



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



PRESTON ATWOOD (prestonatwood@regentsacademy.com)

Panel Discussion: "Virtue and Spiritual Formation"

Preston Atwood serves as the headmaster of Regents Academy in Nacogdoches, Texas. He earned his Ph.D and M.A. in classical & ancient Near Eastern studies (Hebrew Bible major; Greek minor) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a Th.M. and M. Div. at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a B.A. in humanities at Scarborough College. Dr. Atwood was previously the headmaster at Grace Classical Christian Academy in Granbury, Texas, and has held administrative appointments at UW-Madison (2014-2019), the National Association of Professors of Hebrew (2015-2017), and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (2010-2014). Dr. Atwood has also been the recipient of several fellowships and grants, affording him opportunities to present his scholarly research in many countries and states, including a summer-long research stay in Jerusalem, Israel. Dr. Atwood is married to Emily and has eight kids, five of whom attend Regents. Aside from his more administrative and scholarly pursuits, Dr. Atwood enjoys writing piano music, fishing, conducting experiments with his sons, crafting with his daughters, drinking Mediterranean coffee, and taking his wife to non-chain restaurants. Email: prestonatwood@regentsacademy.com



GREGORY S. BAYLOR (ksnarey@adflegal.org)

"Facing Legal Threats to Your School's Religious Liberty"

Gregory S. Baylor serves as senior counsel with Alliance Defending Freedom, where he is the director of the Center for Religious Schools and Senior Counsel for Government Affairs. Since joining ADF in 2009, Baylor has focused on defending and advancing the religious freedom of faith-based educational institutions through advice, education, legislative and public advocacy, and representation in disputes. He has testified about religious liberty issues three times before congressional committees. Greg regularly comments on religious liberty and higher education issues in television, radio, and print media, including *The New York Times*, *Christianity Today*, National Public Radio, and network and cable news programs. Additionally, he serves on the board of directors for the Museum of the Bible and the International Alliance for Christian Education. Greg earned his Juris Doctor in 1990 from Duke University School of Law, where he graduated Order of the Coif, with high honors, and served on the editorial board of the Duke Law Journal. He received his bachelor's degree in honors English in 1987 from Dartmouth College. Following graduation from law school, he served as law clerk to the Hon. Jerry E. Smith on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. He practiced labor and employment law at two large international law firms for three years before joining the staff of Christian Legal Society's Center for Law and Religious Freedom, where he served for 15 years prior to joining ADF. He lives in Northern Virginia with his wife (a medical doctor) and two daughters.

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MATT BEATTY (mbeatty@bloomfieldchristian.com)

Panel Discussion: "Educating Our Parents"

Matt Beatty is the head of school at Bloomfield Christian School, a charter member and accredited school in ACCS. He also serves on the ACCS board of directors. Matt has been a pastor, college professor and working in and around Christian and classical education since 1996. He has a B.A. from Grove City College, an M. Div. from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and counseling certificates from CCEF. He has been married to his college sweetheart, Lynnae, for thirty years and has four children in their twenties.



JAMES COWART (james.cowart@trinitaschristian.org)

Panel Discussion: "Educating Our Parents"

James Cowart serves as headmaster at Trinitas Christian School in Pensacola, Florida. He previously served as headmaster at an ACCS school in TN before moving to Pensacola almost ten years ago. James and his wife Joy have five children, all of whom attend Trinitas.



TIM DERNLAN (tdernlan@accsedu.org)

"Identifying and Training New Board Members"

Dr. Timothy Dernlan earned an Ed.D. in Organizational Leadership from Ashland University and was named the Outstanding Graduate in 2013. He also holds an M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Lehigh and a B.A. in Communication and Education from Purdue. He currently serves as Vice President for the Association of Classical Christian Schools. He has served as Head of School at institutions ranging from 200 to 1300 students and has served on a variety of non-profit boards and committees. He consults with schools and specializes in board governance, strategic planning, organizational structure, and financial stability. He has authored several books including *A Guide to Understanding Classical Christian Education* and *Classical Christian Virtues*. Dr. Dernlan and his wife, Kara, were married in 2000 and they have two sons and two daughters (Boaz, Ezekiel, Rebecca, and Anna). They enjoy hiking, reading, camping, exercising, theology, and playing board games together as a family.



DAVID GOODWIN (david.goodwin@accsedu.org)

"Taking Truth Seriously"

David Goodwin has served as the full-time president of the Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS) since 2015. Formerly, he was the head of the Ambrose School, a classical Christian school in Boise, Idaho from 2003 through 2014. He served on the ACCS Board as an elected member from 2010 to 2014, and helped develop the strategic plan for the ACCS. Prior to his work in classical Christian education, Mr. Goodwin spent 13 years in marketing and new business development for a large computer products manufacturer. He holds an MBA and BIS from Boise State University. He and his wife, Stormy, work as a team on many ACCS projects and attend The King's Congregation in Boise, Idaho.



GEORGE GRANT (george@parishpres.org)

"The Great Continental Revival: Haldane, d'Aubigne, and Groen"

George Grant has started a lot of things and somehow or another he has even managed to finish a few of them. Currently, he is the pastor of Parish Presbyterian Church in Franklin,

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Tennessee, where he also serves as the director of the King's Meadow Study Center and teaches at the Franklin Classical School. He has planted four churches, established a fistful of schools and co-ops along with two colleges, accumulated a bottom drawer full of academic degrees, and is the author of enough out-of-print books to keep half the garage sales in the South fully stocked. But, by his own testimony, his greatest accomplishment is his ongoing role as husband of one, father of three, and grandfather of six (and counting).

TY HENSLEY (thensley@bayshorechristian.org)

Panel Discussion: "Virtue and Spiritual Formation"

Ty Hensley is currently the upper-school principal at Bayshore Christian School where he has served for the last three years. He has a bachelor's degree in kinesiology and a masters in educational leadership from Georgia College and State University. His greatest blessing during his college years was meeting his beautiful wife Kelly at GC&SU. They were married in 2005 and have two beautiful children together, Avery (15) and Ace (12). After eight years of teaching in public education, Ty realized that public education was not the answer for his kids or for the students that he taught. He began researching classical Christian education and was immediately hooked. Shortly thereafter, he became the headmaster of Providence Classical Christian School in Oxford, Georgia, in 2010. Later, God called him on a new adventure at Annapolis Christian Academy in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 2016. He left Texas in 2020 and has been at Bayshore for the past three years and loves the school and the lower Alabama gulf coast area. He is passionate about classical Christian education and has a deep-seated desire to advance the classical Christian vision.



KYLE HUGHES (khughes@stonehavenschool.org)

Panel Discussion: "Virtue and Spiritual Formation"

Kyle R. Hughes (Ph.D., Radboud University Nijmegen) is an author, pastor, and educator who currently serves as the inaugural lower school principal at The Stonehaven School in Marietta, Georgia. He is the author of three books, including most recently *Teaching for Spiritual Formation: A Patristic Approach to Christian Education in a Convulsed Age* (Cascade, 2022), the writing of which further sold him on the crucial importance of classical Christian education. He also works as the director of catechesis and as a member of the clergy team at Christ the King Anglican Church in Marietta.



TONY JEFFREY (tony.jeffrey@covenantchristian.net)

"The LBTQ+ Challenge—Is your School Ready?"

Tony was born and raised in Fairmont, Minnesota, and became a believer in 1972 while attending a worldview summer camp called the Summit, located in Manitou Springs, Colorado. He has a B. A. in biblical studies from American Christian College, a Th. M. from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a Ph. D. from the University of North Texas. He and his wife Kathy have been married for forty years and he has three grown children and two (so far) grandchildren. Tony began his career in Christian schools in 1982 and has served over the years as a high school teacher, registrar, college and guidance counselor, accreditation coordinator, learning difference program coordinator, director of admission, director of development, assistant headmaster and headmaster for two classical Christian schools for over fifteen years. Tony also serves an elder in his church, is on the director's development board of the Jesus Film Project, a ministry of CRU, and is very

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active in the pro-life movement. Tony's two favorite leadership and management books are: *Good To Great* by Jim Collins, and *The Way of the Shepherd* by Kevin Leman.



GENE LIECHTY (gliechty1@gmail.com)

Panel Discussion: "What We've Learned: Do's and Don'ts in Fundraising and Development"

Gene Liechty is the director of advancement at Sandhills Classical Christian School in Pinehurst, North Carolina. Prior to this, he served in a similar capacity at Cary Christian School in Cary, North Carolina and Logos School in Moscow, Idaho. Gene has also planted/pastored several churches in the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC) over the past twenty years. Gene and his wife, Kimberly, have four college-age children: Grace, Carter, Silas, and Ian.



COURTNEY PALUMBO (cpalumbo@regents-school.org)

Panel Discussion: "What We've Learned: Do's and Don'ts in Fundraising and Development"

Courtney Palumbo is the head of school at Regents. After experiencing the fruits of a classical Christian school in Texas and finding Charlottesville without such a school, Mrs. Palumbo founded Regents in 2010. She has taught kindergarten, first grade, and fifth and sixth grade literature. Mrs. Palumbo holds a bachelor's of communication from Vanderbilt University. Additionally, Mrs. Palumbo serves on the board of academic advisors for the Classical Learning Exam. Prior to moving to Charlottesville, she served as an assistant account executive for a worldwide public affairs firm in Washington, DC and opened her own event planning company in Austin, Texas. Mrs. Palumbo also served on the vice-presidential advance team for the 1992 election and in the logistical operations office of the 1992 Republican National Convention. For more than 25 years, Mrs. Palumbo has been married to Tom, who keeps life exciting, and they have three beautiful children who have all attended Regents—Katherine, Matthew, and Olivia.



DAN PETERSON (dpeterson@regentsaustin.org)

"The Situation Room: Answers for Common Problems"

Dr. Peterson has served as the head of school at Regents School of Austin since 2018. Originally from Tennessee, he obtained a M. Div. degree in theology from Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. He served for one year at Heritage Academy in Columbia, Missouri. He then served for six years as founding head of school at Cornerstone Academy in Tennessee, while pursuing and earning his Ph. D. in leadership and Christian education in 2012. He began his tenure at Regents in 2012 serving as the head of school of logic until 2015. He served as the head of school and president of Evangelical Christian School in Tennessee from 2015 to 2018 before returning to Regents. Dr. Peterson has presented at several national and regional conferences, and he has completed the Colson Fellows National Program. He serves as a board member for the Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS), Classic Learning Test (CLT), and Baylor University's Center for School Leadership.

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DAVID SEIBEL (dseibel@accsedu.org)

“Using a Strategic Vision to Grow Fundraising and Fill Classrooms”

As the head of school, David Seibel aims to cultivate a generation of scholar-disciples who are passionate about learning. Husband to Brooke and father of two current and an additional two future Coram Deo Academy students, David holds a doctorate of education from Southern Theological Seminary, an M. Div. from Southern Theological Seminary, an M. Ed. from Marian University, and B. A. in Economics and Spanish from Wabash College. His family attends Cornerstone Bible Church in Carmel, Indiana.



ERIC SPEE (spee@shcssharks.com)

“Classical Christian Education in Urban Diverse Environments”

Eric Spee has been the head of Sheridan Hills Christian School since 2016. He has a bachelor's degree in history and a masters in school administration. He serves on the Schools United Broward leadership team and has spoken at various conferences on history, Shakespeare, and the role of athletics in Christian education. Eric and his wife Cathy have been married for 22 years. They have two children that attend SHCS and a son who graduated in 2023.



DAVID STANTON (dstanton@oakdaleacademy.com)

Panel Discussion: “Educating Our Parents”

David J. Stanton IV holds a doctorate in education (Ed. D.) and an education specialist (Ed. S.) from Liberty University along with a master of arts from Central Michigan University, and a bachelor of arts from Hillsdale College, along with diplomas from the United States Naval War College and the Joint Forces Staff College. David brings experience as a former public school teacher and administrator for years, a private Christian school teacher, collegiate teacher, and as a classical Christian school teacher and administrator. He recently retired from the U. S. Navy Reserve, having achieved the rank of Commander. During his 21 years of service, David deployed twice—once to Afghanistan (2007) and most recently to Bahrain (2021) and has numerous personal and unit/campaign decorations. Currently, he serves as the headmaster of Oakdale Academy, a classical Christian school in Waterford, Michigan. David is married to the former Joanna (Jodie) Autry and they reside outside Detroit, Michigan, with their five daughters and one son.



MEREDITH TOFLINSKI (mtoflinski@bayshorechristian.org)

Panel Discussion: “What We’ve Learned: Do’s and Don’ts in Fundraising and Development”

Meredith Toflinski is currently serving as the director of development, marketing, and donor relations at Bayshore Christian School in Fairhope, Alabama. She is working on a \$25 million dollar capital campaign for an upper school campus. Meredith graduated with a degree in telecommunication and film from The University of Alabama. She spent 5+ years working as a television reporter and is an Emmy award-winning journalist for her work covering the April 27, 2011 tornado in Tuscaloosa. Since broadcasting, Meredith worked for a Tuscaloosa-based sales and marketing firm. She is a member of the Leadership Baldwin County Class of 2023, a member of the Eastern Shore Optimist Club, and she and her husband are active members of Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church.

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PHIL ARANT (arant.philip@schaefferacademy.org)
“**Launching Apologetics in the Mind of a 16-Year-Old**”

Philip Arant has taught at Schaeffer Academy in Rochester, Minnesota for 24 years. He is currently responsible for science, apologetics, and Christian doctrine. Phil received a BS in Biology from Dartmouth College and has experience in industrial science as a Mill Chemist for International Paper Company as well as in environmental science as a Project Manager for U. S. Filter. He and his wife Nancy have five children that have all graduated from Schaeffer Academy. Of his eleven grandchildren, three are in town and attend Schaeffer.



SHANE ARTRIP (shane.artrip@covenantschoolwv.org)
“**Mathematic Transformations in Instruction: From Traditional to Classical!**”

Shane Artrip holds a Master’s degree in mathematics from Marshall University and a Bachelor’s Degree in mathematics from Texas State University. She serves at Covenant School in Huntington, WV as the Upper School Principal and teaches a variety of math courses. She and her husband, Jim, are members at Teays Valley Baptist Church. They have three grown children and two grandchildren. In her free time, Shane can be found doing sudoku puzzles, playing with the grand-twins, or solving mysteries via board game, books, or movies.



MYRANDI BALLESTEROS (myrandi.ballesteros@covenantchristian.net)
“**Training for Scriptural Integration!**”

Myrandi Ballesteros grew up in East Texas in the Rose Capitol of the World, Tyler. Strangely enough, her name, Myrandi, is actually the name of a rose, the Mirandy rose. After high school, she moved to the big city to attend Dallas Baptist University on an Art Scholarship. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree (not in Art, by the way, but in Christian Education), married the love of her life, and taught kindergarten while completing a Master’s degree from DBU in Early Childhood Education. She works at Covenant Christian Academy in Colleyville, Texas as the Early Childhood and Elementary Principal and has had the joy of serving students, teachers, and families there since 2005. Victor and Myrandi have two beautiful daughters, Brynlee (24) and Maycee (21), who both graduated from Covenant Christian Academy, love Jesus, and seek to serve Him daily in their jobs and lives. Her dear husband has been living his best life in heaven since November 2021 after a valiant battle with pancreatic cancer. Myrandi recognizes that the journey God has her on today was definitely not what she was expecting, but has found joy and blessing in trusting His plan and walking in faith.



CAROL BROWN (cbrown@equippingminds.com)
“**Developing the Cognitive Tools For Learning**”

Dr. **Carol Brown** served as a learning specialist, teacher, principal, and head of school in classical Christian schools in North Carolina, Georgia, Northern Virginia, and Lyon, France, from 1998-2009. In 2009, she developed the Equipping Minds Cognitive

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Development Curriculum and founded Equipping Minds, a brain development center. Carol earned a B. A. in Rehabilitation Counseling from Marshall University, a M. A. in Social Services and a Doctorate in Education (Ed. D.) from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and an Ed. D. in educational leadership from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She is a co-author of *Neuroscience and Christian Formation, Human Development: Equipping Minds with Cognitive Development, Equipping Minds Cognitive Development Curriculum, and School Violence and Primary Prevention*. Her doctoral research, "Equipping Minds with a Biblically based curriculum for Improving Working Memory," was published in the Journal of Alternative Medicine Research.

Carol trains public, private, and homeschool educators, therapists, administrators, psychologists, and parents around the world in the Equipping Minds Cognitive Development Curriculum. She has conducted professional development workshops for Toyota, University of Kentucky College of Medicine, Kentucky Parks and Recreation, Kentucky Department of Vocational Rehabilitation, Centre College, Down Syndrome Congress of Germany, SHARE international, Society of Professors in Christian Education (SPCE), National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and civic organizations. Carol lives in Frankfort, KY with her husband, Kyle, and has three adult children who were all classically educated and has one granddaughter. "Understanding how children learn is my passion. Cognitive training is the missing piece to the puzzle."

VINCE BURENS (vburens@theFOCUSgroup.com)

"Stop Writing Strategic Plans and Start Thinking Strategically"

Vince Burens, Senior Consultant, brings over 23 years of fundraising, strategic planning, and executive leadership experience to draw from in his work with The FOCUS Group. In over two decades with the Coalition for Christian Outreach (CCO), Vince held various roles including Director of Recruitment, Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, and ultimately CEO/President. During Vince's time as CEO, he led a strategic planning process that catalyzed the organization to move from having a regional footprint to a national presence on over 150 campuses, in partnership with churches. During this expansion, he also led its first ever successful comprehensive fundraising campaign. Vince has had the privilege of being one of Praxis Labs first Scale Fellows, as well as being the Chairman of the Board of The Pittsburgh Fellows program. He also serves on the Board of Directors for numerous organizations related to young adult faith and leadership development. He received his B.A. degree in Urban Development, Political Science, and Economics from the University of Pittsburgh and has done graduate work at Trinity School for Ministry, where he is an adjunct professor. Vince and his wife, Lori, have two children: Mia and Tessa. Vince enjoys coaching soccer, having been a high-level club and high school coach for over twenty years. He is also a third-generation winemaker and appreciates having a good walk spoiled by a round of golf.

ROSARIA BUTTERFIELD (housekey300@gmail.com)

"Five Lies of our Anti-Christian Age"

"Christians Are Re-Readers"

Dr. **Rosaria Butterfield** is an author, speaker, pastor's wife, homeschool mom, and former professor of English and women's studies at Syracuse University. She is the author of several books, including *The Secret Thoughts of an Unlikely Convert* (Crown and



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Covenant, 2012), *Openness Unhindered* (Crown and Covenant, 2015), *The Gospel Comes with a Housekey* (Crossway, 2018), and *Five Lies of our Anti-Christian Age* (forthcoming from Crossway, 2023).

BEN CARSON (American Cornerstone Institute)

Plenary Speaker

Dr. **Benjamin S. Carson, Sr.**, M.D., is the Founder and Chairman of the American Cornerstone Institute, a new think tank/do tank whose mission is to promote the four founding principles which are cornerstones of our country: faith, liberty, community, and life as well as pursue common sense solutions that challenge conventional group-think. He most recently served as the 17th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For nearly 30 years, Dr. Carson served as Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center, a position he assumed when he was just 33 years old, becoming the youngest major division director in the hospital's history. In 1987, he successfully performed the first separation of craniopagus twins conjoined at the back of the head. He also performed the first fully successful separation of type-2 vertical craniopagus twins in 1997 in South Africa. Dr. Carson received dozens of honors and awards in recognition of his achievements including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. He is also a recipient of the Spingarn Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and has been awarded over 70 honorary doctorate degrees. The U.S. News Media Group and Harvard's Center for Public Leadership named him among "America's Best Leaders" in 2008. Born in Detroit to a single mother with a 3rd grade education who worked multiple jobs to support their family, Dr. Carson was raised to love reading and education. He has authored many books, four of which he co-wrote with his wife Candy. Dr. Carson has written two children's books, *Why America Matters* and *Red, White, and Blue: Our Flag Matters to Me and You*, to teach kids about our important American values. Dr. Carson graduated from Yale University and earned his M.D. from the University of Michigan Medical School. He and his wife are proud parents and grandparents.



DANIEL COUPLAND (dcoupland@hillsdale.edu)

"The 'Clean Sea Breeze' of Classical Pedagogy"

"The 5 M's of Good Teaching"

Dr. **Daniel B. Coupland** is the Dean of the Graduate School of Classical Education, the Chairman of the Education Department, and a Professor of Education at Hillsdale College, where he regularly teaches courses on English grammar, classical pedagogy, and classic children's literature. He earned a B.A. in Spanish from Liberty University, an M.A. in Linguistics from Oakland University, and a Ph.D. in Education from Michigan State University. Dr. Coupland has received Hillsdale College's "Professor of the Year" award and was awarded the Emily Daugherty Award for Teaching Excellence. He was a Resident Scholar at the C. S. Lewis Study Centre in Oxford, England. Dr. Coupland has written for a variety of publications including *Academic Questions*, *Virtue*, *National Review*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The Detroit News*, and *The Washington Examiner*. He is the author of *Tried & True: A Primer on Sound Pedagogy* published by Hillsdale College Press.

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TERRI COVIL (tcovil@carychristianschool.org)
“Biblical Worldview in the Grammar School”

Terri Covil is a third-grade teacher at Cary Christian School in Cary, N.C. She holds a B. A. in Religious Studies from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, evidence that the Lord does indeed restore the years the locusts have eaten. She has been married to her greatest adventure, Patrick, for 20 years and has two children and a fiendish cat. At present, she is an emotional wreck preparing for her son’s senior year of high school and her daughter’s freshman year at Grove City College. After her family, her greatest joy in life is being a classical Christian educator.



CHARLES DEWBERRY (cdewberryad@gutenberg.edu)
“How Does Science Fit into a Classical Education?”

Charley Dewberry is a tutor, academic dean, and one of the founders of Gutenberg College, a Christian four-year liberal arts college with a “Great Books” curriculum, located in Eugene, Oregon. He is one of the most experienced field workers in salmon and watershed restoration. He has a Master’s Degree in Stream Ecology and a Ph.D. in Philosophy of Science. He is the author of three books including: *Saving Science: Science and its Role in Salmon Recovery* and *Intelligent Discourse: Exposing the Fallacious Standoff between Evolution and Intelligent Design*. Charley has two grown sons and lives with his wife, Susie, in the Oregon Coast Range.



DAVID DIENER (ddiener@hillsdale.edu)
“Augustine’s De Magistro: Teaching, Learning, Signs, and God”
“Panelist: Reflections on Dorothy Sayers’ “Lost Tools of Learning”

Dr. **David Diener** works at Hillsdale College where he is an Assistant Professor of Education. Previous experience includes fifteen years in K-12 private education, eleven of those in administration and eight as headmaster of classical Christian schools. He also is a Fellow on the Alcuin Fellowship National Council and Director of the Alcuin Fellowship Midwest Chapter, serves on the Board of Directors for the Society for Classical Learning and the Board of Academic Advisors for the Classic Learning Test, is a member of the National Council of Classical Educators, and offers consulting services through Classical Academic Press. He is the author of *Plato: The Great Philosopher-Educator* and has published articles on Plato, Kierkegaard, and various topics in philosophy of education. He also serves as the series editor for Classical Academic Press’ series *Giants in the History of Education* and is an associate editor for the journal *Principia: a Journal of Classical Education*. He holds a B. A. in Philosophy and Ancient Languages from Wheaton College as well as an M. A. in Philosophy, an M. S. in History and Philosophy of Education, and a dual Ph. D. in Philosophy and Philosophy of Education from Indiana University.



KARA FARALDI (kfaraldi@regents-school.org)
“Music Literacy in Action: Setting the Foundation for Joyful Music Making”

Kara Faraldi teaches Music (K-6) and Theatre (1-12) at the Regents School of Charlottesville in Charlottesville, Virginia. She received her bachelor’s degree from Liberty University and her Kodály Music Pedagogy certificate from the Cheneniah Summer Music

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Institute at New Saint Andrews College. Kara currently oversees the Regents Cantorum, an after-school choir for students in grades 7-12. Additionally, she directs the Regents Theatre program and the annual Rhetoric School play. She is a third-generation arts teacher, following in the footsteps of her parents and late paternal grandfather. Kara enjoys singing with her local choir, reading, playing instruments, and having good, quality conversation with friends and family.



DEEDEE FEENEY & JULIE KILMER (dfeeney@coramdeo-in.com, jkilmer@coramdeo-in.com)
“The Crack in the Marble Jar, 2.0”

DeeDee Feeney started Coram Deo Academy's full-day kindergarten program in 2010, but she began teaching while still in college. After graduating from Wingate University with a degree in elementary education, she taught for six years before staying home with her five children. She aims to establish the building blocks of a good education and instill in children a love for learning. This is her 11th year at Coram Deo Academy and now serves as lead teacher.



Julie Kilmer is passionate about equipping teachers and parents in their co-mission of shepherding children's hearts. She received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in elementary education from Purdue University. Her experiences include serving as a pre-school director/teacher, a children's minister for infants through sixth grade, and an elementary education classroom teacher. Julie has been involved in classical Christian education for fifteen years. She is in her seventh year at Coram Deo Academy in Carmel, Indiana.”



AARON FUDGE (afudge@trinityclassicalacademy.comu)
“Ten Lessons in Ten Years: Lessons from the Logic School”

Aaron Fudge has worked at Trinity Classical Academy, in Santa Clarita, California, for the last ten years and has taught Latin, Greek, Old Testament, Greek History, and Writing. Aaron is currently the Dean of the Upper School, the Chair of the Language Department, and a member of the Upper School Humanities and Language faculty. Aaron also serves as the associate pastor at Christ Church Santa Clarita. He is the husband of Elisabeth and the father of three classically educated teenagers. He surfs as often as possible, loves good fiction, and is looking forward to seeing his oldest daughter begin her college education this fall at New Saint Andrews.



DEBBIE GENTRY (debbie.gentry@covenantchristian.net)
“How to Use Inquiry to Enhance Science Instruction”

Debbie Gentry is a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Middle Tennessee State University, graduating Summa Cum Laude, and pursued graduate work at the University of Tennessee. Debbie is a Master Teacher with over 35 years of teaching experience, including teaching for the past 23 years in classical Christian schools. Throughout her career, Debbie has taught all subjects in grades 4-8 but has taught Science exclusively since 2008. She has been recognized as the “Outstanding Teacher of the Year” or “Master Teacher” by her schools on multiple occasions. Debbie has also been instrumental in creating a faculty mentoring program, coordinated accreditation programs, led workshops and seminars

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on a broad range of educational topics, and led curriculum development. She believes her primary responsibility as a teacher is to routinely point her students to Christ. Debbie and her husband, Jim, have four sons and two grandchildren. They are active in their church, lead a community group, and participate in prison ministry.



DAVID GOODWIN
ACCS PRESIDENT

David Goodwin has served as the full-time president of the Association of Classical Christian Schools (ACCS) since 2015. Formerly, he was the head of the Ambrose School, a classical Christian school in Boise, ID, from 2003 through 2014. He served on the ACCS Board as an elected member from 2010 to 2014, and helped develop the strategic plan for the ACCS. Prior to his work in classical Christian education, Mr. Goodwin spent 13 years in marketing and new business development for a large computer products manufacturer. He holds an MBA and BIS from Boise State University. He and his wife, Stormy, work as a team on many ACCS projects and attend The King's Congregation in Boise, Idaho. They are the parents of three children, one who attends New Saint Andrews College in Moscow, ID, and two who attend the Ambrose School.



DARLENE GOMES (dgomes@bloomfieldchristian.com)

"Planting Seeds of Oral Rhetoric and Communication in our Younger Scholars"

Darlene Gomes, Ed. D., has a passion for speech, communication, and drama and is blessed to have used her gifts in classical and traditional Christian education for the past 33 years. Having received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and master's degree in dramatic productions from Pensacola Christian College, she recently completed her Doctor of Education from Liberty University with a focus on oral rhetoric and communication instruction in classical education. While Darlene has enjoyed teaching students from kindergarten to college level, one of her greatest joys is encouraging and equipping teachers to do "the work of the ministry"; effectively and with a joyful heart.



GEORGE GRANT

"On the Improvement of the Mind: The Educational Vision of Isaac Watts"

George Grant has started a lot of things and somehow or another he has even managed to finish a few of them. Currently, he is the pastor of Parish Presbyterian Church in Franklin, Tennessee, where he also serves as the director of the King's Meadow Study Center and teaches at the Franklin Classical School. He has planted four churches, established a fistful of schools and co-ops along with two colleges, accumulated a bottom drawer full of academic degrees, and is the author of enough out-of-print books to keep half the garage sales in the South fully stocked. But, by his own testimony, his greatest accomplishment is his ongoing role as husband of one, father of three, and grandfather of nine (and counting).



BARBARA HANSEN (bhansen@seattleclassicalchristianschool.org)

"Excellence in Bible Teaching in the Grammar School"

Barbara Hansen's passion for decades has been classical Christian education. She started her teaching career in Christian schools, but as soon as she understood the difference

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between a Christian education and a classical Christian education she was sold. She has taught in a variety of classroom settings: public, homeschool co-op, private Christian school, and classical Christian schools. Presently, Barbara is the Dean of Faculty at Seattle Classical Christian School, where she cares for the faculty and staff and reviews and trains teachers in curriculum. Barbara has four classically educated adult children, who occasionally thank her for the sacrifice required to receive their education.



CRAIG HEFNER (craig.hefner@covenantschoolwv.org)

“The Classical Imagination: The How, What, and Why of Classical Education”

Craig A. Hefner serves as the Head of School at Covenant School in Huntington, WV. He has a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from Wheaton College. Craig is the author of *Kierkegaard and the Changelessness of God: A Modern Defense of Classical Immutability*. He is married to his wife, Rachel. They have two sons, Adler and Elliott.



TORI HICKOK (thickok@coramdeo-in.com)

“Awakening Wonder that Leads to Worship in Math”

Tori Hickok has taught math for 20 years in various contexts, such as public high school, private school, and homeschool co-ops. She currently teaches Upper School math and science at Coram Deo Academy in Carmel, IN. While teaching math and science, she longs to lead students to see the wonder of God’s creation and lead them to worship Him as their Lord and Savior while engaging with each student as a unique person. She is a wife and a mother to six lively children.



TAMRA HOPKINS (thopkins@augustineca.org)

& JASON RADCLIFF (jradcliff@augustineca.org)

“The Integration of Virtue/Spiritual Formation and Learning at Augustine Classical Academy”

Tamra Hopkins serves as Dean of Curriculum and Instruction at Augustine Classical Academy, a classical Christian school in Saratoga County, New York, that she helped to found in 2009. She earned her B. A. in English and MAT from Union College (Schenectady, NY) where her love for literature and curriculum compelled her to write her thesis on *Dead White Men and Other American Myths*. Her faith in Christ, and the limitations she encountered in public education, caused her to look for other educational paradigms as she considered ways to disciple her own children. Since 2002, she and her husband Matt have leaned into the vision of classical Christian education, initially homeschooling their children through a cooperative they helped found, and eventually establishing Augustine Classical Academy to partner with parents to disciple their children to faith in Christ rooted in knowledge, understanding, and wisdom. She is recently widowed and a mother of nine aged 26–10, five of whom have graduated from Augustine.



Jason Radcliff serves as Head of School at Augustine Classical Academy in Saratoga County, New York, a K–12 classical Christian school. Prior to that, he served as an Assistant Pastor at a church in South Carolina and was previously on the faculty for many years at The Stony Brook School, a Christian boarding school on Long Island. Jason holds a B. A. in Student Ministry from Geneva College as well as an M. A. and a Ph. D. in

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Theology from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and The University of Edinburgh, respectively. He is passionate about the overlap of Education and Theology and is the author of three books on the subject: *Thomas F. Torrance and the Church Fathers*, *Thomas F. Torrance and the Orthodox-Reformed Dialogue*, and *Grace and Incarnation: The Oxford Movement's Shaping of Modern Anglicanism*. Jason discovered the rich and ancient tradition of classical Christian education through the early Church Fathers. Also an Episcopal Priest, Jason is committed to the integration of faith and learning and believes discipleship is at the heart of Christian education.



WILLIAM ISLEY & DARREN WALKER

(wisley@cpls.org) (dwalker@cpls.org)

"Feminism, Meteorology, and the Chronicles of Narnia: How Electives Can Enrich Your Students"

William Isley has been teaching humanities at Cair Paravel Latin School for the past twelve years. Currently, my classes are Great Ideas and Medieval History. In addition to serving as a pastor, I have mostly taught Bible, theology, and church history on the college and graduate school levels in Portugal and Costa Rica. My doctoral dissertation was on the concept of romance in the writings of G. K. Chesterton. The electives I have taught at Cair Paravel are Conversational Spanish, Living the Psalms, the Seven Deadly Sins, the Chronicles of Narnia, and Feminism. In my free time I write posts for my blog that almost no one reads and have recently completed a novel, which I hope will survive the editorial process, and watch movies that my students have never heard of. My wife is from Anguilla in the Caribbean. We have two sons that live far from Topeka, Kansas.



After attending a classical program in college and completing a law school degree, **Darren Walker** practiced law for several years. He then entered education, teaching for eight years before moving into administration, where he spent three years helping a traditional Christian school in Ohio with its transition into a classical Christian school. He is now in his third year teaching and leading at Cair Paravel Latin School in Topeka, Kansas. In addition to his experience teaching in secondary schools, he has taught extensively in adult Sunday school classes, in continuing legal education courses (including about Christian conflict resolution principles on several occasions), in professional development for teachers, and at classical Christian education conferences.



COLE JEFFREY (cjeffrey@csuniv.edu)

"The Idolatrous Eye: How to Recognize and Respond Rightly to Beauty in a Fallen World" **"All the World's a Screen: Shakespeare and Social Media"**

Cole Jeffrey is an Assistant Professor of English at Charleston Southern University. His research explores the relationship between philosophy, theology, and literature in early modern culture. He is particularly interested in conceptions of beauty and ugliness in Renaissance literature. His article, "Here Is Beauty Changed to Ugly Whoredom: Calvinist Theology and Neoplatonic Aesthetics in *The Changeling*," was published in *Renaissance Drama* in 2019. He is currently writing a book about how Calvinism influenced seventeenth-century drama and poetry. He lives in South Carolina with his wife, Courtney, and his son, Reid.

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CHRISTOPHER JERO (christopher.jero@marshall.edu)

“How (and Why) to Teach the Old Testament Without Spoiling It”

Christopher Jero is a former violinist to whom God gave a passion for making Jesus known through the Holy Scriptures. Believing that there is no more intimate way of communing with God in Scripture than through the original languages, Dr. Jero obtained an M.A. in Old Testament from Columbia International University and a Ph.D. in Hebrew and Cognate Studies from Hebrew Union College. Jero seeks to be an instrument by which God inspires the same passion in his students as he teaches both grade school and grad school classes. Since 2006, Jero has served at Mars Hill Academy (Mason, Ohio), teaching Bible, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew and conducting teacher training. Christopher is the author of *Mother-Child Narratives and the Kingdom of God: Authorial Use of Typology as an Interpretive Device in Samuel-Kings*; (Bulletin for Biblical Research 25, 2015) and *Tense, Mood, and Aspect in the Biblical Hebrew Verbal System* (in *Where Shall Wisdom be Found?* Eisenbrauns, 2017). Jero lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, with his wife Rebecca and four classically-educated children.



WALTER KEARNS (walter@thechampiongroup.com)

“How to Manage Up: Maximize the Relationship with Your Board”

Walter Kearns works for The Champion Group as the Director of Strategic Partnerships. In his career, he has focused on Discipleship in every role he has held. When he worked for KLIFE and Kanakuk Ministries he oversaw ten chapters, focusing on small group ministries across the country; managing their boards, budgets, ministry plans, and staff. In his time with The Champion Group, Walter has applied his passion for bringing youth into a greater relationship with Christ through his experience with building sustainable financial structures that enable schools to grow in operational effectiveness and focus on what truly matters, discipleship.



ANDREW KERN (akern@circeinstitute.org)

“A Christian Response to Classical Rhetoric”

“How to Overcome the Barbarians We Have Become”

Andrew Kern is the founder and president of the CiRCE Institute (Center for Independent Research on Classical Education), the husband of Karen, the father of five grown adults, and the grandfather of (so far) nine grandchildren. He has been researching, speaking, teaching, and consulting in the Christian classical renewal since 1993, during which he has been instrumental in the founding of three schools, consulted with over 100 schools and co-ops, and served as Director of Classical Instruction, Academic Dean, and Headmaster. Andrew speaks regularly at home school and classical conferences. In addition, he is the co-author with Dr. Gene Edward Veith of *Classical Education, The Movement Sweeping America* and, with Andrea Lipinski, of *The CiRCE Guide to Reading*. He also led the development of CiRCE's classical rhetoric program, The Lost Tools of Writing, and he loves Homer, Shakespeare, Anne of Green Gables, and Endeavour. Like Shakespeare, he knows a little Latin and less Greek. Except a lot less than Shakespeare. Andrew and Karen have settled in Concord, North Carolina where they attend Christ The Good Shepherd Orthodox Mission and watch their five grown children raise their children and pursue their callings.

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BRAD LAYLAND (blayland@thefocusgroup.com)

“Keys to Running a Successful Capital Campaign in a Turbulent Age”

Brad Layland, CEO, first learned how to raise money as a college student in 1993, while seeking to raise personal support as a part-time staff member for Young Life. Over the course of 20 years at Young Life, he developed his passion for and expertise in relational fundraising, to the point where he was asked to train other area directors around the country, and eventually became the Chief Development Officer for the entire organization. Brad joined The FOCUS Group in 2012 as a Senior Consultant and became the owner and CEO in 2015. In 2013, he launched the Taking Donors Seriously® e-learning and coaching program to make the firm’s expertise accessible to individuals and smaller nonprofits. Brad’s expertise providing high level fundraising counsel to nonprofit organizations incorporates major donor strategies, training workshops, planned gift marketing, and capital campaign counsel. In recent years he has led capital campaigns for Dallas Theological Seminary (\$160M), Intervarsity Christian Fellowship (\$89 million), Union Rescue Mission (\$83 million), The Bowery Mission (\$27 million) and Veritas School (\$5.3 million). Brad received his B.A. in Communications from the University of Florida and his M.A. in Theology from Fuller Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Wendy reside in St. Augustine, Florida and have four children. Brad enjoys running marathons, skiing, investing in real estate, entrepreneurship, and traveling with his family. Over the past 20 years, he has completed 50 marathons and recently completed two Ironman Triathlons. Brad is the founder of Endless Summer Realty, the largest residential real estate brokerage in St. Augustine, closing over \$240 million in transactions in 2021. He is a founder and board member of Veritas Classical School, and launched an annual “Giving Day” in St. Augustine, which has become a platform for local nonprofits to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars and establish relationships with new donors. His entrepreneurial success has allowed Brad to experience the joy of generosity, and gain a special understanding of the mindset of a major donor.



GENE LIECHTY (gliechty1@gmail.com)

“Event Planning: An Important Piece of Your Development Strategy”

Gene Liechty is the Director of Advancement at Sandhills Classical Christian School in Pinehurst, North Carolina. Prior to this, he served in a similar capacity at Cary Christian School in Cary, North Carolina, and Logos School in Moscow, Idaho. Gene has also planted/pastored several churches in the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC) over the past twenty years. Gene and his wife, Kimberly, have four college-age children: Grace, Carter, Silas, and Ian.



BRYAN LYNCH (balyn@veritasschool.net)

“Cultivating Conversation: Using Feedback & Grading to Improve Seminar Discussions”
“Leading Teacher Training from the Back of the Room”

Bryan Lynch is Academic Dean at Veritas School, a preK–12 classical and Christian school in Newberg, Oregon. Bryan was a founding board member of Veritas, served as Headmaster there for 20 years, and has 40 years of experience in private and public education. In addition to his administrative duties, Bryan teaches Rhetoric and Humane Letters to eleventh grade students. Bryan has presented workshops on faculty development,

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formative assessment, and seminar discussions at ACCS conferences and has led many school-based teacher trainings. He has also been involved in several accreditation visits for ACCS. Bryan and his wife, Ann, have three adult children and two grandchildren. Bryan posts a variety of free resources on teaching and classical education for teachers and administrators at classicalteaching.com.

LOUIS MARKOS (lmarkos@hbu.edu)

“Part I & II: The Early Church from Christ to Constantine”

Dr. **Louis Markos** holds a B. A. in English and history from Colgate University and an M. A. and Ph. D. in English from the University of Michigan. He is a professor of English and scholar-in residence at Houston Christian (formerly Houston Baptist) University, where he holds the Robert H. Ray Chair in Humanities and teaches courses on British Romantic and Victorian poetry and prose, the classics, C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, and art and film. He is the author of twenty-five books, including *The Myth Made Fact*; *From Plato to Christ*; *From Achilles to Christ*; *On the Shoulders of Hobbits*; *Ancient Voices: An Insider’s Look at the Early Church*; *Literature: A Student’s Guide*; *C. S. Lewis: An Apologist for Education*; three Canon Press Worldview Guides to the *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, and *Aeneid*; and two children’s novels, *The Dreaming Stone* and *In the Shadow of Troy*, in which his kids become part of Greek mythology and the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. His son Alex teaches history at the Geneva School in Boerne, TX.



SCOTT MAYNARD (smaynard@fcsva.com)

“Teaching Art in Christian Classical Schools: One Art Teacher’s Journey”

Scott Maynard is both the K-12 art teacher and the Director of Fine Arts at Faith Christian School in Roanoke, Virginia. During his tenure at Faith, Scott has made significant adjustments in his teaching methods as he came to a deeper understanding of how art instruction could better reflect a distinctly Christian classical approach. Scott believes his most recent adjustments have had the greatest impact on his students and he is eager to share his journey with other teachers and administrators. Scott believes his approach can help inform teachers in other disciplines. Scott’s “Slow Looking” course is a required component of Faith’s teacher training program. Scott has taught art K-5 for four years at Lansing Christian School in Lansing, Michigan, in addition to his fourteen years at Faith Christian School. He has an Associates Degree in Commercial Art from Oakland Community College in West Bloomfield, Michigan, as well as a B.S. in Art Education from Taylor University in Upland, Indiana. Scott is married to the love of his life, Deborah, and they have six children who are mostly grown. He loves to teach art and to create artwork of his own.



ROBIN MCLAURIN (rmclaurin@gracetx.org)

“Art and Nature—STEAM Projects”

Robin McLaurin has served for 13 years at Grace Academy as the visual arts teacher and lead for the Fine Art Department. She has also served 13 years as an Adjunct Professor of Visual Arts at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor. McLaurin has presented topics before on art at ACCS, SCL and TAEA. She enjoys teaching and guiding students to experience the connections between science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics (STEAM). She holds a B. S. in Elementary Education, an M. A. in Art Education, and

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an MFA in Visual Arts. She enjoys traveling, especially to visit her two grown sons and their families. Her professional photography practice includes working with wet, analog, and alternative processes. McLaurin passes on to her classes the lessons she learns as a professional artist. She has been a member of the Christians in the Visual Arts (CIVA) since 2014. She has been awarded artist-in-residencies, has shown nationally and internationally, and her work is held in private collections. As a volunteer professional photographer her photographs have been used for mission work and for the Heart Galley of Texas, an art exhibit intended to serve as a community outreach featuring children who are waiting for adoption. In her spare time, she is learning Scottish Gaelic, enjoys Scottish Country dancing, and playing the Irish flute and tin whistle. She is loving the blessings the Lord has bestowed upon her.

JASON MODAR (jasonmodar@regentsacademy.com)

“Practical Progymnasmata: Making Sense and Use of an Ancient Rhetorical Masterclass”

Jason Modar teaches Economics, Logic, Rhetoric I, and Omnibus VI (Modernity II) in the Logic & Rhetoric School at Regents Academy. He managed to hoodwink his alma mater, William Jessup University, into awarding him with a degree in Bible & Theology. Before escaping to Texas and working at Regents, Jason worked at a Christian radio station in California. He and his wife, Kelsie, have been married for seven years. They have three daughters and a son. You will occasionally find Jason attempting to recapture his youth by playing basketball with Regent’s students. Jason also likes to read, run, and write.

KAREN MOORE (kmoore@gracetx.org)

“Reading Latin Manuscripts”

Karen T. Moore is the author of multiple Latin books, including *Libellus de Historia*, the *Latin Alive!* series and the *Latin for Teachers* course, all published by Classical Academic Press, and *Hancus ille Vaccanis*, published by Logos Press. Karen has served as the Classics Chair at Grace Academy in Georgetown, Texas, since 2002, where she built the 3rd-12th grade classical language program. She is also an adjunct professor of Classics at Houston Christian University and a board member for the ACCS Institute of Classical Languages. Karen holds a B.A. in Classics from the University of Texas at Austin and an M. Sc. in Classical Art & Archaeology from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, where she spent time researching Latin manuscripts. Karen and her husband, Bryan, are the proud parents of three Grace Academy Alumni.

KENNY ORTIZ (kenny.ortiz@bcmn.edu)

“How to Teach Our Kids to Defend Against Radical Gender Ideology in Age Appropriate Ways”

Kenneth E. Ortiz (M.Div.) is a professor at Bethlehem College & Seminary and a pastor at Cities Church in St. Paul, Minnesota. He has 15+ years of pastoral ministry experience. He’s also a Ph.D. candidate at Midwestern Seminary and host of “Theology for the Rest of Us.” Kenneth lives in Bloomington, Minnesota with his wife Malaina; they have two children.

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TAMMY PETERS (tammypeters7158@gmail.com)

“Writing in the Grammar Stage—Engaging in the Beauty”
“The What and Why of Teaching Grammar”

Tammy Peters and her husband, Hud, live in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and have ten grandchildren. Tammy received her B. A. in elementary education and a minor in English from University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, and her master’s degree in Reading Comprehension from Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Tammy retired as a third-grade teacher at Mars Hill Academy, a classical Christian school in Cincinnati, Ohio, where she taught, wrote grammar curriculum, and mentored the elementary staff. Currently, Tammy conducts training workshops for classical Christian and charter schools. Tammy has co-authored with Dr. Dan Coupland an English grammar curriculum (8 books) with Classical Academic Press, titled *Well-Ordered Language: The Curious Child’s Guide to Grammar*.



KEITH PHILLIPS (phillips.keith@schaefferacademy.org)

“Machen: Courage, Clarity, and Common Ground”

Keith Phillips is Head of School at Schaeffer Academy in Rochester, Minnesota, where he has served for the past 26 years. Prior to Schaeffer Academy, Keith served as an administrator at Kauai Christian Academy on the beautiful north shore of Kauai and received an M. A. in Educational Policy and Leadership from The Ohio State University. Keith is a member of Trinity Presbyterian Church and a permanent member, and current chair, of the ACCS Board of Directors.



JARROD RICHEY (jrichey@nsa.edu)

“More than a Garnish: The Centrality of Music in Classical Christian Education”

Jarrod Richey has been teaching general music and choir classes at Geneva Academy in West Monroe, Louisiana, since 2008. He is the founder and music director of the Delta Youth Chorale, a children’s community choir that promotes music literacy through singing, folk dance, and activities in northeast Louisiana. Additionally, Mr. Richey previously taught voice, choir, and music appreciation classes at the University of Louisiana Monroe. He received his bachelor’s degree at Louisiana Tech University before completing his Masters of Music at the University of Louisiana Monroe. Mr. Richey also completed his national Kodály music teacher certification from Wichita State University. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Church Music and Worship at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He is the Assistant Director of the New Saint Andrews Conservatory of Music at New Saint Andrews College in Moscow, Idaho. Additionally, he teaches solfege musicianship, folk-dancing, and folk song research and analysis courses each July and August for their Kodály music teacher training program (Chenaniah Summer Music Institute) at New Saint Andrews College. Mr. Richey is an active elementary and middle school choir clinician. He is the Jubilate Deo Summer Music Camp founder and director, a week-long choir and music camp open to kindergarten through first-year college students each June. Mr. Richey is the author of *BACH to the Future: Fostering Music Literacy Today* (2016). He is the general editor and contributing author to the ACCS publication *Raise the Song: A Classical Christian Guide to Music Education* (2019). Jarrod and his lovely wife, Sarah, have seven choristers in training ranging from toddler to fifteen.

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STEPHEN RIPPON (srippon@dvclassical.org)

“Beauty, Incarnation, and Prophecy: Russian Literature in the Classical Christian School”

Stephen Rippon teaches upper school literature and composition at Delaware Valley Classical School in New Castle, Delaware. In addition to sixteen years of teaching in classical Christian schools, Stephen taught four years at the U.S. Air Force Academy. He is grateful for the opportunity to read and teach the great works of Homer, Shakespeare, and Dostoevsky (among other favorites) year after year in a Christian setting. He has contributed three guides to the Canon Classics Worldview Series, including one on Solzhenitsyn’s *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*. Stephen’s wife, Jennifer, teaches science at DVCS, and they have three children.



JOSEPH ROBERTS (roberts_1359@hotmail.com)

“Get Your Students Reading Latin”

Joseph Roberts grew up in Aguascalientes, Mexico. He holds a B.A. and an M.A. from New Saint Andrews College. He taught Latin at Logos School in Moscow, Idaho, before becoming the Headmaster of Lewis Clark Christian School in Lewiston, Idaho. He and his wife, Lia, have written the Latin readers *Fabellae Simplicis* and *Mustelae Piratae*, published by Picta Dicta.



CALEB SASSER (csasser@westsideacademy.org)

“Directing Affections to Beauty”

Caleb Sasser is the Upper School Principal and Humanities Department Chair at Westside Christian Academy in Westlake, Ohio. He teaches Shakespeare, Plato, Homer, and many other classics while advising student theses, taking an active role in teacher training and mentoring, and leading the Upper School Faculty. He has taught students at every stage of the trivium in his nine-year career in classical Christian schools. Caleb is a commissioned Lay Catechist in his parish of St. Anselm Anglican Church. He also enjoys spending time with his family (he and his wife, Anna, have three amazing and endlessly surprising kids), working in his garden and woodshop, taking long hikes, and reading good books. He holds a B.A. in Classical Liberal Arts: Pedagogy from Patrick Henry College where he received the award for excellence in the Classical Liberal Arts.



SANDY SCHINETSKY & MARTHA SHAUNESSY (sschinetsky@regentsaustin.org)

(mShaunessy@regentsaustin.org)

“Those Who Teach, Know: A Method of Utilizing ‘Dialogue’ as a Form of Assessment”

Sandra Schinetsky has been teaching mathematics at Regents School of Austin since January 2017. She earned both her bachelor and master degrees in education from Louisiana State University, and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from Texas State University. After teaching junior high mathematics in Louisiana public schools, she realized that classical Christian education is the best way to educate children and has spent the past six years teaching Algebra I, Geometry, and Precalculus at Regents. This will be her second time presenting at an ACCS National Convention, the first was in 2020 when she presented “How to Engage Students in a Meaningful Mathematics Harkness.”

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Martha Shaunessy has been teaching Geometry for three years at Regents School of Austin. She earned her bachelor's degree from Texas A&M University. After graduating from Texas A&M University, Martha realized that she wanted to teach at a school that focused more on the student as a whole. Martha's first introduction to classical Christian education was at Regents. While teaching at Regents, Martha realized that the classical model helps to engage and grow the student's character and academics. This is Martha's first time presenting at ACCS.



CHRIS SCHLECT & ANDREW SELBY (W/ DAVID DIENER) (cschlect@nsa.edu)
(aselby@trinityclassicalacademy.com)

Parts I and II: "Reflections on Dorothy Sayers' 'Lost Tools of Learning'"

Christopher Schlect, Ph. D., has worked in classical and Christian education for thirty years. Chris is the Director of the Classical and Christian Studies program at New Saint Andrews College, where he also teaches courses in history and classical rhetoric. He has also taught advanced courses in history at Washington State University, and he has interpreted historical sites as a ranger for the U.S. National Park Service. Chris has taught many subjects in grades seven through twelve at Logos School in Moscow, Idaho, where he also coached a high-achieving Mock Trial team for 24 years. He now serves classical and Christian schools around the country through his teaching, consulting, and training activities. Chris and his wife, Brenda, have five grown children, all products of a classical and Christian education, as are all their spouses. They have nine delightful grandchildren who remind them of God's faithfulness.



Andrew Selby has been a leader in classical education for over a decade. He has a B.A. from Biola University where he studied Great Books at the Torrey Honors College, an M.A. in Historical Theology from University of Toronto, and a Ph.D. in Religion from Baylor University. In 2020, he published his dissertation with Gorgias Press: *Ambrose of Milan's On the Holy Spirit: Rhetoric, Theology, and Sources*. He also regularly writes and speaks on topics related to classical education and theology among other subjects. He has co-led classical conferences and retreats, including the Alcuin West and Alcuin Midwest Retreats. He has taught students from fifth grade through post-graduate in subjects such as Latin, rhetoric, composition, logic, history, literature, philosophy, Bible, and theology. He has also conducted teacher training in classical pedagogy and curriculum. Andrew is passionate about classical Christian education but even more so about his wife, Malea, and his five children. He loves reading novels, singing hymns and Psalms in four-part harmony with his church family, teaching adult Sunday School, hiking the hills of Santa Clarita, finishing a good workout, fishing, eating and drinking well, and discussing Great Books and the Bible.



ANDREW SMALLEY (asmalley@veritasclassicalschool.org)

"Completing the Trivium is a Must"

Dr. **Andrew Smalley** serves as Head of School at Veritas Classical School in St. Augustine. He has an extensive background in K-12 classical Christian education. In addition to direct classroom work, Andrew has almost 20 years of administrative experience, including serving as Dean of Students at a school in Pennsylvania and Director of Fine Arts

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in Texas. He is originally from England and completed his post-graduate certificate in Education at Birmingham City University in England and his Master of Arts degree at Villanova. His doctorate is in Educational Leadership, having also completed his Educational Specialist (Ed. S.) degree in the same discipline. Andrew is passionate about leadership development for students, faculty, and administration in the Christian school environment and is a national speaker in this area. In recent years, he has been invited to speak at the national conferences for the Council on Educational Standards and Accountability (CESA) and the Society of Classical Learning (SCL) as well as The Deeper Learning Conference. Andrew and his wife, Robin, have been married since 2002 and have three children. He is a competitive triathlete and an avid sailor in his spare time.



ROBERT STACEY (rstacey@augustineschool.com)

“Dealing with Public Controversy”

Dr. **Robert D. Stacey** serves as the first Head of School at Augustine School in Jackson, Tennessee. Augustine is an independent classical Christian preK–12 school of 210 students that emphasizes Christian education, classical pedagogy, and the Great Books in service to Christian families of west Tennessee. Formerly, Dr. Stacey was the Provost at The Saint Constantine School and College and Professor of Government and Great Texts. He has taught a range of courses throughout his career in the Great Books, American Political and Social Thought, Economics, History, and Constitutionalism. In addition, he has published a book in partnership with the Alliance Defending Freedom entitled *Sir William Blackstone and Common Law* (2008), as well as a host of articles and reviews on topics ranging from philosophy of education to presidential elections. Prior to helping found The Saint Constantine School and College, Dr. Stacey served as Associate Provost at Houston Christian University and founding Dean of the HCU Honors College, Associate Professor in Regent University’s Robertson School of Government, and founding Chairman of the Department of Government at Patrick Henry College where he also taught the college’s flagship course, Freedom’s Foundations. Dr. Stacey took his B.A. (cum laude) in Political Science at the University of Pennsylvania in 1991 and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Government at the University of Virginia, completed in 1998. In his free time, Dr. Stacey is a dedicated obstacle racing competitor and enjoys camping, hiking, kayaking, and just about anything done in the wild. Robert and his wife, Sherry, have three sons.



JAMIE SULLIVAN (jsullivan@highlandrimacademy.org)

“The Handwritten Word: An Exercise in Beauty”

Jamie Sullivan was born and raised in the rural community of Sparta, Tennessee, where she lives with her husband of 21 years, John, and their son, Jace, who is 16 years old. Jace is a sophomore at Highland Rim Academy in Cookeville, Tennessee, where he has attended since Kindergarten. Jamie graduated from Tennessee Tech University in 2002 with a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education. Jamie has enjoyed teaching for twelve years; seven of those at Highland Rim Academy in the second and third grades. Jamie also enjoys calligraphy, knitting, baking, gardening, and being at home.

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JASON VALLEY (jason.valley@heritageclassicalacademy.org)

“Stamping Eternity on the Eyeballs: Enabling the Masterpiece to See His Master”

Jason Valley is a teacher in the Logic School at Heritage Classical Academy in Cleveland, Ohio. Prior to teaching at Heritage Classical Academy, Jason was a university instructor in occupational therapy. In 2021, he earned his PhD in occupational therapy from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. His dissertation examined the interrelationship between high school students’ time use on screen-based activities, life meaning, and psychological well-being. Based on his studies of adolescent screen use, he wrote an article for the 2023 winter issue of *Classis*, entitled, “Social Media or The Savior? The Answer to the Adolescent Quest for Identity.” Currently, Jason is working on a qualitative study exploring the self-perceived meaning of the classical Christian paideia in the lives of virtuous college students who attended classical Christian schools. Jason loves spending time with his beautiful wife, Josie (also a teacher at Heritage), and his three children, Noah, Clara, and Hannah. He also loves playing piano, exercising, playing sports, and reading great books. For Jason, the world of classical Christian education is a recently discovered treasure that he never knew he was searching for.



JANINE WARMOUTH (jwarmouth@theambroseschool.org)

“Creating a Godly Classroom Culture”

Janine Warmouth teaches third grade at The Ambrose School in Meridian, Idaho. Her first introduction to classical Christian education came in 1999 as she and her husband were investigating education options for their children. Upon finding a wonderful school in their hometown, her immediate reaction was, “I wish I would have gotten this kind of education.” That year she attended her first ACCS conference and also started teaching kindergarten at the same school. For the next 12 years she taught kindergarten, and then moved to second grade for two years. She has been teaching at Ambrose since 2014. Her love and conviction for classical Christian education has only deepened over these years and she is honored and pleased to be counted among those serving the Lord in this way.



CARMEN WATSON (cwatson@pcsclassical.org)

“Smoothing Your Path Through the ACCS Accreditation Process”

Carmen Watson has been a teacher in classical Christian schools for eighteen years and an administrator for nine years, including two years as the Upper School Principal at Providence Classical School (PCS) in Spring, Texas. During her time at PCS, Carmen has successfully coordinated the school’s ACCS reaccreditation process three times, including this past spring. She has also served on three accreditation visit committees, so she is familiar with the accreditation process from both sides. Carmen earned her M. Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from Covenant College in 2016 and enjoys helping teachers and administrators improve classroom practice and the documentation of their curriculum and other systems.

MAIN CONFERENCE: SPEAKERS



JOSH WILKERSON (jwilkerson@regentsaustin.org)

“Cultivating a Classical Christian Mathematics Program K-12”

Dr. **Josh Wilkerson** currently serves as the K-12 Mathematics Department Chair at Regents School of Austin in Austin, Texas. He has nearly two decades of experience in education, the past eleven having taken place in a classical Christian context. He holds a B.S. in mathematics from Texas A&M, a Th.M. in historical theology from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in math education from Texas State University. He is the acting president of the Association of Christians in the Mathematical Sciences and the author of the website GodandMath.com.



KAJSA WILKINS (kwilkins@theambroseschool.org)

“Shaping Round Pegs in a Square-Holed World”

Kajsa Wilkins serves as the North Campus Dean at The Ambrose School in Meridian, Idaho. She attended Logos School in Moscow and graduated from University of Idaho. She and her husband lived in Manhattan where she taught music while Bray performed in Opera and Broadway. Covid lockdowns sent them to Wichita, Kansas where Kajsa served as Director of Academics and Fine Arts. They are thrilled to be back in Idaho where their two teens attend The Ambrose School. Kajsa is eager to continue pursuing and furthering classical Christian education for God’s glory. “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea” (Hab. 2:14).



DOUGLAS WILSON (office@christkirk.com)

“Tombs of the Prophets”

“Scriptural Integraton”

Douglas Wilson is the minister of Christ Church in Moscow, Idaho. He is a founding board member of both Logos School and New Saint Andrews College, and serves as an instructor at Greyfriars Hall, a ministerial training program at Christ Church. He is the author of numerous books on classical Christian education, the family, and the Reformed faith.



KYLE WILSON (kyle.wilson@covenantchristian.net)

“AI Writing Bots and the Future of Classical Academic Pedagogy”

Kyle Wilson lives in Richardson, Texas, with his wife, Holly. Before entering into education, Kyle served as a youth pastor and college pastor at local churches around Dallas. Currently, Kyle leads the Bible Department at Covenant Christian Academy in Colleyville, Texas, where he teaches 11th and 12th Bible and Rhetoric. Kyle recently completed his Ph.D. in Leadership; his dissertation research explored culture’s impact on calling.



CHRISTIE WRIGHT (cwright@highlandrimacademy.org)

“Seven Laws of Teaching”

Christie Wright serves as the Assistant Head of School and Academic Dean at Highland Rim Academy in Cookeville, Tennessee. She was instrumental in the founding of the school in 2007 and has spent most of her instructional time in the humanities and rhetoric classes. She earned a B.A. in English Literature at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and an M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from Tennessee Technological University. She enjoys her country home with her husband of over twenty years, Jeff, where the chickens and the children are all pasture-raised.

MAIN CONFERENCE: SPEAKERS



JEFFREY WRIGHT (jwright@highlandrimacademy.org)

“Institutional Bravery”

Jeff Wright is a pastor and teacher. He is married to Christie, with whom they have a passel of kids. He holds a B.A. and MAR. degree and has been involved with classical Christian education for more than a decade. He thinks *That Hideous Strength* is predictive prophecy, local pizza joints are the best place to eat, and Appalachia is God’s country.



KOURTNEY WRIGHT (kwright@westsideacademy.org)

“The Shepherd Teacher: Gracious Classroom Management”

Kourtney Wright is the Director of Teacher Development, overseeing Westside Christian Academy’s Arete Institute for Classical Christian Instruction, and the Grammar School Curriculum & Instruction at WCA in Westlake, Ohio. She has taught at WCA since 2011 in grades PreK–8, as well as serving in leadership capacities. Kourtney developed a love for classical education as a student of the Great Books Honors College at Faulkner University. She is passionate about training teachers in classical methodology, biblical worldview integration, and the shepherding of students’ hearts. Her passion for teacher training has led her to minister through professional development mission trips to teachers in Central Asia. When she is not teaching, she can be found volunteering, playing board games, or hiking with her husband and children.



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