

Lifestyles & Religion

Local students recognized by Union University

JACKSON, Tenn. (May 11, 2026) - Three hundred twenty-two students have been named to the Union University Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester.

The Dean's List includes full-time students who achieve a 3.5 grade point average on a four-point scale.

Founded in 1823 and affiliated with the Tennessee Baptist Convention, Union University is characterized by quality Christ-centered teaching and learning. Union offers liberal arts training in more than 100 majors and

programs of study along with professional programs in business, education and nursing.

Dyer, TN
Georgia Lannom

Humboldt, TN
Chism Goodrich
Grayson Griffin
Christopher Swalm

Medina, TN
Emma Barron
Madelyne Beck
Morgan Chicantek
Nancy Qatoum
Lindsay Reid
Dalton Slater
Wyatt Thompson

Milan, TN
Zane Atwood
Isabella Putt
Sophie Putt

Three hundred thirty-eight students have been named to the Union University President's List for the spring 2026 semester.

The President's List includes full-time students who achieve a 4.0 grade point average on a four-point scale.

Bradford, TN
Ariana Gonzalez

Dyer, TN
Maycee Hufstedler

Humboldt, TN
Luke Barnard
Savannah Crockett
Max Roe

Medina, TN
Tettybea Addo
Narmeen Hasan
Jonathan Litscher
Lillian Prescott
Amanee Razeq
Sydney Scott
Easton Slater
Ashley Stahl

Milan, TN
Alyssa Basham
Jessica Burns
Taylor Hill
Abigail Quinn
Jason Tilley

Three Way, TN
Rae Noelle Ramirez
Five hundred six students graduated from Union University May 2 during spring commencement services of the 201st graduating class on the

university's Great Lawn. Andrew Walker, dean-elect of the School of Theology at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, delivered the commencement address. Walker challenged graduates to resist what he called the "mythology of disruption" - the cultural pressure to build platforms, chase significance and define success by visibility and accomplishments.

"God will ask whether we were faithful, not whether we were elite," he said. "That is your inheritance. Go claim it."

Bradford, TN
Ariana Gonzalez, BS
Business Administration in Accounting

Dyer, TN
Alaina Eddleman, Doctor of Pharmacy

Humboldt, TN
Ainsley Andre, BS
Business Administration in Marketing
Corey Bass, BS Business Administration in Marketing

Savannah Crockett, Bachelor of Science in Nursing Accelerated
Annette Owen, Bachelor of Science in Nursing
James Pittman, Bachelor of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology

Kristen Stafford, Master of Education - Instructional Leadership
Nick Stamper, Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science
Christopher Swalm, BS Business Administration

in Finance

Medina, TN
Tettybea Addo, Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Alexander Bitterling, Master of Business Administration (Online Only)

Clayton Carrier, BS Business Administration in Accounting

Clayton Carrier, Master of Accountancy

Nancy Qatoum, Associate of Science in Prof Studies Org Leadership

Ashley Stahl, Bachelor of Science in Organizational Leadership

Margee Stanfield, Bachelor of Arts in Journalism

Milan, TN
Katelyn Bradford, Bachelor of Science in

Nursing Accelerated
Autumn Jackson, Master of Education - Instructional Leadership

April McDonald, Associate of Science in Prof Studies Social Work

Three Way, TN
Emma Eddleman, Bachelor of Arts in History

Trenton, TN
Bethany Donaldson, Master of Social Work Advanced

Joslyn Greene, Bachelor of Arts in Spanish

Taylor Hufstedler, Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Emma-Kate Mathis, Postsecondary Education Program Certificate of Completion

Laneview Baptist Church

by Susie Rodgers

I know Whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that He is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto Him against that day. -Major Daniel Webster Whittle 1883

Major Whittle wrote the hymn "I Know Whom I Have Believed" as an expression of his faith in Christ. He noted in the hymn that while there was still much, he did not understand, he chose to believe in God and His faithfulness. Faith involves not only believing with our minds but also trusting in our hearts that God lives within us when we commit our lives to Him. Mrs. Beth Collins (accompanied by Miss Katherine) blessed us with playing and singing Peace Keeper today. Thank you Mrs. Beth for sharing your talents with us.

Mother's Day was in full bloom at Laneview this morning. We started the day with Muffins With Mom and had a great attendance. All the muffins, yogurt and fruit was so good, and we appreciate all those that went the extra mile for the moms. Ms. Catherine McLain was our wisest mom. Tracey Bawcum was the mother with the most children present. Lia Hicks was the mom with the youngest child present. All the mothers put their name in a drawing and Marcie Mays and Monica McCall were the recipients.

Titus 2:1-5 reminds us of God's pattern for the home and the church. Scripture teaches that older women are not to be pushed aside as though they are finished or have nothing left to offer. Instead, they are a treasure and a wealth of wisdom. We are called to be reverent in behavior, tactful in speech, not given to gossip or much wine, and teachers of good things. [Titus 2:3-5] highlights their calling to guide younger women in faith, love, and godly living.

Women of faith have such an important place in the lives of younger generations. They teach not only with words, but with patience, kindness, willingness, and the example they set every day. No matter what our age, we should remember that someone is always watching and learning from us. Their steady faithfulness encourages others to love their families, care for their homes, and walk closely with the Lord.

Bro. Albert said we should be thankful for the women of faith in our lives, both past and present. As he spoke, several names flooded my mind: Faye Russom, Jane Lasseter, Martha Vinson, Darlene Hays, Connie Cooper, Ophelia Duncan, Freddie Mays, and Judy Williams, just to name a few. What a blessing it is to remember those women whose lives have pointed others toward Christ through their example and service.

Birthdays this week were Ms. Ava, and anniversaries were David and Belinda Gammons. We have lots of things coming up, and we invite you to come be with us! I hope you all have a blessed week.

Rutherford Church of Christ

by Ken Roberts

"Why do you worship where you worship?" That is a question every person ought to consider seriously. Many people attend a particular church because it is where their parents or grandparents went. Others choose a church because it is popular in the community, has exciting programs, beautiful facilities, entertaining music, or a preacher they enjoy hearing. Some attend simply because it feels comfortable or familiar.

While none of those things may be wrong in themselves, none of them answer the most important question: "Does this group follow the teaching of the New Testament?"

Jesus said in John 4:24, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." Worship is not about pleasing ourselves. It is about honoring God according to His will. Far too often, religion becomes centered on human preference rather than divine authority.

The New Testament provides the pattern for the church and its worship. Acts 2:42 says that the early Christians devoted themselves to the apostles' doctrine. They worshiped in ways authorized by God's word, not according to changing culture or popular opinion. Christians today should have the same desire. We should ask questions such as: "Is the teaching based on Scripture?" "Is the worship practiced according to the New Testament?" "Is the church organized and functioning as God instructed?"

Tradition can be powerful, but tradition alone does not make something right. Popularity is not proof of truth. Large crowds followed many false teachers in biblical times, and in Matthew 7:13-14 Jesus warned that the broad way leads to destruction while the narrow way leads to eternal life.

Where we worship is one of the most important choices we make. Eternity is too important to base that choice merely on convenience, entertainment, or family custom. Our worship should be guided by a sincere desire to obey God and follow the teachings revealed in the New Testament.

We would be honored to have you worship and study God's Word with us at the Rutherford church of Christ. Bible classes are offered on Sunday mornings at 10:00 and on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. Sunday worship times are 10:50 AM and 6:00 PM. Our building is located at 729 McKnight Street in Rutherford.



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ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

Gibson County Highway Commission (Road Board) will extend the receipt of applications for Chief Administrative Officer/Superintendent of the Highway Department until 10:00 a.m. on May 26, 2026 at 1244 Manufacturers Row, Trenton, TN 38382. Applications can be obtained at Gibson County Highway Dept. or on the Secretary of State website: sos.tn.gov/elections. Candidates must meet qualifications to be certified by state board as listed on the website. A successful candidate must be a qualified voter of the county and a resident of the county for one (1) year prior to the qualifying or appointment deadline, as appropriate.