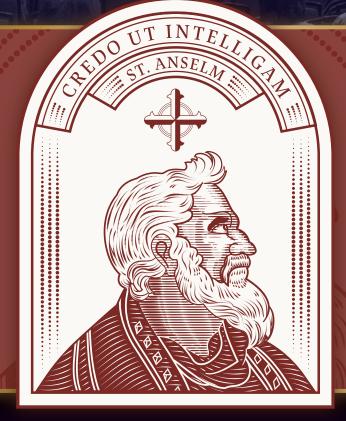


# ACCS 2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPAIRING the RUINS



# A CELEBRATION ANSELM

# JUNE 19-22, 2024

RENAISSANCE ATLANTA WAVERLY

ATLANTA, GA





# **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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### WELCOME!

his year's theme, **"A Celebration of Anselm,"** reminds us that theology is not a dry exercise of abstract propositions about God but rather a process of faith seeking understanding in a relationship with the Creator. In his most famous discourse, the *Proslogion*, Anselm says, "I do not seek to understand in order that I may believe, but rather, I believe in order that I may understand." This became the motto of many Christian scholars: *Credo ut intelligam*—"I believe that I might understand." For Anselm, the basis of his own understanding began with God himself.

As society has lost its faith in God, it has lost its understanding of basic truths. So as we seek to teach within the classical Christian tradition, we must remember that we do have answers to the fundamental questions, and that passing this understanding on he next generation must begin, as Saint Anselm demonstrated, with *belief*.

- Beverages are located in the vendor area on the ballroom level (Garden Court). Other food offerings in this hotel are listed among the following pages.
- 2 The head of each ACCS-accredited and ACCScandidate school is invited to join David Goodwin in Habersham. The meeting begins at 12:15 on Thursday. Lunch will be provided.
- The head of school and one guest are invited to learn more about upcoming work for ACCS, Friday in Habersham. The meeting will begin at 12:15. Each head of school should have received two coupons for lunch.
- Please make time to visit each of the vendors. Vendors are available from 9-5 on Thursday and Friday and 9 to noon on Saturday.
- If you are a school looking for someone to fill a position at your school, please leave a 3x5 card with the job description and your contact information on the bulletin board near the registration booth. Likewise, if you are a "someone" looking for a position to fill, you may check the bulletin board or post a 3x5 card to let schools know of your area of expertise and contact information. Cards may be obtained at the registration booth.
- 6 The registration booth will also double as the conference "Lost and Found."



- Plenary sessions and workshops are being recorded. Member schools will receive full access to all conference recordings in the Members Resource Center.
- We thank our sponsors, advertisers, and speakers for their help bringing us the Repairing the Ruins conference. The ACCS welcomes our friends and reminds attendees that their views are their own and do not necessarily represent those of the ACCS or our members.
- Please plan to join us again next year on June 18 to 21, 2025, at the Renaissance Dallas Addison Hotel in Addison, Texas.

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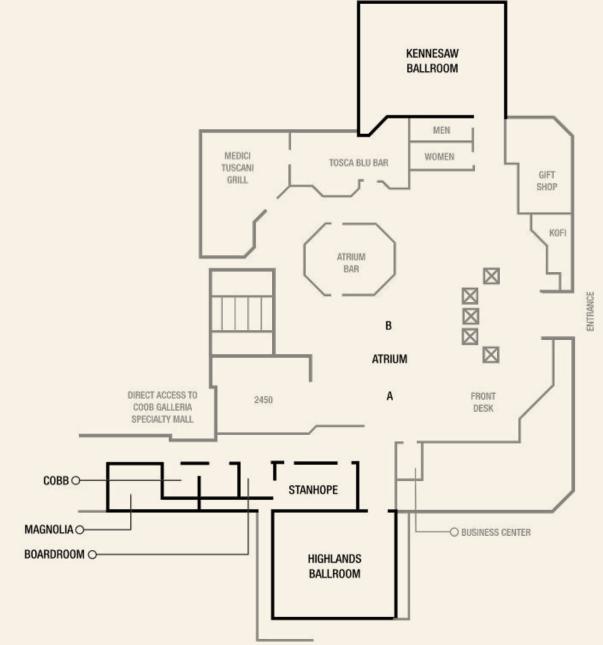
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# **Renaissance Atlanta Waverly**

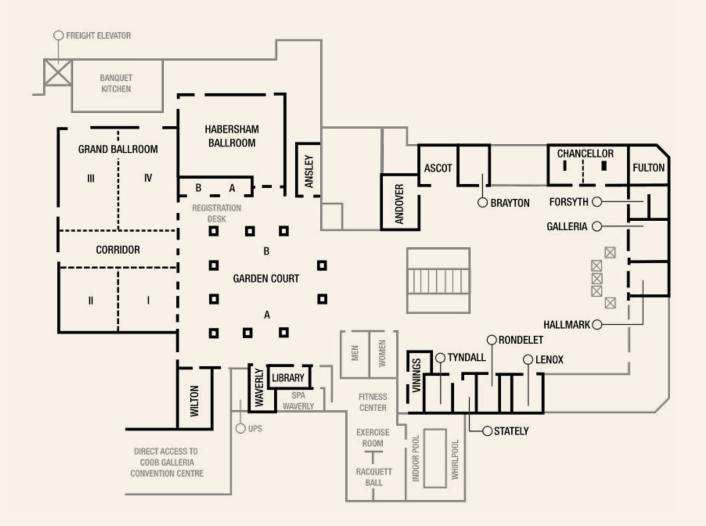
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# **MEETING ROOMS**

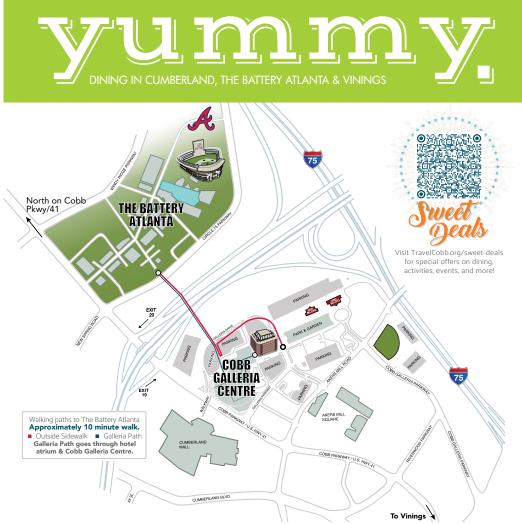
# Renaissance Atlanta Waverly

# **SECOND FLOOR**





# NEARBY DINING OPTIONS



#### THE BATTERY ATLANTA -

Antico Pizza Napoletana Blue Moon Beer Garden C. Ellet's Steakhouse CRÚ Food & Wine Bar Eataliano El Super Pan Garden & Gun Club Goldbergs Fine Foods H&F Burger Mac McGee National Anthem PH'EAST (Far East Street Feast) Punch Bowl Social Sports & Social Superica Terrapin Taproom & Fox Bros. B-B-Q Wahlburgers Yard House

#### CUMBERLAND

Blaze Pizza Bonefish Grill Buffalo Wild Wings Carrabba's CAVA Chick-fil-A Chipotle Mexican Grill Cinco Mexican Cantina Copeland's of New Orleans Doc's Food & Spirits Häagen-Dazs Hooters Hopdoddy Burger Bar Kuroshio Sushi Bar & Grill Longhorn Steakhouse Maggiano's Little Italy

#### VININGS

Another Broken Egg Cafe Bartaco C&S Seafood & Oyster Bar Canoe Chicken Salad Chick Crispina Ristorante & Pizzeria

Hoki Mellow Mushroom Meehan's Public House Old Vinings Inn Olive Bistro

Main Event Murph's Original ChopShop P.F. Chang's Philly Connection Pokeworks Saigon Cafe Starbucks Stoney River Steakhouse & Grill Swapna Indian Cuisine Taco Mac The Cheesecake Factory The Honey Baked Ham Company Tropical Smoothie Cafe Top Spice Tin Drum Asian Kitchen 101 Bagel Cafe

**Orient Express** The Public House SOHO American Bistro Stockyard Burgers & Bones 101 Steak

6 REPAIRING the RUINS 2024

TRAVEL&TOURISM

# NEARBY DINING OPTIONS

# **RENAISSANCE WAVERLY FOOD SERVICES**

eakfast	
	-
Monday-Thursday 6:30 am-2:00	) pm
Friday6:30 am-11:00	) am
Saturday-Sunday	) pm
aily	) am
Monday-Thursday	) am
onday to Friday 6:00 am-12:00	) pm
, ,	•
.u	Breakfast       6:30 am-11         unch       11 am-2         Monday-Thursday       6:30 am-2:00         Friday       6:30 am-11:00         Saturday-Sunday       7:00 am-12:00         Daily       3 pm-12:00         Monday-Thursday       3 pm-12:00         Daily       3 pm-12:00         Friday-Saturday       12:00 pm-12:00         Friday-Saturday       4 pm-11:00         Monday to Friday       6:00 am-12:00         Gaturday to Sunday       6:30 am-12:00

# **OTHER NEARBY DINING**

Restaurant	Distance
STONEY RIVER STEAKHOUSE AND GRILL	0.5 Miles
RAY'S ON THE RIVER	0.2 Miles
OLIVE GARDEN	1.0 Miles
PAPPADEAUX SEAFOOD KITCHEN	2.2 Miles
STOCKYARD BURGERS AND BONES	2.2 Miles
HOPDODDY BURGER BAR	0.7 Miles
SOUTH CITY KITCHEN VININGS	4.0 Miles



# LEADER'S DAY PRE-CONFERENCE: SCHEDULE

# WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

TIME/ROOM	EVENT	SPEAKER
8:00-8:30 Grand Ballrm 3&4	COFFEE	
8:30-8:45 Grand Ballrm 3&4	WELCOME	David Goodwin
8:45-9:30 Grand Ballrm 3&4	PLENARY: Leading in Ambiguity and Conflict	Ben Merkle
9:45-10:30	WORKSHOPS:	Fischer, Phillips,
Grand Ballrm 3&4	Board Members: Building Long-term Head of School Leadership	Robinson & Shapleigh
Grand Ballrm 1&2	The Conflict-Free School: Why You Cannot Have One and What to Do About It	Dernlan & Seibel
10:45-11:30	WORKSHOPS:	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	Creating an Agile, Relevant Strategic Plan for Your School	Brad Layland
Grand Ballrm 1&2	How Aligned and Practiced Values Benefit School Culture	Danielle Dillenschneider
12:00-1:00	LUNCH (on your own)	
1:00-1:50 Grand Ballrm 3&4	PLENARY: The "Year" of School Choice Continues	Lindsey Burke
2:00-2:50	WORKSHOPS:	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	School Choice Funding–Blessing or Curse?	Cowart & Maestri
Grand Ballrm 1&2	Identifying and Training New Board Members	Tim Dernlan
3:00-3:50	WORKSHOPS:	Fischer, Phillips, Robinson &
Grand Ballrm 3&4	Heads of School: 'This Isn't Easy–Help Anyone?	Shapleigh
Grand Ballroom 4	Ready, Aim, FIRE! Defining, Refining and Announcing Vision	Mark Koscak
4:00-4:50	WORKSHOPS:	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	We Started a School and Surprise–It Worked!	Liz and Wally Caddow
Grand Ballrm 1&2	Is There Really a Classical Difference?	Brad Dolloff
4:50-5:30	REGIONAL GATHERINGS FOR PRAYER	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	South: FL, GA, AL, KY, MS, and TN (Front of Room)	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	Grand Ballrm 3&4 East: DE, MD, NC, SC, VA, WA D.C., and WV. (Back of Room)	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	Grand Ballrm 3&4 West: AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, UT, and WY, AK, CA, HI, OR, and WA (Middle of Room)	
Grand Ballrm 1&2	and Ballrm 1&2 South Central: AR, LA, OK, and TX (Front of Room)	
Grand Ballrm 1&2	and Ballrm 1&2 Northeast: CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT, NJ, NY, and PA (Middle of Room)	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	&4 Midwest: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NB, ND, OH, SD, and WI. (Back of Room)	
9:00-4:00		
Ascot	Teaching Classic Literature for Beginners	Josh Gibbs
Brayton (1:00-4:00)	A Fundraising Workshop for Classical Christian Schools	Brad Layland
Waverly	Teaching Latin	Tim Griffith
Wilton	Teaching Lab	Chris Schlect
6:30-8:30 Grand Ballrm 3&4	REHEARSAL: ACCS NATIONAL HONOR CHOIR	
7:30-9:00 TBD	RECEPTION FOR HEADS OF SCHOOLS Sponsored by: QBIX ACCOUNTING SOLUTIONS and FIRST TRYON ADVISORS	

# SHOW, DON'T TELL.

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Visit the classical teaching institute.org to learn more.



### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

0-8:30COFF	ΞE
0-8:45WELCOM	۱E
5-9:30PLENARY SESSIC	N

#### Leading in Ambiguity and Conflict, Ben Merkle

As a leader, you are called on daily to make countless decisions, all of them seemingly freighted with ominous consequences, and none of them offering simple, obvious answers. In particular, the last several years have been a real meat-grinder for the leadership in Christian schools, as school leaders must make decisive choices in no win situations. This talk will consider some guiding principles for navigating these difficult moments with integrity and joy.

#### 9:45-10:30 .....WORKSHOPS

### Board Members: Building Long-term Head of School Leadership, Panel Discussion

One of the keys to a successful school is the relationship between the Board and the Head of School. There are numerous ways to establish an effective relationship between the two, but there are some keys to it working well both day-to-day and year-to-year. Four panelists who have each served as administrators of their schools for over 20 years will share some of those key ideas and how they helped allow for a long tenure of service at their schools. Some practical ideas for board members to consider will be shared and will lead to a question and answer period for further discussion.

### The Conflict-free School: Why You Cannot Have One and What to Do About It. David Seibel & Tim Dernlan

Disagreements and disappointments are inevitable for all Trustees and Administrators but few are ready once conflict hits their school culture. After their work helping school leaders and boards through varying degrees of relational turbulence, Dr. Timothy Dernlan and Dr. David Seibel provide a biblical framework navigating challenging conflicts that can kill a school culture. Attendees will walk away with a simple framework for assessing the degree of conflict as well as a set of strategies for responding to the most common disagreements that occur in schools.

10:45-11:30 ......WORKSHOPS

## Creating an Agile, Relevant Strategic Plan for Your School, Brad Layland

Does your school's strategic plan drive daily decisions on how time and resources are spent? Does it equip you to face a rapidly changing world? Does your school have a strategic thinking culture?

In this session, we will define a way of strategic thinking that must shape our planning. You will learn the keys to creating an agile, relevant plan for your Classical school which supports a strategic thinking culture. Your strategic plan can then unify and guide your school through opportunities, challenges, and uncertainties.

### How Aligned and Practiced Values Benefit School Culture, Danielle Dillenschneider

For my dissertation, I researched how six areas of worklife (workload, community, control, values, reward, fairness) predicted burnout in ACCS secondary teachers across the country, and I found that a teacher's sense of value alignment within the organization most significantly predicted a lower presence of burnout in teachers. I will unpack this finding by discussing what value alignment looks like for teachers practically and the various ways administrators can support their teachers in this process.

I will present the findings from my dissertation research along with case study sketches to illustrate these ideas. I will also discuss how various mission statements and core values of classical Christian schools can be evidenced in schools. Additionally, I will show ways in which certain practices seem to contradict the core values of a classical Christian school, which would contribute to teacher burnout.

#### 11:30-1:00 .....LUNCH (ON YOUR OWN)

1:00-1:50 PLENARY SESSION

### The "Year" of School Choice Continues, Lindsey Burke

This presentation on Educational Savings Accounts (ESA) provides a broad overview of initiatives from several states.



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# LEADERS SHAPING CULTURE NSA.EDU



#### 2:00-2:50 ..... WORKSHOPS

### School Choice Funding-Blessing or Curse?, James Cowart & Kyle Maestri

Changes in school choice funding in many states present ACCS schools with the reality of either compromising their standards or closing their doors. Could there be a third option? This workshop will share what two schools, one in Arizona and one in Florida, are doing to adapt to the changing school choice landscape.

### Identifying and Training New Board Members, Tim Dernlan

What qualifications, skills, and personality traits should we look for in classical Christian school board members? What is the process for finding board members? How long does it take to find board members? How do we onboard new members and ensure proper training in board governance so that we remain committed to our mission, vision, and strategic plan? If you have asked any of these questions, you are not alone. These are all common questions of classical Christian school boards that will be addressed during this workshop.

#### 3:00-3:50 PM .....WORKSHOPS

### Heads of School: "This Isn't Easy–Help Anyone?", Panel Discussion

The position of school administrator requires many skill sets. One must be an organizer, an inspirer, a visionary, a planner, and a prayerful servant-leader. There are many unique situations to navigate along the way. Four panelists who have each served as administrators of their schools for over 20 years will share some of the lessons learned throughout their tenures. Mistakes made along the way and 'best pieces of advice' will be among the topics shared. Question and answer time will be provided to pursue the ideas in more detail.

### Ready, Aim, FIRE! Defining, Refining and Announcing Vision, Mark Koscak

Colossians 2:4-5 speaks of Paul rejoicing in the faith of the Colossians and their good order. Implementing a vision can be challenging. Good order creates the pathway for defining, refining, and presenting your vision. I hope that my experience developing, counseling, and consulting, nationally and internationally, will help School Administrators, Board Members, and Development Directors to implement vision in an orderly way.

This presentation will help School Administrators, Board Members and Directors of Development, to understand the cost of disorder, and the homework to be completed that will set the table for an ordered implementation of vision.

4:00-4:50 ......WORKSHOPS

## We Started a School and Surprise-It Worked!, Liz and Wally Caddow

Twenty-five years ago, we were a young couple wondering what kind of schooling we wanted for our little son. Liz was working as a teacher in public education and it convinced us that we wanted something more for our children's schooling. After much prayer and research, we decided to start a school-and it worked.

This session will illuminate what it takes to start a school and shepherd it to maturation and success and doing it all as husband and wife raising three kids in the process. We hope our story will inspire others to continue the journey.

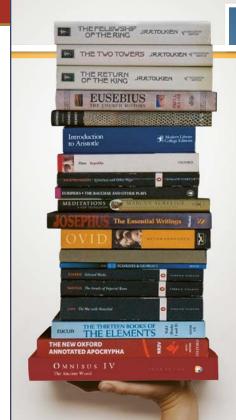
#### Is There Really a Classical Difference?, Brad Dolloff

Barna research from 2018 found only 10% of young adults raised Christian still followed Christ faithfully. 22% no longer identified as Christian! The Good Soil Report showed better results for older ACCS graduates, but what about recent ACCS graduates influenced by smart phones and a pandemic? Brad will share his doctoral research from 2022 examining if ACCS graduates still in college demonstrated a higher level of faith commitment than those in the Barna study. The presentation will include anecdotal input from his son, Coby, an ACCS graduate now teaching at an ACCS school.

#### 4:50-5:30 .....REGIONAL GATHERINGS FOR PRAYER

Attendees will gather for prayer. This will allow you to meet some of your colleagues working near you.

See location on schedule.



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# ACCS CONFERENCE | ATLANTA, GA 13



# **Speaker Biographies**

#### LINDSEY BURKE (lindsey.burke@heritage.org) "The 'Year' of School Choice Continues"

As Director of the Center for Education Policy at The Heritage Foundation, **Lindsey Burke** oversees Heritage's research and policy on issues pertaining to preschool, K-12, and higher education reform. Burke's research has been presented at academic conferences and published in peer-reviewed journals including *Social Science Quarterly, Educational Research and Evaluation*, and the *Journal of School Choice*, and her commentary and op-eds have appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers. She is a frequent guest on radio and television shows and speaks on education reform issues across the country and internationally. She has published evaluations of education choice options for public policy foundations across the country and has done extensive work shaping and evaluating education savings accounts (ESAs).

In 2021, Burke was tapped to join Governor-elect Glenn Youngkin's Transition Steering Committee and was also appointed to serve on the Youngkin Landing Team for Education. Burke was also appointed by Governor Youngkin to serve on the Board of Visitors for George Mason University. Her term runs from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2026.

Burke also serves as a fellow at EdChoice, the namesake foundation of Milton and Rose Friedman, on the national advisory board of Learn4Life, a network of public charter schools serving "opportunity youth," on the board of the Educational Freedom Institute, on the advisory board of the Independent Women's Forum's Education Freedom Center, and as a Trustee of Choice Media.

In 2022, Burke was honored to receive The Heritage Foundation's President's Award for striving to build an enduring organization. In 2015, Burke won Heritage's prestigious W. Glenn and Rita Ricardo Campbell Award in recognition of her work fighting for expanded education choice options. The award is given annually to a policy expert who has made "an outstanding contribution to the analysis and promotion of a free society."

Burke holds a bachelor's degree in Politics from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, and a master of teaching degree in Foreign Language Education from the University of Virginia. She earned her PhD in Education Policy from George Mason University, where she examined the intersection of education choice and institutional theory.

#### LIZ AND WALLY CADDOW (wcaddow@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "We Started a School and Surprise-It Worked!"

Liz Caddow founded Trinity Classical Academy in 2001 in Santa Clarita, California with her husband, Wally Caddow. Today Trinity is in its 23rd year with 560 students in grades K-12th and has graduated 13 classes totaling over 400 students who have attended some of the finest universities and colleges in the United States.

Liz went on to teach public junior high for 8 years. Her experiences there began to strengthen a resolve that starting a new school was what God had planned for her. But what kind of school was worthwhile to start? Hearing the founder of the Logos School, Douglas Wilson, on James Dobson's "Focus on the Family" radio program one morning gave her the answer. After months of research, reading, and consideration, Liz and Wally presented a survey to their local church congregation to gauge interest in beginning a classical, Christian school. A dozen families expressed interest and the dream of Trinity Classical Academy began a journey to reality.



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Trinity has also pioneered the inclusion of special education into the classical school setting by opening the Imago Dei School (Latin for the Image of God) to serve students with developmental disabilities. The only classical school in the country to do so, and one of the few Christian schools to address this underserved population. Trinity now also serves 160 plus students in the independent learning community through Trinity's Libertas Preparatory School.

Liz and Wally make their home in Santa Clarita, California. Their son, Ian, attended the United States Naval Academy and now serves as a 1st Lieutenant Logistics officer in the United States Marine Corps, married a Trinity alumna, and the Caddows were excited to celebrate their first grandchild this past fall. Their daughter, Hannah, graduated from Life-Pacific University this past spring with a masters in Leadership Development. Their youngest daughter, Lily, just completed her freshman year at Wheaton College, where she also plays on the Wheaton Thunder women's basketball team.

#### JAMES COWART (james.cowart@trinitaschristian.org) "School Choice Funding-Blessing or Curse?"

**James Cowart** serves as headmaster at Trinitas Christian School in Pensacola, Florida. He previously served as headmaster at an ACCS school in Tennessee 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) "The Conflict-Free School: Why You Cannot Have One and What to Do About It"

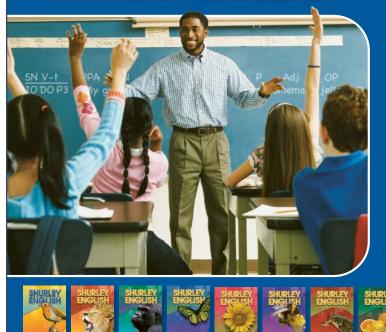
"Identifying and Training New Board Members"

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

#### DANIELLE DILLENSCHNEIDER (ddillenschneider@bayshorechristian.org) "How Aligned and Practiced Values Benefit School Culture"

**Danielle Dillenschneider** has taught at Bayshore Christian School for nine years. In her time at Bayshore, she has taught literature, rhetoric, debate, writing, and art history, to seventh through twelfth-grade students. She has earned a Master's in Classical Education from Eastern University and a Doctorate of Education from Southeastern University

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# ACCS CONFERENCE | ATLANTA, GA 17



# LEADER'S DAY PRE-CONFERENCE: SPEAKERS

### BRAD DOLLOFF (bdolloff@cofo.edu) "Is There Really a Classical Difference?"

Dr. Brad Dolloff has been the dean of the Lab School at School of the Ozarks, a classical Christian K-12 laboratory school of College of the Ozarks since its opening in 2012. Before accepting the position as the headmaster here, Dr. Dolloff served as a mathematics teacher, coach, and school administrator in public education. His experience in education spans more than three decades. Additionally, he serves on the teaching team at First Baptist Branson and as a member of the South Central Missouri Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) board of directors. Dr. Dolloff's educational background includes an Ed.D. in Education from Southwest Baptist University in 2022, a Specialist in Education (Educational Administration) degree from Missouri State University in 2011, an Administrative Certification (M.A. in school leadership program) from Baker University in 2002, Master of Science in Education from Southwest Missouri State University in 1993, and a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics teaching from Bethany College in 1986. He has been married to his wife, Dee, for over thirty years, and they have two children. Their oldest Coby completed a Masters in Theology and the Arts from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and is teaching at Classical School of Wichita. Their daughter, Leah, graduated with an English major and art illustration minor from John Brown University. Leah is now attending The Kanakuk Institute in Branson, Missouri. In addition to spending time with family, Brad enjoys coffee with friends and loved ones, the outdoors, hiking, and exploring God's creation or any destination that requires a Jeep to reach it!

#### TY FISCHER (tyfischer@veritasacademy.com) "Advice for Heads of Schools" "Advice for School Boards"

**Ty Fischer** has been the Head of School at Veritas Academy in Leola since 1997. He received a BA in history from Grove City College and a Master of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, Mississippi. He has also studied at Cambridge University at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. He is a permanent member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools Board. He has been involved in numerous curricular projects. He was the Managing Editor of the Veritas Press Omnibus Project. Ty and his wife, Emily, are the parents of four daughters: Maddy, Laynie, Karis, and Elyse, and the proud owners of one "periodically obedient" Puggle, Roxy.

#### DAVID GOODWIN (david.goodwin@accsedu.org) "Opening Welcome"

**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.















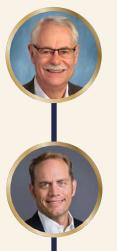
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#### MARK KOSCAK (MKoscak@providenceacademy.com)

"Ready, Fire! Aim? Defining, Refining, and Announcing Vision"

Mark Koscak has served as the Director of Development at Providence Academy in Johnson City, Tennnessee, for 21 years. He also consults domestically and Internationally for Holland Educational Consulting. Mark and his bride, Beth, have been married for 30 years. They have two adult children, TJ and Caroline. Both children attended Providence Academy, K-12. The most underrated aspect of Mark's time at Providence has been the vicarious education he received as his children received their classical Christian education.

#### BRAD LAYLAND (blayland@thefocusgroup.com) "Creating an Agile, Relevant Strategic Plan for Your School"

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.

#### KYLE MAESTRI (kyle.maestri@trinitychristianaz.com) "School Choice Funding-Blessing or Curse?"

Mr. Kyle Maestri is a passionate follower of Jesus Christ. He grew up in a Christian home where he was taught to ask hard questions which deepened his faith at a young age. He attended Biola University and was part of their first graduating class of the Torrey Honors Institute, a Christ-centered classical education Great Books program. While at Biola, he studied Philosophy and Theology and gained a passion for K-12 classical education. In 2003, he was approached to help start a classical Christian school for the Prescott area. He was daunted by the task but trusted that God was leading and did not want to miss out. He completed his Master's degree in Educational Leadership at Northern Arizona University in 2009. He loves teaching, spending time with students, being

# LEADER'S DAY PRE-CONFERENCE: SPEAKERS

at home with his family, reading, and playing basketball. Along the way, during the beginning of the school, he married his true love, Anni. They now have four beautiful daughters that they are working hard to raise in the truth of God's Word. Please pray for him and his family as he leads this ministry with the guidance of the School Board, the Word, and the Spirit of God.

#### BEN MERKLE (bmerkle@nsa.edu) "Leading in Ambiguity and Conflict"

Dr. **Ben Merkle** is the president of New Saint Andrews College, as well as a Senior Fellow of Theology. He holds a DPhil in Oriental Studies and an MSt in Jewish Studies from Oxford University, England; an MA degree in English Literature, a Greyfriars Letter, and a BS in Education (Secondary Education Chemistry, with a minor in History) both from the University of Idaho. He is a teaching elder at Christ Church, Moscow, Idaho, regularly preaching at their downtown service. Dr. Merkle is the author of *The White Horse King* (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2009) and *Defending the Trinity in the Reformed Palatinate* (Oxford University Press 2015). He and his wife Rebekah have five children.

#### KEITH PHILLIPS (phillips.keith@schaefferacademy.org) "Advice for Heads of Schools" "Advice for School Boards"

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.

#### TRACY ROBINSON (TRobinson@hickorychristian.com)

#### "Advice for Heads of Schools" "Advice for School Boards"

**Tracy Robinson** lives in Hickory, North Carolina with his wife, Gayle. The Robinsons have six children, five of whom graduated from Hickory Christian Academy, with the youngest recently completing his senior year at HCA in 2024. Tracy grew up in a Christian home, became a believer in Christ at a young age, and graduated with a degree in math and physics from Appalachian State University in 1992. He taught for five years in the public schools before his oldest daughter became school age. At that time, the Robinsons discovered Classical Christian education at Hickory Christian Academy, became parents, andeventually gained employment there, believing there was much more to education than the government had to offer. He has been the Head of School at Hickory Christian Academy for the past 24 years. During that time, HCA has grown from 175 students to 515, in addition to employing more than 70 faculty and staff and has acquired over \$14 million in buildings and land. HCA has been a member of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools since 1997 and has been fully accredited since 2015.



# LEADER'S DAY PRE-CONFERENCE: SPEAKERS



#### 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.

ANDY SHAPLEIGH (ashapleigh@rpsok.org) "Advice for Heads of Schools" "Advice for School Boards"

Andy Shapleigh grew up in St. Louis, Missouri and attended the University of Kansas, earning a liberal arts degree before moving to Tulsa, initially in sales and later in a marketing and fund-raising position for a non-profit organization. After nine years in a corporate environment, he accepted the invitation to be the first headmaster for Regent Preparatory School of Oklahoma, which opened in August 2000. The school grew from 61 students in year one to just over 600 students today. Andy and his wife Lori have four children, all of whom are Regent graduates.

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# ACCS CONFERENCE | ATLANTA, GA 23



Ad: Administrators

G: Grammar

F: Foundations

P: Practicum

LR: Logic/Rhetoric TP: Track Plenary

# MAIN CONFERENCE: DAY 1

# THURSDAY, JUNE 20

TIME/ROOM	EVEI	NT	SPEAKER
8:00-8:30 Grand Ballroom	DEVC	DTIONS	Douglas Wilson
9:00-9:30 Grand Ballroom	WELC	COME & OPENING	David Goodwin
9:30-10:30 Grand Ballrm 3&4	PLEN	ARY: Rene Girard, St. Anselm, and the Crackle of Envy	Douglas Wilson
10:50-11:50	WOR	KSHOPS:	
Grand Ballrm 3&4	All	Modern Apologetics for Scientific Skeptics: The Astronomical Discourses	George Grant
Grand Ballrm 1&2	F (A)	The Paideia of God	Joe Rigney
Kennesaw	G	Build Engaging Literature Lessons	Sarah Crowe
Highlands	Ad	ACCS Accreditation From the School's Perspective	Hefner & Walke
Chancellor	SN	Kingdom Service: Answering the Call to Serve Students with Learning Needs	Liz Caddov
Wilton	All	(Collaborative) Collaboration Without Consternation	Mandi Gerth
Galleria	All	Art Education: Challenges and Delightful Possibilities in the Classical	Kandra Bellanca
Ascot	L/R	How to Find and Train Latin (or Greek) Teachers for Your School	Tim Griffith
Habersham	TP	TRACK PLENARY: Engaging our Students and Encouraging Our Parents	Keith McCurdy
12:00-1:15	LUNC	CH & VENDOR TIME	
12:15–1:00 Habersham	LUNC	CH MEETING for Heads of ACCS Accredited Schools	David Goodwir
1:15–1:30 Grand Ballroom	SING	ING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS	
1:30-2:30 Grand Ballroom	PLEN	ARY: The Children of Hope: Augustine and Anselm	Kevin Robert
2:30-4:00 TBD	HEAD	O OF SCHOOL WIVES' TEA	
2:50-3:50	WOR	KSHOPS:	
Habersham	F (A)	The Experience of the Sublime	Grant Horne
Grand Ballrm 1&2	All	Theological Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts	Kyle Rapinchul
Kennesaw	G	Against Pragmatism: Mathematics in the Grammar School	Patricia Smith
Highlands	L/R	Opening Doorways to Classroom Attentiveness	Phil Aran
Chancellor	Ad	Blending Faith and Preparedness in Safety Training	Jason Perry
Wilton	SN	From Empathy to Action: Creating a Comprehensive Student Support	Megan Howel
Galleria	L/R	Designing an Effective Senior Thesis Program	Patrick Halbrook
Ascot	L/R	A More Melodious Sound: Fighting the Attraction and Distraction of	Matt Beatty
Grand Ballrm 3&4	ТР	TRACK PLENARY: Anselm the Teacher: The Pursuit of Joy in Education	Joe Rigney
4:10-5:10	WOR	KSHOPS:	
Habersham	L/R	Temple-Centered Teaching	Andrew Kerr
Grand Ballrm 1&2	G	Rhyme, Rhythm, & Repetition	Mindy Stanley
Kennesaw	F (A)	The Seven Laws of Teaching	Christie Wrigh
Highlands	L/R	What 400 Hours of Discussion over 50 Texts in 16 Months as a Student	Mark Wheele
Chancellor	Ad	Counting the Cost The Head of School Role	M. Wade Ortego
Wilton	All	A Good Man is Hard to Find: Modern Education and the Crisis of Men	Franklin Nortor
Galleria	SN	A Day in the Life: Teaching Students with Learning Needs in the	Collver, Robertson, & Weichbrod
Ascot	All	(Collaborative) Twenty Years in a Collaborative School: Lessons	Jean Auxie
Ascot Grand Ballrm 3&4	TP	TRACK PLENARY: Part I: Homer on Courage and Justice	Louis Markos
		TRACK FLIMART. Part I. Homei on Courage and justice	Louis markos
7:30-8:30 Grand Ballrm 3&4	TP	ACCS NATIONAL HONOR CHOIR PRESENTED BY NSA	

# 24 REPAIRING the RUINS 2024

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 20**

8:00-8:30 AM	DEVOTIONS
9:00-9:30 AM	WELCOME AND OPENING
9:30-10:30 AM	PLENARY SESSION

### Rene Girard, St. Anselm, and the Crackle of Envy, Douglas Wilson

Our work in ACCS is a crucial front in our modern culture wars. As you cannot fight a naval war without ships, or conduct tank warfare without tanks, so it is impossible to have a culture war if we are missing a culture. The ACCS is in the front lines of a most necessary rearmament. The situation is dire-it is like Britain trying to rearm in the thirties. But it is not enough to have old books, Latin courses, and classical music. Cultures need an immune system against the deadliest culture disease, which is envy. And to understand that properly, we need to look at Girard and Anselm.

#### 10:50-11:50 AM......WORKSHOPS

## Modern Apologetics for Scientific Skeptics: The Astronomical Discourses of Thomas Chalmers, *George Grant*

In 1815, shortly after he first arrived as the pastor of Glasgow's prominent Tron Church, Thomas Chalmers began a series of lunchtime lectures on astronomy. His aim was to meet objections against the truth of the Gospel "in the treatises of infidelity" and "in the conversations of the worldly." Every other month for the next two years, Chalmers employed every apologetic method in the ample arsenal of Christian truth to developing a vibrant "Natural Theology." In this workshop we will explore the remarkable impact from his lectures and draw from that legacy lessons for our own day of infidelity.

#### The Paideia of God, Joe Rigney

In this Foundation of Classical Christian Excellence workshop, we will explore the richness of the biblical vision of paideia. As classical Christian educators, we want our students to be thoroughly converted, that is, real Christians, all the way down. The paideia of God refers to the immersive process by which children are enculturated into the Christian faith. It covers everything from the habits of heart and mind that we seek to impart to our students, as well as to the air that they breathe in our classrooms and in our homes as we seek to help them grow up into maturity in Christ.

#### Build Engaging Literature Lessons, Sarah Crowe

This workshop focuses on how to engage students in literature class with subtopics such as, "Engage them in the Truth," "Engage them with drama," "Engage them in oral narration," "Engage them in preparing arguments," "Engage them in comparing and contrasting," and more. The purpose is to encourage literature teachers with ideas for practical activities while focusing on the goals of instilling an enjoyment/wonder for literature, developing reasoning skills, exploring stories in light of the truth in God's word, and participating in active ways.

# ACCS Accreditation From the School's Perspective, Craig Hefner & Amy Walker

The ACCS accreditation program is "A School-Improvement Program for Schools Serving Christ through a Classical Christian Education." These panelists are school administrators who have recently worked through the accreditation process.

### Kingdom Service: Answering the Call to Serve Students with Learning Needs, *Liz Caddow*

What is God's charge to us as leaders of the classical, Christian education movement regarding serving students with learning needs? With the myriad of challenges facing independent, Christian schools, why is it important to consider and answer this question? Follow along with the Head of School at Trinity Classical Academy as she inspires you through her journey to serve the entire body of Christ while remaining true to Trinity's mission to provide a challenging education, grounded in the Christian faith and the classical tradition, to produce young men and women of virtue, wisdom, purpose, and courage.

### Collaboration Without Consternation, Mandi Gerth

The collaborative model teacher is doing the work of two. She is teaching a classroom of students and she is managing relationships with parents-often times teaching them as well. This workload can be overwhelming and



discouraging. While teaching is a calling and we labor because we love, the collaborative model teacher must set boundaries around her time and her mental exertion. She cannot give to students and parents what she does not have. In this workshop, we will look at ways collaborative model teachers can manage time, expectations, and communication so that they can continue to grow and serve.

### Art Education: Challenges and Delightful Possibilities in the Classical School, Kandra Bellanca

Classical visual arts teachers face a unique challenge. The academic art tradition of the past was unable to contend with modernism, and contemporary, postmodern art devalues skill and truth. Classical K-12 art educators must form a new vision of art education. We should draw from the Western tradition, account for the realities of our industrial age, and find the commonalities of great art across time. Our students should be comfortable making art, and talking about art in an informed and meaningful way that will enable them to interact with art even as adults.

## How to Find and Train Latin (or Greek) Teachers for your School, *Tim Griffith*

Every classical Christian school needs teachers qualified in a classical language to make its curriculum successful. However, teachers who know Latin or Greek are hard to find and often turn over too quickly. In this workshop, Tim Griffith (from New Saint Andrews College) and Jonathan Roberts (from the Ancient Language Institute) provide models for supplying long-term language faculty, covering 1) how to find people who both know the language and can teach it, 2) how to make your own language teachers from scratch, and 3) how to train and maintain current teachers.

# Engaging our Students and Encouraging our Parents, *Keith McCurdy*

The workshop will focus on how we can better engage our students without trying to be their best friend, therapist, or the detached expert. Instead, what can we do to take one step into their lives to provide the best context for teaching and mentoring. Further, how can we encourage our parents in their role with their children. Parenting has suffered significantly from the effects of the Therapeutic Mindset, and most struggle with feelings of hopelessness and being overwhelmed in their role as parents today. Parents are often searching for a community that supports healthy parenting and this provides a significant opportunity for us to speak into that process as well as providing resources to help at this time of crisis.

12:00-1:15 PM	LUNCH AND VENDOR TIME
12:15-1:00 PM	LUNCH MEETING FOR HEADS OF ACCS
	ACCREDITED SCHOOLS, David Goodwin
1:15-1:30 PM	SINGING & ANNOUNCEMENTS
1:30 PM	PLENARY SESSION

# The Children of Hope: Augustine and Anselm, Kevin Roberts

Saint Augustine is supposed to have said: "Hope has two beautiful daughters; their names are Anger and Courage. Anger at the way things are, and Courage to see that they do not remain as they are." Today, in an increasingly secular world, Christians need to recover this virtue of hope and teach it to our children. To do so, we should look to Saint Anselm, who-nearly half a millennium after



Augustine's death-picked up his work and articulated a faith-first approach to education that puts hope at the center of Christian learning.

#### 2:50 PM...... WORKSHOPS

#### The Experience of the Sublime, Grant Horner

Building on Longinus's classical theory of the sublime in nature and art as "that which transports us out of ourselves," I will make a case that this kind of exceptional and disorienting experience of beauty, awe, terror, and the infinite is actually a quintessentially theological experience-one that, when handled properly, will set the classroom (and the students' souls) on fire for truth, goodness, and beauty.

### Theological Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts, Kyle Rapinchuk

At classical Christian schools, we all teach theology and center our curriculum on Christ. But what are we doing to help our students think theologically? This workshop will explore what it means to think theologically and how to instill this in our students of all ages.

# Against Pragmatism: Mathematics in the Grammar School, Patricia Smith

Arithmetic is often seen by parents, educators, and students alike as a very utilitarian and pragmatic subject. In the classical school, however, mathematics should not be seen as a pragmatic exercise, even in the grammar school. According to David Hicks in Norms and Nobility, "The study of mathematics, the ancients believed, reinforces the mind's power of concentration, memory, and logical process." What habits of diligence, attention, and delight are we establishing early that will shape students for the study of higher mathematics?

## Opening Doorways to Classroom Attentiveness, Phil Arant

The workshop will investigate the issue of student attentiveness within the context of the *Seven Laws of Learning*. The second law states that the learner must attend with interest to the lesson. Lessons should never begin, or should quickly readjust, without student interest. During the workshop we will investigate various methodologies

# Blending Faith and Preparedness in Safety Training, Jason Perry

This presentation delves into integrating biblically-based security principles to enhance the safety and security of educational institutions. It emphasizes the development of robust policies and procedures, fortified Infrastructure, and comprehensive training programs. These elements are essential in nurturing a learning environment that aligns with biblical teachings and fostering a sense of community, discipline, and discipleship, all aimed at protecting students and staff while maintaining a welcoming and empowering campus.

# From Empathy to Action: Creating a Comprehensive Student Support Program, Megan Howell

Recognizing that the Lord creates each student uniquely with his own special gifts and talents, Trinity believes that a rigorous classical, Christian education should be available to students with learning needs. Learn about the comprehensive program of academic and therapeutic support Trinity has designed to assist each learner in reaching his potential for Christ.

### Designing an Effective Senior Thesis Program, Patrick Halbrook

Most classical Christian schools love the idea of the senior thesis. In reality, senior thesis programs often fall short of their potential, becoming a source of frustration for both teachers and students. A thriving senior thesis program is certainly possible for most schools, but designing one requires clarifying and communicating its purpose, understanding students' abilities and needs, and crafting a plan conducive to student success. This workshop will share practical strategies to help teachers create or improve senior thesis programs.

A More Melodious Sound: Fighting the Attraction and Distraction of the Modern World with Encounters with Truth, Goodness, and Beauty, *Matt Beatty* 

A discussion of how to assist students (classroom) and parents (book clubs) into rejecting worldliness and distraction and grabbing hard onto heartfelt love of the true, good and beautiful by tying together Thomas Chalmers *The Expulsive Power of a New Affection* with CS Lewis, St. Paul, and Homer's *Odyssey*.

# Anselm the Teacher: The Pursuit of Joy in Education, Joe Rigney

In this workshop, we will explore Anselm's theological and pedagogical method. Anselm famously commended "faith seeking understanding" as a motto for Christian theology. In his own teaching and writing, Anselm saw education as a joint venture between teacher and student in which they sought joy in God through dialogue and disputation. By examining Anselm's approach to education, we will sharpen our own vision of teaching in hopes of creating "Aha!" moments for our own students.

#### 4:10-5:10 PM ..... WORKSHOPS

#### Temple-Centered Teaching, Andrew Kern

The Biblical Temple is the key to interpreting the whole Bible. It's also the key to knowing the world, ourselves, and our place in the world. It shows how we-made according to the Image of God-learn. Since, as Dorothy Sayers said, we should teach with the grain of the child, this presentation searches for insights into that grain, insights hidden on the very surface of the temple, so we can bring them into our classrooms. What is it about the temple that enables us to teach our students in a Christcentered way, guide them to the treasures of wisdom and knowledge that are found in Christ, and heal the breach between education and the spiritual life? Come and hear!

#### Rhyme, Rhythm, & Repetition, Mindy Stanley

Using the elements of rhyme, rhythm and repetition effectively throughout the day is invaluable to learning in the lower school.

#### The Seven Laws of Teaching, Christie Wright

As the foundational pedagogical guide in our association, Gregory's Seven Laws provide wisdom and practical ideas for teachers with great or little experience across all subjects and all grades. Additionally, administrators responsible for teacher training and evaluation will receive suggestions for how to best train, implement, and evaluate their faculty according to the laws.

### What 400 Hours of Discussion over 50 Texts in 16 Months as a Student Taught Me about Graded Discussions, Mark Wheeler

While in school as a student, I never experienced academic discussions that were designed to foster learning. As a teacher, I wondered for many years what I might have learned about structuring discussions if I had participated in that kind of academic exercise. Over the last 16 months, while doing an MA at St. John's College, I have been able to answer that question to some extent. Based on my experience at St. John's, this practicum will offer ten elements that have improved academic discussions in the classes I teach.

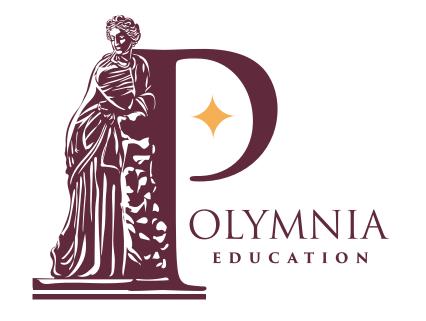
### Counting the Cost ... The Head of School Role, M. Wade Ortego

As classical Christian education continues to grow throughout the country, more and more schools are starting up-and with that comes the need for leadership, often in the form of a Headmaster or a Head of School. Prior to this boom, the Christian education movement was already short on leadership. So, if communities fail for lack of vision, are we recruiting and preparing the leaders needed to provide that vision? Throughout the conversation, we will discuss the responsibilities of a Head of School, the pathway to the position, the prerequisite skills, and behaviors necessary to survive and succeed in the role. The CCE movement needs faithful leaders, and we should make sure we are equipping and resourcing those leaders for the realities ahead of them. Resource and stories will be shared so prospective Heads can realistically evaluate their capabilities as they consider the call to serve as Head of School.

# A Good Man is Hard to Find: Modern Education and the Crisis of Men without Chests, Franklin Norton

The present study demonstrates how Covenant School, in its transition into a truly classical and Christian school, better engages, retains, and educates boys than the modern methods of education previously applied, particularly in terms of curriculum and pedagogy. This transition, over five years, ultimately led to higher male retention rates and better male student performance and satisfaction, especially in the upper school (grades 7-12), where the greatest retention disparities were historically present.

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# A Day in the Life: Teaching Students with Learning Needs in the General Education Classroom: A Teacher's Experience,

#### Kaeli Collver, Sarah Robertson, & Zach Weichbrodt

Hear from grammar, logic and rhetoric school teachers who have experience implementing student success plans and creatively addressing student learning needs. Find out how these teachers help students with learning needs thrive in a rich, rigorous, classical education classroom.

#### Twenty Years in a Collaborative School: Lessons Along the Way, Jean Auxier

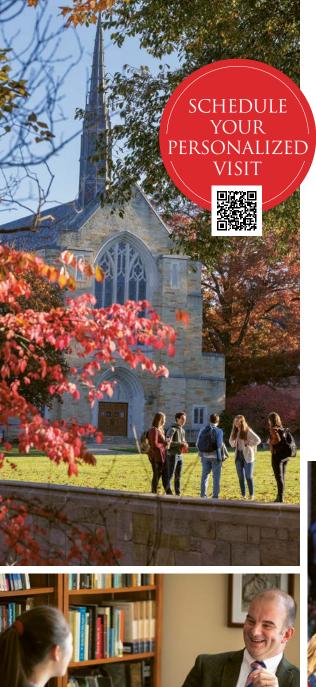
From day one to day 3200, twenty years in a classical, collaborative school have made for an incredible journey! Join me as I trace the most pressing matters of those early and middle years, which included our need to define classical, parent burn-out and homework loads, clarifying curriculum, building community, and training teachers. Then, we'll reflect on the challenges of the most recent years: the GroupMe culture, facing facts, and cultivating student loves. Join me for a practical, honest account of mountains and valleys traversed in this unique model.

#### Track Plenary: Part I: Homer on Courage and Justice, Louis Markos

The Christians of the early and medieval church recognized that, although the higher pagan writers of Greece and Rome lacked a full understanding of the three theological virtues of faith, hope, and love, they did understand and achieve significant insight into the four classical virtues of courage, temperance, wisdom, and justice. Chief among these higher pagan writers was Homer, who, in his *lliad* and *Odyssey*, explored the nature and limits of courage and justice.

In my first lecture, "Homer on Courage," I shall focus on two different types of courage that Hector and Achilles embody in the *lliad*, with Hector showing forth *his* courage by staying true to what society expects of him and Achilles showing forth his courage by breaking those expectations. In the second, "Homer on Justice," I shall contrast justice in the lliad–which is maintained by instilling the key Greek concepts of *aidos*, *nemesis*, *themis*, and *xenia* in the heroes–and in the *Odyssey*–where a person's heroic or villainous status is made clear by whether he honors or violates the sacred relationship between guest and host. Though these two talks are best heard in sequence, they can each stand alone.





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# MAIN CONFERENCE: DAY 2

 Ad: Administrators
 F: Foundations
 P: Practicum

 G: Grammar
 LR: Logic/Rhetoric
 TP: Track Plenary

## FRIDAY, JUNE 21

Grand Ballroom       9:10-9:30       Grand Ballroom       9:30-10:30       Grand Ballroom       10:50-11:50       WO       Grand Ballrm 3&4       Ad       Grand Ballrm 1&24       F (G)       Kennesaw       F (S)       Highlands       Galleria       All       Ascot       Habersham       TP       12:00-1:00	OUNCEMENTS & INTRODUCTION         SENTATION: First Prize, 2024 Chrysostom Oratory Contest         WARY: Anselm and the Discipleship of the Mind         RCSHOPS:         Governance in the Garden of Good & Evil         Discipline and Discipleship         Hands on Formative Assessment         Smoothing Your Path Through the ACCS Accreditation Process         Facing Legal Threats and Protecting Your School's Religious Liberty         Hope and A Future is Here: The Imago Dei School for Students with         Developmental and Learning Disabilities         Ascending Shadows: Shedding Light on Our Curricular Choices         Merging Linguistic Worlds: Mastering English Grammar through Latin         TRACK PLENARY: (Repeat of Thursday's workshop)         Engaging our Students and Encouraging Our Parents         S Membership Meeting	George Gran Douglas Wilson Kelly Gardne Bryan Lyncl Carmen Watson Harrison Smith Clark & Howel Jean Auxie Kellie Herrero Keith McCurdy David Goodwin
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1:15-1:30 Grand Ballroom	SENTATION: The Boniface Award	
	NARY: Infiltration and Astroturf: How the Left is Attempting to Transform Church	Megan Basha
2:50-3:50 WO	RKSHOPS:	
Habersham All	Poetry as Pedagogy	Kyle Rapinchi
Grand Ballrm 1&2 All	Part I: The Canon of Great Books	Diener, Horner, & Schle
Kennesaw All	The Training and Teaching Dichotomy	Christie Wrig
Highlands L/R	Reinvigorating the Contemporary Quadrivium	Slater & Slat
Chancellor Ad	How to put Down the ring: The Gollum in Headmaster's Clothes	Ben Hollar
Wilton G	Filling an Unforgiving Class Period with 50 Minutes Worth of Distance	James Wald
Galleria SN	Early Intervention and Educational Therapy	Bond and Robertso
Ascot All	Singing School: A Two-Tiered Music Vision for Classical Christian	Jarrod Riche
Grand Ballrm 3&4 TP	TRACK PLENARY: Logos-Centered Teaching	Andrew Ke
4:10-5:10 WO	RKSHOPS:	
Habersham F (G)	Not a Minute Wasted	Donna Tayl
Grand Ballrm 1&2 All	Part II: The Canon of Great Books	Diener, Horner, & Schle
Kennesaw L/R	Assessing Through Oral Dialogue: Seeing What the Students	Earl Claypo
Highlands Ad	Stories for Mentoring and Support for Novice Teachers in Classical	Katherine Schul
Chancellor G	(Collaborative) Understanding the Home Day: Help for the	Mandi Ger
Wilton All	Set the Table and Enjoy the Feast: Creating Culture with Intentional	Hinton & Tacke
Galleria All	A Sober Look at the Perspective of a First-Year teacher, for	Davis Greenwoo
Ascot All	Teaching for Spiritual Formation: Liturgies of Time and Space-	Kyle Hugh

TRACK PLENARY: Part II: Homer on Courage and Justice

Louis Markos

# 32 REPAIRING the RUINS 2024

ΤР

Grand Ballrm 3&4

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## FRIDAY, JUNE 21

9:30-10:30 AM ..... PLENARY SESSION

#### Plenary: Anselm and the Discipleship of the Mind, George Grant

Known as the "Father of Scholasticism" and of "Presuppositional Apologetics" Anselm of Canterbury was perhaps the most luminous and penetrating intellect in the years between Augustine and Aquinas. His vision for education laid the foundations for the Western university tradition and the Christian stewardship of the mind. This plenary talk will explore his life, his legacy, and his lessons for our own time.

#### 10:50-11:50 AM......WORKSHOPS

# and Evil, Douglas Wilson

Governance in the Garden of Good

Keeping in mind that you get more of what you subsidize, and less of what you penalize, the question should naturally arise-what kind of decisions are you getting more of? And what are you getting less of?

#### Discipline and Discipleship, Kelly Gardner

The Latin word for student is 'discipulus', giving us the derivatives 'discipleship' and 'discipline'. This talk will provide training in the basics of classroom management, focusing on the blessings of discipleship and discipline in our students. We will discuss the Teacher-Student relationship, setting and training expectations, consequences, specific situations, and parent communication.

#### Hands on Formative Assessment, Bryan Lynch

Ongoing checking for student understanding-formative assessment-is an essential foundation of great teaching. This workshop will give teachers an opportunity to try out several methods of checking for understanding, providing them practical tools they can use in their classrooms in September.

#### Smoothing Your Path Through the ACCS Accreditation Process, Carmen Watson

This session walks school administrators through the steps of the ACCS accreditation process. Attendees will receive a suggested timeline and other helpful organizing documents, with clear steps to take to gather needed

materials. This session will also provide counsel about evaluating the school's curriculum and teaching practice in-house to assess areas for improvement before the visit and will address how to communicate with teachers as the school walks through this process. Workshop attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions and share experience and wisdom with each other as well. This session and its resources can be helpful for schools seeking both initial and reaccreditation.

### Facing Legal Threats and Protecting Your School's Religious Liberty, Harrison Smith

We are in a cultural moment unlike any other. In this moment, there is a contest for truth. Alliance Defending Freedom exists to advance our God-given rights to live and speak the truth. Harrison Smith, Regional Alliance Director of Alliance Defending Freedom's Ministry Alliance, will address legal challenges to the religious liberty of faith-based educational institutions. He will identify practical steps for minimizing risks and proactively protecting your school.

## Hope and A Future is Here: The Imago Dei School for Students with Developmental and Learning Disabilities, Ester Clark & Megan Howell

This exciting model makes a vibrant, classical, Christian education available to students with developmental disabilities. Learn how Imago Dei students are woven, with the utmost care, into the fabric of Trinity Classical Academy, creating an environment of beauty and opportunity for all learners.

### Ascending Shadows: Shedding Light on **Our Curricular Choices**, Jean Auxier

Using Plato's allegory of the cave as a beautiful metaphor for classical education, we will be challenged as educators to "ascend the shadows" of curricular and pedagogical choices. Are we simply "naming shadows" by focusing on memorization and rapid recall? Are we leading students upward and past the shadows in pursuit of knowledge, virtue, and wisdom? This workshop is intended for all grade levels and may be particularly helpful for collaborative schools who share instructional responsibilities.

### Merging Linguistic Worlds: Mastering English Grammar through Latin, Kellie Herrera

A successful Latin program places emphasis on mastering Latin grammar, recognizing its pivotal role in the language's intricate structure. At Trinity Classical Academy, we center our teaching methodology on the use of a question-and-answer technique, which is mirrored in the instruction of both English and Latin grammar, fostering connections between the two languages. Within an interactive and collaborative environment, students demonstrate their comprehension of the subject matter through both verbal expression and written communication, cultivating enhanced retention and critical thinking skills.

### 12:00-1:00 PM ..... LUNCH

12:15-1:00 PM..... ACCS MEMBERSHIP MEETING

1:15-2:30 PM ..... PLENARY SESSION

### Plenary: Infiltration and Astroturf: How the Left is Attempting to Transform the Church, Megan Basham

In this presentation, Megan will offer some hard examples of how secular-left organizations have funneled money to evangelical front groups headed by marquee ministry names, who in turn use their positions to lobby evangelicals to back things like open borders policies, fossil fuel regulations, and LGBTQ compromise. We have seen this kind of infiltration before into mainline churches in the 1940s, not unlike activities that Francis Schaeffer warned of in the 1980s. Megan will conclude with a call to follow in the footsteps of Machen and other reformers and oppose the liberalization project.

#### 2:50-3:50 PM ...... WORKSHOPS

#### **Poetry as Pedagogy**, Kyle Rapinchuk

Poetry is not just about content. Poetry is also an effective, but rarely used, pedagogical tool to help students improve writing, thinking, and imagination. This workshop will explore how teachers can utilize poetry in each of the three columns of teaching (facts, skills, ideas) proposed by Mortimer Adler.

### **Part I: The Canon of Great Books,** David Diener, Grant Horner, & Chris Schlect

"Of making many books there is no end," Solomon warns in Ecc. 12:12. As educators we interact with books all the time, and much of our interaction with students centers around leading them through various books. Several questions immediately arise: Which books? To what end? Is there a "canon" of "great books"? What makes a book "great"? What criteria should we use to select the books we assign? What measure of respect is properly due to these books? To address these important questions, ACCS has invited three scholars to offer a panel discussion on the "canon of great books." Each panelist will present a paper followed by responses (and perhaps challenges) from the other two panelists. Following their papers and responses, there will be time for audience questions and conversation.



## The Training and Teaching Dichotomy, Christie Wright

Building on the foundation of Gregory's *Seven Laws of Teaching*, this talk explores the idea Gregory presents in his book's introduction: the teaching and training dichotomy. Great teachers understand this distinction and strive as much to train their students as they do to teach them. This talk aims to explore this important distinction and then discuss the practical ramifications for this training: the what and the how of proper training for the classical Upper School classroom.

### Reinvigorating the Contemporary Quadrivium, Timothy & Stephanie Slater

In pursuit of teaching what is true, good, and beautiful, classical Christian educators are challenged to honor the quadrivium portion of the seven liberal arts. Today, as in days gone by, the enactment of the quadrivium is largely inconsistent and remains a tenacious and unsolved problem among curriculum designers. A commitment to teaching these comprehensive mathematical arts with fidelity can be reinvigorated by matching the philosophical underpinnings of the quadrivium to modern scientific inquiry when one keeps their eyes on pursuit of the transcendent.

# How to Put Down the Ring: The Gollum in Headmaster's clothes, *Ben Holland*

Deep down, as a Head of School, you may struggle with the same problem that I do. I have found in most of my conversations with school heads that after the "everything is going great!" and "Enrollment is booming!" conversations, deep down we can all share a common bond with a literary character that is less than desirable. You see, I have this compulsive urge to treat the school like "My Precious." The school is like the ring in the idea that it has some kind of power over me. In this talk we will explore how we can put down the ring and help our schools flourish.

### Filling an Unforgiving Class Period with 50 Minutes Worth of Distance Run, James Waldy

Focusing upon the grammar school classroom, the workshop will offer strategies for fostering attentiveness and involvement, tips for driving the pace while allowing for thought and reflection, a plan for developing a systematic review of material taught, and a call for each minute to include sixty seconds worth of distance run. We'll also address transitions, assignments, rules for visual enrichments, and the various types of learning styles. Finally, we will attempt to offer some wit and wisdom gleaned from observing, evaluating, and mentoring teachers for over twenty five years.

# **Early Intervention and Educational Therapy**, *Kelly Bond & Sarah Robertson*

Learn how to identify the needs of your youngest students before they experience academic failure and build a program to address these needs. Discover the difference between educational therapy and tutoring, and how to help your students understand their own learning challenges, advocate for themselves, and close their performance gaps.





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#### Singing School: A Two-Tiered Music Vision for Classical Christian Schools, Jarrod Richey

What if your students could be fluent in the language of music by the time they graduated? What if that also brought with it a culture of singing and music in the life of your school? For music literacy to grow in the classical Christian school, students must be taught to read, write, and sing in the language of music. In this session, a seasoned music and choir teacher will case a practical vision for how both the music classroom and the "cracks" of the school day can be filled with joyful music. Administrators, Board Members, and teachers alike would benefit from this session.

#### Logos-Centered Learning, Andrew Kern

The disciple whom Jesus loved famously taught that Christ was the Logos of God and that, "In Him was life and the life was the light of men."There is only one Logos of God-Christ, the Uncreated Logos. And yet in a sense, every-thing is a "logos" of God-a created logos. In yet another sense, everything we humans make is an imitation of the *logoi* (plural for logos) of God-mimetic logoi. Education is teaching and learning how to know the Uncreated Logos, the created logoi, and the mimetic logoi, each as it can be known. Drawing on T.S. Eliot's poem, Choruses From "the Rock", Kern shows why it helps to think of things as logoi, how doing so makes us better teachers, and how we can teach, learn, and lead better when we are Logos-centered.

#### 4:10-5:10 PM ..... WORKSHOPS

#### Not a Minute Wasted, Donna Taylor

This workshop will discuss efficient and effective use of class time in the grammar school. Many organizational ideas for creating an orderly classroom will be given. In a well-run classroom you will find that there is extra time in the day. A wide range of instructional and activity ideas will be given for maximizing those extra minutes so that none are wasted!

#### Part II: The Canon of Great Books, David Diener, Grant Horner, & Chris Schlect

"Of making many books there is no end," Solomon warns in Ecc. 12:12. As educators we interact with books all the time, and much of our interaction with students centers around leading them through various books. Several questions immediately arise: Which books? To what end? Is there a "canon" of "great books"? What makes a book "great"? What criteria should we use to select the books we assign? What measure of respect is properly due to these books? To address these important questions, ACCS has invited three scholars to offer a panel discussion on the "canon of great books." Each panelist will present a paper followed by responses (and perhaps challenges) from the other two panelists. Following their papers and responses, there will be time for audience questions and conversation.

# Assessing Through Oral Dialogue: Seeing What the Students Really Know, Earl Claypool

Students often do not perform as well on formal written assessments. While there are various reasons for this, their performance does not always reflect their knowledge and understanding of the subject. The Oral Dialogue provides a Socratic method, whereby the conversation between student and teacher can more accurately reflect a student's ability to explain material and make the appropriate connections a teacher is desires to see in students. This presentation will cover planning and implementation in a humanities settings, but could fit in other formats.

#### Stories for Mentoring and Support for Novice Teachers in Classical Christian Schools, Katherine Schultz

In the realm of the fictional St. Augustine's Classical Christian School, a mentorship adventure unfolds. Join a new teacher, her mentor, and their supervisor on a mentorship journey, navigating challenges, nurturing a supportive culture, and sprouting a master teacher in the making. It's a tale of mutual growth and profound impact, complete with a moral of the story (or a few) for you to implement. Mentorship is not just duty but a privilege that enriches our mission.

# Understanding the Home Day: Help for the Collaborative Model Teacher, Mandi Gerth

In order for the collaborative teacher to succeed, she must be sensitive to the workload appropriate for the home day component. While many parents have chosen the collaborative model because they are intentional about classical education, many have not. The



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collaborative teacher labors to educate not just her students, but the parents of her students. In this seminar we will discuss how to approach your curriculum from a home day/class day perspective while looking carefully at ways to bring parents along in their knowledge of and love for classical education.

# Set the Table and Enjoy the Feast: Creating Culture with Intentional Liturgy, Patsy Hinton & Sally Tackett

You become what you behold. Is the "paideia" of your school reflective of your mission? What does your school look and sound like? What are children learning through observation, imitation, recitation and conversation? Have you set the table for the feast? When you create an environment where students are prepared to be receptive, you can further stimulate appetite for the lovely and lasting. Classroom liturgy is a tool for communal practice and developing language for worthy conversation. What is practical intentionality in the cultivation of school culture?

#### A Sober Look at the Perspective of a First-Year Teacher, for Those with Greater Experience, Davis Greenwood

4 Things that would be helpful for more experienced teachers and administrators to consider about first year teachers.

3 things I learned that surprised me.

2 things I thought I knew (one I was right, one I was wrong) My number 1 take away from my first year of teaching.

# Teaching for Spiritual Formation: Liturgies of Time and Space, *Kyle Hughes*

This workshop invites participants to consider how establishing "liturgies" that order time and space has the potential to cultivate faith and virtue in the lives of our students. Drawing on Scripture and the Rule of St. Benedict, participants will analyze the theological and pedagogical significance of teaching in a way that recognizes the importance of how we structure patterns of time and organize physical space in our classrooms, with special attention to practical applications in areas such as daily rhythms, the church year, hospitality, and technology.

#### Track Plenary: Part II: Homer on Courage and Justice, Louis Markos

The Christians of the early and medieval church recognized that, although the higher pagan writers of Greece and Rome lacked a full understanding of the three theological virtues of faith, hope, and love, they did understand and achieve significant insight into the four classical virtues of courage, temperance, wisdom, and justice. Chief among these higher pagan writers was Homer, who, in his *lliad* and *Odyssey*, explored the nature and limits of courage and justice.

In my first lecture, "Homer on Courage," I shall focus on two different types of courage that Hector and Achilles embody in the *Iliad*, with Hector showing forth *his* courage by staying true to what society expects of him and Achilles showing forth his courage by breaking those expectations. In the second, "Homer on Justice," I shall contrast justice in the Iliad–which is maintained by instilling the key Greek concepts of *aidos*, *nemesis*, *themis*, and *xenia* in the heroes–and in the *Odyssey*–where a person's heroic or villainous status is made clear by whether he honors or violates the sacred relationship between guest and host. Though these two talks are best heard in sequence, they can each stand alone.



#### 40 REPAIRING the RUINS 2024



# Assessments for a classical, Christian education.

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#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 22**

TIME/ROOM	EVENT			SPEAKER	
9:00-10:00	WORKSHOPS:				
Grand Ballrm 1&2	G	Tending the Growth of Oral Rhetoric and Comm	nunication in Younger	Darlene Gomes	
Kennesaw	L/R	The Incorruptible God's Biology		Diane Carter	
Highlands	All	Teaching with Eyes on the Sun: The Doxological Pedagogy of Dante's		Joe Carlson	
Chancellor	L/R	Anselm and Modern Science: Credo Ut Intelligam, or The Other Way		Chris Hall	
Wilton	F (S)	s) The Art of the Question		Mandi Gerth	
Galleria	All	For the Love of Shakespeare		Julie Letsche	
Ascot	All	Identity is Key: How Knowing Who You are Makes Everything Easier		Jon McCord	
Hambersham	All	TRACK PLENARY: Pagan Texts and Classical C Education	hristian	David Diener	
10:00-10:15 Grand Ballroom	ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL ACCREDITATION PRESENTATIONS:				
	The Classical Academy Indianapolis, Indiana Rachael Oren, Head of School Heritage Oak School Tehachapi, California Amy Walker, Head of School		<b>Covenant Classical Christian School</b> Columbia, South Carolina Patsy Hinton, Headmaster		
			<b>Providence Classical Christian School</b> Oxford, Georgia David Bryant, Headmaster		
	Mar	<b>tonehaven School</b> ietta, Georgia t Edwards, Head of School	Summit Christian Academy Yorktown, Virginia Justin Throupe, Head of School		
	Summit Classical Christian School		Tim Grimes, Executive	e Director	

Bellevue, Washington Greg Forrest, Head of School

10:15-11:00 Grand Ballroom

PLENARY: Full-Time: Work and Human Dignity in a World Gone Mad

David Bahnsen



#### SATURDAY, JUNE 22

#### 9:00-10:00 AM.....WORKSHOPS

#### Tending the Growth of Oral Rhetoric and Communication in Younger Scholars, Darlene Gomes

While it is understandable that our upper-level students should have a developing mastery of oral rhetoric and communication, what can be done on the grammar school level to tend to the growth of these crucial skills? In this workshop, we will look at what teachers can do to cultivate the soil of both oral rhetoric and communication, how they can tend to and evaluate these growing skills, and finally, how they can celebrate the harvest that the entire community will reap.

#### The Incorruptible God's Biology, Diane Carter

How do we guard our hearts from the temptation of 'becoming fools, exchanging the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man-and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things' (Rom. 1) given that we live in such a beautiful world? Discover unique ways to offer your high school students a rigorous biology curriculum while teaching their hearts to love wisdom and worship God.

# Teaching with Eyes on the Sun: The Doxological Pedagogy of Dante's Paradiso, *Joe Carlson*

Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever; the chief end of education must be to equip students to do just that. The classroom's primary purpose therefore is to train students to worship God in all things and strengthen their allegiance to Christ through the subjects they learn and the lessons they receive. This workshop will focus on several key passages from Dante's *Paradiso* to unpack what I call a doxological pedagogy as well as to give educators a practical model to imitate.

Anselm and Modern Science: Credo Ut Intelligam, or The Other Way Around? What Anselm Knew, and How We Can Practically Apply That Understanding to Our Science Curricula, *Chris Hall* 

"I believe that I may understand", said Anselm. In his time, the categories of science that we know today-physics, chemistry, biology, and the earth sciences-did not exist. Their forebears did, however, and were collectively known as natural philosophy, the seeking of wisdom in the natural world.

Although the methodological approach of modern science has greatly advanced our factual knowledge of the cosmos, something very important has been lost in the process. Materialism, skepticism, and rationalism have become dominant paradigms, while final causes and the very Creator Himself have been sidelined. Even our grammar school science programs, while well-intended and well-designed, can cultivate some of these philosophical invasive species through implication or approach.

Come see how the modern methodological approach AND natural philosophy can work together in your classroom to the benefit of both and to the glory of God. The goal is to bring you practical applications, ways in which you can approach, explain, demonstrate, encounter, explore, and even adventure in the sciences WHILE ALSO fostering and cultivating the best of natural philosophy. One key rests in the way that we order credo and intelligam ....

#### The Art of the Question, Mandi Gerth

Contrary to what many of us were told growing up, there are bad questions. Questions that do not help move a classroom discussion forward. Questions that do not provide clarification for struggling students. Questions that give away the answer. In this workshop we will discuss how to formulate fruitful questions, how to ask good follow up questions, and how to mine your curriculum for the fundamental human questions that should be the focus of your class time.

#### Identity is Key: How Knowing Who you are Makes Everything Easier, Jon McCord

One of the constant challenges schools face is the pull to be all things to all parents. While this might seem to make sense as we often need more students and budget realities are reality, this workshop will argue and work through the reality that whether it is admissions or hiring, donor relationships or marketing, the most important thing is to know who you are and what God has called you to do. Time will be spent discussing and working together to use tools and questions that will help you tease out your school's DNA.



#### For the Love of Shakespeare, Julie Letsche

What is the optimal process for sparking enjoyment, understanding, and hunger for the human truths Shakespeare embeds in his plays? Methodology matters. You will gain a successful scaffolding to use at any academic level and across all age groups, making the process of teaching Shakespeare accessible and exciting rather than daunting and boring. This will ring true for your students especially.

Success hinges on a four-step process strategically combining the visual with the literary. This specific process has been tested and measured over several years in a classroom of students as well as a mixed group of adults wanting to "learn how to enjoy and understand Shakespeare."

# Pagan Texts and Classical Christian Education, David Diener

Over the centuries, a key question of classical Christian education is if/how Christians should learn from pagan texts. This issue arose almost immediately in the first century AD, and throughout history different answers have been offered. This session unpacks this controversial issue by addressing both its historical roots and key answers that have been given throughout the tradition. This issue is just as relevant today as ever, so understanding the purpose and value of teaching pagan texts is of great benefit for all classical Christian educators.

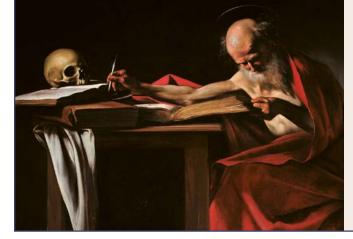
#### 10:15-11:30 AM ...... PLENARY

# Full-Time: Work and Human Dignity in a World Gone Mad, David Bahnsen

The modern era has allowed a humanistic ethos to permeate the preparation of young people for adult life and to permeate how we view the adult life itself. A materialistic and atomistic understanding of the human person educates people wrongly, prepares them for vocational life inadequately, and leaves them wanting in career preparation and career fulfillment. But a better way exists, one rooted in Christian and creational theology that not only honors the Creator and His creation but drives us towards the very thing God created us for.

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# **Speaker Biographies**

#### PHIL ARANT (arant.philip@schaefferacademy.org) "Opening Doorways to Classroom Attentiveness"

**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 who have all graduated from Schaeffer Academy. Of his eleven grandchildren, three are in town and attend Schaeffer.

#### JEAN AUXIER (auxierj@fcaclassical.com) "Twenty Years in a Collaborative School: Lessons Along the Way" "Ascending Shadows: Shedding Light on Our Curricular Choices"

**Jean Auxier** is the Dean of Faculty and Curriculum at Faith Christian Academy (Kansas City, Missouri), where she has served for twenty years and currently oversees forty-three faculty members. Her teaching experience at FCA includes seventh grade humanities (currently), 3rd grade, and KG. Her passion is to rightly and deeply understand classical education and help others do the same. In 2022, Jean received the Herzog Foundation Teacher of Year Award.

#### DAVID BAHNSEN (amurphy@thebahnsengroup.com) "Full-Time: Work and Human Dignity in a World Gone Mad"

**David L. Bahnsen** is the founder, Managing Partner, and Chief Investment Officer of The Bahnsen Group, a national private wealth management firm with offices in Newport Beach, New York City, Bend, Nashville, Minneapolis, Austin, and Phoenix, managing over \$5.3 billion in client assets.

David is consistently named one of the top financial advisors in America by Barron's, Forbes, and the Financial Times. He is a frequent guest on Fox News, Fox Business, CNBC, and Bloomberg and is a regular contributor to National Review and World. He appears weekly on The World and Every-thing in It discussing the week's economic and market news.

David is a founding Trustee for Pacifica Christian High School of Orange County and serves on the Board of Directors for the Acton Institute. He is the Senior Fellow of Economics for the Center for Cultural Leadership, and a long-time faculty member for both the Acton Institute and the Blackstone Fellowship of the Alliance Defending Freedom. David is passionate about the integration of faith and economics and has lectured and written for years about a theology of wealth and the marketplace. He responds to the term, "Kuyperian," is deeply appreciative of Tim Keller and Father Robert Sirico, and has read more systematic theology than any human should ever read. His late father, Dr. Greg Bahnsen, was a renowned Christian apologist and is David's personal hero and mentor.

He is the author of several best-selling books including *Crisis of Responsibility: Our Cultural Addic*tion to Blame and How You Can Cure It (2018), The Case for Dividend Growth: Investing in a Post-Crisis World (2019), and There's No Free Lunch: 250 Economic Truths (2021). David's newest book, Full-Time: Work and the Meaning of Life, was released in February 2024.

His ultimate passions are his wife of 22+ years, Joleen, their children, sons Mitchell and Graham, and daughter Sadie, and the life they've created together on both coasts.



#### **MEGAN BASHAM**

#### "Infiltration and Astroturf: How the Left is Attempting to Transform the Church"

Megan Basham is a Rotten Tomatoes-approved critic, a culture reporter for The Daily Wire and a frequent contributor to Morning Wire. In her previous role as an entertainment editor and podcast co-host for *World Magazine*, she interviewed numerous A-list celebrities. She has also written for *The Wall Street Journal, National Review*, and *Townhall*. Her book, *Beside Every Successful Man*, was published by Random House. Her newest book, *Shepherds for Sale: How Evangelical Leaders Traded the Truth for a Leftist Agenda*, releases in July 2024.

#### MATT BEATTY (mbeatty@bloomfieldchristian.com)

#### "A More Melodious Sound: Fighting the Attraction and Distraction of the Modern World with Encounters with Truth, Goodness, and Beauty"

**Matt Beatty** is the Head of School at Bloomfield Christian School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan. He has been involved with Christian and classical education since 1996. A graduate of Grove City College and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, he is a member of New City Presbyterian Church. He has been married to his college sweetheart for 31 years, and has four children, all of whom graduated from ACCS schools. He recently became a grandfather and loves reading, great music, and spending time with close friends.

#### KANDRA BELLANCA (kbellanca@dvclassical.org)

#### "Art Education: Challenges and Delightful Possibilities in the Classical School"

Kandra Bellanca teaches art and aesthetic philosophy at Delaware Valley Classical School in New Castle, Delaware. She holds a BFA in Painting from the Maryland Institute College of Art and has been a classical educator for eleven years. Kandra lives in Newark, Delaware with her husband and four children.

#### KELLY BOND (kbond@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "Early Intervention and Educational Therapy"

Kelly Bond began her career in social work after completing a clinical master's degree from Walla Walla University in Washington state. She worked in the foster care system as a licensor and case manager for several years. She began working for Trinity Classical Academy during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic. Kelly started providing targeted literacy and math interventions to new students who scored low on academic entrance exams. Kelly pursued additional education and licensure as an Educational Therapist through the National Institute for Learning Development.

#### LIZ CADDOW (lcaddow@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "Kingdom Service: Answering the Call to Serve Students with Learning Needs"

See the Leader's Day section for Liz's bio.

#### JOE CARLSON (kingsabbey@gmail.com) "Teaching with Eyes on the Sun: The Doxological Pedagogy of Dante's Paradiso"

Joe Carlson (MA Humanities) lives in the DFW metroplex with his wife and son. He received his BA from New St Andrews College, and his MA from the University of Dallas, where he is currently completing his PhD in Literature. His specific focus is the doxological pedagogy embedded in the poetry and philosophy of Dante Alighieri. He has managed a chain of coffee shops, published



(micro) epic poetry, co-pastored a church, helped create and staff a university campus ministry, written for the *Salvo Magazine* blog, and taught many kinds of classes over the years. Most recently he has published an original translation of Dante's *Comedy* as well as a comprehensive curriculum aimed at helping high school students (and their teachers) work through the Comedy from an unashamedly Christian perspective. His work can be found at dantepoem.com.

#### DIANE CARTER (dcarter@aca-cc.org) "The Incorruptible God's Biology"

**Diane Carter** is a Veteran (28 years) Science/Bible Teacher at Annapolis Christian Academy of Corpus Christi, Texas. She holds a BA in microbiology at the University of New Hampshire. Diane is an ACCS accredited teacher since 2014. She is also a recipient of the 2023 Herzog Foundation's Christian Teacher of the Year Award

#### ESTER CLARK (eclark@trinityclassicalacademy.com)

# "Hope and a Future is Here: The Imago Dei School for Students with Developmental and Learning Disabilities"

**Ester Clark** is holds a master's of education degree and a teaching credential in Special Education, is certified through the Association of Christian Schools International and has certification through the Autism Research Institute in "Supporting Individuals Experiencing Challenging Behaviors." She teaches a multi-grade level self-contained special education class with the "world's best" team! When not at school, Ester enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, three children and their dog. She also loves to watch her sons play basketball and her daughter work on her handsprings.

#### EARL CLAYPOOL (eclaypool@regentsaustin.org) "Assessing Through Oral Dialogue: Seeing What the Students Really Know."

**Earl Claypool** joined the humanities department at Regents in 2022 after serving in various roles in churches for over 13 years. Originally from Florida, he has lived in Texas since 2009, after a brief stint in Kentucky. The focus of his personal studies has been the History of the Church and more recently the field of Classical Education. Earl desires to create lifelong learners, equipping them with the tools to be able to discover and live out the truth throughout their lives.

#### KAELI COLLVER (Kcollver@Trinityclassicalacademy.com)

#### "A Day in the Life: Teaching Students with Learning Needs in the General Education Classroom: A Teacher's Experience."

Kaeli Collver serves as an Upper School math teacher and Dean of the House System at Trinity. Kaeli is a Trinity Alumni who returned to her Alma Mater after receiving her BA in Education. She started as a sixth grade teacher and was called up to Logic and Rhetoric School to teach math. Kaeli has taught Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, and Algebra II over the past 8 years. In addition to teaching, Kaeli also coaches volleyball and softball at Trinity. Kaeli enjoys spending time with her two little kids and husband. One of their favorite pastimes is going to the beach.

#### SARAH CROWE (scrowe@veritassav.org) "Build Engaging Literature Lessons"

**Sarah Crowe** lives in Savannah, Georgia with her husband of twenty years, Kenneth, and their three children (ages 10, 12, and 15). She has a BA in English from Berry College and an MA degree



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in middle grades reading and language arts. With twelve years of experience, she is currently enjoying her fifth year at Veritas Academy in Savannah where she teaches 6th grade Grammar, Composition, and Literature. Her favorite authors are John Bunyan and Charles Dickens, and in addition to the joy of being in the classical, Christian classroom, she loves playing piano, baking, walking the dog, and especially, family time.

#### DAVID DIENER (ddiener@hillsdale.edu) "Pagan Texts and Classical Christian Education" "Panelist: The Canon of Great Books"

Dr. David Diener works at Hillsdale College where he is an Assistant Professor of Education. Previously he spent fifteen years in K-12 private education, eleven of those in administration and eight as headmaster of classical Christian schools. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Society for Classical Learning and the Board of Academic Advisors for the Classic Learning Test. He is the Executive Director of the Alcuin Fellowship, a member of the National Council of Classical Educators, and regularly provides consulting services and teacher training to classical schools. 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 BA in philosophy and ancient languages from Wheaton College as well as an MA in philosophy, an MS in history and Philosophy of Education, and a dual PhD in philosophy and philosophy of education from Indiana University.

#### KELLY GARDNER (kgardner@carychristianschool.org) "Discipline and Discipleship"

Kelly Gardner serves as the Lower School Dean at Cary Christian School. Her twenty years of education experience include teaching multiple lower school grades and now serving as an administrator. Mrs. Gardner enjoys supporting students, teachers, and parents for grades K-5. She is honored to speak about CCE and takes every opportunity to share the excitement and wonder of learning. Mrs. Gardner graduated from East Carolina University with a degree in elementary education and holds an ACCS Master Certification. She finds joy in ministering to women in prison and adventuring with her kids and a poodle. She and her husband, Bob, are devoted to classical, Christian education, and are delighted to have two children enrolled in CCS since Kindergarten.

#### MANDI GERTH (mrsgerthteaches@gmail.com) "The Art of the Question" "Collaboration Without Consternation" "Understanding the Home Day: Help for the Collaborative Model Teacher"

**Mandi Gerth** serves alongside a dedicated team of classical educators at a collaborative model school in Fort Worth, Texas, where she currently teaches upper school humanities. She holds a master of humanities degree from the University of Dallas with a concentration in classical education. Her work has appeared in *The Classical Difference* magazine and on the CiRCE Institute and Theopolis blogs. She and her husband have labored for over twenty years to build a family culture for their five children that values books, baseball, museums, home-cooked meals, and conversation about ideas.



#### DARLENE GOMES (Darlene@LeadingToWonder.com)

#### "Tending the Growth of Oral Rhetoric and Communication in Younger Scholars"

**Darlene Gomes**, Ed.D., has a passion for oral rhetoric and communication on the grammar school level and is blessed to have used her gifts as a classroom teacher for the past 34 years. While she has enjoyed teaching students from kindergarten to college level, after completing her Doctor of Education from Liberty University, the Lord opened doors for her to move into a different area of classical education. Currently, Darlene is working as an educational consultant and speaker through her organization, Leading to Wonder, where she seeks to encourage and equip both classroom teachers and the classical Christian community.

#### 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, 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. They are the parents of three children.

#### **GEORGE GRANT**

#### "Anselm and the Discipleship of the Mind" "Modern Apologetics for Scientific Skeptics: The Astronomical Discourses of Thomas Chalmers"

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).

#### DAVIS GREENWOOD (greenwooddr@masters.edu)

# "A Sober Look at the Perspective of a First-Year Teacher, for Those with Greater Experience."

**Davis Greenwood** has had the privilege and honor of being the first to enroll in the Classical Liberal Arts program under Dr. Grant Horner, currently holding a bachelor's degree from the Master's University. He loves reading, writing, and rock climbing.

#### TIM GRIFFITH (timlgriffith@gmail.com) "How to Find and Train Latin (or Greek) Teachers for your School"

**Tim Griffith** is a Senior Fellow of Classical Languages at New Saint Andrews College, chairman of the Institute for Classical Languages, and director of the Universal Latin Exam. He has spent the last



17 years improving methods for teaching ancient languages in a modern context. Most recently he has developed *Picta Dicta* (www.pictadicta.com), an online learning platform specifically designed to assist parents and teachers with teaching ancient languages.

#### PATRICK HALBROOK (phalbrook@carychristianschool.org) "Designing an Effective Senior Thesis Program"

**Patrick Halbrook** is a rhetoric and humanities teacher at Cary Christian School, where he has taught a wide variety of classes since 2006. During that time, he has guided over 400 students through their senior thesis projects. Patrick studied the Bible and Great Books at Florida College and received his master's degree in history from North Carolina State University. In addition to teaching, he helps lead the Triangle Classical Forum, a community of classical educators in the Raleigh-Durham Triangle and has written articles on history and education for *The Imaginative Conservative, FORMA Journal*, and *The Classical Difference*. Patrick also has a background in website and graphic design; he and his wife, Kaylie, own and operate Paideia Graphic Design, providing print and web design services for classical and Christian schools. Patrick and Kaylie live near Raleigh, North Carolina with their four children.

#### CHRIS HALL (Chris@alwayslearningeducation.net)

# "Anselm and Modern Science: *Credo Ut Intelligam*, or The Other Way Around? What Anselm Knew, and How We Can Practically Apply That Understanding To Our Science Curricula"

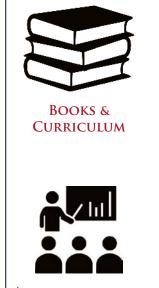
**Chris Hall** has a BA in philosophy from Gettysburg College and an MAT in elementary education from Towson University. He has been a classroom educator and administrator for 29 years, having served in public, independent, and classical schools. He is a national level Alcuin Fellow, as well as a speaker and author in the Christian Classical tradition. Along with his professional pedigree, he is a lifelong practitioner of the common arts and Founder of Always Learning Education, an organization dedicated to teaching learning, and propagating the common arts. He lives on a homestead in central Virginia with his wife and three homeschooled sons.

#### CRAIG HEFNER (craig.hefner@covenantschoolwv.org) "ACCS Accreditation From the School's Perspective"

Dr. **Craig Hefner** serves as the Head of School at Covenant School in Huntington, West Virginia, where he has served since 2018. Craig has a Ph.D. in systematic theology from Wheaton College, an M.Div. from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and a B.A. in pre-seminary with a minor in Greek from Cedarville University. Craig is the author of *Kierkegaard and the Changelessness of God: A Modern Defense of Classical Immutability*. He has spoken at SCL and ACCS conferences. Craig taught at the collegiate level and worked in church and campus ministries prior to coming to Covenant. He lives in Huntington, West Virginia with his wife, Rachel, and their sons, Elliott

#### KELLIE HERRERA (kherrera@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "Merging Linguistic Worlds: Mastering English Grammar through Latin"

Kellie Herrera is the dedicated Grammar School Latin Teacher at Trinity Classical Academy in Santa Clarita, California, overseeing the instruction of Latin from 1st through 6th grade. A highly qualified educator, Mrs. Herrera holds a BA in sociology with a minor in English from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Juris Doctor from the University of San Diego. With a robust academic background and a fervent passion for fostering language skills, she brings a wealth of



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knowledge and commitment to her role, ensuring students receive a comprehensive and enriching Latin education that establishes strong foundations and connections with other core subjects.

#### PATSY HINTON (phinton@covenantcs.org) "Set the Table and Enjoy the Feast"

**Patsy Hinton**, M.Ed. Having served in classical Christian education for more than twenty years as an administrator, Patsy Hinton has assisted boards, headmasters, and teachers as they navigate the challenges particular to classical Christian schools. Patsy is the Headmaster at Covenant Classical Christian School in Columbia, South Carolina. She has also served as Headmaster of two other ACCS schools, Dean of Academics, Curriculum & Instruction Specialist, founding board member, and as the parent of a graduate from a classical Christian school in Tampa, Florida. Patsy and her husband, David, met in England during high school. They have been married for 36 years. Their daughter, English, lives with her husband in north Georgia. She is a graduate of The Paideia School, Hillsdale College, and the University of Georgia. The Hintons attend Blythewood Presbyterian Church. They also have the privilege of caring for Patsy's father, Jan, that lives with them. The Hintons have two large dogs, Lexi and Liberty, that bring them much delight.

#### BEN HOLLAND (bholland@providenceacademy.com) "How to Put Down the Ring: The Gollum in Headmaster's Clothes"

**Ben Holland** has over 15 years in school leadership with a proven track record in school growth, fundraising, and excellence in operations. As the longest tenured Head of School in East Tennessee, Ben leads with innovation and creativity, fostering growth and retention in both staff and students. Ben has a passion to help Christian school leaders maximize their potential to make a lasting impact on the next generation. Ben lives in East Tennessee with his wife and two children.

#### GRANT HORNER (ghorner@masters.edu) Panelist: "The Canon of Great Books" "The Experience of the Sublime"

**Grant Horner** (PhD) is a senior rank Full Professor of Humanities at The Master's University, just north of Los Angeles, where he specializes in the Renaissance, Reformation Historical Theology, Art History, and Classics. He was educated at Duke, UNC Chapel Hill, the University of Alabama, and Claremont Graduate University. He has been teaching at the university level for 30 years and has published numerous articles and books on Renaissance literature; 16th and 17th century theology; the Puritan John Milton; Classical learning; Bram Stoker's Dracula; and film and theology. He is a National Council Alcuin Fellow in the Society for Classical Learning, and is Founder and Director of two academic programs at Master's: The TMU in Italy summer abroad program based in Florence, and the BA program in Classical Liberal Arts. He lives in northern Tuscany every summer with his wife and a group of very eager students, in a villa built in 1409. He and his wife have three children and eight grandchildren.

#### MEGAN HOWELL (mhowell@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "From Empathy to Action: Creating a Comprehensive Student Support Program"

**Megan Howell** started the Imago Dei School, the nation's first classical, Christian special education school-within-a-school at Trinity Classical Academy in Valencia, California. Imago Dei is one service included in the robust special education program that Megan has developed in her role as Principal of Special Education. As a licensed educational therapist with a master's degree in special



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education, Megan loves students and aggressively seeks ways to help them overcome their challenges in order to reach their potential and thrive. Megan has been married to her favorite artist/ surfer, Stark, for 35 years and together they have six grown children.

#### KYLE HUGHES (khughes@stonehavenschool.org) "Teaching for Spiritual Formation: Liturgies of Time and Space"

Dr. **Kyle Hughes** joined The Stonehaven School as its inaugural Lower School Principal in 2022. Kyle holds a B.S.F.S. from Georgetown University, a Th.M. from Dallas Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in New Testament and Early Christianity from Radboud University Nijmegen (Netherlands). A veteran educator and accomplished scholar, Kyle is the author of three books, including *Teaching for Spiritual Formation: A Patristic Approach to Christian Education in a Convulsed Age* (Cascade, 2022). He is a frequent contributor to the ACCS journal *Classis*, a Fellow at the Catechesis Institute, and Fellow of Pedagogy and Church History at the Beza Institute for Reformed Classical Education.

#### ANDREW KERN (akern@circeinstitute.org) "Logos-Centered Learning" "Temple-Centered Teaching"

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.

#### JULIE LETSCHE (julieletsche@pccs.org) "For the Love of Shakespeare"

Julie Letsche has taught using the classical Christian model for 17 years in grades K through 8. She and her husband of 30 years are parents to four young men and are co-founders of a classical Christian school. Julie served as the curriculum advisor and headmaster in the school's early years and now serves as the sixth-grade teacher at Providence Classical Christian School in Bothell, WA. Hold-ing an ACCS Master's Certification and a BA in English with a specialization in Shakespearean studies, she extends the joy of Shakespeare into secondary drama productions and adult classical book groups. Julie has led school-based faculty trainings on assessment, discipleship, and writing as well as parent education seminars about classical Christian education.

#### BRYAN LYNCH (balyn@veritasschool.net) "Hands On Formative Assessments"

**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

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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, 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 (Imarkos@hbu.edu) "Part I: Homer on Courage and Justices" "Part II: Homer on Courage and Justice "

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 Educa-tion; three Canon Press Worldview Guides to the <i>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. IVP Academic will shortly be publishing his *Passing the Torch: The Case for Classical Christian Education*.

#### JON MCCORD (jmccord@veritasgreenville.com) "Identity is Key: How Knowing who you are Makes Everything Easier"

Jon McCord has served as the headmaster of Veritas Preparatory School in Greenville, South Carolina for ten years and teaches Latin, literature, history, and rhetoric (or whatever else might be needed). Prior to moving to South Carolina, Jon cut his teeth teaching and leading in Naperville after finishing graduate school at Wheaton College. At Veritas, he runs the Veritas BBQ Club and coaches JV boys' basketball. He and his wife Lesley have four sons and love the outdoors, cooking, and discussion.

#### KEITH MCCURDY (keithmccurdytlc@gmail.com) "Engaging our Students and Encouraging our Parents"

Keith A. McCurdy, M.A., Ed.S, is a Family and Parenting Educator and Consultant, as well as a Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the state of Virginia. He has worked with families, children, parents, and individuals for over 30 years in the field of mental health.

Keith provides consulting and coaching services nationally on improving parenting skills, building strong marriages, maintaining healthy relationships, leadership training, and addressing corporate stress management. He has developed and regularly offer parenting retreats entitled "Raising Sturdy Kids" to help parents operate from the correct paradigm with their children and have extended and customized this powerful program for schools and students. He also provides counseling services in person and via teletherapy throughout the state of Virginia at Total Life Counseling, Inc.

Keith received a Master of Arts and Education Specialist degrees from James Madison University. He is currently the President and Founder of Live Sturdy, LLC, and President and CEO of Total **INSURING MORE** 

# BEGINNINGS



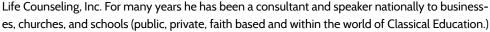
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Keith previously served as Chairman of the Board at Faith Christian School, a Christian classical school in Roanoke, Virginia. He is a regular contributor on the "BaseCamp Live" podcast with multiple interviews and the "McCurdy Moment" segments, as well as being featured on the Circe Institute's podcast "The Commons" and "Crosspolitic."

Keith is an avid outdoorsman and enjoy living in the beautiful Roanoke Valley in the Blue Ridge Mountains with his wife.

#### FRANKLIN NORTON (franklin.norton@covenantschoolwv.org) "A Good Man is Hard to Find: Modern Education and the Crisis of Men without Chests"

**Franklin Norton** is the Director of Advancement at Covenant School in Huntington, West Virginia. He earned his B.A. in advertising and public relations from Marshall University and an M.A. in Leadership with a concentration in classical schools from Gordon College, for which he completed a thesis project examining the relationship between male students and classical education. In addition to his role as advancement director, Mr. Norton has also taught upper school courses in Latin and Rhetoric, and currently teaches the senior Christian Worldview course. Mr. Norton is a member of Redemption Church in Huntington and enjoys reading great books, listening to beautiful music, and coaching the Covenant Eagles cross country and track teams.

#### M. WADE ORTEGO (wortego@theambroseschool.org) "Counting the Cost ... The Head of School Role"

**Wade Ortego** has served as Head of School in classical Christian schools since 2008. His experience and stories from the past 15 years have formed a virtual guidebook of successes and failures for other Heads of School. His great passion is to assist schools and Heads as they develop and finetune the formation of their staff and students, while building a school culture and community that honors the Lord. Wade has led four schools and is currently Head of The Ambrose School system in Meridian, Idaho. He enjoys consulting with other classical schools, supporting Heads and boards throughout the classical Christian education community, encouraging them to avoid the mistakes and missteps he's made along the way. He has been married to Rachel for 26 years and they have three boys: Matthew, Elijah, and Jedidiah,

#### JASON PERRY (jasonp@tridentshield.net) "Blending Faith and Preparedness in Safety Training"

**Jason Perry** is a distinguished voice in both the Christian community and the realm of security and emergency preparedness. As the founder of Trident Shield, an emergency preparedness, security training, and consulting firm in Johnson City, TN, he masterfully integrates Biblical principles with practical safety training. Jason's approach to active shooter and workplace violence prevention, as well as emergency preparedness and personal safety, is deeply rooted in real-world experience and guided by his faith. His extensive background (32+ years) encompasses roles as a Navy SEAL/ IDC, SWAT Officer, Executive Protection Specialist, and Corporate Security Expert. Now, as a Pastor, Jason's expertise in crisis management is enriched by his spiritual leadership, offering a perspective that encompasses both physical readiness and spiritual insight. His methodology extends beyond conventional security tactics, fostering a spirit of vigilance and resilience deeply anchored in Biblical wisdom.





#### KYLE RAPINCHUK (kyle.rapinchuk@sageracademy.com) "Poetry as Pedagogy"

"Theological Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts"

Dr. **Kyle Rapinchuk** is Head of School at Sager Classical Academy in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. In 2017, Kyle founded The Classical Thistle, a website devoted to promoting classical Christian education in a 21st century context. Through The Classical Thistle, Kyle writes and publishes articles and resources on classical Christian education, as well as co-organizing an annual conference with School of the Ozarks for the past six years. In 2023, Kyle and his family–wife (Kristin) and three children (Karis, Anastacia, and Aviel)–also founded The Greenhouse: A Mere Christian Community, an intentionally inter-denominational ministry that exists to help men, women, and children embrace the historic Christian faith, grow up in Christ, and live out the Christian faith in generative ways that provide a broken world glimpses of the kingdom of God as it will one day be in its fullness. Kyle has more than 12 years of experience in the classroom, 11 years of vocational collegiate ministry experience, and has spoken at numerous professional and educational conferences and teacher trainings. Kyle has a B.A. in English from College of the Ozarks, an M.Div. from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a PhD in Biblical Studies–Old Testament from Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary (now Gateway Seminary).

#### JARROD RICHEY (jrichey@genevaclassical.org)

#### "Singing School: A Two-Tiered Music Vision for Classical Christian Schools"

Jarrod Richey has been teaching general music and choir classes at Geneva Academy in West Monroe, Louisiana, since 2008. He received his Master of Music degree from the University of Louisiana Monroe. Mr. Richey completed his Kodály music teacher certification from Wichita State University. He is pursuing a Ph.D. in Church Music and Worship at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. Each summer, he teaches musicianship, folk-dancing, and special topics courses in July for the New Saint Andrews College Conservatory of Music and its two-week Kodály Music Teacher training program (Chenaniah Summer Music Institute). Mr. Richey is the author of *BACH to the Future: Fostering Music Literacy Today* (2016). He is the general editor and contributing author for the ACCS publication *Raise the Song: A Classical Christian Guide to Music Education* (2019). He is the general editor for *LET JOY RESOUND: A Singing School Hymnal*, coming out in Summer 2024 at LetJoyResound.com. When not working on the above projects, he's writing at "Musically Speaking" (jarrodrichey.substack.com). Jarrod and his lovely wife, Sarah, have seven choristers in training ranging from toddler to seventeen.

#### JOE RIGNEY (joerigney@gmail.com) "Anselm the Teacher: The Pursuit of Joy in Education" "The Paideia of God"

**Dr.** Rigney serves as Fellow of Theology at New Saint Andrews College. He is the author of seven books: *Live Like a Narnian: Christian Discipleship in Lewis's Chronicles* (Eyes & Pen, 2013); *The Things of Earth: Treasuring God by Enjoying His Gifts* (Crossway, 2015); *Lewis on the Christian Life: Becoming Truly Human in the Presence of God* (Crossway, 2018); *Strangely Bright: Can You Love God and Enjoy This World*? (Crossway, 2020); *More Than a Battle: Experiencing Victory, Freedom, and Healing from Lust* (B&H, 2021), *Courage: How the Gospel Creates Christian Fortitude* (Crossway, 2023), *Leadership and Emotional Sabotage: Resisting the Anxiety That Will Wreck Your Family, Destroy Your Church, and Ruin the World* (Canon Press, 2024). Previously, Dr. Rigney served as a professor and president of Bethlehem College & Seminary in Minneapolis, a pastor at Cities Church in St. Paul, and a teacher at Desiring God.



Joe is a teacher who can't help but tell others about the things that fascinate him, and he is a generalist who is fascinated by a great many things. He loves to teach classes on biblical theology, C.S. Lewis, Shakespeare, English literature, political philosophy, and Jonathan Edwards. Beyond teaching, writing, and preaching, Joe loves to play baseball with his three sons and spend time with his lovely wife Jenny.

#### KEVIN ROBERTS (Ericka.Morris@heritage.org) "The Children of Hope: Augustine and Anselm"

Kevin D. Roberts, PhD, was named President of The Heritage Foundation in October 2021. In September 2023, Roberts was named President of Heritage Action for America and serves both organizations in a joint role. Roberts previously served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Texas Public Policy Foundation (TPPF), an Austin-based nonprofit, nonpartisan research institute and the largest state think tank in the nation.

As President of The Heritage Foundation, Roberts will continue to lead policy research efforts on many of the issues he championed at TPPF, including education, health care, border security, election integrity, and more, and his leadership will also be critical in pushing back on the radical, socialist agenda being advanced by the Left at all levels of government. At a time when so many bad ideas are coming out of Washington, his experience advancing sound policy at the state and national levels will be vital.

A lifelong educator, Roberts earned his PhD in American History from the University of Texas. After several years of teaching history at the collegiate level, Roberts in 2006 left the university to found John Paul the Great Academy, a co-ed, K-12 Catholic liberal arts school in Lafayette, Louisiana. Roberts served as the academy's president and headmaster for seven years.

In 2013, he resigned from the academy to become President of Wyoming Catholic College. Under his leadership, the college adopted a policy of refusing to accept federal student loans and grants, lest it be forced to violate Catholic tenets. This independent stance led The New York Times to describe the school as being full of "cowboy Catholics."

In addition to his doctorate, Roberts holds a master's degree in History from Virginia Tech and a bachelor's degree in History from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Roberts and his wife have four children.

#### SARAH ROBERTSON (srobertson@trinityclassicalacademy.com) "Early Intervention and Educational Therapy"

**Sarah Robertson** serves as Coordinator of Grammar School Curriculum and Teacher Training at Trinity Classical Academy in Valencia, California. She spent a decade as a classroom teacher at Trinity and has experience teaching early intervention classes for emerging readers in many formats within a classical school. She received a BA in early childhood education and English from Kean University in Union, New Jersey. Sarah and her husband have four classically educated children, including one with special needs. They have worked hard to build a home culture that loves reading, waffles, baseball, and serving their church family.

#### CHRIS SCHLECT (cschlect@nsa.edu) "Part I and II: The Canon of Great Books"

**Christopher Schlect**, PhD, has worked in classical and Christian education for over thirty years. At his home institution, New Saint Andrews College, Chris is Head of Humanities and Director of the Classical and Christian Studies graduate program. He also teaches courses in history, education,









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and classical rhetoric. In addition to his work at NSA, Chris teaches for Gordon College's program in Classical Graduate Leadership, and chairs the Accreditation Commission for the Association of Classical and Christian Schools (ACCS). Chris also has many years of classroom experience teaching grades 7 through 12 at Logos School in Moscow, Idaho, where he also coached a high-achieving Mock Trial team. Today he 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. The number of their grand-children continues to grow–a testimony to God's goodness.

#### KATHERINE SCHULTZ (Schultz.katherine@schaefferacademy.org) "Stories for Mentoring and Support for Novice Teachers in Classical Christian Schools"

Katherine Schultz has served as associate headmaster at Schaeffer Academy since 2006 and has worked as a teacher and administrator in Christian education for more than 35 years. Her role at Schaeffer includes mentoring teachers new to the school through a 3-year process that helps them develop as classical and Christian educators in their fundamental approach as well as practical skill. Katherine is also the founder and CEO of 3-Dimensional Worldview Survey. She wrote the definition of "Christian worldview" for the Encyclopedia of Christian Education. Through ongoing international work, she continues to invest her time in helping schools, teachers, and their students align their beliefs, behavior, and attitudes to a Christian worldview. Katherine and her husband TJ have been married for 33 years, and attend Autumn Ridge Church, where they both volunteer in the worship ministry. She enjoys cooking, reading, travel, and creative work.

#### STEPHANIE & TIM SLATER (c3a.headmaster@protonmail.com) "Reinvigorating the Contemporary Quadrivium"

Dr. **Tim Slater** and Dr. **Stephanie Slater** serve as lead administrators and teachers at the Cabrera Christian Classical Academy in the Dominican Republic.

Originally trained as professional astronomers and serving as an education professors for 30 years in the United States, they are committed to teaching science and mathematics from a Biblebased, Christ-centered perspective. Drs. Slater have conducted professional development trainings for thousands of teachers internationally and, known for their enthusiastic and insightful presentations are frequently sought after as conference speakers.

#### HARRISON SMITH (hsmith@adflegal.org) "Facing Legal Threats and Protecting Your School's Religious Liberty"

Harrison Smith is a Regional Alliance Director for the ADF Church Alliance and has been with Alliance Defending Freedom for almost 10 years. His passion for the Gospel and interest in the intersection of law and current affairs allows him to enthusiastically communicate with others. He works with major ministry and denominational leaders across the country on religious liberty issues to ensure that the body of Christ understands the current cultural and legal climate and knows the resources available to them through Alliance Defending Freedom so that together the doors can remain open for sharing the Gospel.

#### PATRICIA SMITH (patismith@pccs.org) "Against Pragmatism: Mathematics in the Grammar School"

**Pati Smith**, a native of South Carolina, has been teaching 4th grade at Providence Classical Christian School in Bothell, Washington since 2018. Before becoming a classroom teacher, she

classically homeschooled her four kids–graduating the oldest two. The younger two now attend Providence. Pati worked as a Systems Engineer for several years before staying home with her children. She has a BS in mechanical engineering and a MS in Information Science. Pati and her husband Jeremy have been married for 27 years and live in Redmond, Washington.

#### MINDY STANLEY (mindy.stanley@covenantschoolwv.org) "Rhyme Rhythm and Repetition"

**Mindy Stanley** is beginning her 50th year of teaching! She has a master's degree in early childhood education and B.A. in elementary education from Marshall University. She began teaching in 1975 and came to Covenant when it first opened in 1995. She and her husband, Rocky, attend Redemption Church in Huntington. Together they have two sons and two grandchildren. Mrs. Stanley's goals for her classroom include instilling a love of learning, shepherding children's hearts, and infusing a love –and awareness of–Christ in all areas of life. Mrs. Stanley is convinced that educating these students is "educating for eternity."

#### SALLY TACKETT (stackett@covenantcs.org) "Set the Table and Enjoy the Feast

**Sally Tackett** serves as Music Director, Language Arts Teacher and mom to two Grammar School students at Covenant Classical Christian School in Columbia, South Carolina. Sally found her love for choral music under the direction of Diane Covington at Leesville High School in Raleigh, North Carolina. She holds a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of South Carolina. When not in rehearsal, you can find Sally playing in the kitchen and chasing wonder with her husband, Ben, their two daughters and their not-so-small group from Riverside Community Church.

#### DONNA TAYLOR (dtaylor@veritassav.org) "Not a Minute Wasted"

**Donna Taylor** is the wife of Scott Taylor, and the mother of three classically educated grown children. She has a BA in elementary education from the University of Kentucky, twenty-five years of teaching experience, and just completed her twelfth year of teaching third graders at Veritas Academy in Savannah, Georgia

#### JAMES WALDY (james.waldy@marshill.edu) "Filling an Unforgiving Class Period with 50 Minutes Worth of Distance Run"

James D. Waldy, EdS, is a lifelong educator who has been involved in classical education for 38 years. He graduated from Bob Jones University with a degree in elementary education and went on to complete master's and educational specialist degrees from BJU in educational administration. He has taught at every K-12 grade level and has served as either dean of faculty or principal in 26 of his 38 years in classical education. Happily married to his wife, Tami, and the father of five wonderful children and fourteen grandchildren, James serves at Mars Hill Academy in Mason, Ohio, as the grammar school principal, fourth grade grammar and senior astronomy teacher, and the biggest kid at recess.

#### AMY WALKER (amywalker@heritageoakschool.com) "ACCS Accreditation From the School's Perspective"

**Amy Walker** earned her MA in Education from Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas before moving to California where she was instrumental in founding Heritage Oak School. She served



as a teacher and Grammar School Principal before becoming Head of School in 2014. Since that time, she has led the school through several accreditation cycles with both WASC and ACCS and has participated in a number of accreditation visits to other schools. She is particularly passionate about small classical Christian schools in rural areas and helping them strive for excellence. Amy and her husband are parents to three grown daughters, all of whom received a classical Christian education, and are now grandparents to seven future classical Christian graduates

#### 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.

#### MARK WHEELER (mwheeler@hickorychristian.com)

"What 400 Hours of Discussion over 50 Texts in 16 Months as a Student Taught Me about Graded Discussions"

**Mark Wheeler** is a rhetoric English teacher at Hickory Christian Academy in Hickory, North Carolina, where he has taught various classes since 2006. He has also coached the Mock Trial team for several years. He and his wife, Leah, have six children who attend Hickory Christian Academy. They are members at West Hickory Baptist Church, where Mark is a deacon and teaches the youth Sunday School class. Mark's thesis for his degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary is on the role of beauty in the spiritual formation of Christian high school students.

#### DOUGLAS WILSON (office@christkirk.com) "Rene Girard, St. Anselm, and the Crackle of Envy" "Governance in the Garden of Good & Evil"

**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.

#### CHRISTIE WRIGHT (cwright@highlandrimacademy.org) "The Seven Laws of Teaching" "The Training and Teaching Dichotomy"

**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, Jeff, where the chickens and their six children are all free range.

# NOTES






# NOTES





## Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26

Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever. Oh, give thanks to the God of gods! For His mercy endures forever: Oh, give thanks to the Lord of lords! For His mercy endures forever: To Him who alone does great wonders, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who by wisdom made the heavens, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who laid out the earth above the waters, For His mercy endures forever; To Him who made great lights, For His mercy endures forever– The sun to rule by day, For His mercy endures forever; The moon and stars to rule by night, For His mercy endures forever. ... Who remembered us in our lowly state, For His mercy endures forever; And rescued us from our enemies, For His mercy endures forever; Oh, give thanks to the God of heaven! For His mercy endures forever. *Amen.* 



#### Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones (1969)

O Lord our God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us especially, we pray thee again, for our folly–for our foolish talking about our century and the "modern man", as if anything had changed.

Awaken us, we pray thee, and bring us to see that thy method is still the same, that the truth remains unchanged and unchanging, and that the power of the blessed Holy Spirit is in no sense diminished.

Lord, hear us. Revive thy work O Lord, thy mighty arm make bare. Speak with a voice that wakes the dead and make the people hear. And unto thee, and unto thee alone, shall we give all the praise and the honour and the glory, both now and forever, amen.

#### **PSALM 5:3-8**

O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.
For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.
The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers.
You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.
But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.
I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.
Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.



# Anselm (1033-1109)

Lord, because you have made me, I owe you the whole of my love; because you have redeemed me, I owe you the whole of myself; because you have promised so much, I owe you my whole being. Moreover, I owe you as much more love than myself as you are greater than I, for whom you gave yourself and to whom you promised yourself. I pray you, Lord, make me taste by love what I taste by knowledge; let me know by love what I know by understanding. I owe you more than my whole self, but I have no more, and by myself I cannot render the whole of it to you. Draw me to you, Lord, in the fullness of your love. I am wholly yours by creation; make me all yours, too, in love.

#### **PSALM 51:1-8**

O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch. For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you. Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.

### St Patrick (377)

I arise today

Through the strength of Christ's birth and His baptism, Through the strength of His crucifixion and His burial, Through the strength of His resurrection and His ascension, Through the strength of His descent for the judgment of doom.

Christ with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, Christ behind me, Christ in me, Christ beneath me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ above me, Christ on my right, Christ on my right, Christ on my left, Christ on my left, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I lie down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I sit down, Christ when I arise, Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me, Christ in the mouth of everyone who speaks of me, Christ in every eye that sees me, Christ in every ear that hears me.

#### I arise today

Through a mighty strength, the invocation of the Trinity, Through a belief in the Threeness, Through a confession of the Oneness Of the Creator of creation



# I CHRONICLES 29:10-13 (ESV)

Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly.

And David said: "Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever.

Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours.

Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.

Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all.

In your hand are power and might,

and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.

And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name."

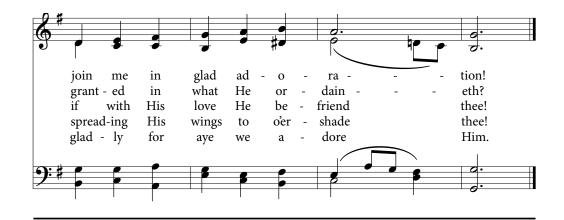


Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



Words: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt. Music: Ander Theil des Erneuerten Gesangbuchs, Pt. 2, 1665; harm. W. Sterndale Bennett, 1863 LOBE DEN HERREN FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM





# Our God, Our Help in Ages Past



- Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away; they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.
- Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, be Thou our Guide while life shall last, and our eternal home!

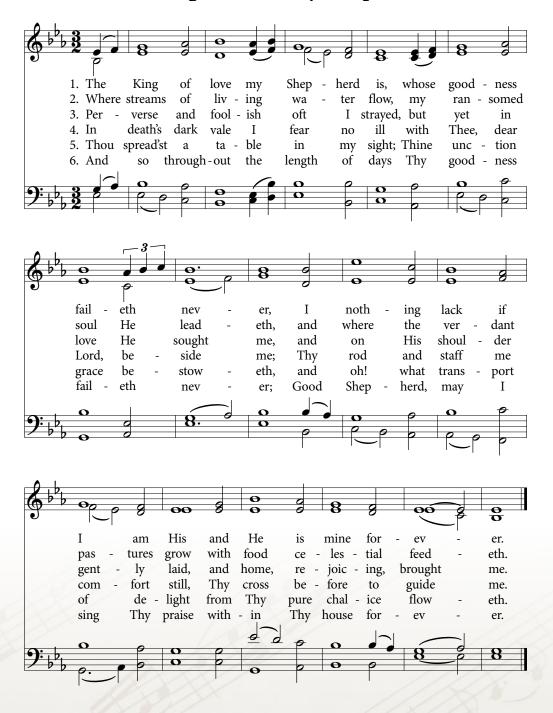
ST. ANNE

СМ

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, from Psalm 90 Music: William Croft, 1708

FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM

### The King of Love My Shepherd Is



Words: Henry W. Baker, 1868; from Psalm 23ST. COLUMBAMusic: Old Irish hymn melody87 87FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM



### Now Thank We All Our God





Words: Anonymous, 1757TRINITY (ITALIAN HYMN)Music: Felice de Giardini, ca. 176266 4 66 64FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM



## All People That on Earth Do Dwell



Words: William Kethe, 1560, alt., from Psalm 100 OLD HUNDREDTH Music: Louis Bourgeois, 1551 LM FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" - LETJOYRESOUND.COM

### Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun



Words: Isaac Watts, 1719 DUKE STREET Music: John Hatton, 1793 LM FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM



### Come, Thou Fount



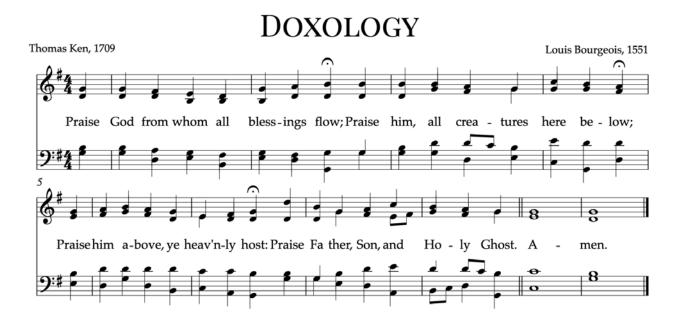
Music: J. Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813 FROM "LET JOY RESOUND: A SINGING SCHOOL HYMNAL" – LETJOYRESOUND.COM

# Holy, Holy, Holy!



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#### **Classical Academic Press**

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#### ClassReach

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#### **Classic Learning Test**

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#### **Classical Teaching Institute, The**

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#### **Eighth Day Books**

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#### ERB

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#### Focus Group, The

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#### **Shurley Grammar**

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#### **Study the Great Books**

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#### **Summit Ministries**

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#### **Trident Shield**

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