



January 16, 2023

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President's Perspective

We Are Pioneers!

This is a powerful statement of our identity and our unity. As Pioneers we share a rich heritage and a strong mission. Whether students, employees, or alumni – We are Pioneers!

In the midst of our unity we celebrate the broad diversity of our Pioneers. I am proud we have Pioneers from more than 30 states and 30 countries. Our alumni span the globe and have for centuries. Our Tusculum family represents different races, ethnicities, sexes, faiths and political views from various socioeconomic levels – and yet we are all Pioneers.

Go Pioneers!

Dr. Scott Hummel
President

Words of the Day

“I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.” – Martin Luther King Jr.

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” – Galatians 3:28 ESV

Photo of the Week



We welcomed some of our dual enrollment students to campus Thursday so they could learn more about Tusculum as they begin their studies with us in the spring semester. We are excited for them as they take their studies to the next level and enjoy active and experiential learning with us. The students are, left to right, Olivia Pugh, Nathanael Cox, Keili Hall and Brianna Higgins. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Today, we celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. We thank him for his significant contributions to our nation and encourage you to learn more about Dr. King and the way his work continues today.

The mission of The King Center is to empower people to create a just, humane, equitable and peaceful world by applying Dr. King's nonviolent philosophy and methodology by visiting to follow. You can learn more at <https://thekingcenter.org/>.

In honor of this day, Richard Miller, associate vice president of institutional effectiveness and a visiting instructor at Tusculum, penned a guest column for The Greeneville Sun about the road toward freedom and justice. The newspaper printed it in today's edition. You can read it [here](#).



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Photo from PBS

Be careful of scams, rely on TDIS for assistance

We encourage all students and employees to be cautious when they receive emails encouraging them to take action that could expose their Tusculum and personal accounts to being compromised.

Unfortunately, two employees were victims of phishing schemes last week. Most of us at some point or another have received emails that suggest we are at risk if we do not take certain actions or make an

offer that seemingly could benefit us financially. Sometimes, it is easy to spot that these emails are phony, but at other times, they might be a little deceptive and put us on the verge of falling for them.

A few quick tips: Tusculum will never ask for your account information via email, and we will not ask you to buy gift cards. We encourage you to visit this site, <https://www.techtarget.com/searchsecurity/tip/2019s-top-email-security-best-practices-for-employees>, for helpful guidance.

The best solution when an email does not look legitimate or you want to be sure is to forward it to the Tusculum Department of Information Systems at tdis@tusculum.edu and ask for guidance. The department will spread the word to Tusculum family member about bogus emails. Do not feel ill at ease about relying on TDIS to assist you with this because employees there are happy to help.

Important calendar items

- The university is closed today in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The cafeteria is open.
- The Thomas J. Garland Library resumes its normal semester schedule Tuesday, Jan. 17. That is Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-midnight; Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, 4 p.m.-midnight. The library is closed on Saturday.
- The Ballad Health Tusculum University Clinic will reopen Wednesday, Jan. 18. The clinic is located in Room 008 of the Meen Center No appointment is necessary. Patients can self-pay or use their health insurance. Students can apply for payment aid, if necessary.

Registering for spring courses!

Classes begin Tuesday, Jan. 17. Students who have not registered for the spring semester should immediately resolve this matter! **Students register via [Self Service](#).**

Students need to remember:

- They must meet with their advisor before they can choose their courses.
- They must not have a business office hold on their student account because they will not be able to register for courses until they resolve it.

Students with questions can email the Registrar's Office at registrartu@tusculum.edu.

Students need to purchase their textbooks for the spring semester

Students should ensure they have purchased their textbooks online for the spring semester to have a smooth start to their classwork.

They should visit tusculum.textbookx.com and log in with their @lab account username and password.

TU | BOOKSTORE

GET YOUR TEXTBOOKS
100% ONLINE



1. Log in using your @lab username and password.

2. Select from new, used, e-book or rental textbooks.



3. Check out.

4. Receive your books at home or at school.



TUSCULUM.TEXTBOOKX.COM

Airport shuttles ending soon

We are in the last days of shuttle service from airports for students who are enrolled at Tusculum for the spring semester.

Student-athletes need to sign up with their coaches, and all other students should sign up in the Office of Student Affairs.

Shuttle service from the Tri-Cities and Knoxville airports in Tennessee and the Asheville, North Carolina, airport is available through Tuesday, Jan 17. Shuttles will run from 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. If students arrive after the 7 p.m. shuttle, they should plan for overnight lodging and utilize the next morning's shuttle.

Students who are not athletes need to email studentaffairs@tusculum.edu to schedule and confirm a shuttle time.

Students will be charged \$25 to use the shuttle service. The cost will be added to their student account. Students do not need to pay the shuttle driver.

AIRPORT SHUTTLES AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

Knoxville, Tri-Cities, Asheville airports

Jan. 10-17, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

*▶ Athletes: Sign up with your coach
Nonathletes: Sign up with Student Affairs*



Free haircuts next Monday

TaylorMade Grooming Lounge will provide free haircuts for students from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, in its mobile vehicle in front of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

Students who are unable to have their hair cut that day can come to the vehicle during those four hours and pick up a voucher for \$5 off.

We are grateful to TaylorMade and owner Micah Taylor for their generosity and support of our students and the university.



Micah Taylor cuts a student's hair during the event in August. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

Consider participating in SSS and ARCHES

One of the best choices students who would be the first person in their family to earn a bachelor's degree or come from a low-income background can make is participating in Student Support Services and ARCHES (Adults Reaching Career Heights and Educational Success).

They are free to those qualify! They are also available simply by applying!

These programs offer workshops, leadership opportunities, tutoring, scholarships, personal coaching and advising! Participants also have a lot of fun and learn on trips to fun places locally and in other parts of the country!

You can visit <https://site.tusculum.edu/.../academic.../first-gen/arches/> or <https://site.tusculum.edu/.../academic.../first-gen/sss/>. You can also stop by Room 412 in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons or call 423-798-1635 to learn more!



One of the places SSS and ARCHES participants have visited is Charlotte, North Carolina. Photo from Rachael Barnett

Chapel resumes next week with a new theme

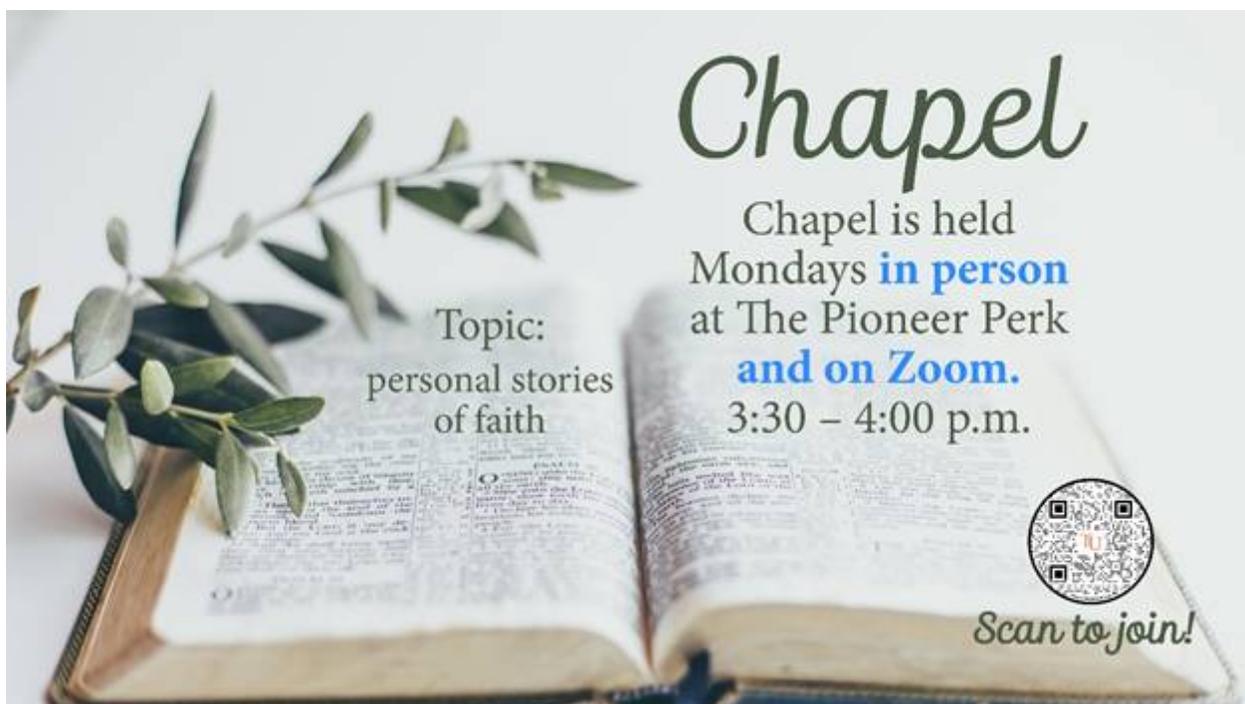
Spiritual enrichment is available to Tusculum faculty, staff and students every Monday at 3:30 p.m. when classes are in session.

We hold chapel sessions in The Pioneer Perk, and all Tusculum family members are invited and encouraged to participate. It is a nice break from the daily routine and gives us that additional contact with God to help us in our various activities.

This semester, chapel sessions will revolve around personal stories of faith. Come and hear fellow Pioneers share their journeys and see how that message might help you.

If you are unable to attend in person, you can participate virtually at <https://tusculum.zoom.us/j/89872872826?pwd=SzU1OThWL0tuZThCOEFCVHpLcVRIUT09>.

Come as you are and stay as long as you can. We look forward to seeing you!



Breaking Bread meets on a different night this semester

The Breaking Bread Ecumenical Campus Ministry will be back for the spring semester but with a new day and time.

The ministry will meet Thursdays at 6 p.m. in Room 300 of the Meen Center.

Breaking Bread is a grace-filled, Christ-centered community, welcoming everyone regardless of religious affiliation. All Tusculum family members are invited.



Participants in the Breaking Bread ministry gathered for this picture during the fall semester. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing

GEM nominations sought

Faculty and staff should be sure to submit their nomination of a colleague for the President's GEM Award. The deadline for nominations is noon Wednesday, Jan. 25, and the honoree will be announced Friday, Jan. 27, at the President's Coffee.

To suggest someone, please complete this [short form](#).

Attributes to consider in a nominee are integrity, a positive attitude, a spirit of excellence and a dedication to Tusculum and its students. A faculty or staff member who goes beyond the call of duty,

makes the Tusculum family stronger and contributes to the university's caring Christian environment is an ideal candidate. The nominee should exemplify the university's mission, vision and values.

The person selected for January will succeed Amanda Delbridge, assistant director of the Center for Civic Advancement and administrative assistant for the College of Business and College of Education.

Indulge your sweet tooth!

One of our fun events will return, and your tummy is already excited!

Free Float Friendsday will be held from 2-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the main entrance doors to the Scott M. Niswonger Commons. All students, faculty and staff are invited to come for a float and enjoy fellowship with other Tusculum family members.

The Office of Student Affairs will host the event. Don't miss it!

Summer job opportunities for Upward Bound camp

The Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science programs will hold their annual summer camp this year, and Tusculum students are invited to apply for available jobs.

The two programs are accepting applications for residential advisors and residential directors to serve from May 22-July 9. The job would entail one week of training; five weeks as a residential advisor, mentor and classroom aid; and one week of supervising students on a trip to New York.

Tusculum students who are selected will earn \$2,000 and receive summer housing and meals.

You can learn more in the flyer below.

TU | UPWARD BOUND

TU | UPWARD BOUND
MATH & SCIENCE

Summer job opportunity

RA & RD
positions
available

Tusculum University Upward Bound is an intensive college preparatory program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, designed to encourage college entry and completion for area high school students that are income eligible based on the federal guidelines and/or will be the first in their families to obtain a four-year college degree.

Residential Advisors and Directors will be required to live in the dorms at Tusculum University while supervising and mentoring high school students.

\$2,000 pay
+ summer
housing +
meals

This summer employment opportunity will include 1 week of training, 5 weeks working as a residential advisor, mentor, and classroom aid, and 1 week supervising students on a trip to New York.

May 22-July 9

<https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/summer/residential-staff-guide/summer-staff-interest-application/>

scan QR code
for more details and application



Stacey McGill at smcgill@tusculum.edu if you have any questions

Instructors needed for summer camp

Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science are seeking instructors for the summer camp at Tusculum, which will be held beginning in May.

Subjects are English, foreign language, social studies, math, science and technology. Classes begin May 30 and end June 29. Instructors earn \$30 per hour and pay for three hours of planning per course.

Those who are interested can learn more and apply at <https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/instructor-information-guide/instructor-summer-application/>. Additional details are also available in the flyer below.



SEEKING INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTORS Summer 2023

POSITION DETAILS

-Working with high school students

-Subjects: English, Foreign Language, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Technology

-Class Schedule: one class per week (M-F), option to teach 1-5 weeks

-Class Time:
9:00AM-12:00PM

Class Location: TU campus

Tusculum University's Upward Bound (UB) and Upward Bound Math & Science (UBMS) programs are federal TRIO Programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education. UB and UBMS are retention and graduation programs designed to ensure high school completion and promote postsecondary enrollment. To achieve program objectives, UB and UBMS offer a unique summer enrichment program whereby students complete six weeks of rigorous courses to extend learning through dynamic instruction. By learning in a collegiate setting, students bond with faculty and gain confidence in their ability to succeed in a college setting.

TU | UPWARD BOUND

TU | UPWARD BOUND
MATH & SCIENCE

For more information, please contact Erin Frizzell at 865.603.5779 or efrizzell@tusculum.edu, scan the QR code or go to the following link.

<https://web.tusculum.edu/trio/ub/instructor-information-guide/instructor-summer-application/>



Free tax return preparation service available

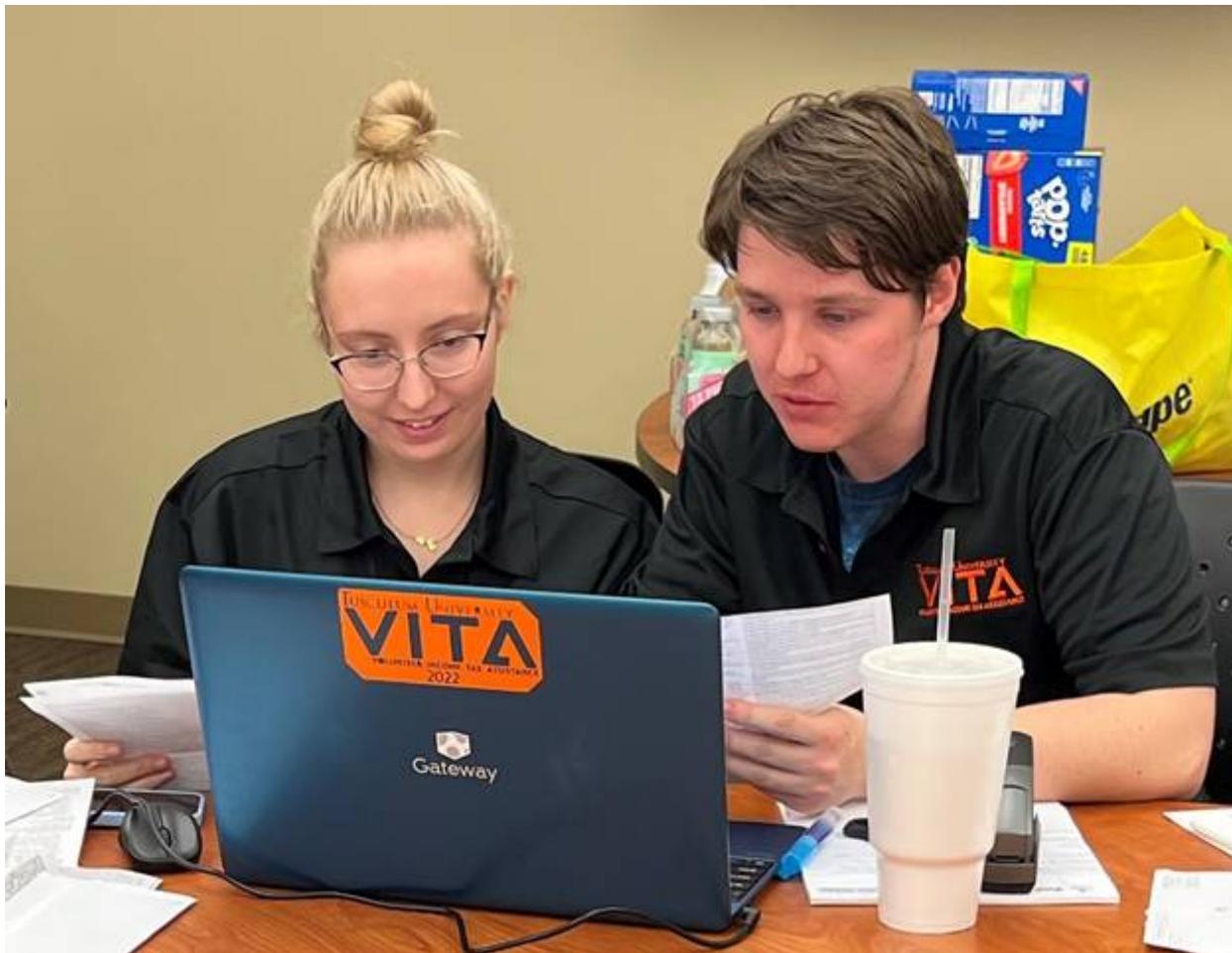
If you want assistance preparing your income tax return, you have an excellent option without having to leave campus.

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program returns to Tusculum for another season, and all students, faculty and staff are eligible to have their returns prepared for free! Tusculum students and community volunteers will be available to assist you with your return between Feb. 6 and April 13.

You can schedule an appointment at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/tuvita2023>. Appointments are available from 5:30-8:30 p.m. in the Meen Center on Thursdays. You can also schedule an appointment for a Monday from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2343 Knob Creek Road, Johnson City, and for a Saturday from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Washington County Library, 200 E. Sabine Drive, Jonesborough.

The 15 students and seven volunteers will also perform free tax preparation services for community members who meet the eligibility requirements.

We commend these students and community volunteers as well as Dr. Harold Branstrator, associate professor of management, who oversees the initiative. This program highlights our commitment to civic engagement and active and experiential learning, which equips our students to be career-ready professionals.



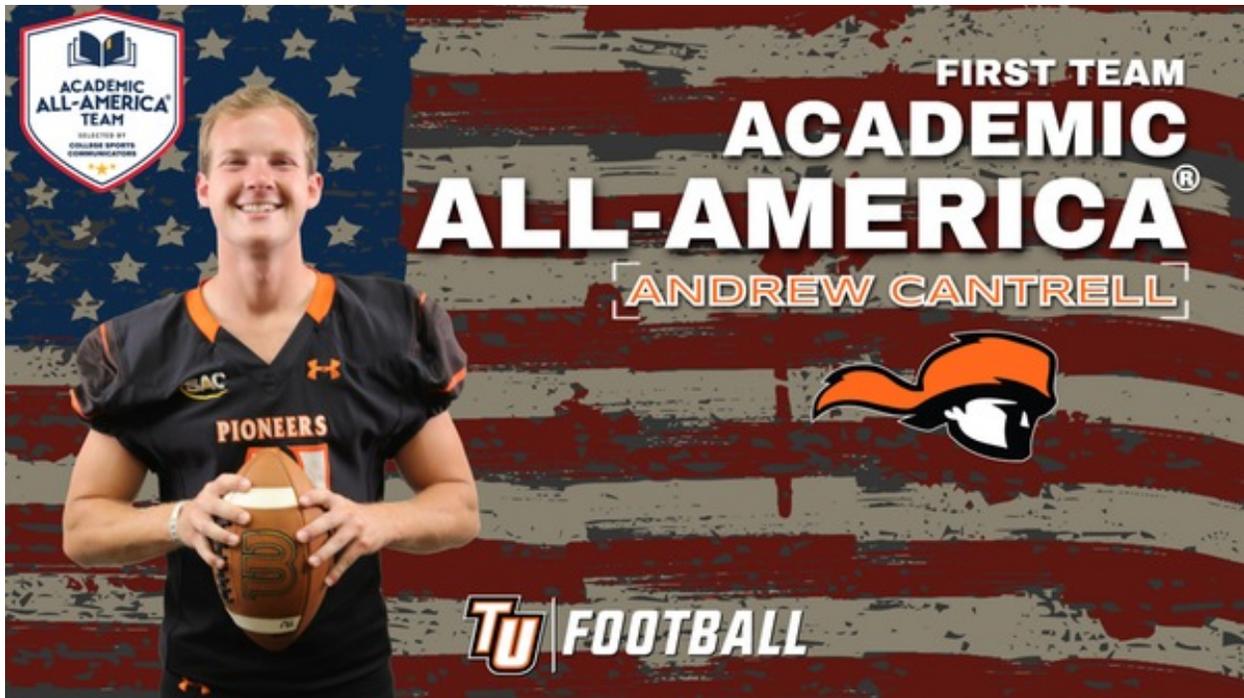
Taylor Miles, left, and Ben Gall work on a tax return during the 2022 VITA season. Photo by the Office of Communications and Marketing.

Congratulations to two of our student-athletes

We extend our congratulations to Andrew Cantrell, a graduate student seeking a Master of Business Administration, who completed his football career with the Pioneers in 2022, for becoming the first three-time NCAA Division II Academic All-America® in the team's history.

Cantrell, who also worked on the anti-cancer drug project as an undergraduate and earned a Bachelor of Science in chemistry from Tusculum, was selected to the first team this year after collecting second team honors the prior two years. You can learn more in this [news release](#).

In addition, running back Mekhai Johnson, who is also a graduate student, has signed a professional contract with the Edmonton Elks of the Canadian Football League. He garnered All-South Atlantic Conference honors at running back and return specialist in 2022, his only season with the Pioneers. You can read more about his achievement and his career in this [news release](#).



Graphics from the Office of Athletic Communications

Staffing changes in the President's Office and Institutional Advancement

Rose Peedin retired last week from Tusculum after five years of service, which included being executive assistant to the president and assistant secretary to the Board of Trustees. We wish her a wonderful retirement and thank her for her service and dedication to Tusculum.

Succeeding her will be Kim Kidwell, who has worked at Tusculum for 15 years, most recently as associate vice president of institutional advancement. She is also a Tusculum alumna, having received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the university.

While Kidwell is immediately picking up some additional responsibilities, she will remain primarily focused on leading the Office of Institutional Advancement until her replacement is found, at which point she will transition fully into her new role in the President's Office.

Please extend your congratulations to Kidwell and thank her for accepting this important new role.



Kim Kidwell

New phone directories available

The Office of the President has prepared a Word document that lists the various colleges, departments and offices with the employees who work there and their phone numbers.

In addition, the Office of the President has prepared an Excel spreadsheet with an alphabetized list of employees, their office extensions, their office location and their P.O. Box number.

These documents are attached to this edition of The Pioneer Press. Please review them and provide any needed changes to Kim Kidwell at kkidwell@tusculum.edu.

Updated directories will be provided after these changes have been submitted.

Blood drive scheduled for Feb. 14

Roll up your sleeve and potentially save a life on Valentine's Day by donating blood during a drive on campus!

The drive, conducted by Medic Regional Blood Center, will be held from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. in the PioneerArena lobby in the Scott M. Niswonger Commons.

You can visit www.tndonor.org to sign up for an appointment, but you can also come to the arena lobby without one. This event is a great way on Valentine's Day to show your love for fellow humans and demonstrate our commitment to civic engagement.

We look forward to seeing you that day!

Faculty and staff donations strengthen Tusculum

We remind employees can enhance Tusculum's quality and services by submitting a [faculty and staff contribution form](#).

We are grateful to the nine offices, departments and groups that have reached 100 percent giving! They are:

- Executive Cabinet
- Human Resources Department
- Office of Admission
- Office of Financial Aid
- Office of Communications and Marketing
- President's Office
- Office of Institutional Advancement
- Office of Institutional Effectiveness
- Thomas J. Garland Library

We welcome seeing others join this initiative! As always, no amount is too small!

Employees can also find the contribution form on the faculty and staff portal of the Pioneer Portal. The Office of Institutional Advancement is available at 423-636-7303 to answer questions.

COVID-19 procedures

You can read all of our coronavirus protocols [here](#).

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.

Reminder

- The Pioneer Exchange is a combination of the food pantry and clothing closet. Students can obtain groceries, residence hall supplies, textbooks, school supplies, hygiene products and clothes at no cost. The Px is located in Room 403 of the Scott M. Niswonger Commons and is open Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Events and activities

All Tusculum family members

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Thursday, Jan. 19, 6 p.m., Meen Center Room 300; **Breaking Bread**

Thursday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m., Old Gym; **REFIT exercise class**

Community

Monday, Jan. 16, 4 p.m., Behan Arena Theatre; **Great Literature Alive Well Playing in Greeneville, Tennessee**

Sunday, Jan. 22, 4 p.m., Behan Arena Theatre; **Great Literature Alive Well Playing in Greeneville, Tennessee**

Athletics



Shaphar Grant, a senior middle blocker, goes for a kill during the men's volleyball team's thrilling five-set win against Barton College Friday. You can read more about the victory in this [news release](#). The team has three matches this week. Photo from the Office of Athletic Communications

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 6 p.m., Pioneer Arena; men's volleyball team vs. Erskine College

Thursday, Jan. 19, 7 p.m., North Greenville University; men's volleyball team vs. North Greenville University

Friday, Jan. 20, and Saturday, Jan. 21, all day, Nashville; indoor track and field teams at the Vanderbilt Invitational

Saturday, Jan. 21, all day, Louisville, Kentucky; men's bowling team at the MSC Lynne Jordan Memorial

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2 p.m., Coker University; women's basketball team vs. Coker University

Saturday, Jan. 21, 4 p.m., Coker University; men's basketball team vs. Coker University

Saturday, Jan. 21, 7 p.m., Ball State University; men's volleyball team vs. Ball State University

Sunday, Jan. 22, all day, Louisville, Kentucky; men's bowling team at the MSC Thomas N. Burris Memorial



Tyrell Edwards in lane 2 won the 60 meters at the Mondo College Invitational Saturday. It was part of a highly successful day for the Pioneers, with four victories, four school records and three NCAA qualifying marks by the men's and women's indoor track and field teams. You can read more in this [news release](#). Photo from the track and field team.

Please visit the schedule on the [athletics website](#) for potential changes with games.

Faculty and staff birthday

Friday, Jan. 20 – Chris Lenker

We thank you for reading The Pioneer Press! To suggest content for a future edition or submit feature photos, please email Jim Wozniak, director of communications and marketing, at jwozniak@tusculum.edu.

Go Pioneers!