



ISSUE 2 SPRING 2025



Boys to Men

The Journey of the Men of the Graduating Class of 2025

Becoming a man is not simply a matter of age or physical strength—it is about integrity. A boy does not become a man overnight, nor does it happen without struggle. It is through personal responsibility, determination, faith, and perseverance that he transforms, shapes his character, and defines his future. The journey of the four young men of the Show-Me Christian School (SMCS) Class of 2025 has been one of challenges faced and overcome. These principles mold boys into men of integrity, who will build a life not just for themselves, but for those they will one day lead, serve, and protect.

An Answer for Everything

Learning to take personal responsibility is an essential part of becoming a man. A boy blames others for his mistakes, but a man accepts them, learns from them, and strives to do better. “Tony used to have an answer for everything, and it was never his fault,” recounted his housedad. With an abundance of energy, Tony struggled to focus at school and at home. Rather than facing his problems, he would avoid them. The sweet, adorable, caring boy would try to charm his way out of trouble to escape any consequences. “I used my smile and cuteness to get what I wanted,” confessed Tony.

Hidden underneath that smile was anger and frustration that he did not even realize. “I don’t remember much of my life before I was three and came to Show-Me with my (five) siblings, but it was bad,” stated Tony. “I didn’t trust people or want to let them in.”

Prayer Requests

We Praise God for...

... Lois Freeman joining the team as Christian School staff

... fruitful legislative engagement

... so much progress on the new school

Please Pray for...

... next steps for our 2025 graduates: Chayvin, Tony, Tynnir, and Drew

... an additional Family Life Coach to join the ministry team

... a houseparent couple to join the team – our #1 limitation to helping more children

Join our Prayer Partner List to receive bi-monthly and urgent prayer requests. Call 660-347-5982 or sign up online at:



www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com



► Tony, Drew, Chayvin, and Tynnir are the four men of the Show-Me Christian School's Class of 2025.



Name: Tony Jones

At Show-Me: 15 years

Favorite Bible Verse:

Jeremiah 29:11

Favorite Thing to Do: Work out

Favorite Snack: Chips and Oatmeal Cream Pies

The Next Chapter: Learn various construction skills in the Job Corps program. One day, he hopes to become an electrician and build his own house.

If you could go anywhere, at any time, where would you go? Miami Beach, Florida to learn how to surf

His Advice: "You are not defined by your past. You are prepared by your past. God never wastes our pain. You get to choose whether your past defines you or refines you."

Did You Know? Tony was the Missouri Christian School Athletic Association (MCSAA) Cross Country champion in 2023.



Meeting with the counselors helped him to understand and talk about his past. Slowly, he became honest with himself about his struggles. Admitting it was not a sign of weakness, but of strength; now, he could get help. Sports and additional breaks helped him to get out some of his extra energy to be able to focus better. He put his energy towards sports and became a state champion in cross country.

Tony realized that the routine, discipline, and structure at Show-Me helped him, not hurt him. He worked with his teachers to get the extra help he needed to turn his struggles into success in school. A boy may run from consequences, Tony determined to face them head-on and grow in the process.

Going Nowhere

No one succeeds alone. Learning to identify and use the resources God has placed around you is a crucial lesson a man must learn. Chayvin knew that he faced an uphill battle when he arrived at Show-Me. Skipping school and hanging out with the wrong crowd had left this 17-year-old with only a 5th-grade education. Graduating in two years seemed impossible. But he was determined. "I knew if I didn't have my education, I was going to go nowhere," stated Chayvin.

His Show-Me family explained to him that it wasn't going to be easy, but they committed to helping him with every step. The next two years required twice the effort and endless sacrifices,

but he refused to give up. Late nights, extra tutoring, and sheer determination brought Chayvin back on track to graduate in May. "Show-Me gave me a faith and will to push myself in every circumstance," stated Chayvin.

"Show-Me gave me a faith and will to push myself in every circumstance."

– Chayvin

Only One Savior

Becoming a man requires faith – faith in himself, in others, and most importantly, in God. He trusts that every trial has a purpose and that God has a plan for his life. For Drew, his senior year was supposed to be the culmination of years of hard work. His basketball teammates had named him captain. They looked to him for everything – on and off the court. He was their leading scorer, and after years of struggling, it finally looked like they might have a winning team. It was a lot of pressure, but Drew could handle it. He had big shoulders.

Early in the season, a broken leg shattered that dream. Suddenly, Drew could no longer do it on his own. He tried to carry their burdens as usual, but the physical and mental strain was exhausting him. "Their struggles and mine were killing me," admits Drew. "Why would God allow this? I thought I was doing good with how hard I was working."



Name: Drew Puckett
At Show-Me: 18 years
Favorite Bible Verse:
Habakkuk 3:2

Favorite Thing to Do:
Lift weights and work out

Favorite Snack: *Any spicy snack*

The Next Chapter: *Join the Air Force and become a SERE (Survival Evasion, Resistance and Escape) instructor.*

If you could go anywhere, at any time, where would you go?
The Garden of Eden

His Advice: *“Trust takes years to build, seconds to break, and forever to repair.”*



Name: Chayvin Willard

At Show-Me: 2.5 years

Favorite Bible Verse:
Deuteronomy 31:6

Favorite Thing to Do:
Hang out with my boys

Favorite Snack:
Gatorade and Yoggies

The Next Chapter: *Join the Air Force to learn electrical engineering and train to be an Electrical Lineman.*

If you could go anywhere, at any time, where would you go? *Punta Cana, Spain*

His Advice: *“Always look in the positive and live life to the fullest.”*

Impact Show-Me Has Had: *“Show-Me taught me to keep my head up. They helped make me a better man and more prepared for life.”*



In his helplessness, Drew’s perspective changed as he realized the “why” this setback was allowed to happen. His team needed the opportunity to find independence and learn to rely on each other. He needed to learn dependence on God and not rely on himself. It was ok to slow down and give himself time. Only Christ could be his teammates’ savior.

From Defiance to Determination

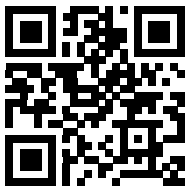
Becoming a man means learning to channel emotions into purpose. Tynnir arrived at Show-Me as an 11-year-old boy who didn’t talk much. He seemed frazzled and scattered in his new surroundings. “I didn’t want to be here,” remembered Tynnir. Angry and feeling like he had no control over his situation, he came across as stubborn and defiant. But in time, he found his footing. He made friends, learned the structure, and began to focus – not on the past or the future – but on

(Continued on page 5)



Show-Me Needs List

Help stock our shelves and fill our homes. Below is a list of items needed.



Need more ideas?

Take a peek at our
"Show Me Christian Youth Home"
wish list at Amazon.com



Main Campus

La Monte

- Drink mixes (*Gatorade, lemonade, or water flavoring packets*)
- Popcorn
- Pop Tarts
- Ramen noodles (*beef & chicken*)
- Sandwich bags (*gallon, quart, snack sizes*)
- Toilet paper
- Paper plates
- Paper towels
- Feminine products
- Handsoap
- Sidewalk chalk
- Large girl's ankle socks packs
- 3-drawer plastic storage bin
- Box fans / pedestal fans

Drysdale Campus

- Fruits (*canned*)
- Plain Cheerios
- Mouthwash (*alcohol-free*)
- Floss picks
- 3T Pullups
- Blue Dawn dish soap
- Bath towels
- Potty training reminder watch
- 34 x 30 Men's jeans (*4 pairs*)

- 6 quart pot with lid
- Swimming masks or goggles (*adult size*)
- Tordon Tree and Root killer (*for fence line*)
- 2 men's bikes (*for teens*)
- Side-by-side UTV

Family Care

- Canned goods (*kernel corn, cut green beans, peas, fruits in natural juices*)
- Pasta and sauces (*elbow & thin spaghetti noodles*)
- Peanut butter (*creamy*)
- Jellies (*strawberry or grape*)
- Cream soups (*mushroom, celery, chicken*)
- Paper towels
- Kleenex
- Toilet paper
- Grocery gift cards
- Scented Dryer sheets

Judd Home

- Canned vegetables
- Paper towels

Kitchen

- 3 Bread pans (*6"x9"*)
- Steak knives

Medical

- Tylenol & Ibuprofen
- Hydrocortisone cream
- Sunscreen

- Loratadine (allergy)
- Cough syrup

Show-Me School

- Mechanical pencils
- Pink or white erasers
- Wite-Out EZ Correction Tape
- Art sketch books (*8x10 & 11x14*)
- \$5 Gift card incentives

Leadership U

- 20 ft' portable panels (*call office for details*)
- Alfalfa (*sm. sq. bales*)

4-H & Art

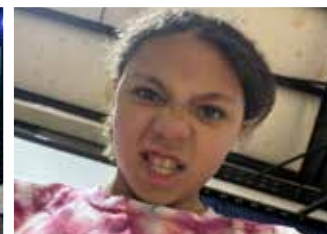
- Sax self-hardening gray clay (*25lbs*)
- Posca paint pens
- Texture rubbing plates
- Scratch sticks
- Yarn

Path to Purpose

- Reliable "starter vehicles" for our graduates
- Liquid chalk markers

P.E. & Sports

- Crush-proof play pit balls (*2.3"*)
- Field Day Potato sacks
- 12-Screamin' SST Scooter Boards
- Power pull Tug-of-war rope
- Scoop ball (*Set of 12*)



Name: Tynnir Matthews

At Show-Me: 6.5 years

Favorite Bible Verse:

Joshua 24:15

Favorite Thing to Do:

Sleep

Favorite Snack:

Peanut Butter

(Creamy, NOT chunky)

The Next Chapter: *Join the Army and become part of the Airborne Forces.*

If you could go anywhere, at any time, where would you go?

Anytime where I could freely own an island

His Advice: *“Focus on the challenge at hand and then move on to the next thing. Life is one step, one day at a time. You just have to keep moving.”*

Did You Know? *Tynnir was part of the State Fair Career and Technology Center (CTC) Criminal Justice program. He will graduate with a certificate and is trained in CPR.*



(Continued from page 3)

what he could control: the present. His stubbornness shifted into determination.

Tynnir had always dreamed of becoming a soldier. Now, he was all in. He was willing to put in the work to make it happen. He poured himself into learning new talents like playing guitar, trained through sports to build his physical strength, joined the Criminal Justice program at the local college to earn extra certifications, and balanced a part-time job – all while staying on track to graduation. “Never once do we have to remind Tynnir of his responsibilities,” said SMCS Administrator Robin Blake. “He does it, and he does it well.” A man turns emotion into purpose—and purpose into progress.

Fuel to Success

The men of the Class of 2025 came from different struggles, but their stories share a common thread: resilience. They refused to be defined by their hardships and instead used them as fuel to succeed. As they take their next steps into the future, they carry not just diplomas but the hard-earned lessons of perseverance, responsibility, and the unwavering belief that if God is with them, they are capable of overcoming anything.



In loving Memory & In Honor *Gifts received between January 1 - March 31, 2025*

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Memorials & Living Honor gifts are made to honor the memories of loved ones by giving hope and the best chance for success to children who desperately need it.

*To honor your friend or loved one, contact us at:
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LA MONTE, MO 65337 • 660-347-5982
www.ShowMeHelpingKids.com*

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IN HONOR

ELTON FAY (77th Birthday)
David & Deloris Wurdeman

MARK & LEISA LANDIS
(25 years of service at Capitol
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Randy & Martha Fuhrman

DANNY & ANN LUDLAM
(JOY SS Class Teachers)
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(Graduation)
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NORA WINDMEYER
(Birthday)
Vicki Longenecker

DAVID WURDEMAN
(72th Birthday)
Elton Fay



We have been so blessed by our friends at Wyandotte Christian Church who bought our families ALL the items that were listed on our Amazon needs list.



Volunteers (January - March 2025)

Rita Berry • Jim & Kay Butler • Lyn Carpenter • Dale Chaney • Cliff Combs • Barbara Decker • Rita Henson • Larry & Cheryl Kintz • Roy & Barbara Major • Kristie McAllister • Virginia McAllister • Jeany McGowen • Nancy Miller • Teresa Miller • Sharon Moyer • Robin Sadler • Kathy Stone • Sherry Swearngin • Terry & Linda Van Natta • Nora Windmeyer • Judy Wolter • Gary West • Linda Harris • Bill Marshall • Jane Wiegand • Virginia Morehouse • Judith Rawie

Please be aware if you come to visit the Main Campus in La Monte:
 We are excited for the future, but it will be messy around here for a while.
 Due to construction, there will be limited volunteer projects in 2025.
We hope to see you in 2026!



Thank You!

Your response was overwhelming!
 Thank you to all our friends who helped us MEAT the NEED. Our freezers and shelves are full once again!

THE LATEST SHOW-ME NEWS



◀ Current and former Show-Me "kids" traveled to Jefferson City to testify about the impact Show-Me had on their lives before committees in the Missouri State House of Representatives and Senate concerning SB 525.

▶ Congratulations to our 2025 Show-Me archery squad. Three of our young people qualified to participate in the state archery tournament in Branson.





2025 ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

Saturday,
September 6, 2025
10 AM - 3 PM

Come see
SHOW-ME

- ✓ Meet the families
- ✓ Tour the homes
- ✓ Enjoy lunch
- ✓ Fun kids' activities all day
- ✓ Live Music
- ✓ Horse program



EVERY CHILD DESERVES A HOME AND A FAMILY

Show-Me Christian Youth Home is Compelled by Christ to Rescue and Restore Young Lives. We believe that every child deserves a home and a family, an opportunity for a better future and an excellent eternity.

FAMILY. FAITH. FUTURE. Out-of-home placement services are available to children of any age at no cost to the parent or guardian. We are funded solely by contributions from individuals, churches and groups that are willing to put their faith into action to help children.



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Ken Parton, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Rachel Reynolds,
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Family Care Ministry

Bobbie Novak, MANAGER
Brittany Sinclair, FAMILY LIFE COACH



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