



# *Spring Commencement*

DELIVERING CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION  
— SINCE 1851 —

MAY 1, 2026  
BURKE-TARR STADIUM | JEFFERSON CITY, TN

*God of Beauty, Truth and Goodness*  
(University Hymn)

God of Beauty, Truth and Goodness, Lord of wisdom yet unknown.  
Grant us strength to match the vision as we come before your throne.

Sing a joyful alleluia, praising God in all you do,  
And remember as you witness, God is singing over you!

Stand for truth and cry for justice, share with those who don't belong,  
And remember as you serve them, sing for those who have no song.

Sing a joyful alleluia, praising God in all you do,  
And remember as you witness, God is singing over you!

Run with faith and live with honor, bearing witness in His call.  
As disciples, build the future, until Christ is Lord of all.

Sing a joyful alleluia, praising God in all you do,  
And remember as you witness, God is singing over you!

Make a joyful celebration. God in Christ has conquered death!  
If you really are a witness, sing until you have no breath.

Sing a joyful alleluia, praising God in all you do,  
And remember as you witness, God is singing over you!

(Text by W.L. Forbis, Carson-Newman owns copyright)

*Alma Mater*

Carson-Newman, how I love you,  
Alma Mater Hail;  
Orange and Blue wave high above you  
Through the calm and gale.

Sons and Daughters sing your praises  
And your name adore,  
While each heart your spirit raises;  
Carson-Newman evermore.

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



**Barry "Butch" Wilmore**  
*NASA Astronaut, Captain, United States Navy*

Tennessee native Barry E. Wilmore (Captain, U.S. Navy, Ret.) was born in Murfreesboro and raised in Mt. Juliet. Selected by NASA as an astronaut in 2000, he is a veteran of three spaceflights and has accumulated a total of 464 days in space. As part of Expedition 41, he served as flight engineer aboard the International Space Station, and then as commander of Expedition 42 which led to 167 days in space. During Expedition 72, as part of NASA's SpaceX Crew-9 crew, Wilmore completed a spacewalk with NASA astronaut Suni Williams, leading him to have logged over 32 hours of time in five spacewalks. A U.S. Navy combat veteran, he has accumulated more than 8,000 flight hours and 663 carrier landings, all in tactical jet aircraft, and is a graduate of the United States Naval Test Pilot School. He flew missions in support of Operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield and Southern Watch over the skies of Iraq, as well as missions over Bosnia in support of United States and NATO interests. He is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University and the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

# UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Friday, May 1, 2026 | 9 a.m.

Charles A. Fowler, Presiding  
*President of the University*

Shawn M. O'Hare  
*Commencement Marshal*  
*Dean, School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Chair and Professor of English*  
*Recipient of the 2025 Distinguished Faculty Award*

## ◆ PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance*.....Edward Elgar/arr. Jack Gale  
Carson-Newman University Brass Ensemble  
*Trumpet:* Ewan R. Smither, Evan W. Rutherford, *Horn:* Anna I. Procopio,  
*Trombone:* Noah H. Hubbard, *Tuba:* James C. Campbell  
Conducted by David T. Gonzalez, *Assistant Professor of Music*

WELCOME .....Charles A. Fowler

- ◆ INVOCATION.....Michael T. Anders, Colonel, United States Army (retired)  
*Class of 1997*  
*Father of Graduate Hailey A. Anders*  
*Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

- ◆ GOD OF BEAUTY, TRUTH AND GOODNESS ..... Forbis, Ford, Pethel, Garber  
Led by Christopher S. Headley, *Chair and Associate Professor of Music*

## OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV) .....David M. Needs  
*Class of 1992*  
*Father of Graduate Tyler M. Needs*  
*Director of Eagle Club & C-N Athletics Development*

## NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NKJV)..... Tina D. Murrow  
*Mother of Graduate Ainsley F. Murrow*  
*Academic Advisor, C-N Student Success Center*

ROBERT REEDY BRYAN SOCIETY..... Charles A. Fowler

Jeremy J. Buckner  
*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academics*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER .....Justin H. Terrell

*Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church Dandridge  
Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS ..... Barry “Butch” Wilmore

*NASA Astronaut, Captain, United States Navy*

**U.S. ARMY**

OATH OF OFFICE.....Thomas J. Hinkle, Captain, United States Army, *Infantry*

*Assistant Professor of Military Science*

Second Lieutenant Trenton V. Bernat, *Infantry Branch Detail Signal*

Second Lieutenant William B. Kirby, *Military Intelligence*

Second Lieutenant Skylyer M. Kibler, *Infantry*

Second Lieutenant Devon W. Miller, *Tennessee National Guard Infantry*

Second Lieutenant Samuel-Jeremiah I. Ries, *Logistics*

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS .....Jeremy J. Buckner

*President’s Academic Award  
W.D. Hudgins Leadership Award*

PRESENTATION OF THE GRADUATES..... Jeremy J. Buckner

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES.....Charles A. Fowler

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS ..... Charles A. Fowler

Jessica W. Swiney  
*University Registrar*

Academic Deans, Department Chairs, and Program Coordinators

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES ..... Charles A. Fowler

CONGRATULATIONS FROM  
THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ..... Kristi Fowler Paczkowski  
*Class of 1991*  
*Chair, C-N Board of Trustees*

♦ ALMA MATER ..... attr. John L. Campbell  
Led by Christopher S. Headley

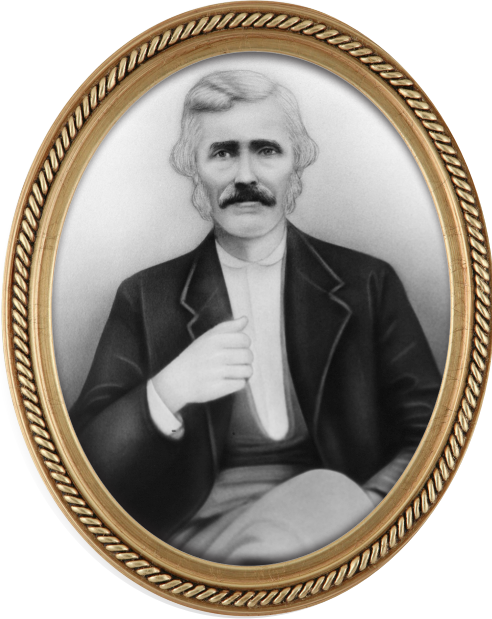
♦ BENEDICTION ..... Amy P. Stover  
*Class of 1971*  
*Grandmother of Graduate Lily G. Norton*  
*Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

♦ RECESSIONAL  
*The Rejoicing from the Royal Fireworks*..... G.F. Handel, arr. Chuck Seipp  
*Allegro Maestoso from Water Music* ..... G.F. Handel, arr. Jack Gale  
Carson-Newman University Brass Ensemble  
Conducted by David T. Gonzalez

♦ Members of the audience are requested to stand as they are able.

Please remain in place until the platform participants' recessional has been completed,  
and then you may join graduates on the field for pictures and congratulations.

# THE ROBERT REEDY BRYAN SOCIETY AWARD



Established in 2022, the R.R. Bryan Society honors retired faculty, staff and others whose dedicated, selfless service to Carson-Newman University is exceptional, inspirational and meritorious.

Named for Robert Reedy Bryan, who in 1849 joined four other men under an oak tree to discuss the need for a Baptist college in East Tennessee. Their collective vision forever etched them into Carson-Newman lore as “The Oak Tree Five.” Bryan served as primary professor of what began as Mossy Creek Missionary Baptist Seminary at one point teaching the entire curriculum. He also served as the second and sixth president, filling the role after the sudden death of one leader and again after the devastation of the Civil War.

It is with great pleasure the University welcomes this second class of inductees into the R.R. Bryan Society, each exemplifying the same love, devotion, dedication and service to Carson-Newman as President Bryan.

## ROBERT REEDY BRYAN FELLOWS

2022

VICKIE BUTLER  
MARK HEINRICH  
MARY PHIPPS  
FRANK PINKERTON  
JOE BILL SLOAN

2023

MAXFIELD BAHNER  
JAMES BAUMGARDNER  
EDWARD CARTER  
GLADYS CLAY  
ANN JONES

2024

JEANETTE BLAZIER  
REBECCA BOATRIGHT  
JAMES COPPOCK  
CAREY HERRING

2025

ROSS BRUMMETT  
KITTY COFFEY  
KEN SPARKS

## 2026 ROBERT REEDY BRYAN AWARD RECIPIENTS

### WILLIAM AND CAROLYN BLEVINS



Bill and Carolyn met as freshmen at Carson-Newman. They graduated in 1959, marrying one month later. With life-odysseys converged, they both pursued seminary degrees, after which life brought them back to Mossy Creek and the beginning of careers that would touch countless lives over the course of more than 70 years of combined service. Bill joined the faculty in, what was then, the Religion Department. Carolyn joined the department a few years later. Bill, who also had a background in psychology, began a part-time program through the department to offer counseling to ministers and their families. Carolyn poured herself into C-N's Honors Program and efforts to support young women interested in ministry opportunities. Upon Bill's retirement, and in recognition of his many contributions to the area of counseling, C-N established the "William Blevins Institute for Spirituality and Mental Health." Both credit C-N for empowering them to pursue their passions while making a difference in the lives of students.

### TED AND DRAMA RUSSELL



There's nothing wrong with Ted Russell's vision. The octogenarian has always had a knack for seeing the potential in things. His love for automobiles came early in his life, as did his ideas of "what could be." He realized for him to grow in the car business, he needed an education. He enrolled at Carson-Newman, graduating in 1962. His education coupled with his natural drive led him into a successful career in the automotive business and ultimately establishing the Ted Russell Automotive Group. But as with many great success stories, Ted had an essential supporter along the way: his wife, Drama. It was Drama, who later in Ted's career, encouraged him to "become more involved." This led him to serve

on the University's Board of Trustees and eventually as chair. With leadership and financial support of C-N's Christ-centered mission, as evidenced in academic buildings bearing their names, the Russells' shared vision is helping future servant-leaders prepare for God's preferred future.

### **GERALD WOOD**

It could easily be said that Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Wood is the quintessential example of a liberal arts education. As a student, he chose the path of a liberal arts college, bouncing around in his studies – gravitating to science and then political science. However, it was the study of English that won his attention, as he felt drawn to his English teachers. In true liberal arts fashion, his constant pursuit to learn more opened new doors that spiderwebbed into American and British literature, with a lingering interest in drama. He joined C-N in 1971. He had a desire to connect with his students, share subjects that he cared deeply, and to have conversations and classroom moments that were student-focused. From teaching literature and developing a film program to establishing the Horton Foote Center for the Study of Theater and Film at C-N, Jerry not only flourished through the liberal arts model, he spent a 40-year, Carson-Newman career making it better.



# UNDERGRADUATE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

★— Cum Laude 3.50 – 3.74 GPA    ★★— Magna Cum Laude 3.75 – 3.94 GPA  
★★★— Summa Cum Laude 3.95 – 4.00 GPA

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

<b>Braxton Lee Roberts</b> , <i>Talbott, TN</i> ★★	Christian Ministry
<b>Willow Rayne Miksa</b> , <i>Talbott, TN</i> ★	Liberal Arts
<b>Hollie Maria Ruffner</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Liberal Arts
<b>Patience H. Stout</b> , <i>Bean Station, TN</i> ★	Liberal Arts
<b>Drew Jacob Tolliver</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i>	Liberal Arts
<b>Alayna McKinley West</b> , <i>Rutledge, TN</i> ★★★	Liberal Arts
<b>Denzel Geeza Venecious Williams</b> , <i>Bristol, PA</i>	Liberal Arts
<b>Eva Grace El Helou</b> , <i>Elizabethton, TN</i> ★★★	Photography
<b>Claire Arlene Pierantoni</b> , <i>Bowling Green, KY</i>	Photography
<b>Ricky Thompson</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Photography

## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

<b>Ariana E. Reller</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i> ★★	Computer Science
<b>John David Smallman</b> , <i>New Market, TN</i>	Computer Science
<b>Austin Clay Bales</b> , <i>London, KY</i>	General Studies
<b>Micaiah Kendi Bell</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	General Studies
<b>Darby Elaina Crowell</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	General Studies
<b>Easton Cole Drennon</b> , <i>Lebanon, TN</i> ★★	General Studies
<b>Ashley Diana Gass</b> , <i>Washburn, TN</i> ★	General Studies
<b>Kennedy Goins</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i> ★★★	General Studies

<b>Roxanna Carrillo Guerrero</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i> ★★	General Studies
<b>Natalee Ray Henegar</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	General Studies
<b>Jaziman Jade Kryzak</b> , <i>Sweetwater, TN</i>	General Studies
<b>Chase Andrew McCarter</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	General Studies
<b>Meghan Alise Pique</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i> ★	General Studies
<b>Anna Catherine Whitaker</b> , <i>Newport, TN</i> ★★	General Studies

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

<b>Conner Driver</b> , <i>Bryson City, NC</i>	Art-Graphic Design
<b>Noah James Kelley</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i>	Art-Drawing and Painting & Philosophy
<b>Kerra Ann Lovell</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i> ★	Art-Drawing and Painting & Philosophy
<b>Aliyah Brooke Douglas</b> , <i>Oneida, TN</i> ★	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Kellie LeeAnn Ivens</b> , <i>White Pine, TN</i> ★★	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Abbagile Faith Martin</b> , <i>Gadsden, AL</i> ★★	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Kali Shea McMahan</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i> ★	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Shepard Gary Smith</b> , <i>New Market, TN</i> ★★★	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Abigail M. Wilkerson</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Biology-Health Professions
<b>Lily Grace Norton</b> , <i>Johnson City, TN</i> ★★	Biology-Wildlife Ecology
<b>Skylyer Mason Kibler</b> , <i>Bigfork, MN</i>	Chemistry
<b>Jason Alexander Larimer</b> , <i>Elizabethton, TN</i> ★★	Christian Studies-Ministry Studies
<b>Joshua Daniel Menza</b> , <i>Tazewell, TN</i> ★★★	Christian Studies-Biblical Studies & Philosophy
<b>Eli S. Murdock</b> , <i>Kingsport, TN</i>	Christian Studies-Biblical Studies & Psychology
<b>Adam David Reller</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i> ★★	Christian Studies & Finance/Economics
<b>Kennedy Blythe Stovall</b> , <i>Garden Ridge, TX</i> ★	Christian Studies & Human Services
<b>Averiella Jones Barger</b> , <i>Kingston, TN</i> ★★	Communication Studies
<b>Paulmer Lynn-Gaines Barrett</b> , <i>Kennesaw, GA</i>	Communication Studies

<b>Madison Riley Dyer</b> , <i>Landrum, SC</i>	Communication Studies-Digital Media
<b>William Zach Fowler</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Communication Studies
<b>Keeleigh Elizabeth Rogers</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★★	Communication Studies-Marketing
<b>Denzel Geeza Venecious Williams</b> , <i>Bristol, PA</i>	Communication Studies
<b>Stephen Trace Alexander</b> , <i>Douglasville, GA</i>	Film Studies
<b>Daniel Robert Morra</b> , <i>Franklin, TN</i>	Film Studies
<b>Nicole Marie Butler</b> , <i>Talbott, TN</i> ★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Lindsey Michelle Collins</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Eva Mae Gordon</b> , <i>Lebanon, TN</i> ★★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Grant Warren Haney</b> , <i>McDonald, TN</i>	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Lexi Rae Huston</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i> ★★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Selina Jud</b> , <i>Wilderswil, Switzerland</i> ★★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Matilyn G. Moorman</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Emily N. Morrow</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Genesis Navarro</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Rylee A. Renfroe</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>SaMaura Tanisha Shannon</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Brooke Danielle Taylor</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Hannah Faith Williams</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★	Elementary Education-Teacher Licensure K-5
<b>Naomi Marie Roark</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★★	Elementary Education-Non Licensure
<b>Madison Rylee Moorman</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★	Liberal Studies Language Arts/Social Studies
<b>Aaron Kennan Best</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i>	English-Creative Writing
<b>Hannah Elizabeth Wambaugh</b> , <i>Spring Hill, TN</i> ★★★	English-Creative Writing
<b>Zachary Beeler</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i> ★	History
<b>Ethan Scott Carpenter</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★	History
<b>Alexis J. Ahern</b> , <i>Kimberlin Heights, TN</i>	Political Science & History
<b>Douglas Austin Ford</b> , <i>Nolensville, TN</i> ★	Political Science

<b>Stephen Keylon Plemons</b> , <i>Athens, TN</i> ★	Political Science & Christian Studies
<b>Whitley Marie Brooks</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Human Services
<b>Bailey Grace Hatfield-Shirks</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★★★	Human Services & Psychology
<b>Melody Grace Hawkins</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★	Human Services
<b>Emma Caroline Luallen</b> , <i>Hendersonville, TN</i> ★★	Human Services
<b>Carleigh Alexandra Taylor</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i>	Human Services
<b>Gavin Nathaniel Amos</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Andrew Lane Foster</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Sociology
<b>Keliese Javan Frye</b> , <i>Cincinnati, OH</i>	Sociology
<b>William B. Kirby</b> , <i>Kodak, TN</i> ★★	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Devon W. Miller</b> , <i>Kodak, TN</i>	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Evan Polley</b> , <i>Elizabethtown, IN</i>	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Dru Cheyenne Seymour</b> , <i>Tampa, FL</i> ★	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Madison Leanne Smith</b> , <i>Clinton, TN</i>	Sociology-Criminology
<b>Rylan Pierce Houck</b> , <i>Oxford, AL</i> ★	Mathematics
<b>Serah Jane Kirk</b> , <i>Andersonville, TN</i> ★	Mathematics-Teacher Licensure
<b>Jesse Alan Fuhrman</b> , <i>Crossville, TN</i>	Philosophy
<b>David Gorianskii</b> , <i>Tralee, Ireland</i> ★★	Philosophy & Art-Graphic Design
<b>Jace A. Cornellison</b> , <i>Kingston, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Raleigh B. Paige Crowder</b> , <i>Tellico Plains, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Felicia Frick</b> , <i>Eschen, Liechtenstein</i> ★★★	Psychology & Sociology
<b>Olivia Grace Henley</b> , <i>Manchester, TN</i> ★★★	Psychology
<b>Ainsley F. Murrow</b> , <i>Baneberry, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Alexandra Jade Orr</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★★★	Psychology
<b>Layla Ann Marie Pippin</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i> ★	Psychology
<b>Grecia Ruiz</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i> ★★	Psychology
<b>Amil Elijah Savage</b> , <i>Elk Grove, CA</i>	Psychology

<b>Haley Lynn Grace Smith</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Lydia Irene Smith</b> , <i>New Market, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Adara Danae Tassos</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i>	Psychology
<b>Lydia Sue Whaley</b> , <i>Morristown, TN ★★</i>	Psychology
<b>Dustin L. Bales</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Spanish-Professional
<b>Teresa Marie Bryant</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN ★★★</i>	Spanish-Teacher Licensure
<b>Hiromi Nahomi Murillo Maranon</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Spanish-Professional
<b>Riley Nicole Sikes</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN ★★★</i>	Spanish-Teacher Licensure
<b>Myah Elise McCarty</b> , <i>Johnson City, TN ★</i>	Music-Worship Leadership
<b>Anna Rebekah Waters</b> , <i>Maryville, TN ★</i>	Music-Worship Leadership

## BACHELOR OF MUSIC

<b>Nestor Luis Perozo Reyes</b> , <i>Coro, Venezuela</i>	Music-Church Music
<b>Jackson Andrew-Lee Patty</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i>	Music Education-Instrumental-Teacher Licensure
<b>Morgan Annseele Hunter</b> , <i>Rogersville, TN ★★</i>	Music Education-Vocal-Teacher Licensure

## BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

<b>Whitney Layne Watkins</b> , <i>Decatur, TN</i>	Business Administration
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## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

<b>Dustin Noel Bultman</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Computer Science
<b>James Ethan Blaylock</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN ★</i>	Accounting
<b>Bryson L. Burkett</b> , <i>Catawba, NC ★</i>	Accounting
<b>Jianbo Chen</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN ★</i>	Accounting

<b>Sarah Elizabeth Jones</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★★	Accounting
<b>Timothy Isaac McLemore</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Accounting
<b>Elijah Sterling Norris</b> , <i>Ringgold, GA</i>	Accounting
<b>Alicia K. Reeves</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★★★	Accounting
<b>Sherry Russell</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★★★	Accounting
<b>Taryn Lashae Tate</b> , <i>Manchester, TN</i> ★	Accounting
<b>Hailey Anuheha Anders</b> , <i>Elizabethtown, KY</i> ★	Business Administration
<b>Douglas Dayton Grote</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Kevin Arellano Hernandez</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Riley Parker King</b> , <i>Powell, TN</i> ★★	Business Administration
<b>Dedrick Jamarcus McClain</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Matilyn K. Nuckolls</b> , <i>Chatsworth, GA</i>	Business Administration
<b>Samuel-Jeremiah Isaiah Ries</b> , <i>Whitesburg, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Braxton L. Roberts</b> , <i>Sweetwater, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>McKenzie Joan Ruehling</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>James Edward Salicco</b> , <i>Waxhaw, NC</i>	Business Administration
<b>Jackson A. Underwood</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Brett Douglas Ward</b> , <i>Spring Hill, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Joshua C. Baxter</b> , <i>Del Rio, TN</i>	Finance/Economics
<b>Amelia Rose Brown</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i> ★	Finance/Economics
<b>Joshua Jeremiah Cain</b> , <i>Pensacola, FL</i>	Finance/Economics
<b>Erick Nohe Chavez</b> , <i>Pigeon Forge, TN</i>	Finance/Economics
<b>Brock C. Culpepper</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	Finance/Economics
<b>Colby Lane Flynn</b> , <i>Louisville, TN</i> ★	Finance/Economics
<b>Emily R. Gonzalez</b> , <i>Lenoir City, TN</i> ★	Finance/Economics
<b>Dominic Scott Schroeder</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★★	Finance/Economics
<b>Anita Kristin Arnadottir</b> , <i>Alftanes, Iceland</i> ★	Management

<b>Evan Trent Eidemiller</b> , <i>Oak Ridge, TN</i> ★★	Management
<b>Aiden Drake Gibson</b> , <i>Cleveland, TN</i> ★	Management
<b>Curtis-Henry Esdorn Magwood</b> , <i>Walterboro, SC</i>	Management
<b>Sabrina N. Pique</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i> ★★	Management & Spanish Corollary
<b>Jacob McGwire Rogers</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i>	Management
<b>William Hayden Sherer</b> , <i>Kingsport, TN</i> ★	Management
<b>Adrein Mekhi Brown</b> , <i>Wauchula, FL</i>	Marketing
<b>Trinity Sky Hafey</b> , <i>Grand Junction, CO</i> ★★★	Marketing
<b>Alora Grace Iery</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i> ★	Marketing
<b>Braden Jacob Ilic</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Marketing
<b>Amine Kasmi</b> , <i>Brussels, Belgium</i>	Marketing
<b>Dylan G. May</b> , <i>Brownsburg, IN</i>	Marketing
<b>Szymon Lukasz Piton</b> , <i>Orland Park, IL</i>	Marketing
<b>Drew Michael Pitts</b> , <i>Lutz, FL</i>	Marketing
<b>Carl P. Spurgin</b> , <i>Livingston, TN</i>	Marketing
<b>Jennifer Lauren Sullivan</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Marketing
<b>McKenna Claire York</b> , <i>Newton, NC</i> ★	Marketing
<b>Gregory Vedralonte Baker</b> , <i>Lilburn, GA</i>	Sport Management
<b>William Delmas Cable</b> , <i>Robbinsville, NC</i>	Sport Management
<b>Benjamin Thomas Dukes</b> , <i>Southampton, England</i>	Sport Management
<b>Benjamin Edward Johnston</b> , <i>Farragut, TN</i>	Sport Management
<b>Malia Marie Kim</b> , <i>Oak Ridge, TN</i>	Sport Management
<b>Caitlyn M. Loveday</b> , <i>Kodak, TN</i>	Sport Management
<b>Kaitlyn Elizabeth Denton</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i> ★	Biochemistry
<b>Lillian Valerie Hilt</b> , <i>Land O' Lakes, FL</i> ★★	Biochemistry
<b>Madeline Faith Jones</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★★	Biochemistry
<b>Caleb Matthew McBride</b> , <i>Johnson City, TN</i> ★	Biochemistry

<b>Ashlyn Phair</b> , <i>Colorado Springs, CO</i> ★	Biochemistry
<b>Grayson R. Campbell</b> , <i>Lebanon, TN</i>	Biology
<b>Irish Peyton Miles</b> , <i>North Augusta, SC</i>	Biology
<b>Holly Anne Butler</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i> ★	Child and Family Studies-Integrated Early Childhood
<b>Lisveth Ramirez Hernandez</b> , <i>Rutledge, TN</i>	Child and Family Studies-Integrated Early Childhood
<b>Gabriella Marie Lobetti</b> , <i>Rutledge, TN</i>	Child and Family Studies
<b>Haylin Brooke Ownby</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i> ★★★	Child and Family Studies-Integrated Early Childhood
<b>Macey Ruth Hipsher</b> , <i>Rutledge, TN</i> ★	Family and Consumer Sciences-Education-Teacher Licensure 6-12
<b>Paige Christine Bussom</b> , <i>Simpsonville, SC</i>	Fashion Merchandising and Design
<b>Kelsey William Graham</b> , <i>Dallas, GA</i>	Fashion Merchandising and Design
<b>Bryan Travis Brooks</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i>	Foods and Nutrition-Dietetics
<b>Brooke Elise Riggs</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i> ★★★	Foods and Nutrition
<b>Grace Linsley Akard</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i> ★★★	Interior Design
<b>Emma Claire Bowling</b> , <i>Montgomery, AL</i> ★★★	Interior Design
<b>Silas C. Cherry</b> , <i>Savannah, TN</i> ★★	Interior Design
<b>Dominique Shatise Wilson-Porter</b> , <i>Ooltewah, TN</i> ★★	Interior Design
<b>Hala Hossam Saber Awad</b> , <i>McKinney, TX</i> ★	Computer Science
<b>Daniel S. Bastidas Acero</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★	Computer Science
<b>Trenton Valent Bernat</b> , <i>Herndon, VA</i> ★★	Computer Science-Applied/Management
<b>Arthur Gluzman</b> , <i>Holon, Israel</i> ★	Computer Science
<b>Teryl Jaime-Camilah Long</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Computer Science
<b>Isaac Andrew Bohleber</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i> ★	Exercise Science
<b>Cory L. Cain</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Exercise Science
<b>Ryan J. Connally</b> , <i>Franklin, TN</i> ★	Exercise Science
<b>Jakov Igrec</b> , <i>Varazdin, Croatia</i>	Exercise Science
<b>Keegan Bradley Nelson</b> , <i>Saint Paul, MN</i>	Exercise Science

<b>Kade William Parker</b> , <i>White Pine, TN</i> ★	Exercise Science
<b>Jared Ethan Slusher</b> , <i>Harrogate, TN</i>	Exercise Science
<b>Andrew Ragan Thompson</b> , <i>Lynchburg, TN</i> ★	Exercise Science
<b>Brandon S. Ward</b> , <i>Rockford, TN</i>	Exercise Science
<b>Michelle C. White</b> , <i>Madisonville, TN</i>	Exercise Science
<b>Colby Lane Williamson</b> , <i>Columbia, MS</i> ★	Exercise Science
<b>Donald Joseph Bradley</b> , <i>Sylva, NC</i>	Physical Education
<b>Dan Garrison Hayes III</b> , <i>Rocky Top, TN</i>	Physical Education
<b>Tyler M. Needs</b> , <i>Talbot, TN</i>	Physical Education
<b>Xavier Martin Shoemaker</b> , <i>Robbins, TN</i>	Physical Education-Teacher Licensure
<b>Trinity L. Tackett</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Physical Education-Teacher Licensure
<b>Kaylee Makenna Vaughan</b> , <i>Church Hill, TN</i> ★	Physical Education-Teacher Licensure
<b>Evan McKenley Williams</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Physical Education
<b>Grant Samuel Shrader</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i> ★	Youth Athletics and Recreational Management

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

<b>Jonathan Matthew Clark</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i> ★★★	Nursing
<b>Cherlyn Elizabeth Crowley</b> , <i>Clinton, TN</i>	Nursing
<b>Ava T. Fountain</b> , <i>Sebring, FL</i> ★	Nursing
<b>Maggie Leann Labombard</b> , <i>Waynesboro, TN</i> ★	Nursing
<b>Kelsi G. McBee</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Nursing
<b>Julia Elaine Mize</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Nursing
<b>Alaina Marie Smith</b> , <i>Lebanon, TN</i> ★	Nursing
<b>Morgan N. Sykes</b> , <i>Rutledge, TN</i> ★	Nursing
<b>Bailee Elizabeth Worley</b> , <i>Black Mountain, NC</i>	Nursing
<b>Tara Brooks Zody</b> , <i>Powell, TN</i> ★★★	Nursing

## UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATION HONORS

Distinctions for excellence in undergraduate university work are awarded at graduation to students who have compiled the following grade averages:

★— Cum Laude	3.50 – 3.74 GPA
★★— Magna Cum Laude	3.75 – 3.94 GPA
★★★— Summa Cum Laude	3.95 – 4.00 GPA

In recognition of superior undergraduate academic performance by a senior, each department designates one major annually as its Outstanding Graduate. The student receives a medallion commemorating the award during the degree presentation.

In another recognition of superior undergraduate academic performance, graduates with a 4.0 grade point average are awarded the President's Academic Achievement award during the commencement ceremony.

Appearance of the name listed in program does not assure graduation.  
Certification of graduation must come from the University Registrar.

## HONORS CLASS OF 2026, SENIOR THESES

**Madeline F. Jones**, *Morristown, TN*

Vinyl Chloride Leaches from PVC Pipes due to  
Common Household Chemicals  
*Advisor: Dr. Christine N. Dalton*

**Haylin B. Ownby**, *Sevierville, TN*

Using Technology as a Tool to Promote Social and  
Emotional Development in Preschoolers  
*Advisor: Dr. Lisa A. Connor*

**Hannah E. Wambaugh**, *Spring Hill, TN*

Twin Flames: A Novella  
*Advisor: Dr. Wesley S. McMasters*





# GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Friday, May 1, 2026 | 6:30 p.m.

Charles A. Fowler, Presiding  
*President of the University*

Shawn M. O'Hare  
*Commencement Marshal*  
*Dean, School of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences; Chair and Professor of English*  
*Recipient of the 2025 Distinguished Faculty Award*

## ♦ PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance*.....Edward Elgar/arr. Jack Gale  
Carson-Newman University Brass Ensemble  
*Trumpet:* Ewan R. Smither, Evan W. Rutherford, *Horn:* Anna I. Procopio,  
*Trombone:* Noah H. Hubbard, *Tuba:* James C. Campbell  
Conducted by David T. Gonzalez, *Assistant Professor of Music*

WELCOME .....Charles A. Fowler

♦ INVOCATION .....Matthew W. Kilgore  
*Class of 1996*  
*Father of Graduate Taylor P. Kilgore*  
*Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

♦ GOD OF BEAUTY, TRUTH AND GOODNESS ..... Forbis, Ford, Pethel, Garber  
Led by Christopher S. Headley, *Chair and Associate Professor of Music*

## SCRIPTURE READING

Old Testament: Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV)

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NKJV)..... Donald W. Parker, M.D.  
*Class of 1989*  
*Father of Graduate Andrew T. Parker*  
*Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER ..... Justin H. Terrell  
*Senior Pastor, First Baptist Church Dandridge*  
*Member, C-N Board of Trustees*

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS ..... Barry "Butch" Wilmore  
*NASA Astronaut, Captain, United States Navy*

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES..... Jeremy J. Buckner  
*Provost and Senior Vice President for Academics*

CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES..... Charles A. Fowler

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS

HOODING OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS ..... Charles A. Fowler

Jessica W. Swiney  
*University Registrar*

Jeremy J. Buckner

Dissertation Chairs

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES ..... Charles A. Fowler

CONGRATULATIONS FROM

THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ..... Kristi Fowler Paczkowski  
*Class of 1991*  
*Chair, C-N Board of Trustees*

◆ ALMA MATER ..... attr. John L. Campbell  
Led by Christopher S. Headley

◆ BENEDICTION ..... Shawn M. O'Hare

◆ RECESSIONAL

*The Rejoicing from the Royal Fireworks*..... G.F. Handel, arr. Chuck Seipp  
*Allegro Maestoso from Water Music* ..... G.F. Handel, arr. Jack Gale  
Carson-Newman University Brass Ensemble  
Conducted by David T. Gonzalez

◆ Members of the audience are requested to stand as they are able.  
Please remain in place until the platform participants' recessional has been completed,  
and then you may join graduates on the field for pictures and congratulations.

## MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY

**Beth Eddins Talley**, *Knoxville, TN*

Theology

## MASTER OF DIVINITY

**Matthew A. Fowler**, *Maryville, TN*

Divinity

**Kevin Stanley Smith**, *Knoxville, TN*

Divinity

**Jesse Daniel West**, *Palmetto, FL*

Divinity

## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**Jacquelynn Megan Anderson**, *Knoxville, TN*

Business Administration

**Joseph George Astrab**, *North Huntingdon, PA*

Business Administration

**Lucy Elizabeth Bartee**, *Kearney, NE*

Business Administration

**Corey Joseph Beaudreau**, *Talbot, TN*

Business Administration

**Bianca Lilianna Belfon**, *Toronto, Canada*

Business Administration

**Seth Anthony Benner**, *Morgantown, IN*

Business Administration

**Chase Matthew-Hess Billings**, *Knoxville, TN*

Business Administration

**Belen Blasco Vazquez**, *Valencia, Spain*

Business Administration

**Nicholas W. Booher**, *Bristol, VA*

Business Administration

**Steven Scott Brewer**, *Corryton, TN*

Business Administration

**Jack Thomas Browder**, *Kingsport, TN*

Business Administration

**Silas N. Bush**, *Duffield, VA*

Business Administration

**Jacob Benjamin Cottle**, *Roanoke, AL*

Business Administration

**Hayden Michelle Dye**, *Knoxville, TN*

Business Administration

<b>Colton Derek Evans</b> , <i>Henderson, KY</i>	Business Administration
<b>Annika Fend</b> , <i>Ruelzheim, Germany</i>	Business Administration
<b>Luke Goforth</b> , <i>Blacksburg, VA</i>	Business Administration
<b>Felix Gruemmer</b> , <i>Moenchengladbach, Germany</i>	Business Administration
<b>Paige Ainslee Halcrow</b> , <i>Oak Ridge, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Isaac Bruce Hoese</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Kylan Grant Hornbuckle</b> , <i>Boaz, AL</i>	Business Administration
<b>Isabella Grace Kelly</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Taylor Paul Kilgore</b> , <i>Kingsport, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Carlos Elysee Kouassi</b> , <i>Blotzheim, France</i>	Business Administration
<b>Bahar Kurtulus</b> , <i>Ankara, Turkey</i>	Business Administration
<b>Jakob Clemens Lechner</b> , <i>Enzesfeld-Lindabrunn, Austria</i>	Business Administration
<b>Charles Brandon Magouirk</b> , <i>Gruetli-Laager, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Raymond Joel McDevitt</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Justice Ella McLaughlin</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Caden Bryan Meeks</b> , <i>Soddy Daisy, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Stella Moraa</b> , <i>Kisii, Kenya</i>	Business Administration
<b>Anaelle Monika Nicole Picot</b> , <i>Essonne, France</i>	Business Administration
<b>Coltin Wyrick Reynolds</b> , <i>Powell, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Anna N. Richason</b> , <i>Seminole, FL</i>	Business Administration
<b>Anna Elizabeth Rodriguez</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Mario Sanchez</b> , <i>Denver City, TX</i>	Business Administration
<b>Roger G. Swanson</b> , <i>Rockvale, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Jordan Avery Sziksai</b> , <i>Apex, NC</i>	Business Administration
<b>Jonathan Andrew West</b> , <i>Palmetto, FL</i>	Business Administration
<b>Zane Carroll Whitson</b> , <i>Kingsport, TN</i>	Business Administration
<b>Zachary Steele Williams</b> , <i>Ocala, FL</i>	Business Administration

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COUNSELING

<b>Naomi A. Atherton</b> , <i>Dandridge, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Isaac C. Bleckley</b> , <i>Blountville, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Brandle R. Bogle</b> , <i>Memphis, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Hope Kimberlyn Everhart</b> , <i>Johnson City, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Kayla Feliciano</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Brandy Isabel Fernandez</b> , <i>Phoenix, AZ</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Jonathon S. Hash</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health
<b>Nicholas Isaiah Lollar</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Professional School Counseling
<b>Faith Marie Marable</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	Clinical Mental Health

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST

<b>Heidi Brielle Adams</b> , <i>Atkins, VA</i>	Clinical Mental Health & Professional School Counseling
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## MASTER OF EDUCATION

<b>Brittany Marie Anderson</b> , <i>Andersonville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Blair O'Neal Ballard</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Nina Michelle Dooley Barger</b> , <i>Millington, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Jordan Danielle Baysore</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Nicholas A. Blackwell</b> , <i>Memphis, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Nickolas B. Britton</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Abigail Grace Carver</b> , <i>Newland, NC</i>	Curriculum and Instruction

<b>Kristen Elaine Coleman</b> , <i>Gallatin, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Rebecca Suzanne Conn</b> , <i>Flower Mound, TX</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Teiandrea Beatrice Conwell</b> , <i>Sweetwater, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Rachel Anne Cooper</b> , <i>Cleveland, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Andrea Jane Cox</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Sade Amor De Sousa</b> , <i>Windhoek, Namibia</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Jerome Marteze Dunning</b> , <i>Montgomery, AL</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Haley Cecille Fair</b> , <i>Johnson City, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Casey Lynn Freshour</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Jenna Louise Fuesting</b> , <i>Mount Juliet, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Joshua Anthony Gomez</b> , <i>Kodak, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Elizabeth Hall</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Caroline Delta Harris</b> , <i>Morristown, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Damon Sharrod Hayes</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Jenika Yasmeeene Headley-Greene</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Hannah Quinn Henderson</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Elizabeth Joy Henkle</b> , <i>LaVergne, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Heather Diane Hill</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Hunter Jacob Irwin</b> , <i>Clinton, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Nakia Lanisha Lang</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Ethan James Lawless</b> , <i>Blairsville, GA</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Zachary Thomas Linginfelter</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Miriam Tova Marks</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Sara McAllister</b> , <i>Ooltewah, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Sean M. Minch</b> , <i>Mascot, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Kristin Jo Mink</b> , <i>Dixon Springs, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Tiffany M. Nelson</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Educational Leadership

<b>Andrew T. Parker</b> , <i>Strawberry Plains, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Joseph R. Payne</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Ivan Watson Phillips</b> , <i>Kingsport, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Megan K. Raney</b> , <i>Sevierville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Jessica Nicole Ray</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Tammy Annette Ricker</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Jackson Rhoad Riley</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Sarah Ruth Rittenberry</b> , <i>Oak Ridge, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Trudy Amanda Rogers</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Courtney Kinman Rose</b> , <i>Cookeville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Chelsea Dawn Sams</b> , <i>Greeneville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Aseneth Garza Scott</b> , <i>Chattanooga, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Jeanne Elizabeth-Page Sexton</b> , <i>Spring City, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Jessie Thomas Snodgrass</b> , <i>Mount Juliet, TN</i>	Educational Leadership
<b>Terry Elizabeth Stubblefield</b> , <i>Sparta, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Wynter J. Taylor</b> , <i>Columbus, OH</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Michael Cruz Temple</b> , <i>Abbeville, SC</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Hannah Renee Stauffer Tudeen</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Evans Twumasi</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Kayla Michelle Webster</b> , <i>Corryton, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Allee Nichole West</b> , <i>White Pine, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Audriana Monique West</b> , <i>Clarksville, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>MaKayla A. Wright</b> , <i>Jefferson City, TN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction
<b>Trace Jordan Zachery</b> , <i>Trafalgar, IN</i>	Curriculum and Instruction

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

<b>Stefani Layne Annett</b> , <i>Jonesborough, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Wendy Dawn Baldwin</b> , <i>Seymour, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Anisha Briann Barbee</b> , <i>Nashville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Alexandra Lee Barton</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Madeline Merkel Beltramo</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Kasha Lynn Bentley</b> , <i>Augusta, GA</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Brett David Birkmeyer</b> , <i>Hampton, VA</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Joann Knox Blackwood</b> , <i>Connelly Springs, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Taylor Ann Bosheers</b> , <i>Slinger, WI</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Emma Armstrong Brooks</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Janet Cannon Byers</b> , <i>Connelly Springs, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Ashley D'leigh Calloway</b> , <i>White House, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Elijah Scott Carpenter</b> , <i>Holladay, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Joshua Shane Cooke</b> , <i>Bakersville, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Meghan Maree Crigger</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>April Nicole Dailey</b> , <i>Spring Lake, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Rachel Darian Dehkordi</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Tiffany G. Deitz</b> , <i>Sylva, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Alexis Christiana Edge</b> , <i>Seymour, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Caitlyn Rose Ehly</b> , <i>Mount Holly, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Shirlesa R. Elliott</b> , <i>Memphis, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Abby Jo Elmore</b> , <i>Elizabethtown, KY</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Courtney Brooke Floyd</b> , <i>Copperhill, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Lauren D. Gilley</b> , <i>Gallatin, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Abby Bowman Goldston</b> , <i>Harriman, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner

<b>Melinda Sue Gouge</b> , <i>Gray, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Arica Alyse Halila</b> , <i>Lake Worth, FL</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Alyssa Leigh Hansen</b> , <i>Apex, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Chance William Hernandez</b> , <i>Oklahoma City, OK</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Whitney Rae Hodges</b> , <i>Greensboro, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Alexia Grace Johnson</b> , <i>Clemmons, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Lindsey Brooke Lail</b> , <i>Hudson, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Skylar Dykes Lane</b> , <i>Mount Carmel, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Isis G. Leonard</b> , <i>Jacksonville, FL</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Lesia Lyashenko</b> , <i>Chesnee, SC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Madison Mace McCraw</b> , <i>Taylors, SC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Regan Michell Morin</b> , <i>Dracut, MA</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Jeanne Mutesi</b> , <i>Wake Forest, NC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Baylee Kimberlynn Phillips</b> , <i>Maryville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Kellie Lee Quiggle</b> , <i>Summerville, SC</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Madison Shea Rainwater</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Shannon Elizabeth Reyes</b> , <i>Englewood, FL</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Stephanie Nicole Rivard</b> , <i>Houston, TX</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Katha Grasfeder Rodgers</b> , <i>Cookeville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Kinzy Nicole Roysden</b> , <i>Jamestown, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Jonathan Donald Sacks</b> , <i>Chugiak, AK</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Delaney Leigh Schick</b> , <i>Knoxville, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Clarice Dawn Seals</b> , <i>Mooreburg, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
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<b>Diandra Viviana Stroney</b> , <i>Dobbs Ferry, NY</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
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<b>Alissa Marie Tackett</b> , <i>Ocala, FL</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Erica Glenn Tadlock</b> , <i>Stigler, OK</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Noah Ben Walker</b> , <i>Meridian, ID</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
<b>Courtney Broadbent Wilkins</b> , <i>Murfreesboro, TN</i>	Family Nursing Practitioner
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# *Academic Regalia*

## *Cap and Gown*

Faculty and students at commencement participate in a long-standing tradition of wearing academic regalia at graduation. Dating back to the 12th and 13th centuries, the clothing of the scholar was the dress of the cleric. Universities today are generally regarded as formal institutions of learning that have their origins in Medieval Christian tradition. Today, these garments reflect the educational achievement of the wearer as well as the colors of their discipline and school of study.

Observers will note the differences in sleeves and embellishment of the gowns. The baccalaureate gown itself worn by graduating seniors tends to be simple in design. Atop the square mortar board, the undergraduates wear a tassel to their right which is moved upon the completion of the ceremony. Though the gown and cap are modest, baccalaureate candidates may also wear honor cords, stoles, and medals representative of academic or other significant achievement during their undergraduate career.

Gowns for students graduating with master's and doctoral degrees tend to have more ornate construction. Instead of a square mortar board, graduate tams (caps) can be a variety of designs made of the same material as the gown or velvet. The accompanying tassel is worn to the left (the wearer already possessing a bachelor's degree) and in some cases stationary. Additionally, the master's and doctoral gowns differ from the baccalaureate gown with the inclusion of a hood. However, the doctoral hood differs from the master's hood in size being the larger of the two. The doctoral gowns have cuffed sleeves adorned with three velvet chevrons and additional velvet trim down either side the gown's opening. The color of the chevrons and trim reflect the discipline color (see chart below), and the inside of the hood contains the colors of the degree-granting institution. As recipients of the highest honors, doctoral faculty members refrain from wearing additional cords or medals (except the Presidential Medal or the Distinguished Faculty Award medal.)

## *Colors*

Traditionally, the color for all gowns is black. However, degree-granting institutions may select unique colors for the gown and trim.

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Business and Accountancy	Drab
Education	Light Blue
Fine Arts	Brown
Journalism	Crimson
Law	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education	Sage Green
Science	Golden Yellow
Social Work	Citron
Theology	Scarlet

## ***Ceremonial Banners and Mace***

### ***Ceremonial Mace***

Leading the procession of faculty and students, the recipient of Carson-Newman University's Distinguished Faculty Award carries the ceremonial mace. Historically, the mace was a blunt weapon of war made of wood or metal. The ceremonial mace is a symbol of authority and independence of the institution to convene as in a convocation or commencement ceremony. Additionally, it signifies the authority the institution bears to bestow upon the candidates for graduation the various degrees awarded.

### ***Gonfalons***

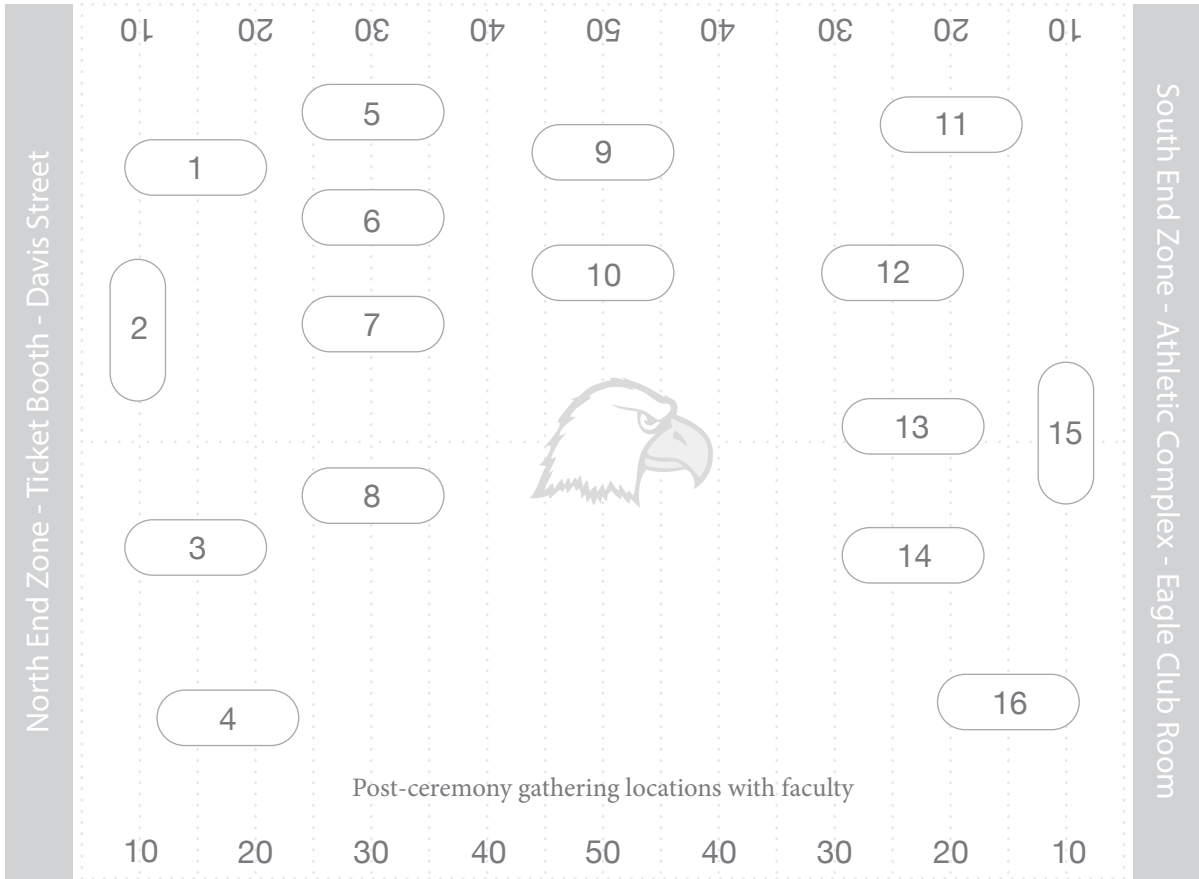
The banners carried and stationed on the stage bear witness to our unique mission as an institution of Christian higher education and represent the division among our various disciplines. School deans carry the school banners that represent the associated schools that govern the various degree programs leading to associate, baccalaureate, master's, or doctoral degrees.

Atop the three larger gonfalons sits a brass cross. The cross symbolizes the Lordship of Jesus Christ, who ushered in His kingdom through His death on the cross and subsequent resurrection. In Christ we find perfect expression and fulfillment of Truth, Beauty, and Goodness which is our school motto. In the background of each banner, you see the rolling mountains of Appalachia, our region in which we serve, and the year of our beginning, 1851.

## ***The Presidential Chain of Office***

The Presidential Chain of Office is a ceremonial, academic chain cast in bronze and brass, representing the institutional role that has been assigned to the President by the Board of Trustees. It is worn during formal events where academic regalia is worn. It symbolizes institutional leadership, presidential continuity, institutional values, and the mantle of authority invested in the President.

The Carson-Newman Presidential Chain of Office displays a prominent medallion with the University's Seal bearing our motto Truth, Beauty, and Goodness along with our founding year, 1851. The Seal also identifies our home, rich in Appalachia heritage affirming this region as both our missional priority and people of focus. The brass plates also feature the name of each president and the years they served, honoring the legacy of leadership throughout our history.



- |                                                 |                                            |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| 1. Art and Photography                          | 9. Music                                   |
| 2. Education                                    | 10. Nursing                                |
| 3. Family and Consumer Sciences                 | 11. Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math  |
| 4. Physical Education and Exercise Science      | 12. Psychology and Social Entrepreneurship |
| 5. Communication, Theatre, and Film             | 13. Sociology and Human Services           |
| 6. English                                      | 14. History and Political Science          |
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Our mission as Christian educators is to help our students reach their full potential as educated citizens and worldwide servant-leaders.

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We will be the Christian liberal arts-based university of choice in the Southeast for education and service.



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