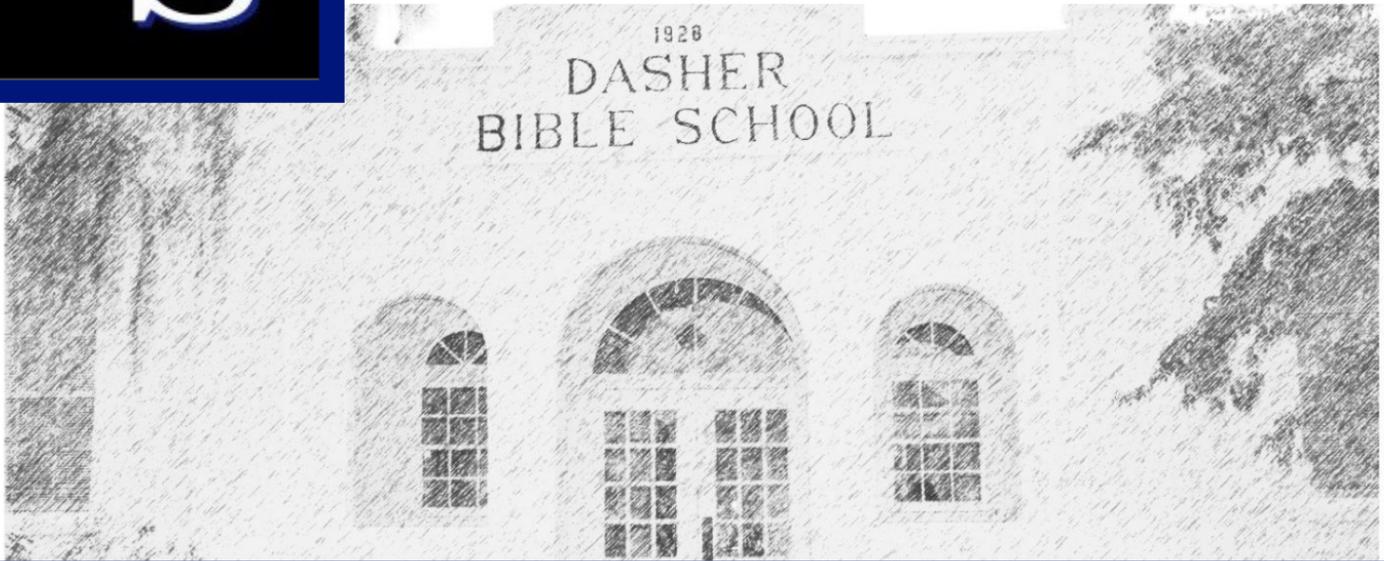


DECEMBER 2025 | EDITION 12, VOLUME 4

THE GENERAL TIMES

GCS Alumni Association Newsletter



WE WERE SO GLAD TO SEE YOU AT BLUE & WHITE WEEKEND 2025!

By Alumni Director Julie Dykes

Georgia Christian School welcomed alumni, families, and friends back to campus for Blue & White Weekend, held December 12–14, 2025, a memorable celebration of Generals pride and GCS tradition. The weekend tipped off Friday night with an exciting Varsity Boys Basketball game featuring the Generals, setting the tone for a weekend filled with energy, connection, and school spirit.

Saturday afternoon brought alumni back to the court for the annual Alumni Game, followed by the introduction of current basketball teams and special recognition of GCS championship teams whose achievements continue to inspire future Generals. Friday night also included a meaningful highlight as GCS awarded the second annual Prewitte “Brother C” Copeland Distinguished Alumni Award to Jubie and Carol Copeland, honoring their enduring legacy of faith, service, and commitment to the GCS community. Blue & White Weekend once again reminded us that while teams and seasons may change, the bonds that unite the GCS family remain strong.

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BLUE & WHITE WEEKEND

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DINNER FEATURING
LEANNE MORGAN**



Dr. Lawson awards the 2nd Annual "Brother C" Distinguished Alumni Award to Jubie & Carol Copeland



Current & former GCS Generals take to the court during Blue & White Weekend



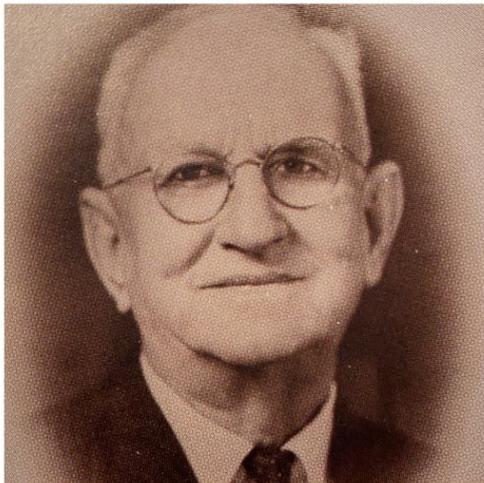
Current & former GCS Cheerleaders



Current & former GCS Lady Generals take to the court during Blue & White Weekend



Alumni game action



PRESIDENTIAL GIVING CLUB MEMBERS

~President J.P. Prevatt Level - \$100/month (\$1200/year):

- Cynthia Watts
- Cleta Colson-Eyre
- Kevin Pittman
- Deland & Bonnie Guthrie
- Sott & Satrina Plyler
- Russ & Ginger Knowles
- David Whitworth
- Wendy & Gina Colson
- C. Byrd Simmons

PRESIDENTIAL GIVING CLUB UPDATE

The Presidential Giving Club is one of the easiest ways to give back to Georgia Christian School. You choose your level, make a commitment, and FACTS Giving does the rest. Your gift can really add up! On the GCS website (www.georgiachristian.org), just choose the Giving tab, then click on the Donation link, choose your level, and you're all set! Or just click on the QR Code below to go directly to online giving. And did I mention that your Presidential Giving Club Gift takes the place of your Alumni dues? It does! You never have to worry about your membership expiring again! Join today....

~President W.O. Norton Level - \$75/month (\$900/year):

~President Lacy Elrod Level - \$50/month (\$600/year):

Cole Shiver

~President Prewitte Copeland Level - \$25/month (\$300/year):

- Julie Dykes
- Dr. Sandra Wilcox
- Dr. Brad Lawson

~President William J. Long Level - \$15/month (\$180/year):

Pat Lester



ALUMNI NEWS

IN MEMORY OF

Geraldine McLeod ('47) Thompson - 9/21/25

2025

TYSON COPELAND - Champion of the Sugar Can Syrup Tasting Contest

2023

KATIE MULLINS - accepted to Augusta University Masters of Health Science in Occupational Therapy Program

2019

GRACEY SHERLEY LEVERETT expecting a baby girl in May, 2026

2015

LUKE BROGDON awarded Impaired Driving Enforcement Award and Advanced Certificate, Adel PD

2013

CARLY BOSCH ANDERSON & husband Christian welcomed baby boy Oliver Bruce 9/29/2025

BAILEY BARRETT ELLIS & husband Randall welcomed baby girl Rylee Clark 10/20/2025

CAITLIN BROWN JARRIEL expecting a baby girl

DILLON GREENE & wife Ellen expecting a baby boy

2012

JORDAN & CASEY ALLEY GREENE expecting a baby boy in April, 2026

2010

KAILYNN JEFFORDS GROW expecting a baby girl in April, 2026

2007

DUSTIN JEFFORDS & wife Camille welcomed baby girl Annie Louise

2000

TERRI LEE ORRELL - Regional Security Officer for US Embassy Minsk, Belarus and the Assistant Regional Security Officer for US Embassy Vilnius, Lithuania

IF YOU HAVE NEWS, OR KNOW ANY NEWS ABOUT ALUMNI OF GEORGIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, PLEASE CONTACT US AT GCSALUMNI@GEORGIACHRISTIAN.ORG, OR AT 229-559-5131 OR REACH OUT TO US ON SOCIAL MEDIA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!

Join the Alumni Association today!

- Annual Membership Dues: \$25
- Two-Spouse Alumni Rate: \$40
- Recent Graduates (within 4 years of graduation from GCS): \$10

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

- Patricia Dicks Lester '49
 William J. Long '51
 Pat Avants Bishop '53
 *Jo Williamson Guest '53
 Dr. Sondra E. Wilcox '54
 *Martha Harris '55
 *Donna Harvey McLeod '55
 *Barbara Wisenbaker Colson '56
 Jimmy Hightower '57
 *Mary Jean Wisenbaker Armstrong '58
 Julian (Jubie) Copeland '58
 *William Udell '59
 *Harold W. Graham '60
 *Charlie Copeland '62
 *Charles (Termite) Phillips '63
 Judy Jensen McMullen '65
 *Elaine Graham Stacy '65
 Cynthia Jean Watts '65
 *Lynda Wilkins Lawlor '66
 Brenda Darwin Johnson '67
 Frankie Johnson '67
 *Ellen Conway Williams '67
 *Tommy Williams '67
 Ron Copeland '68
 Andrew Sykes '68
 *Joan Andrews Winn '68
 *Mike Black '69
 *Patsy Hamm Black '69
 *Elaine Black Dilbeck '69
 *Ben Vick '70
 *Jamie Copeland '71
 *Gayle Sterling Lightsey '72
 *Donna Darwin Batchelor '73
 *Cathy Cone Malone '73
 *Cleo "Tad" Williams '73
 *James Lee Naylor '73
 *Lisa Force Lang '74
 *Jason Wisenbaker '74
 Ginger Copeland Knowles '76
 Russell Knowles '76
 *Cathy Guthrie Lee '76
 *Cindy Guthrie Horne '77
 *Mike Horne '77
 Linda Carol Johnson Brown '78
 Wendy Colson ('78)
 Greg Brown ('79)
 *Kent Copeland ('79)
 *Tammie Davis Bobbit ('79)
 Deland Guthrie ('79)
 Cleta Colson-Eyre ('80)
 Bonnie Barrett Guthrie ('80)
 *Philip Guthrie ('80)
 *Joey Redshaw ('81)
 *Elsa Copeland Barnes ('82)
 *Dottie Eckberg Redish ('82)
 *Connie Colson Guthrie ('83)
 *Lori Copeland Alley ('84)
 *Denise Wright Hammitt ('84)
 *Daphne DeWeese Warren ('84)
 *Norma Jean Peterson ('86)
 *Johnny Peterson ('86)
 *Donald Dawkins ('88)
 *Christy DeWeese Kilcrease ('88)
 *Jason Chesser ('89)
 *William D. Christie ('89)
 *Lori Dawkins McGuire ('90)
 *Ellis Shiver ('90)
 Jon Sykes ('90)
- Alison Sykes Cartee '93
 *Michelle Bass Copeland '94
 *Audrey Strange Dawkins '96
 *Melissa Lee England '98
 Patience McMullen Lawson '98
 *Nikki Copeland Warren '98
 *Sarah Fiveash Wickstrom '00
 *Rebecca Thornhill Garbutt '00
 Terri Lee Orrell '00
 *Tony "Travis" Taylor, Jr. '00
 *Kristin Horne Blount '01
 Vince Hamm '01
 *Leanne Jenkins Hood '03
 *Heather Cobb Johnson '03
 *Kristen Byers Hartman '03
 *Kristin Copeland Dykes '04
 *Lydia Thornhill White '04
 Nicole Renfro Olbricht '05
 Morgan Plyler Guthrie '05
 *Katie Colson Plyler '06
 *Nathan Renfro '06
 *ShaCourtney Thomas-Jenkins '06
 *Austin Plyler '07
 Adam Guthrie '08
 *Sarah Copeland Lynch '09
 *Pamela Brown Kimbrell '10
 *Georgia Thomson '11
 *Augusta Guthrie '12
 *Keaton Bentley '15
 Cole Shiver '15
 Morgan Sykes '15
 *Kaitlyn Williams Leblanc '15
 *Erin Copeland Swilley '16
 *Allison Dasher '16
 *Laurn Russell '17
 Lindsey Sykes Redmon '17
 *Emmy Copeland '18
 *Hunter Cardin '19
 *Katie Guest '19
 *Grant Copeland '20
 *Kylie Greene Cardin '20
 *Kyla Watson '20
 *Evan Copeland '21
 Jenna Sykes '21
 *Karsyn Black '22
 Drew Horton '22
 *Christian Powell '22
 *Tiffany Taylor Harris '22
 *Braylon Black '23
 *Clancey Carter '23
 *Seth Copeland '23
 *Casey Crowder '23
 *Corbin Evans '23
 *Emily Hernandez '23
 *Austin Knapp '23
 *Reagan Lawson '23
 *Lexi Lewis '23
 *Garrett McQuaig '23
 *Katie Moss '23
 *Katie Mullins '23
 *Jenna Plymel '23
 *Heidi Rowan '23
 *Kaden Sanders '23
 *Ainsley Tucker '23
 *Liz Walden '23
 *Lindsey Warren '23
 *Destiny Alaniz '24
 *Helen Bundrick '24
- *Tristan Butler '24
 *Stella Cofield '24
 *Tristan Corbin '24
 *Noah Corbitt '24
 *Corbin Delk '24
 *AnaGrace Gunsolus '24
 *Deacon Hazel '24
 *Kayden Hicks '24
 *Jonah Houser '24
 *Levi Kelley '24
 *Jake Kilcrease '24
 *Masie Kinsey '24
 *Katelyn Kotterman '24
 *Makalyn Meyer '24
 *Mariana Munoz Palacios '24
 *Daniel Naylor '24
 *Linh Nguyen '24
 *Kaylea Noland '24
 Tanner Rayfield '24
 *Kyllynn Root '24
 *Hunter Shelton '24
 *Will Wisenbaker '24
 *Elle Shiver '24
 Jordan Barber '25
 *Kaila Barney '25
 *Mac Bowling '25
 *Athen Bradford '25
 *Olivia Brown '25
 *Tyson Copeland '25
 *Gentry Dees '25
 *Conner Downing '25
 *Briceten Gaines '25
 *Benji Galindo '25
 *Davey Grizzle '25
 *Logan Guest '25
 *Jett Guilliams '25
 Andrew Hutcheson '25
 *Bella Iturralde '25
 *Sam James '25
 *Rowan Lawson '25
 *Hannah Lissimore '25
 *Ellie Lewis '25
 *Bo Miller '25
 *Maddie Mira '25
 *Presley Pittman '25
 *Cameron White '25
 *William Wilson '25
 Kylie Corbett '25
 David Mullins '25
 Gibson Rayfield '25
 Brad Lawson President
 Kevin Pittman Board
 Scott Plyler Board
 Satrina Plyler
 David Whitworth
 Gina Colson Faculty
 C. Byrd Simmons
 *James Lee Faculty
 Carol Naylor Copeland Faculty
 Carol J. McLeod Faculty
 Julie Dykes Faculty
 Michelle Iturralde CFO
 *Robert Jeffords Faculty
 *Teresa Jeffords Faculty
 *Kim Moss
- *Please renew your Alumni Association Membership**
 The General Times | PAGE 4

2025 Georgia Christian School Benefit Dinner Features Comedian & Author Leanne Morgan

The 18th Annual Benefit Dinner featured comedian, actress, and bestselling author Leanne Morgan. The dinner was held at the Valdosta State University Student Union Ballroom on Monday, December 1, where attendees learned more about the school and its impact through videos and interactions with student ambassadors, faculty, staff, and the Board of Directors.

Distinguished guests at this year's dinner included State Representative John Corbett, Valdosta Mayor Scott James, Lowndes County Sheriff Ashley Paulk, Dasher Mayor Bill Hatfield, Chamber of Commerce President Christie Moore, Lowndes County Manager Paige Dukes, Lowndes County EMA Director Ashley Tye, and outgoing City of Valdosta Fire Chief Brian Boutwell.

Dr. Brad Lawson introduced an hour-long set by guest speaker Leanne Morgan. Morgan is the star of two popular Netflix comedy specials, a Netflix show called Leanne, and the bestselling author of an autobiography called What in the World?

Mrs. Morgan's set covered a variety of topics, including her early roots in Tennessee and her close-knit family, familiar territory for fans, while other topics covered entirely new material about her children's experiences in private school and athletics. Throughout, she had the crowd of over 500 people laughing uproariously.

Proceeds from the 18th Annual Benefit Dinner help the school complete their new Jeffords Family High School, which opened officially in March of 2025.



Leanne Morgan, center, poses with Student Ambassadors before this year's dinner.



GCS Chairman of the Board Austin Plyler ('07) & wife Katie Colson ('06) Plyler on the Red Carpet



GCS President Dr. Brad Lawson & wife Patience McMullen ('98) Lawson on the Red Carpet



Tyson Copeland Wins 2025 Sugar Cane Syrup Tasting Contest

Georgia Christian School alum Tyson Copeland ('25) recently claimed the title of 2025 Sugar Cane Syrup Tasting Champion, adding a new chapter to a proud Copeland family tradition.

Like his father, Shane Copeland ('99), and his grandfather, Steve Copeland ('77), Tyson is part of a long line of GCS graduates, and part of an even longer legacy of syrup makers on the Copeland family farm. For generations, the family has perfected the craft, passing down the skills and care required to make high-quality syrup.

This year, Tyson honored that heritage by entering the annual syrup tasting contest, where judges praised the richness and balance of his syrup. His win reflects not only talent, but the time he has spent learning alongside his father and grandfather.

Congratulations to Tyson Copeland on this outstanding achievement and for carrying forward a tradition that blends family, faith, and the flavors of home.

GCS NAMED SCHOLARSHIPS

Did you know that a named scholarship can be created for as little as \$10,000? See pg. 6 of this newsletter for more details...

- ~Lester/Coppage Family Scholarship (Established '22)
- ~Jack & Gwen Brogden Scholarship (Established '20)
- ~Tom & Lynn Walker Scholarship (Established '16)
- ~Mary L. Landis Scholarship (Established '16)
- ~Paul & Adene Baldwin Scholarship (Established '16)
- ~Adam McSween Scholarship (Established '16)
- ~Mary, Bill & Jan Tyler Scholarship (Established '20)
- ~Carl David, Jr. & Margarete K. Johnson Scholarship (Established '21)
- ~Mary Louise Black Scholarship (Established '15)
- ~Dr. Donald P. Jouvenaz Scholarship (Established '00)
- ~Earl Edge Scholarship (Established '00)
- ~George & Eunice Copeland Scholarship (Established '99)
- ~Ray Jerkins Scholarship (Established '98)



GCS: A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT

Georgia Christian School has survived for 100 years because good people have been willing to give of their means. GCS has been the setting for countless memories of so many people throughout the world. As we stand on the shoulders of those who helped us get this far, we need your help to continue our founders' mission. When you give to our Annual Fund Endowment, our Scholarship Endowment, or towards a capital project, you can be sure that your donation is going to impact children's eternal destiny!

The Betty Louis Draughon Scholarship Endowment was established in 1996 in order to provide annual scholarships to students in need. Since then, several named scholarships have been added to the endowment. If you have wondered how you can help Georgia Christian School continue to providing a Christian foundation, please consider a named scholarship. For a minimum gift to the Scholarship Endowment, a plaque of the named scholarship and date established will be added to the recognition piece in the lobby of the high school building. See page 5 of this newsletter for a list of named scholarships currently in place at GCS.

When you give to the Misty Hardin Annual Fund Endowment, you are ensuring that we can keep our programs up to date with technology and quality facilities. Our donors expect us to be good stewards of the gifts we receive.

The short- and long-range plans of the GCS Board of Directors ensure that we continue to “live within our means” as we grow the school. Your gift will ensure the long-term visibility of Georgia Christian School. Knowing the impact that the school has had over the last century, you can be a part of the next 100 years of impacting lives for Christ.

There are several ways to donate to the Misty Hardin Annual Fund Endowment. While cash gifts are the simplest and most common form of giving, gifts of real estate, securities, or insurance are also ways to donate. All of these provide potential tax-deductible savings. This can be accomplished through your estate planning as well.

You may also choose to donate towards capital projects. As improvements are made to the school via capital projects, they are only made possible through the generosity of donors like you. The vision of our leadership has provided measured guidance on our growth capabilities, and every dollar that we raise brings that vision closer to reality. You may learn more about our Strategic Planning for school by visiting the About Us tab on the school website, www.georgiachristian.org, then clicking on Master Plan.

Memorial donations can be made online in memory of someone who has passed on or in honor of someone still with us. On the school website, www.georgiachristian.org, click on the Giving Tab and follow the link to Online Giving to find out more.

