert their professors.
- Employees must contact the Human Resources Department at humanresources@tusculum.edu or 423-636-7345 (extension 5345 on campus) as well as their supervisor.

Residential households in the United States can order one set of four free at-home coronavirus tests. The tests will be delivered by the U.S. Postal Service. To learn more, please visit <https://special.usps.com/testkits>.

We urge all Tusculum family members to complete the form at the following links about your status to help us successfully navigate the global coronavirus pandemic.

Employee survey

<https://go.tusculum.edu/forms/employee-covid-19-survey/>

Student survey

<https://go.tusculum.edu/forms/student-covid-19-survey/>

Deadline for abstract submission for Academic Symposium approaching

The deadline for abstract submission for this year's Academic Symposium is Friday, March 4.

During the symposium, students and alumni present their research and other academic achievements. We had excellent representation from students in 2021, and we want to exceed those numbers this year. Let us see your talent on display!

The symposium will be held via Zoom Friday, April 29. To learn more about the symposium and access the submission form, please visit <https://bit.ly/3ByS9kx>.

Anyone who has questions can email Dr. Conor Keitzer, associate professor of natural sciences, at ckeitzer@tusculum.edu.

Registration for fall semester to begin soon

Beginning Monday, March 7, students can review the courses available during the fall semester and start making plans with their adviser for that term. Students must meet with their adviser before they can choose their courses for that semester. Advisers will be happy to assist, so students should make contact as soon as possible.

Beforehand, though, students should ensure they do not have a business office hold on their student account. Students will not be able to register for courses with a hold, so we urge them to take any steps necessary to rectify that. Representatives in the business office can help students with any questions they might have about a hold.

It is also important to note students will not be able to participate in the housing lottery the week of April 4 if they do not register for courses to be held in the fall.

Registration for the fall semester will be held the week of March 28. Here is the schedule when students can start registering that week.

- Monday, March 28 – Adult and Online Studies program students and graduate students
- Tuesday, March 29 – seniors, veterans and honors students
- Wednesday, March 30 – juniors

- Thursday, March 31 – sophomores
- Friday, April 1 – first-year students

Make your reservations this week for the trip to the Holy Land!

A trip to the Holy Land will provide memories that will last a lifetime, and now is the time to be part of this amazing experience!

Dr. Hummel is leading a pilgrimage to Israel, which will be held June 17-29. We strongly encourage you to join him and First Lady Starr Hummel as they visit many of the places detailed in the Bible.

If you want to go, though, you need to act fast. The deadline to register is Monday, March 7.

We have gratefully received \$4,000 in donations to help students travel to Israel! A single student is eligible for as much as \$2,000. The first ones to register are the first to be eligible for the reduced cost.

You can read about the itinerary by clicking [here](#). Also on that page is a button you can click that will take you to the registration page and provide more information about prices. All Tusculum family members, alumni, trustees and community members are invited on this trip!

Please email Dr. Hummel at shummel@tusculum.edu if you have questions.



Join Dr. Hummel and First Lady Starr Hummel in the Holy Land! Photo from Dr. Hummel

Your taste buds are excited about this development!

We will initiate Food Truck Wednesdays March 2 with excellent meals available from Project Waffle!

The food truck will be set up in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Your tummy won't want to miss this, so please mark your calendar to join your colleagues and fellow students for a great eat!

We will have a food truck the first and third Wednesday of each month from 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact Nicole Rader, director of alumni and community engagement, at nrader@tusculum.edu or 423-636-0565.

FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

Coming March 2: Project Waffle

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, Tusculum will host a different food truck on campus. Please join us.

Everyone invited

Quad in front of Niswonger Commons
60 Shiloh Road, Greeneville, TN 37745

Questions? Email nrader@tusculum.edu
or call 423-636-0565.

TUSCULUM
UNIVERSITY
ESTABLISHED 1794

Enjoy a reading of the gospels

Before or after you come to the Niswonger Commons to purchase a meal from the food truck, take some time to join the Office of Student Affairs in the Quad for another special event.

Student Affairs will host a reading of the gospels Wednesday, March 2, starting at 10 a.m. and lasting until about 4 p.m. Faculty, staff and students can read aloud from one of the gospels. Student Affairs is scheduling 30-minute time slots for individuals to read from Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

If you are interested in reading, please email Lauren Johnson, coordinator of residence life and programming, at ljohnson@tusculum.edu.



Image from First Baptist Church of Asheville, N.C., of the gospel writers

Chapel returns with talk by Institutional Advancement leader

Kim Kidwell, associate vice president of institutional advancement, is scheduled to deliver the message today at chapel.

Join us at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom for this inspirational talk from Kidwell, a cancer survivor with longtime connections to Tusculum. The chapel link

is <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/86025009185?pwd=dG9yMUdQL1MyZWJLRXROUllrZ2tZZz09>.

Kidwell has served on the Tusculum staff for 14 years and was promoted to associate vice president in 2020. She oversees the university's fundraising, alumni, grant writing, special events and development operations.

Previously, Kidwell served as managing director of institutional advancement and served in other roles in that office beforehand. She also spent four years as a payroll specialist in Tusculum's accounting department.

Kidwell holds a Bachelor of Science in organizational management and a Master of Arts in education, with a concentration in talent development, from Tusculum.

We will not have chapel March 7 because of Spring Break.



Kim Kidwell

Free head shots for students!

As students begin searching for jobs and internships, one of the ways they can effectively present themselves is through a professional photograph.

Several individuals are helping students by lining up a photographer who will take their head shots, which can then be placed on résumés, curriculum vitae and social media platforms such as LinkedIn. Best of all, the photographs will be free to students. This activity is a Pioneer Ready initiative that helps fulfill our Quality Enhancement Plan.

A photographer from Johnson City Aerial Photography and Portraits will be on campus from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, and Wednesday, April 6. The photos will be taken by the fireplace in the Niswonger Commons. Students will receive a digital file from the photographer.

Taking this photograph is another way for students to demonstrate they are a career-ready professional. We look forward to seeing their head shots!

Sharing our terrific story with a local television station

Recently, Daytime Tri-Cities, a weekday morning show that airs on WJHL, came to campus to share the Tusculum story with its audience.

Co-host Chris McIntosh interviewed Dr. Hummel and Hughston Burnheimer, a sophomore museum studies major and member of the Tusculum Band, about what makes Tusculum so special. Among the topics discussed were the personal attention students receive, the affordability of a Tusculum education, the wide array of majors and minors, the state-of-the-art Meen Center, the university's size, the band program and our caring Christian environment and active and experiential learning.

You can watch the segment here: <https://www.wjhl.com/daytime-tri-cities/setting-up-students-for-success-at-tusculum-university/>

Free app gives students access to job boards

Tusculum is committed to equipping students to be career-ready professionals and meeting the goals of our Quality Enhancement Plan.

To help reach that goal, the Office of Career Services is posting job opportunities and internships that are submitted to us by the local community on the UpperCampus app. UpperCampus is a free app designed to help college students become better informed about careers.

The attached brochure provides more detailed information on the services provided by UpperCampus. To use UpperCampus, students must sign onto the app with their Tusculum email. Upon the first use, the app will ask students questions about their interests and career aspirations. It will then customize the experience based upon a student's interests.

To see job opportunities, simply tap "browse," which will bring you to a new screen. On that screen, look under content for you and click the button labeled "my school." Scroll down to see the listed job openings.

If you need assistance, please email Dr. Heather Henson-Ramsey, dean of the College of Science, Technology and Math and coordinator of career services, at hhenson-ramsey@tusculum.edu.

Housing lottery opens in April

Current students who seek university housing for the fall semester can begin making their choices the week of April 4.

The housing lottery will be open every day from midnight until 5 p.m. from Monday, April 4, through Friday, April 8. Here is the schedule when students can begin applying:

- Monday, April 4 – rising seniors
- Tuesday, April 5 – rising juniors
- Wednesday, April 6 – rising sophomores
- Thursday, April 7 – continuing freshmen

The application is available at <https://my.tusculum.edu/forms/housing-lottery-form/>.

Four important notes:

- Students who submit their application before they are eligible will be placed at the bottom of the priority list.
- Students will not be able to participate in the housing lottery if they have not registered for courses to be held in the fall.
- Students need to complete a housing application on their Anthology accounts.
- Students who have a business office hold can submit their housing application, but it will not be processed until they register for classes for the fall.

Please make the appropriate preparations for the housing lottery and follow all instructions carefully so you will have a successful outcome.

Celebrating our faculty

We are pleased to share the great news that 13 of our faculty members earned promotions during the Board of Trustees meeting earlier this month!

Advancing from associate professor to professor are:

- Dr. Robert Gall, chair of psychology
- Dr. Peter Noll, public history and museum studies
- Dr. Chuck Pearson, chair of natural sciences
- Dr. Travis Williams, religion

Advancing from assistant professor to associate professor are:

- Dr. Dennis Ashford, chemistry
- Mikaela Cooney, criminal justice
- Dr. Katherine Everhart, sociology
- Vicky Johnson Bós, English
- Dr. Conor Keitzer, natural sciences
- Dr. Kurtis Miller, chair of communication and fine arts
- Dr. Kellen Myers, mathematics
- Dr. Hollie Pellosmaa, psychology
- Dr. Jeffrey Perry, history

We commend these faculty members for this excellent achievement in their careers and for their relentless efforts to equip our students to be career-ready professionals! When you see them, please extend your congratulations.

Associate professor of history writes book

Dr. Jeffrey Perry, an associate professor of history, is the author of a new book, "Law in American Meetinghouses: Church Discipline and Civil Authority in Kentucky, 1780-1845," published by Johns Hopkins Press.

Describing the book, Dr. Perry said Baptist churches were vital sites for production of local law after the Revolutionary War. The book makes the case that changes in disciplinary focus and its slow decline flowed from the hardening of gender and racial hierarchies. Another factor leading to the decline was expansion of an integrated market economy and the rise of a competitive religious marketplace. All of this meant churchgoers had to rely on civic authority for arbitration and control over their meetinghouses.

The book contains chapters about gender and race, economic transformation and law as well as religious controversy and church property disputes.

Dr. Perry said he was vaguely interested in religious and legal history as a junior graduate student, but that did not crystallize until later, when he read “The People and Their Peace” by Laura Edwards and “One Nation Under Law” by Mark McGarvie.

“Law in American Meetinghouses: Church Discipline and Civil Authority in Kentucky, 1780-1845” is available through outlets such as Amazon, Walmart and ebay.

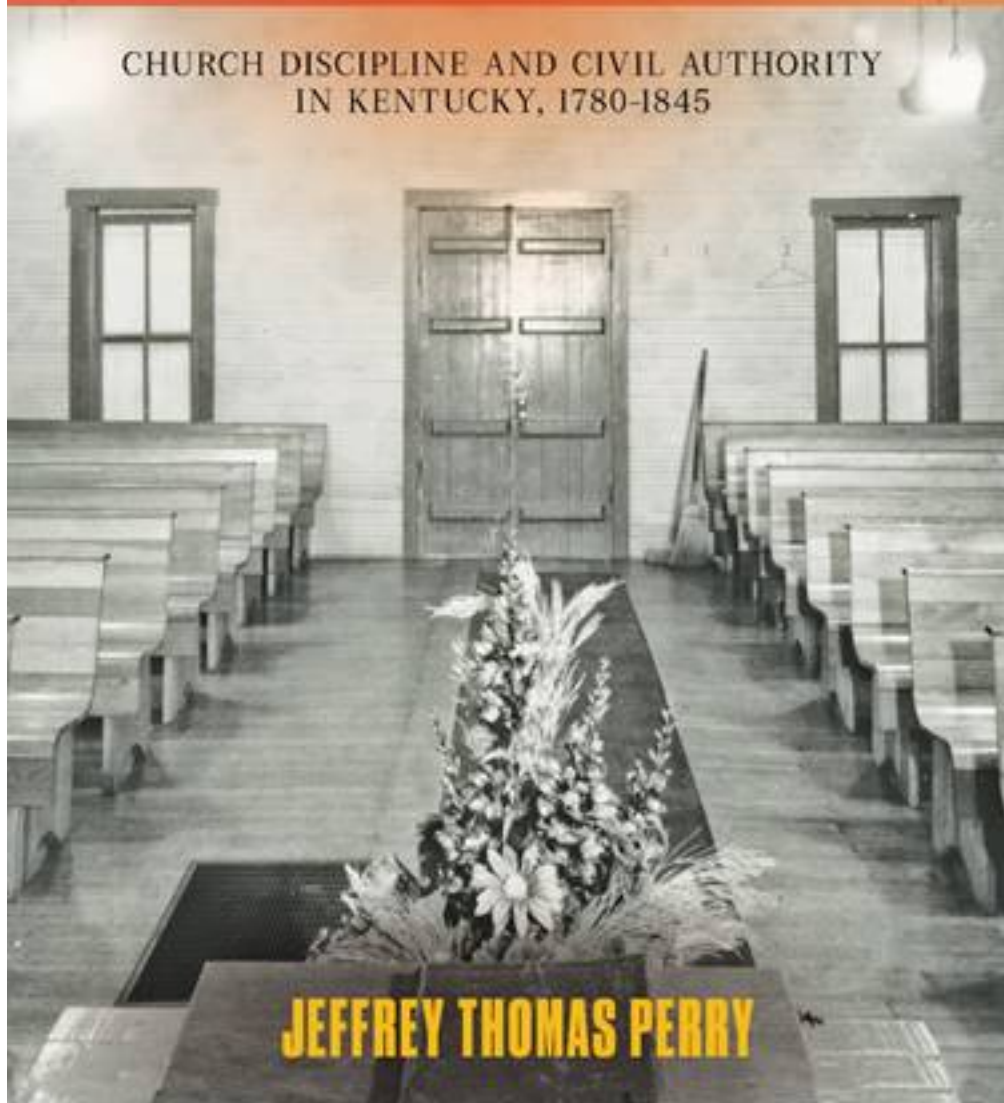
Dr. Perry will participate with the Kentucky Historical Society in a discussion of his book Friday, March 4, via Zoom. The event will run from noon-1 p.m. The cost for those who are not Historical Society members is \$5. To learn more and register, please click [here](#).

Next on Dr. Perry’s list of book projects is an exploration of President Andrew Johnson, the nation’s 17th president, who had owned a tailor shop in Greeneville and served as the town’s mayor before his political career skyrocketed. Dr. Perry is examining America’s perception of Johnson.

Congratulations to Dr. Perry on his scholarly achievement!

LAW IN AMERICAN MEETINGHOUSES

CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND CIVIL AUTHORITY
IN KENTUCKY, 1780-1845



The cover of Dr. Perry's book

Art and design faculty member earns GEM Award

Lanna Monday, assistant professor of art and design, has made a profound difference in the value of a Tusculum education and has received the President's GEM Award for February in recognition of her efforts. Dr. Hummel honored her during the President's Coffee Friday, Feb. 25.

She excels at creating opportunities for students to have an active and experiential education on and off campus. She also played an integral role as a search committee member for Tusculum's front-end web developer and graphic designer.

Here are some other comments submitted about Monday.

"I don't know what Arts Outreach would have done without Lanna during the pandemic. She supported us with her tech know-how, which allowed us to share our lectures and special events virtually. Lanna and her students recorded plays, set up Zoom for grant-funded outreach and coordinated student artists to assist with promotion. She never said no and continues to be an incredible resource and friend!"

"Monday's pedagogy is tied to getting students into the community for practicum and internship opportunities, which means she cultivates relationships with leaders of area nonprofit organizations. It's this commitment to experiential learning that resulted in her students getting to work on a documentary that appeared on PBS station out of Virginia and a magazine published out of California."

"Monday has been one of our more active faculty recruiters. She annually conducts Old Oak workshops. She represents her programs at the annual Art Struck Festival and the annual portfolio day in Knoxville."

"In spite of all she has accomplished, Lanna is humble and does not expect praise. She is an excellent example of a team player with a positive demeanor."

"Monday has been going the extra mile for years, and she has earned this recognition."

"I feel lucky to work with a top-tier industry professional like Lanna."

Monday succeeds Carrie Maggert, director of financial services and operations, who was selected as the GEM recipient for January.

Faculty and staff members can nominate one of their colleagues for the GEM Award by completing [this short form](#). The deadline for nominations next month is noon Wednesday, March 23.



Lanna Monday

Remember, free tax assistance is available

Tusculum students and community volunteers are dedicating three days a week through April 11 providing free income tax return assistance, and you can be one of their clients!

For the sixth year, Tusculum is participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. This program offers free tax preparation services for faculty, staff and students as well as the community.

Tusculum family members are eligible for assistance regardless of their income level. Those in the community who might qualify are:

- People who generally earn less than \$59,000 a year
- Anyone older than 65
- People with disabilities

- Limited-English-speaking taxpayers

Services are available in Rooms 001 and 005 of the Meen Center as well as Westminster Presbyterian Church in Johnson City and the Washington County Library in Jonesborough. Please visit TUvita2202@Tusculum.edu or call Dr. Harold Branstrator, an associate professor of management at the university, at 423-636-7414 or to register.

More information about VITA is available at <https://web.tusculum.edu/vita/>.



Tusculum students Taylor Miles, left, and Ben Gall, second from left, help clients with their income tax return Thursday in the Meen Center.

Meet our new graphic designer

The Office of Communications and Marketing is pleased to introduce you to Sydney Clendening, who joined the Tusculum family Wednesday, Feb. 16.

Clendening earned a Bachelor of Science in journalism, with a concentration in visual communications, and minors in photography and German from Middle Tennessee State University. She graduated summa cum laude and participated in several clubs and organizations.

During her college years, Clendening collaborated with MTSU's marketing team and fellow student designers to create a face covering and safety awareness campaign. The Associated Press and local news

outlets reported on the campaign. She was also the creative team leader for MTSU for the 2020 National Student Advertising Competition organized by the American Advertising Federation.

Clendening designed social media assets for six musicians: Tyler Farr, Terri Clark, Darius Rucker, Nickelback, Rodney Atkins and Maddie & Tae. She loves music and is a big fan of the band Twenty One Pilots.

At Tusculum, she will work with Jim Wozniak, director of communications and marketing, and Jared Rowland, front-end web developer. She will design a variety of materials for the university. Should you have a graphic design need, please submit a [branding request](#), and the office will be pleased to assist.



Sydney Clendening

Theologian-In-Residence was a wonderful experience

We express our gratitude to Dr. Bennie Crockett, vice president for institutional effectiveness and planning and professor of religion and philosophy at William Carey University, for sharing his biblical expertise with us this month during the Theologian-In-Residence.

Dr. Crockett made four outstanding presentations focused on the theme “Translation Opens a Window – Key Developments in English Bible History.” His lectures enriched personal lives by enhancing people's understanding of the Bible.

We were pleased Dr. Crockett was able to visit campus for the last two lectures. He brought some colleagues from William Carey with him Friday, Feb. 25, and Dr. Hummel was able to show them around campus.

This was the 31st year for Theologian-In-Residence. This series is not only a great opportunity for faculty, staff and students to grow in their faith but a nice way to enhance our connections with the region by inviting community members onto campus to join us.

In addition to the photo below, you can view [this gallery](#) of photos from Friday's presentation.



Dr. Dan Donaldson, left, vice chair of the Tusculum Board of Trustees, and Dr. David Bow, professor of sport science, speak prior to the start of Friday's Theologian-In-Residence session.

Reminders

- The university's Upward Bound program is accepting applications to serve as residential advisers during the annual summer program for high school students. To learn more and apply for a position, please click [here](#). The application deadline is Friday, March 11.
- The Chili Cook-Off for faculty and staff will be held Thursday, March 17, from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Pioneer Arena lobby. The theme will be "Chili Around the World." Anyone who has questions can email Nicole Rader, director of alumni and community engagement, at nrader@tusculum.edu.
- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic in Room 008 on the ground floor of the Meen Center is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 8-11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 1-3:30 p.m. No

appointment is necessary. Patients can self-pay or use their health insurance. Students can apply for payment aid, if necessary.

- The Center for Academic Success and Tutoring is conveniently located in Room 002 on the ground floor of the Meen Center. Services are free and are available in person or online. Drop-in hours are from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 7-9 p.m. Monday-Thursday evenings. To view the tutoring schedule, please click [here](#). Students who are interested in serving as tutors can contact the center.
- Students who are interested in being a Student Support Services or ARCHES participant and faculty and staff members who know of a student who would qualify for these programs can email sss@tusculum.edu or ARCHES@tusculum.edu.

Events and activities

All Tusculum family members

Monday, Feb. 28, 3:30 p.m. Zoom

(<https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/86025009185?pwd=dG9yMUdQL1MyZWJLRXROUllrZ2tZZz09>); chapel

Monday, Feb. 28, and Tuesday, March 1, 5:30 p.m., Chalmers Conference Center; yoga

Wednesday, March 2, 10 a.m., Quad; reading of the gospels

Wednesday, March 2, 11 a.m., in front of Scott M. Niswonger Commons; Food Truck Wednesdays

Thursday, March 3, 7 p.m., Meen Center Room 300; Breaking Bread

Faculty and staff

Wednesday, March 2, noon, Zoom; The Pioneer Pathway Task Force

Faculty

Friday, March 4, 1:30 p.m., Zoom; Faculty Assembly

Community

Monday, Feb. 28, 5:30 p.m., Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center; Great Literature Alive, Well, & Playing in Greeneville, Tennessee, class

Tuesday, March 1, 7 p.m., Annie Hogan Byrd Fine Arts Center chapel; Greene County Community Band rehearsal

Athletics



Wes Reynolds, a senior outfielder, is greeted at home plate last week after hitting a home run against Young Harris College. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Tuesday, March 1, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Red Edmonds Field; softball team vs. Converse University

Tuesday, March 2, 2 p.m., Nichols Tennis Center; men's and women's tennis teams vs. Anderson University

Tuesday, March 2, 7 p.m., Pioneer Arena; men's volleyball team vs. Lincoln Memorial University

Wednesday, March 2, 2 p.m., Carson-Newman University; baseball team vs. Carson-Newman University

Wednesday, March 2, 5:30 p.m., Wingate University; women's basketball team at Wingate University

Wednesday, March 2, 7 p.m., Pioneer Arena; men's basketball team vs. Newberry College

Friday, March 4, 8:30 a.m., Gulf Shores, Alabama; beach volleyball team vs. The University of New Orleans

Friday, March 4, 1 p.m., Gulf Shores, Alabama; beach volleyball team vs. University of Mobile

Friday, March 4, 3 p.m., Gulf Shores, Alabama; beach volleyball team vs. Spring Hill College

Friday, March 4, 4 p.m., Pioneer Park; baseball team vs. Lincoln Memorial University

Friday, March 4, 7 p.m., Barton College; men's volleyball team vs. Barton College

Saturday, March 5, 8:30 a.m., Gulf Shores, Alabama; beach volleyball team vs. William Carey University

Saturday, March 5, 10:30 a.m., Gulf Shores, Alabama; beach volleyball team vs. Berry College

Saturday, March 5, 10:30 a.m., Wingate University; men's and women's tennis teams vs. Wingate University

Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Wingate University; softball team vs. Wingate University

Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m., Pioneer Park; baseball team vs. Lincoln Memorial University

Saturday, March 5, 1 p.m., Pioneer Field; women's lacrosse team vs. Mars Hill University

Saturday, March 5, 4 p.m., Pioneer Field; men's lacrosse team vs. Mars Hill University

Saturday, March 5, 6 p.m., University of Mount Olive; men's volleyball team vs. University of Mount Olive



The women's lacrosse team will be in action Saturday at Pioneer Field against Mars Hill University. Here are defenders Morgan Correia, center, a sophomore, and Kamryn McNeil, right, a junior, in action during an 18-8 victory against Chowan University. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Athletic contests can change. Be sure to check the schedule on the [athletics website](#) for revisions.

Faculty and staff birthdays

- Wednesday, March 2 – Ken Brewer
- Saturday, March 5 – Brian Buckius
- Sunday, March 6 – Dr. Joshua Ray

Go Pioneers!