

AMERICAN CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

New & Transitioning Admin and Athletic Staff
2025–2026

Josh & Katherine Bradley

**JOSH – HIGH SCHOOL INSTRUCTOR
& HEAD CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK COACH.**

**KATHERINE, 3RD GRADE TEACHER AND
HEAD GIRLS' SOCCER COACH:**

Josh and Katherine Bradley are so excited to join the ACA family and serve the Lord through teaching and coaching!

Josh was the head cross-country and track and field coach at Bryan College in Dayton, TN for 10 years. He coached at the middle and high school levels before and after that. Coach Bradley has coached athletes to state and national qualifiers, which includes All-Americans in the 400m and 10k. Before beginning his teaching and coaching career Coach Bradley ran in college and was a 4 time All-American himself. Coach Bradley has taught history and ACT Prep at the middle and high school levels. With the most recent being ACT Prep, with his focus on College and Career readiness for 10-12 graders.

Katherine has taught three sectors of education- private, public, and homeschool. She played soccer in college where she earned her degree in Elementary education and began her teaching and coaching career shortly after graduation. For the last six years Coach Kat has been the head coach at Rhea County High School where she has led the Lady Eagles to multiple District and Region tournament appearances, and 2 Substate appearances. This past season the Lady Eagles won their first District Championship and Region Championship and Coach Kat earned "Coach of the Year" for the TSSAA, D1 AAA Region 3.

Team Bradley- including Mattox, Millie May, and Micah are all looking forward to being a part of the ACA family! Go Patriots!



Scott Brown

SCOTT BROWN, ACADEMIC DIRECTOR 9TH – 12TH GRADES:

Scott Brown is very excited to be joining the ACA administration staff for the 2025-2026 school year. Scott is a graduate of Arab High School. He attended the University of Alabama where he earned a degree in Secondary Education/Social Science. He went on to earn a master's degree in history from the University of West Alabama.

Scott spent the first 25 years of his career at Brookwood High School and Brookwood Middle School. At Brookwood, he coached football, basketball, and golf. The last 10 years at Brookwood he served as athletic director. Scott has taught a variety of classes during his career, most being some form of history. During his 25 years at Brookwood, he also served as the FCA Huddle leader. Scott retired from Brookwood High School in the spring of 2023 and came to ACA where he has taught Dual Credit history, US History, and World History. He currently serves as defensive backs coach for the ACA football team.

Scott and his wife Stacy will soon celebrate their 26th wedding anniversary. He has two daughters, Anna (19) and Addison (16). Anna was a 2024 graduate of ACA and just completed her freshman year at the University of Kentucky. Addison is a rising junior at ACA.

Scott and Stacy are active members of First Baptist Church Tuscaloosa where they currently teach Sunday School in the youth ministry. He enjoys traveling and is an avid follower of Alabama football and basketball.



Julie Cavan

JULIE CAVAN, DEDICATED ON CAMPUS SPEECH PATHOLOGIST

Mrs. Julie Cavan is a native of Birmingham, Alabama, and a graduate of Briarwood Christian School, where she completed her K–12 education. She went on to attend the University of Alabama, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Communicative Disorders in 2011 and a Master of Science in Speech-Language Pathology in 2013.

Julie brings over a decade of professional experience in the field of speech-language pathology. She began her career in 2011 with Restore Therapy Services, where she completed her Clinical Fellowship Year working with adult and geriatric populations in skilled nursing and rehabilitation settings. For the past ten years, she has served in the Tuscaloosa County School System at Brookwood Elementary School, working with children ages 3 to 12.

Her areas of expertise within the school setting include speech sound disorders, phonological disorders, language disorders, fluency disorders, and autism spectrum disorder.

Julie holds the Certificate of Clinical Competence from the American Speech-Language- Hearing Association (ASHA) and is licensed to practice in Alabama through the Alabama Board of Examiners for Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology (ABESPA).

She and her husband, David—a graduate of ACA and a firefighter with the Northport Fire Department—are proud parents of three children: David Jr., Elsie, and Rose, all of whom attend ACA. Their niece, Stella, also attends ACA and holds a special place in their family.

“Mrs. Julie” is excited to join the ACA community and looks forward to serving its students and families beginning in November 2025.



Christine Chism

CHRISTINE CHISM, ELEMENTARY PRINCIPAL

Christine Chism is honored to transition into the role of elementary principal at American Christian Academy. With a deep belief in ACA's Christ-centered mission, she is committed to fostering a nurturing and spiritually grounded learning environment where every child can thrive both academically and personally. Christine gave her life to Christ at the age of 15—a decision she considers the most important of her life—and she continues to seek His guidance daily in her leadership and service.

Christine earned a Bachelor of Science in Special Education from The University of Alabama in 1997. She began her career with the Tuscaloosa County School System, where she served for a decade before taking a few years off to rest and refocus. In 2008, inspired by the exceptional education and spiritual growth her daughter received at ACA, Christine joined the school's faculty. After many years in the classroom, she is now excited and humbled to step into the role of elementary principal, where she aims to support students, families and teachers with wisdom, compassion and faith. Family is a cornerstone of Christine's life. She married her high school sweetheart, Wade Chism, in 1996. They have one daughter, Meredith Camille, a proud ACA graduate. Both Wade and Meredith now work at The University of Alabama. Christine also treasures her close relationship with her parents, whose love and godly example continue to influence her. She considers it a blessing to travel with her father on international mission trips, helping to share the Gospel and serve communities around the world. Christine is grateful to be part of the ACA family and looks forward to leading with grace, strength and a heart devoted to Christ. She believes in the eternal value of Christian education and is excited to partner with parents and staff in shaping the next generation for God's glory.



Eddie Hankins

EDDIE HANKINS, HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Hello, I'm Eddie Hankins, and I am excited to serve as the new high school principal at ACA! Additionally, I will be stepping in as the defensive coordinator for the football team. I grew up in Sulligent, Alabama, and graduated from Sulligent High School. I attended Auburn University from 1984 to 1988, where I earned my degree in Agri-Science/Business Education. It was also at Auburn where I met my wife, Joan, a retired special needs educator. We have been happily married for 30 years! After graduating, I began my teaching and coaching career at Carrollton High School, where I spent fifteen years as a teacher, assistant coach, and head football coach. During this time, I earned my master's degree in educational administration from The University of West Alabama. In 2003, I transitioned to Gordo High School, where I served as a teacher, assistant principal, football defensive coordinator, and athletic director. I retired from Gordo High School and the Alabama Education System in 2018. Following my retirement, I began teaching Industrial Maintenance at the Lowndes County Career Technology Center in Columbus, MS. I have had the privilege of coaching at ACA twice. My first tenure was from 2002 to 2003 as a defensive assistant under Coach Stephen Hooks. I returned to coach linebackers from 2019 to 2020 under Coach Chris Smelley.

Joan and I are proud parents of two sons, Drew (who is married to Allie) and Will (who has a girlfriend, Marlee), as well as our adorable one-year-old grandson, John. We are active members of Grace Community Church in Gordo. An interesting tidbit about our family: I was born on April 26, Joan on February 26, Drew on June 26, Will on October 26, and we celebrate our anniversary on July 26!

Caleb Hooks

CALEB HOOKS, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

Hello, I'm Caleb Hooks and I am thrilled to serve as the new Athletic Director at ACA. I grew up in Tuscaloosa, AL and went to school here at American Christian from kindergarten through twelfth grade, graduating in 2007. While at ACA, I played football, basketball, baseball, and soccer. I then attended the University of Alabama and graduated in 2012 with a degree in Education specializing in Exercise Science.

After graduating from Alabama, I moved to Huntsville, AL to coach and teach at Westminster Christian Academy. I have coached football and taught P.E. for 12 years and have been the assistant athletic director for the last 10 years.

I met my wife Anna in Huntsville, and we married in 2019. We have twin two-year-olds (Jackson and Riley) and another little girl on the way at the end of June. We are thrilled for them to start school at ACA!

I am so excited to be coming back and having the opportunity to work where I went to school. ACA has always been a special place, and I am thrilled to be back. We can't wait to get started!



Tracey Keaton

TRACEY KEATON, ACADEMIC DIRECTOR, K3-5TH GRADE.



Tracey Keaton is a dedicated educator with two decades of experience nurturing young minds. A proud graduate of Central High School and Stillman College, she began her teaching career in the Hale County School System before moving to Polk County Schools in Lakeland, Florida. Since 2005, Tracey has been committed to fostering academic excellence and spiritual growth in her students.

For the past 14 years, Tracey has been an integral part of the American Christian Academy (ACA) community. Her passion for education and unwavering dedication have led her to her new role as the Academic Director for K3–5th grade. In this position, she is excited to support students in achieving both their academic and spiritual goals, ensuring a holistic approach to education.

Tracey's commitment to ACA extends beyond her professional role; she is also a proud parent of two daughters, Taylor, a 2016 ACA graduate, and MacKenzie, who is set to graduate in 2025. Affectionately known as "Mama Keke," she cherishes her role as a grandmother to Kacey and embraces the opportunity to mentor and support both the older and younger members of the school community.

Outside the classroom, Tracey enjoys cooking and spending quality time with her family. Her dedication to fostering a nurturing and inclusive environment makes her a beloved figure at ACA, where she continues to inspire and guide students and colleagues alike.

Josh & Tori Riley

JOSH & TORI RILEY: JOSH, ACADEMIC DIRECTOR 6TH-8TH GRADE, MENTORSHIP DIRECTOR, OFFENSIVE COORDINATOR FOOTBALL. TORI – ELEMENTARY STEM SPECIALIST.



Josh and Tori Riley are so excited to join the ACA family! Josh has a bachelor's degree in social studies education from Auburn University and has taught at his alma mater Westminster Christian Academy in Huntsville, Alabama since 2018. He is presently finishing his master's in educational leadership from the University of Alabama. He has taught World History, U.S. History, and AP U.S. History, as well as Driver's Education. Josh coached football and baseball all seven years, he has been the offensive coordinator and Offensive Line coach while at Westminster. Tori graduated from Liberty University with her master's degree in Elementary Education in 2022 and has been teaching at Valley Fellowship Christian Academy in Huntsville, Alabama since 2021. She has taught 3rd and 6th grade and assisted administrators during the past two years. In Co-curriculars she coached the elementary and varsity Cheer and began VFCA's STEM Club. She is very excited to step into the STEM classroom full time this year at ACA! Josh, Tori, and Ruby (their Australian Shepherd) are very excited to start at ACA in the Fall! Go Patriots!