

# TCS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2022

### ALUMNI ARTICLE: OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

BY EMILY BONTRAGER

A TCS graduate of 1994, Mindy (Miller) Hughes has remained faithful through years of teaching and personal tragedy.

Mindy has been a first-grade teacher at Madison Plains Elementary School in London, Ohio, for 23 years. Though she didn't decide to pursue a career as a teacher until she was in college at Cedarville University, she knew she wanted to make an impact on the lives of children.

"I wanted to invest somehow in kids. It only made sense to do teaching," she explained.

Mindy married her husband Dustin in 1998. They had hoped to start a family, but tragedy struck in 2000 when their newborn son Presten was diagnosed with beta strep. Sadly, he passed away just an hour after he was born.

Mindy said that although it was hard to lose her baby, it strengthened her faith and helped her find comfort and peace through God. She said because of that experience, she has been able to help many mothers who have gone through similar situations.

She didn't know it at the time, but God still had great things planned for her family. On Easter Sunday in 2005, God abundantly blessed Mindy and Dustin with quadruplets: Hayden, Winston, Reed, and Jenna. They are now 17.

Mindy enjoys being outside and spending time with her family in her free time. She and her family attend church at The Valley in Piqua where Mindy teaches the preschool program.



The Hughes Family (left to right):  
Mindy, Winston, Reed, Jenna, Hayden, and Dustin

Looking back at her high school career, Mindy said she participated in extracurricular activities like volleyball and cheerleading, and that she was positively influenced by people at school.

"The teachers at Temple helped me believe in myself and made me see I could accomplish anything if I put my mind to it," Mindy said.

One of Mindy's favorite Bible verses is Isaiah 40:31, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary, and they shall walk, and not faint."

Mindy's advice to TCS students is to "Follow God's lead. Be open and sensitive to his call."

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## ALUMNI ARTICLE: COUNTLESS EXPERIENCES, ONE PURPOSE

BY JULIETTE KINNEAR

Nathan Redmond is a 1997 graduate of Temple Christian. Attending Temple throughout his entire education, Redmond believes that this school is what molded him into the God-loving man he is today. After he graduated he endeavored in many different courses, all while continuing to keep his focus on Christ.

Throughout Redmond's time at Temple, one of his biggest realizations of appreciation towards the school was the pure Christian environment he was surrounded by and the godly education he received. Nearing Redmond's later years of schooling, he enjoyed attending local youth groups and also participated in extracurricular activities with Temple, like choir and yearbook. He also developed some amazing, life-long friends during his Temple years, some of whom he still regularly sees. One of his best memories made during his time at Temple was the senior class trip to Washington, D.C. He found it refreshing to see his teachers relaxed and took it as an opportunity to truly bond with his classmates, considering he never really took the time to get to know them outside of an academic setting.



The Redmond family (left to right): Owen, Noah, Luke, Nathan, and Rachel

Redmond also truly appreciated the Temple staff and its genuine compassion for the students. A teacher that Redmond had always held in high regard was Martha Burden, who has since passed. Mrs. Burden was Redmond's fifth-grade teacher. At the time, he thought of her as being strict. However, in Redmond's recent years, he came to realize just how much she truly loved her students. Mrs. Burden played a big role in Redmond's spiritual development in life, as did other teachers like Bruce Bowman and Sandy Rufener.

The year 1997 finally came, and it was time for Redmond to graduate and turn the page to his next chapter. Up to this point, he had thought he would attend college but instead decided to join the Marine Corps Reserve.

Not even two months after graduation, Redmond set out for boot camp. For some of his service, he worked attending to the wounded, taking every available chance to minister. During his time of active combat training, he and other fellow soldiers who were with him training for war often found themselves crouched inside of dug-

out holes for hours on end. Redmond saw this as an opportunity to share the gospel. Then, one of the men he witnessed to gave his life to Christ that same day.

When Redmond's times of service were through, he came back to Ohio where he then attended Rhodes State College and entered the communications field. He eventually married Rachel Rex, another Temple graduate. He later worked in an information technology role for Allen East schools, and in 2016, moved further towards the east coast, fulfilling a job as South Carolina University's systems architect manager. In 2018, Redmond moved back to Ohio once again with his wife and their three sons. Their children are Luke (17), Owen (13), and Noah (10). They attend school in Troy.

Currently employed by Google, Redmond is titled a "cloud engineer." He works with the city, county, and state governments.

("Redmond"  
Cont. on p. 6)



## TCS CLASS OF 2022 -AN EDITORIAL-

BY JARED HUFFAKER

The Class of 2022 has made great memories through these years at TCS. Even with a smaller class, we still managed to make every moment with each other an unforgettable experience.

Many people in our class have held some very honorary positions this year. The senior student government officials were Darrick Clay, president; Maddy Anderson, vice president; Anthony Mayer, secretary. The National Honor Society (NHS) members were Anthony Mayer, president, and Jarred Huffaker. Our senior class officers were Darrick Clay, president; Emma White, vice president; Elaina Helser, secretary; Maddy Anderson, treasurer.

Several also excelled in sports this year. Emma White was named 2nd Team All-Western Ohio Volleyball League. Von Heffner received Honorable Mention All-NW District Soccer. Darrick Clay was named 1st Team All-Western Ohio Soccer League. Cody Motter achieved an Honorable Mention for basketball.

Our senior year has been very fun, and it'll be a time that we'll never forget. We've done so many different things this year that we've seen all the classes do in the past that we thought looked really fun such as Honey Grams, Clash of Colors, banquet, senior trip and homecoming.

Homecoming was exciting this year because we didn't have Covid restrictions so everyone was allowed to attend the festivities this



Class of 2022 (l to r): Hannah Lee, Von Heffner, Chardenay Smith, Darrick Clay, Elaina Helser, Anthony Mayer, Emma White, Jared Huffaker, Madison Anderson, and Dylan Najmowski.

year. The volleyball game between the soccer team and the volleyball girls was entertaining as the guys put up the best effort they could, but eventually fell short of the win. Homecoming day was fun as Emma and Cody won homecoming queen and king. They are already looking forward to returning next year to pass on their crowns.

Honey grams is a Valentine's Day tradition for seniors, which I never realized how fun it was for the previous senior classes until we did it ourselves. It's fun not only because we don't participate in regular classes during the day, but instead, we get to deliver pre-purchased candy and gifts and sing to all the students and teachers around the school for a day. It's also fun seeing people smile when they receive something they weren't expecting.

Banquet was a great time with with us all dressing up and taking pictures. We enjoyed singing and line-dancing our hearts out. This year was interesting as we had an impromptu lip sync contest during banquet. It was really entertaining. We divided into a few groups. Even some teachers participated.

Personally, I really enjoyed the teacher group and seeing Mr. Green sing and dance. That is something you won't ever see in school. The after-party was really cool because the junior parents set up a glow-in-the-dark themed event, which was pretty unique to any other themes in the past.

Clash of Colors is an event we started last year with the middle and high school students split into two teams: gray and blue. Each Friday for the last six weeks of school, the teams competed in activities and games to see who would achieve the highest amount of overall points. Last year's winner was the blue team, but a big upset came on the last week when the gray team surpassed blue to pull out a nice victory.

Senior trip was May 22-24. We did an escape room, went to a Cincinnati Reds game, Kings Island, and Main Event.

We're thankful that we've been able to spend these years with each other. Though we're sad God has closed this chapter of our lives together, we trust God will lead us where He wants us to go and that we will stay friends forever. It's all to His glory and praise.

On Friday, May 27, The TCS class of 2022 graduated together in the LBT sanctuary. The valedictorian was Elaina Helser and the salutatorian was Anthony Mayer.

Congratulations, TCS Class of 2022! May God bless you!



## VARSITY VOLLEYBALL: NWCC CO-CHAMPIONS

BY EMILY BONTRAGER

The TCS varsity volleyball team won the NWCC League Championship this season, splitting the title with Ridgedale and Hardin Northern.

TCS's overall record this volleyball season was 18-5, and their record within the NWCC League was 6-1. The team's one loss within the NWCC came from a tough five-set match against Hardin Northern. Hardin Northern then lost against Ridgedale who lost to TCS, causing the three-way tie for the league championship.

"There was a great sense of accomplishment," said varsity coach Tim Acklin. "It felt great to finally achieve [our] goal." He said that the team's biggest growth this season was their ability to pull out the close games and push through adversity to get the job done.

In addition to winning the league championship, the volleyball team also won the annual Cory Rawson Invitational at Cory Rawson High school.

Aside from team accomplishments, individual performances were also recognized. Junior outside hitter Cece Worsham received First-Team All-NWCC as well as NWCC Player of The Year. Head Coach Tim Acklin was awarded NWCC Coach of the Year. Junior libero Jessica Holloway received First-Team All-NWCC. Senior outside hitter Emma White was awarded Second-Team All-NWCC and Junior setters Kaylee Linhart and Emily Bontrager each received Honorable Mention All-NWCC.



Pictured (l to r): Coach Tim Acklin, Cece Worsham, Brianna Smith, Emily Bontrager, Madison Anderson, Jessie Holloway, Hailey Smith, Emma White, Juliette Kinnear, Elaina Helser, Kaylee Linhart, and Coach Peter White

## GIRLS BOWLING: NEW BAKER RECORD

BY JARED HUFFAKER



Varsity girls bowling (left to right): Coach Eileen Mowry, Coach Amber Green, Kenzie Bassett, Grace Smith, Emma Engle, Emily Ketcham, and Maddy Anderson.

The Temple Christian varsity bowling team has broken a record this year. The baker record originally set at 180 during the 2013 season was broken this year by our high school girls at 181. The baker format in bowling is where the entire team bowls one game and they alternate between every player each frame.

The girls had a tough season finishing 2-7, but they still enjoyed their time and made some great friends along the way. The girl's team consisted of freshmen Emma Engle, Emily Ketcham, Grace Korwin, Olivia Hall, sophomore Kenzie Bassett, and senior Maddy Anderson. Their coaches were Amber Renee Green, Eileen Mowery and Chris Hartman.

TCS girls bowling hasn't had this many join the team in a long time. Since their team was so large, they were able to split the boys and girls into their own separate teams.

Senior Maddy Anderson was very grateful for her coaches and teammates and had a very memorable year. She said she was happy with the time she's had to play and wouldn't change it for anything.

"This year I have learned to play more as a team and just learn to adapt to who I am playing with and be smart as to how I am playing," Maddy said. She added, "My coaches have also really pushed me to do my best and strive to do better and work to achieve a new goal every game."

## TRACK & FIELD: STATE QUALIFIER WORSHAM & NEW SCHOOL RECORDS

BY JULIETTE KINNEAR

This year's varsity track and field team, though lacking in numbers with only seven athletes, still made quite the impression.

Junior Cece Worsham ended her season with many achievements under her belt. She was named the NWCC champion in the following four events: 100m hurdles, 300m hurdles, 200m dash, and long jump. Worsham also now holds Temple's school record in the long jump with a distance of 17'2.5". At the conference meet, she was recognized as the NWCC Co-MVP. She went on to the district meet where she advanced to regionals in all four events. At regionals, she and Coach Chad Kinnear decided to enter her into only three events in an effort to save her legs and place better in the others. Amazingly, she advanced from regionals to the STATE TOURNAMENT in two of those three events. She went on to the Ohio State Track and Field Championship Meet at Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium on June 3; however, she did not advance past her preliminary events. Even so, everyone is very proud of her achievements.

Junior Juliette Kinnear placed third overall at the NWCC meet for the 1600m run (one mile), finishing with a time of 6:46. With that time, Juliette was able to secure a new school record for the 1600.

Senior Von Heffner ended the season strong as he tied the school's discus record with a throw of 113'10" at the conference meet!

Senior Darrick Clay also claimed a new school record in the 3200m run (2 miles) with a time of 11:50!

What incredible achievements, athletes!



Pictured l to r at the state meet: Cece Worsham, teammates Darrick Clay and Juliette Kinnear, and Coach Chad Kinnear



## FIDDLER ON THE ROOF

BY CHARDENAY SMITH

Temple Christian School (TCS) performed the production "Fiddler on the Roof" by Joseph Stein. It is a musical telling the tale of a father trying to find suitable husbands for his five daughters while battling against social "tradition." This production was performed by a variety of TCS students grades K5 to 12th.

Homeschool senior Cody Motter played Tevye, the male

lead, which was a major accomplishment for him. Having such a big role in his first musical really taught him a lot about responsibility.

"Last year I was in a play and had a smaller role than this year. At first, it was nerve-racking but once you're able to perform it the first time, you'll be happy you did it. It's a lot of hard work that paid off."

Junior Emily Bontrager, who has been in four other productions at TCS, played Tzeitel, one of Tevye's daughters, and also loved performing in this production.

Bontrager said, "By the end of the performance, the cast felt like family. This was my first time having a big speaking part in a musical so the energy was very different, plus there was a bigger class this year."

Hannah Lee, a TCS student who was in the audience, said that she loved watching "Fiddler on the Roof" because of all the different emotions it brought.

Motter lightheartedly said that he would encourage other students to get involved because "It's a way to hang out with peers without having to do the school stuff."



Seniors Cody Motter and Emma White performed the lead roles in "Fiddler on the Roof" at Temple's gymnasium from April 7-9, 2022.



"Fiddler on the Roof" cast and crew

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

BY CHARDENAY SMITH

Tracy Finch joined the Temple Christian staff in 2005. She's married to Dan. They have one daughter Gracie, who is a student at Temple.

Mrs. Finch did not always know she was going to become a teacher because "I was one of those who graduated from high school and had no idea what to do," she said.

Deciding to attend The University of Northwestern Ohio (UNOH), Mrs. Finch earned her associate's degree in travel management and her bachelor's degree in business administration.

Mrs. Finch wanted to work at Temple "because I went to school here. I wanted to help the school out and there was a position here, so I applied because I love the school," she said.

One of her favorite subjects to teach is Bible, because, she explained, "I love being able to give students tools to help them make it through life and, hopefully, help them strengthen their relationship with God."

She also loves teaching Photoshop and Illustrator.

"I think they're fun, and you can do a lot of interesting things with them such as making images to cut out of a machine and manipulation images," Mrs. Finch said.

Something very important to Mrs. Finch is the strong belief that Christianity should be taught in the classroom.

"Students have a lot they deal with every day and need a foundation they can trust to help them get through life... and that's Jesus Christ. Life is hard and academics will only take them so far in life but our relationship with Christ will help them not only in this life but also for eternity."



Mrs. Finch also loves working at Temple because her daughter is here.

"It's nice knowing that if there's an emergency, I'm right here. I like seeing her and getting a hug from her. It makes being a full-time employee along with being a mother easier."

Outside of Temple, Mrs. Finch likes to travel, craft, play with her daughter, and read.

Mrs. Finch feels like working at Temple has impacted her life tremendously.

"I'm a lot happier of a person than I would be without the students, there's never a dull moment and the laughter they bring," she said.

Thank you, Mrs. Finch, for your dedication and long commitment to our school!

## ALTSTAETTERS RECEIVE TCS SERVICE AWARD

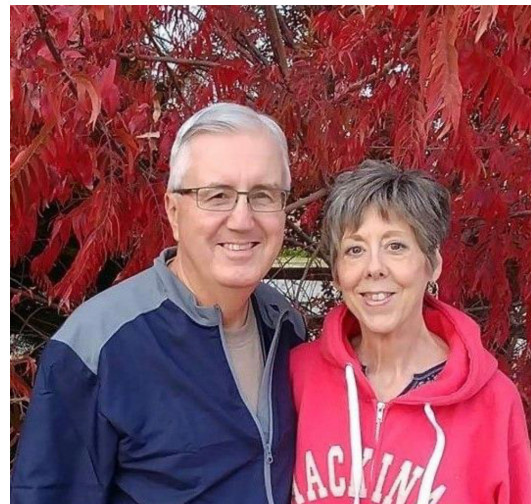
### FACULTY CONTRIBUTION

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Gail and Mindy Altstaetter were both given the distinguished TCS Mary Brown Service Award on Dec. 28, 2021, during the halftime of the Temple varsity boys basketball game.

The award is set up biennially to honor those who have given their time, energy, finances, and love, just as Mrs. Mary Brown demonstrated at Temple Christian School.

Gail and Mindy have two children who graduated from Temple Christian School: Sandy Altstaetter ('96) and Wayne Altstaetter ('00). For many years, the Altstaetters served in various capacities at TCS. One way they worked together was in the concession stand, but they also served in many other capacities.



Gail coached elementary soccer, basketball, and baseball for six years. He was also instrumental in TCS fundraising, including projects such as the gymnasium sound system, basketball scoreboards, and press box at the soccer and baseball fields.

Mindy served as the high school administrative assistant for 18 years and worked alongside Mrs. Mary Brown with the day-to-day operations of the building. She also assisted in school musicals, volunteered in the school cafeteria, and helped with a complete makeover of the high school office.

Both Gail and Mindy's commitment to improving the quality of TCS in both education and extra-curricular activities made a huge impact during their many years of service. Gail and Mindy will always be remembered fondly for their example of service and humility in their support of all things TCS.

A plaque is located in the east hallway of the TCS gymnasium, which recognizes the past recipients of this award and will now bear their name as the newest honorees of this award.

Thank you, Gail and Mindy Altstaetter!

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### ("Redmond" continued from p. 2)

Redmond, who received mediocre grades in high school and had poor study habits, ironically never considered himself smart enough to be able to fulfill such a challenging career.

Redmond said he loves his job and spoke about the important opportunities it provides him, such as having the chance to share the gospel with his coworkers. He jokingly added that he also loves other opportunities it provides - like receiving all the free food he wants when he visits the Google office.

Prior to working for Google, Redmond stumbled upon many different jobs, cities, people, and experiences, all while keeping Christ at the center. He did, and still does, minister to those around him every given chance. Redmond has always enjoyed being a listening ear for the people he encounters. Whether that person is a Christian or not, the simple act of demonstrating Christ-like behavior can be noticed by anyone.

After many years full of many experiences, Redmond has always kept the same goal in mind: to love like Christ.