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CAMPUS CORNER

Issue
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**An Update from the Christian Student Center at the University of Tennessee,
Edited by Tyler Ellis (Campus Minister) and Jordan Andershock (CSC President)**



On Saturday, April 30, eighty four people came out for the Christian Student Center's "Torch Bearers Banquet," held in the Laurel gym. The purpose of the event was to honor our volunteers and celebrate our seniors. In preparation for the event, a committee of students worked with Joyce and I (Tyler) to tackle the many aspects of the event, including shopping and decorations; food and servers; programs and music; photography and audio/visual stuff; gifts and guest speaker; and set up and clean up.

During dinner and desert, we watched a series of Year-At-A-Glance videos from the CSC's school year. After Jordan Andershock gave the welcome and opening prayer, we kicked off the "giving honor to whom honor is due" time with a song to God, honoring him first and foremost for working through us and opening doors (as He did in Acts 14:27). We then invited various groups to stand and be acknowledged, including the Elders, Support Staff & Other Helpers, the Student Leadership Team, the Endowment Board, Donors, Bible Teachers, Cooks, *Adopt-A-Student* Families, and *FriendSpeak* Partners. We then gave gifts to a handful of volunteers who have served in high capacity roles, including Greg Bell, Rosemary Pryor, Alice Ann Moore, Ingrid Ruffin, David Keim, and John Auxier (who was not in attendance).

Dr. Joe Johnson generously gave an inspiring keynote address. After each of the graduates were introduced with a minute-long slideshow and given a gift, the elders huddled around them for a "Commissioning Prayer," sending them out as missionaries to their new mission fields. It was a night to remember!

Shout out to Joyce Troxler and the many students who helped set up, serve, and clean up; especially those on the committee: Lauren Long, Luke Glover, Baylie Taylor, Sydney Shaver, and Kindal Tatum.



A WORD FROM OUR GRADUATES TO LAUREL CHURCH OF CHRIST

"Thanks for your support, generosity and kindness. You've provided me with more food, role models and love than I could have ever imagined." -Nicole Mullican

"Thank you for your passion for the CSC and thank you for making Knoxville my second home." -Alex Cagle

"If there is anything that I can say about Laurel, it's that the members are not members that back down from serving the Kingdom of God. I think it's one of the most cohesive units I've seen in a church and the impact that the church has made on the community is boundless." -William Ilia

"Thank you for all the help I have received over the past four years - whether it be rides to the grocery store; the people who provide Wednesday lunch; or the Adopt-A-Student Program." -Angelia Figures

"Thank you for the support you provide to the CSC - it is an invaluable asset to me and so many others." -Mitch Naylor

"Your support of the CSC has truly changed my life. Through friendships and mission opportunities presented at the CSC, my faith and life have been transformed in a way that will continue to affect my choices." -Brooke Morton

"Thank you for what you all do for the CSC and the overflowing support you continually give. I love the members of Laurel and even call some of them my second family. I could not have made it through college without the support from my Laurel family and everything you have given me. I would not be the person I am today without the love I have received from my Laurel family!" -Kara Deason

"Thank you for being a loving church that strives to follow Christ and provide awesome opportunities for incoming college students." -Daniel Cook

"Thank you for your friendship and for giving me opportunities to work." -Jacob Terry

"I was on the verge of losing my faith until I saw and felt the love at this congregation. Thank you for being the amazing people you are. Reach out to the college students more! I know we look really cool and exclusive over in our part of the auditorium, but one of the main reasons we come to Laurel is for the family atmosphere. We really want more mentors and older Christian friends, especially at this point in our lives." -Zak Coleman

