



OFFICIAL BI-WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

TYLENOL, NATIONAL GUARD, THE BUDGET, AND MORE!

BridgeUTK's newsletter is here!

October 10, 2025

Thank you for joining us for BridgeUTK's newsletter! We hope you had a relaxing fall break. Keep reading for a note from the Exec Board, quick facts and contributor articles on our 10/13 meeting topics, and a news recap.

BridgeUTK News

Executive Board Statement

Hey everyone! We had a great discussion last meeting on Politics and Religion and are excited about trying out a new meeting format next: debate a professor!

Professor Jordan Carr Peterson has signed on to discuss the future of the left and Professor Richard Pacelle to debate the Supreme Court with you all next meeting. We hope to see you in Strong 104 at 6 p.m. on Oct. 13.

A huge thank you to anyone who stopped by our fundraiser on Ped Walkway last week! We are excited to keep planning events outside of regular meetings, like fundraisers and socials.

Next Week's Meeting



Contributors

Connor Corby: The Need for Non-Partisanship

The current political climate in America has been nothing less than scary. The heightened polarization, hate towards opposing views, and the more persistent spurt of violence against political figures like Charlie Kirk, Democratic Minnesota Lawmakers, and many others have reminded people of the tension between political sides that were persistent in the 1860s and 1960s. With these current events, it is natural to consider if we are too far gone. I am an optimist and believe that the best way to see eye to eye on opinion is to get accurate, non-partisan descriptions of different sides beliefs. One organization that provides accurate, independent, fact-based, non-partisan reports on events in American politics and events abroad is Tangle News. I am a College Ambassador for Tangle on the UTK campus and firmly believe that Tangle offers fair representation of views from the left and the right while voicing their perspectives on events without using divisive rhetoric. The award winning news company is largely seen as trustworthy and centrist according to Media Biased Fact Check, Ad Fontes Media, and AllSides. This 400,000+ strong community is dedicated to healthy conversation and debate, so I want to spread awareness of this resource to the Bridge UTK community and the campus at large. I urge all of these readers to follow Tangle's Instagram page (@tangle.news), YouTube Channel, Podcast, or Newsletter (readtangle.com). These are great resources that help understand arguments and hear facts not emotion surrounding political and social events.

Luke Hatler: National Guard Out of Memphis

Hello everyone! My name is Luke Hatler, and I am a sophomore Urban Studies major from Midtown Memphis. I am perfectly willing to admit that I am a certified Memphis glazer. I love my city, and I have spent a good deal of my time thinking about all the problems that we face and how we could start to solve them. The National Guard is never going to be a solution to any of our problems. To start, more law enforcement can be associated with more crime, not less (1). The National Guard is never going to help Memphis, but it will cause fear and make our people feel like they are living under occupation. Our conservative friends live in this fantasy world where more police are the only solution to crime, when in fact these notions are only that, a fantasy. The real solution to crime in Memphis and around the world is to lower poverty (2), and the best way to do that is through social investments. If our President and Governor want to make Memphis safer, they should start by investing in youth programs, jobs programs, better public transportation, healthier and cheaper food sources, affordable housing developments, more community-oriented policing, and higher quality healthcare. It just so happens that all of these are initiatives that the local government in Memphis has made many attempts at, and all have been stalled by either an unwillingness of the state or federal government to play ball (3), (4), or outright hostility of our state government toward our city (5). Poverty and crime in Memphis have gotten worse, not because of local inadequacy, but because of a constant stifling of local action by our state government. This latest occupation is just the logical next step of an increasingly authoritarian and hateful state government against the city of Memphis.

Sources:

- (1): <https://www.cjcj.org/reports-publications/report/more-law-enforcement-spending-accompanies-worse-not-improved-crime-solving>
- (2): <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/poverty-income-inequality-and-violent-crime-meta-analysis-recent>
- (3): <https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/29/us/memphis-police-stops-tyre-nichols-law>
- (4): <https://wreg.com/news/investigations/memphis-violence-intervention-group-fights-for-funding-after-federal-grant-cut/>
- (5): <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2023/07/tennessee-republican-partisanship-one-party-state/674732/>



For online orders to count towards the fundraiser, they must be placed for pickup only from the restaurant location of, and during the hours of, the fundraiser. Delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify. \$150 minimum event sales required to receive any donation.

About Our Contributors

BridgeUTK does not endorse anything written by our contributors. Submissions are lightly edited for grammar. We ask for the opinions of individuals and political organizations on campus with the aim of fostering freedom of speech and sharing thought-provoking perspectives with our readers.



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