

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Robbie Andreasen joined the Geneva School faculty in 2007 and teaches biology (ninth grade) and anatomy & physiology (twelfth grade). Robbie has a contagious passion to study the intersection of faith and science and his students have come to expect a challenging, active classroom characterized by their teacher's love and enthusiasm for learning. This is also true when he teaches Sunday School or gives a children's homily at his church. Robbie received a BS in marine science and biology from the University of Miami and an MA in bioethics from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He was the upper school recipient of the 2013 Paideia Award for Teaching, an award that recognizes excellence in teaching.



Jason Barney serves as the academic dean at Clapham School, a classical Christian school located outside of Chicago in Wheaton, IL. He earned his BA in ancient languages and English literature from Wheaton College. In 2009 Jason joined the faculty of Clapham School and began building the Latin program and middle school. In 2012 Jason was awarded the *Henry Salvatori Prize for Excellence in Teaching* from Hillsdale College. In May 2014 Jason completed his MA in biblical exegesis at Wheaton College, where he received *The Tenney Award in New Testament Studies*. From 2015–2016 Jason taught upper school Latin at the Geneva School of Orlando, while serving on the Clapham School Board of Directors. In his free time he enjoys strategy games, long discussions, and good books.



Alistair Begg is the senior minister of Parkside Church in suburban Cleveland, Ohio, where he has served since 1983. Following graduation from the London School of Theology, he served for two years as assistant to the Reverend Derek J. Prime and in 1976 was ordained to the Gospel ministry at Charlotte Chapel in Edinburgh. His teaching is heard daily across the nation on over 1650 radio stations that air the program, *Truth For Life*. He has written a number of books, including *The Hand of God*, *Pathway to Freedom*, *On Being a Pastor* and most recently had the privilege of serving as the general editor for a newly published Spurgeon Study Bible. He has been married to Susan for 42 years. They have three children and five grandchildren.



Keith Buhler (PhD University of Kentucky) has more than a decade of experience in classical education. He has served as the assistant director of Wheatstone Academy, master tutor at the Torrey Academy, and high-school director at Veritas Christian Academy in Lexington, KY. He earned his BA in humanities from Biola University, the Torrey Honors Institute. He also holds an MA in Eastern Orthodox theology and a PhD in philosophy. Dr. Buhler is currently an humanities instructor at Trinity Classical Academy where he teaches history, Bible, and ancient Greek language. Before that, he taught philosophy courses at the University of Kentucky and Asbury University. His dissertation focused on virtue ethics.

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Dr. **Joseph Clair** serves as director of the William Penn Honors Program and as an assistant professor of religious studies. Before joining the George Fox faculty in 2013, he earned his PhD in the religion, ethics, and politics program at Princeton University while also working as an assistant in instruction. Prior to Princeton, Clair earned an MPhil at the University of Cambridge as a Gates Cambridge Scholar. He also holds master's degrees from Fordham and Duke University as well as a bachelor's degree from Wheaton College. His research and teaching interests include Christian thought and ethics and the role of religion in public life. He is the author of *Discerning the Good in the Letters and Sermons of Augustine* (Oxford UP, 2016) and *Reading Augustine: On Education, Salvation, Happiness, and the Gift of Reading* (Bloomsbury, 2018).



Jocelyn Collins is a graduate of Savannah College of Art and Design, where she received a bachelor of fine arts with a concentration in illustration, and a minor in art history. She has been a teacher at Westminster Academy in Memphis, TN, since 2005, where she teaches upper school art, art history, and Capstone.



Leslie Collins and her husband, Dave, have been working in classical and Christian education since 1995. Leslie was the founding headmistress of Rockbridge Academy in Millersville, Maryland, and was privileged to briefly serve in Kailua, Hawaii, as Trinity Christian School transitioned to a classical model. She is currently the head of school at Covenant Academy in northwest Houston which was affected by Hurricane Harvey and even more affected by God's faithfulness. Leslie and Dave have four children, the youngest of whom is entering his senior year. Leslie holds a master of arts in biblical counseling from the Master's University and a bachelor of science in special education from the University of Maryland.



Carina Covington received her bachelor's degree in two-dimensional design from Abilene Christian University; she completed her Texas teacher certification in 2005. She has taught art at Covenant Christian Academy since 2006. Carina has been instrumental in developing CCA's studio art curriculum and has expanded the courses that CCA offers, including sculpture, drawing, painting, ceramics, graphic design, and photography. She teaches art courses to logic and rhetoric school students. As a teacher, Carina's greatest passion is to help advanced art students achieve dual credit in art; she wants the students to develop their own style and to find their "artistic voice." Carina stresses the learning process, which allows students to build on historical, proven techniques as they explore their creativity. Carina co-directs CCA's annual Gallery Night Art Show and encourages her students to enter local competitions. Two years ago, Carina and her colleagues created an invitational art competition for CCA students and sister classical schools. The "Truth, Goodness, and Beauty Art Competition" honors and celebrates a classical philosophy of art education. Carina is married to her husband of 13 years, and they have two young sons.

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Dr. **David Diener** 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. In addition to working as a high-end custom trim carpenter for an Amish company and living as a missionary for three years in Bogotá, Colombia, he has taught at the Stony Brook School on Long Island, served as head of upper schools at Covenant Classical School in Fort Worth, TX, and currently is the head of school at Grace Academy in Georgetown, TX. He also teaches philosophy courses for Taylor University and offers consulting services through Classical Academic Press. He is the author of *Plato: The Great Philosopher-Educator* and serves as the series editor of *Giants in the History of Education*. The Dieners have four wonderful children and are passionate about classical Christian education and the impact it can have on the church, our society, and the world.



Sarah Dormois, PT, completed her undergraduate work at University of South Alabama and received her degree in physical therapy from Washington University in St. Louis. She practiced physical therapy until being drawn to teach science at Westminster Academy in Memphis, TN, where she has taught the past seven years. She initially developed and taught 3rd–6th grade science. This year is her third year teaching high school anatomy and physiology.



Charlie Dowers is the headmaster of the Oaks Classical Christian Academy in Spokane, Washington. He received his BS in mechanical engineering at Montana Tech University. Over the past thirteen years, he has moved from teacher to athletic director to full-time administration. The past four years serving as the headmaster of The Oaks has been a great source of blessing to him and his wife, Margaret, and their three boys, Charles, Brock, and Kaden.



Bruce Etter, is currently serving as head of school for Wilson Hill Academy. With 25 years experience in education, Bruce is most passionate when he is teaching. He has taught various subjects including Great Books, Spanish, and an array of Bible and theology classes. He has also enjoyed writing some of the curriculum he teaches. He completed his MA in religion from Reformed Theological Seminary in 2002, and a BA in Bible from Columbia International University in 1992. When he is not teaching, writing or reading, he enjoys playing football or guitar with his five children: Isaac, Sarah, Zachary, Jack, and Micah. He and his wife, Julie, live in Lancaster, PA.

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Chrissie Ficken, graduated from Auburn University with a BS in secondary mathematics education. Mrs. Ficken began teaching in 1998 and has served at Cary Christian School since 2012, teaching geometry, algebra II, trigonometry, and statistics. She holds permanent ACCS certification. She has been married to her husband, Wes, for twenty years, and they have two children, Holly and Matthew, who both attend CCS. Her hobbies are reading, doing Jazzercise, and playing percussion in community orchestra.



Ty Fischer has been the head of school at Veritas Academy in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, 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 serves on the board of the Association of Classical and Christian Schools. He has been involved in numerous curricular projects. Recently, he edited the book *Teaching Beauty: A Vision for Music & Art in Christian Education*. He was the managing editor of Veritas Press' Omnibus Project. He was a contributor to *Perspectives on Family Ministry* and *Perspectives on Your Child's Education* which were published in October 2009. Ty and his wife, Emily, are the parents of four daughters: Madelyn, Layne, Karis, and Elyse and the proud owners of one "periodically good" puggle, Roxy.



David Goodwin is the president of the Association of Classical & Christian Schools. David holds a bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies and an MBA from Boise State University. Prior to his work at ACCS, Mr. Goodwin was the head of school at the Ambrose School in Boise, Idaho. He previously worked in marketing and business development at Hewlett Packard. He, his wife Stormy, and his three children, Elise (18), Alex (17), and Graham (12) live in Boise, Idaho.



In almost 40 years of ministry, **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 six (and counting).



Tim Griffith is a fellow of classical languages at New Saint Andrews College, where he oversees the Latin program, directs the national Phaedrus Latin Composition Contest, and translates sixteenth-century Latin theological texts for Wenden House. He has dedicated the last 15 years to Latin pedagogy, drawing heavily on the work of the great Latin educators of history such as Erasmus, Comenius, W.H.D. Rouse, and Hans Ørberg.

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Sean C. Hadley teaches humanities at Trinitas Christian School and is a doctoral student in Faulkner University's Great Books Honor College. He has written book reviews and essays for publications such as the *Journal of Faith and the Academy* and the *Journal of Baptist Theology & Ministry*. Additionally, he has given talks on topics related to American literature and Christian education. Sean and his wife, Sarah, have three sons, and a daughter.



Chris Hall (BA in philosophy, MAT in elementary education) has served in the classroom for the past 22 years, primarily as an administrator and teacher of science and mathematics. He has served as a lower school academic dean, PK–8 science department chair, gifted and talented coordinator, and classroom teacher for grades ranging from kindergarten to ninth grade conceptual physics. He is a national level Alcuin Fellow with the Society for Classical Learning, an author, creator of the Skills of the Tracker program, and has been a presenter at both SCL and ACCS events. In addition to his academic pedigree, Chris is an avid subsistence farmer, tracker/hunter, practitioner of the common arts, musician, reader, sketch artist, and craftsman. He and his family live off the beaten path in central Virginia, where, in addition to homeschooling his three boys, he runs a consulting/teaching/homeschooling support/get your hands dirty learning enterprise called Always Learning Education.



Grant Horner's academic specialty at the Master's University (www.masters.edu/) is the literature, theology, visual art, and philosophy of the Renaissance and Reformation, with primary concentration in Milton, Shakespeare, Erasmus, Luther, Calvin and late sixteenth- and seventeenth-century intellectual and cultural history. His research and writing has focused on Christian humanism in the Reformation, particularly the complex relationship between developing Reformed thought and classical Graeco-Roman pagan mythology, rhetoric, and philosophy. At Duke University he was taught and mentored by Stanley Fish, America's leading literary theorist. His PhD dissertation was on the theological relationship between John Milton and John Calvin. He has written on the citation of classical Greek and Latin authorities by Renaissance writers, published academic essays on theology and the arts, and his first book, *Meaning at the Movies*, on film and theology (Crossway, 2010) was an Amazon bestseller and nominated for Book of the Year in Christianity and Culture by the Book Retailers Association. His second book, *John Milton, Classical Learning, and the Progress of Virtue* was published by Classical Academic Press in 2015. Two more books on John Milton are forthcoming. Professor Horner is the founder and director of the Master's University in Italy Program, a six-week summer intensive study abroad semester. Students live in an ancient villa near the city that was the birthplace of the modern world in the Renaissance, incomparable Florence, and also spend time in Rome and Venice. A variety of humanities courses revolve around the Renaissance humanist's question *quid est homo?*—"what is man?" We consider the basis of and goal for studying the humanities and explore what it means to be human. Visit [//www.masters.edu/italy](http://www.masters.edu/italy) for more information.

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Ravi Jain graduated from Davidson College with a BA and interests in physics, ancient Greek, and international political economy. He worked at various churches, received an MA from Reformed Theological Seminary, and later earned a graduate certificate in mathematics from the University of Central Florida. He began teaching calculus and physics at the Geneva School in 2003 where he has developed an integrated double period class called "The Scientific Revolution." In this class the students read primary sources like Galileo and Newton in order to recapitulate the narrative of discovery while preserving the mathematical and scientific rigor expected of a college level treatment. During his tenure there he coauthored *The Liberal Arts Tradition: A Philosophy of Christian Classical Education*. He has given over 100 talks and workshops throughout the country and overseas on topics related to education, theology, mathematics, and science. He has two young boys, Judah and Xavier. After the duties of the week have been discharged (by 8:53 Saturday night), the few remaining hours he enjoys spending with family, friends, and his wife Kelley Anne, whom he met in Japan.



Sean Johnson had a high school philosophy teacher named Plato, and has been devoted to classical education ever since. He teaches humanities at Trinitas Christian School in Pensacola, FL, where he also runs the school's Classic Film Society and offers the occasional cooking lesson. He moonlights as a film critic for FilmFisher.com, and has also written on Shakespeare, Graham Greene, Russian novels, and how to age your own meat at home. Sean and his wife, Heather, have three sons.



Ronnie Long currently serves as the interim head of school and the head of the school of logic at Regents School of Austin. Ronnie spent sixteen years in the classroom at Regents. He taught fifth grade for four years and in the school of logic for twelve years. In logic, he primarily taught Bible, but also taught seventh grade history and pre-algebra for a few years. Prior to coming to Regents, Ronnie served as a youth and family minister for ten years. He has been married to his wife, Selina, for 21 years. They have two sons, Jackson (16) and Calum (12). They live on a very small "farm" where they raise chickens, pigs, sheep, goats, and turkeys.



Bryan Lynch is headmaster (since 2002) of Veritas School, a preK-12 classical and Christian school in Newberg, Oregon. Bryan was a founding board member of Veritas, and has been in private and public education for over 30 years. 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 Association of Classical and Christian Schools and Society for Classical Learning conferences, led school-based teacher training, and has led numerous regional teaching conferences at Veritas. He has been a frequent accrediting administrator for ACCS. Bryan and his wife, Ann, have three children, all of whom graduated from Veritas. Bryan has an MEd from Linfield College where he majored in history and secondary education. Bryan blogs frequently on teaching and classical education at classicalteaching.com.

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John MacArthur is the pastor-teacher of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California, as well as an author, conference speaker, president of the Master's University and Seminary, and featured teacher with the Grace to You media ministry. In 1969, after graduating from Talbot Theological Seminary, John came to Grace Community Church. In 1985, John became president of the Master's College (formerly Los Angeles Baptist College, now the Master's University), an accredited, four-year liberal arts Christian college in Santa Clarita, California. In 1986, John founded the Master's Seminary, a graduate school dedicated to training men for full-time pastoral roles and missionary work. Since completing his first best-selling book, *The Gospel According to Jesus*, in 1988, John has written nearly 400 books and study guides, including *Our Sufficiency in Christ*, *Strange Fire*, *Ashamed of the Gospel*, *The Murder of Jesus*, *The Prodigal Son*, *Twelve Ordinary Men*, *The Truth War*, *The Jesus You Can't Ignore*, *Slave*, *One Perfect Life*, and *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary* series. In 2015 The MacArthur New Testament Commentary series was completed. In its thirty-three volumes, John takes you detail by detail, verse by verse, through the entire New Testament. John and his wife, Patricia, live in Southern California and have four married children: Matt, Marcy, Mark, and Melinda. They also enjoy the enthusiastic company of their fifteen grandchildren.



If **Elizabeth Mackes** had to pick four words to name that which is most near and dear to her, they would be: Christ, family, books, and coffee. Elizabeth began teaching third grade at Rockbridge Academy in 2014. Her journey into reading education began with a daughter who had dyslexia along with a great desire to read. Elizabeth holds a BA in history from Sweet Briar College, a JD from Saint Louis University School of Law, and a certification in early childhood education. Over the years of classroom teaching and tutoring, Elizabeth has collected many practical activities to help students improve their reading comprehension. Elizabeth and her husband, Joe, have three children. Their daughter, Claire, will be a senior at Rockbridge Academy this fall; sons James and Stephen are Rockbridge alumni attending Covenant College and Mercer University, respectively. Elizabeth looks forward to sharing her ideas about teaching reading and to visiting the local coffee shops.



Dr. **Louis Markos** holds a BA in English and history from Colgate University and an MA and PhD in English from the University of Michigan. He is a professor of English and scholar in residence at Houston Baptist University, where he teaches courses on British Romantic and Victorian Poetry and Prose, the Classics, C. S. Lewis and J. R. R. Tolkien, and Art and Film. Dr. Markos holds the Robert H. Ray Chair in Humanities and lectures on ancient Greece and Rome, the early church and Middle Ages, the Renaissance and romanticism for HBU's Honors College. He is the author of eighteen books, including *From Achilles to Christ*, *On the Shoulders of Hobbits*, *Literature: A Student's Guide*, *CSL: An Apologist for Education*, three Canon Press Worldview Guides to the *Iliad*, *Odyssey*, and *Aeneid*, & 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 Latin at the Geneva School in Boerne, TX.

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Jeffrey Mays is part of the team of brothers heading up Novare Science & Math. Besides overseeing customer services and marketing, Jeffrey is a writer and conference speaker. He has a BS in computer science from Baylor and an MDiv from Covenant Theological Seminary. He is currently enrolled at Seattle Pacific University pursuing an MFA in creative writing. He has been a pastor and has also taught middle school and high school science, history, math, Bible and apologetics. He is an avid reader and is interested in advocating the harmony and compatibility between science and Christian faith. Jeffrey is a husband of 27 years and a father of four adult children.



Liesl McClintock is a Latin, Spanish, and journalism teacher at Annapolis Christian Academy in Corpus Christi, Texas. Liesl attended Grove City College in Pennsylvania and received degrees in communications studies and Spanish. She is currently pursuing her MA in leadership from Gordon College in Massachusetts. Liesl had the blessing of attending Rockbridge Academy from grade school through high school and is passionate about bringing the excitement and joy that she gained from her classical Christian education to the next generation.



Brenda McClure serves alongside her husband, Michael, as he pastors Calvary San Jose. Brenda helped her husband start Calvary Christian Academy in San Jose, CA, eight years ago. Amongst her many roles at CCA, her favorite is teaching the seventh grade humanities! Brenda earned her BA in history from San Jose State University. She has many passions, but amongst her greatest is teaching and inspiring the next generation to know and love God. She has been married to her husband, Michael, for 22 years, and they have seven children: Daniel, Micah, Joshua, Samuel, Hannah, Abigail & Ruth—six attend CCA! In her free time, Brenda enjoys attending and teaching women's Bible studies, going on walks and coffee dates with her husband, cooking for her family, reading and spending time in God's word, and spending time with her precious children.



Keith McCurdy has worked with families, children, parents, and individuals for over 30 years in the field of mental health, working with more than 12,000 individuals and families. He received his master of arts and education specialist degrees from James Madison University. He is currently the president and CEO of Total Life Counseling, Inc., and is licensed in the state of Virginia as a licensed professional counselor and licensed marriage and family therapist. Keith provides counseling and consulting services as well as a variety of workshops on improving parenting skills, building strong marriages, and maintaining healthy relationships. He has developed and regularly offers parenting retreats entitled "Raising Sturdy Kids" to help parents operate from the correct paradigm with their children and has extended and customized this powerful program for schools and students. For many years Keith has been a consultant and speaker nationally to schools both within and outside of the world of classical education. He also serves as the chairman of the board at Faith Christian School, a Christian classical school in Roanoke, VA. Keith is a regular contributor to the *Roanoke Star* with articles on children, parenting, and marriage. He has also been featured twice on the Circe Institute's podcast "The Commons" discussing raising sturdy kids. His primary focus is helping others better understand

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how a Christian worldview, not psychology, should be the primary influence in parenting and relationships today. A significant part of his work has been helping parents understand the needed benefit of allowing their children to struggle to learn to do hard things. Keith is an avid outdoorsman and is actively involved with Boy Scouts of America and coaching high-school basketball. He and his wife, Linnie, have been married for 24 years with two children, one a junior in high school and one a junior in college.



Ben Merkle is fellow of theology at New Saint Andrews College and the College's second president. He holds a DPhil in Oriental studies and an MSt in Jewish studies from Oxford University, England, as well as a master's degree in English literature, and a BS in education (secondary education-chemistry, with a minor in history) both from the University of Idaho. He also served as executive minister of Christ Church in Moscow. He is the author of *The White Horse King* (Thomas Nelson, 2009), a biography of Alfred the Great, as well as *Defending the Trinity in the Reformed Palatinate* (Oxford University Press, 2015). He and wife, Bekah, have five children, all students at Logos School.



Rebekah Merkle graduated from Logos School and New Saint Andrews College in Moscow, Idaho. She is the daughter of Douglas and Nancy Wilson and wife of Ben Merkle. All five of her children attend Logos where she is now a high school humanities teacher. She is the editor of a British literature curriculum series, and the author of *Eve in Exile*.



David Moffitt was born and raised in Rochester, New York. He studied history and philosophy for his undergraduate degree at Grove City College in Pennsylvania. He later moved to Chicago and earned an MDiv at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He took a ThM and his PhD at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina, writing his doctoral thesis under the supervision of Richard B. Hays. The thesis was subsequently published under the title "Atonement and the Logic of Resurrection in the Epistle to the Hebrews." His research interests include the Epistle to the Hebrews, Jewish apocalypticism, and the rituals and concepts of Jewish sacrifice in the first century. He is an ordained minister in the East Cedar Grove Association of Missionary Baptist Churches. He has held teaching posts at Duke Divinity School and Campbell University Divinity School and is currently senior lecturer in New Testament Studies at St Mary's College, University of St Andrews. David resides in Pitscottie, Scotland, with his wife, Heather, and their two boys, Evan and Andrew.

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Karen Moore has filled both teaching and administrative roles at Grace Academy of Georgetown, a classical Christian school in central Texas, where she has built the 3rd–12th grade classical language program. She holds a BA in classics from the University of Texas at Austin. She has over 15 years of experience teaching Latin, Greek, and ancient humanities in classical Christian schools. Karen also serves Grace Academy as the sponsor for their award-winning chapter of the Junior Classical League. She is the author of the Latin Alive! Reader: *Latin Literature from Cicero to Newton*, multiple Latin texts and the Latin for Teachers Training Program, all published through Classical Academic Press. Karen blogs on all things Latin at www.latinaliveonline.com. She and her husband, Bryan, are the proud parents of two children at Grace Academy and one Grace Academy graduate.



Kristina Pierce joined Providence Classical School's faculty in 2011 and has taught in both the three-day and five-day kindergarten programs. She has degrees from Louisiana State University and Dallas Theological Seminary. She is certified in early childhood, special education (birth to 21) and grammar K–5. Kristina has taught the early years and primary grades in many parts of the world including Louisiana, Tennessee, Texas, Singapore, Ireland, Scotland and England. She is passionate about the younger years and the opportunities that are available both classically and spiritually for this age group. Whether she is teaching her fifth-grade Sunday school class or serving as a children's supervisor in Bible study fellowship, she encourages the current generation of millennials to rethink their parenting techniques and philosophies, as they consider what it means to love truth, beauty, and goodness.



Tambi Price has been an educator over 20 years, and this is her seventh year as the third-grade teacher at Highland Rim Academy. At age nine, she knew God placed a calling on her life to teach while volunteering in the church nursery. Over the years, she's taught Sunday school, Awana, and VBS and has led and facilitated women's Bible studies. While putting her husband through graduate school, Tambi was a personal banker who served as an instructor and trainer for Bank One's Academy of Excellence, a guest speaker in high school finance classes, and a grant writer for both schools and banks. When her son was old enough to start preschool, she launched a classical Christian preschool in Grove City, PA. She owned, operated, and taught there for eight years. Tambi enjoys writing plays, short stories, and poetry and is a two-time contributor to *Classis*. She was married to her college sweetheart, the late Dr. Michael W. Price, for 17 years, and she's the mother of Drew, a senior at TN Tech University.



Mary Read, MA, RD, LDN is a graduate of Mary Baldwin College, where she received a bachelor of arts degree in biology. She received her master of arts and liberal studies degree from University of Memphis in health research and also is a registered dietitian. Mary managed research projects as a project manager at the University of Memphis School of Public Health for over thirteen years. She taught an undergraduate dietetics class for five years. Mary is now the biology teacher at Westminster Academy in Memphis, TN, where she has taught the past seven years.

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Jarrod Richey has been teaching K4 through 12th grade general music and choir at Geneva Academy in Monroe, LA, since 2008. Previously, Mr. Richey taught choir, voice, and music appreciation classes at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. He received his bachelor's degree at Louisiana Tech University before completing his master of music at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. He also completed his national Kodály music teacher certification from Wichita State University. He is an active choir clinician and also serves on the board of the Louisiana chapters of the Organization of American Kodály Educators and the American Choral Directors Association. He believes that a classical Christian school is the most ideal place to recover true music literacy. He is the author of the recent book *Bach to the Future: Fostering Music Literacy Today*. Jarrod and his lovely wife, Sarah, have four sons and two daughters.



Stephen Rippon teaches literature, theology, debate, and rhetoric at Tall Oaks Classical School in Bear, Delaware. He holds a BS in English from the U.S. Air Force Academy, an MA in English literature from the University of Delaware, and an MDiv from Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. Stephen's wife, Jennifer, teaches science at Tall Oaks, and they have three children, Katie, Jacob, and Ian, who all attend Tall Oaks.



Christopher Schlect, PhD, has worked in classical and Christian education for over 25 years. As fellow of history at New Saint Andrews College, he teaches courses in ancient and medieval civilizations, U.S. history, American Christianity, medieval education, and classical rhetoric, among other subjects. He has also taught introductory and advanced courses in U.S. history and ancient Rome at Washington State University. He is the director of New Saint Andrews College's graduate program in classical and Christian studies. He taught history and Bible at Logos School in Moscow, Idaho, for many years, and he serves classical and Christian schools around the country through his consulting and teacher training activities. His published writings appear in various school curricula and other outlets. Schlect's research in twentieth-century Protestant church life has earned numerous competitive grants and fellowships, and he has presented his research at meetings of the American Historical Association, the American Society of Church History, the American Academy of Religion, and the Idaho Council for History Education. He was recently named the 2016–17 Distinguished Lecturer for the Association of Reformed Colleges and Universities. His historical work includes service as a ranger for the U.S. National Park Service, where he specialized in Protestant missions to the Nez Perce people and interpreted historical sites and material culture for the public. Schlect is a teaching elder at Trinity Reformed Church (CREC) in Moscow, Idaho. He and his wife, Brenda, have five children, all products of a classical and Christian education. They also have two grandchildren.

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Dan Snyder is a former Marine, video game designer, and international opera singer. His work has been featured in *Wired* magazine, *PCgamer*, and on the *Discovery Channel* as well as in *Opera News* and the *Kurt Weill Newsletter* among many other publications. Mr. Snyder's educational background includes time as a training designer with the American Red Cross satellite network as well as the U.S. Marine Corps Training and Education Command in Quantico, VA. He has studied at Bryan College, George Mason University, Mannes Conservatory of Music, and has his degree in humanities from The New School in New York City, where he also holds a certificate in screen writing from the film school. He can be found in Wichita, Kansas, where he teaches logic, rhetoric, and ancient literature/history at the Classical School of Wichita, living with his wife, the pianist and composer Tracee Snyder.



Bill Stutzman is a native of the Pacific Northwest and has worked in classical Christian education for the past 16 years. He is head of logic and rhetoric at the Oaks Classical Christian Academy in Spokane, Washington, where he has also taught rhetoric, literature, orchestra, and Bible classes. Bill previously worked at the Ambrose School in Boise, Idaho, where he taught a number of subjects, developed curriculum, and served as head of both grammar and upper school programs. A wandering troubadour and poet at heart, Bill has written, performed, and released multiple full-length albums of original songs, including *Cardinals & Fireflies* (2014). He studied English literature and music at the University of Idaho and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and revels in beauty's many forms, from elaborate counterpoint to a simple birdsong, or from a great poem to the glories of a well-turned (or even awkwardly thrown) pun. He and his artist wife, Cherise, have three children at the Oaks: Tyndale (16), Dulcinea (15), and Latimer (11). All four share his deep appreciation for good hamburgers.



Jamie Sullivan was born and raised in Sparta, TN. She lives there with her husband, John, of 16 years and their son, Jace, who is 12 years old and in the sixth grade at Highland Rim Academy where he has attended since kindergarten. Jamie graduated from Tennessee Tech University in 2002 with a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She worked for the State of Tennessee Department of Children's Services from 2002 until Jace was born in 2006. She stayed at home with Jace until he started school, then she began teaching. Jamie has been teaching for nine years. This school year will be her third year teaching at Highland Rim Academy in the second grade. Jamie's main hobby is calligraphy and hand-lettering. She also enjoys reading, kayaking, and traveling.



Laura Tucker is a founder and was the director of instruction of Rockbridge Academy, a classical and Christian school in Millersville, MD, from 1995–2011. She has over 30 years of experience in K–12 education as a teacher, administrator, reading specialist, and educational diagnostician. She holds an MEd from Loyola University and a national certification for educational diagnosticians. She and her husband, Rob, an ACCS national board member, have two adult sons who attended Rockbridge Academy.

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Stephen Richard Turley (PhD, Durham University) is a theologian, social theorist, classical Christian educator, and prize-winning classical guitarist. He is the author of *The Ritualised Revelation of the Messianic Age: Washings and Meals in Galatians and 1 Corinthians*, and *Awakening Wonder: A Classical Guide to Truth, Goodness, and Beauty*. Steve blogs on the church, society and culture, education, and the arts at TurleyTalks.com. He is a faculty member at Tall Oaks Classical School in Bear, DE, where he teaches theology, Greek, and rhetoric, and is a professor of fine arts at Eastern University. Steve lectures at universities, conferences, and churches throughout the U.S. and abroad. His research and writings have appeared in such journals as *Christianity and Literature*, *Calvin Theological Journal*, *First Things*, *Touchstone*, and the *Chesterton Review*. He and his wife, Akiko, have four children and live in Bear, DE, where they together enjoy fishing, gardening, and watching *Duck Dynasty* marathons.



James D. Waldy, EdS, is a lifelong educator who has been involved in classical education for 32 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 22 of his 35 years in education. Happily married to his wife, Tami, and the father of five wonderful children and three grandchildren, James serves at Mars Hill Academy in Mason, Ohio, as the grammar school principal and astronomy and art teacher.



Anne Walker has been an upper school math instructor at Westminster Academy in Memphis, Tennessee, for 13 years. She has been the director of houses since 2013 and director of the eighth–twelfth grade protocol program since 2015. She graduated from the University of Mississippi with a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics and earned a master's degree in education from Vanderbilt University. Anne has been married to Scott for 25 years and has three children.



Carl Warmouth is dean of the grammar school at the Ambrose School in Meridian, Idaho. Before coming to the Ambrose School in 2014, he was the headmaster at Trinity Christian School in Opelika, Alabama.



Monica Whatley has experienced education as a certified teacher and administrator, educational writer, board member, and homeschooling parent of four. Her latest book, *Shaping Hearts and Minds: Why It Really Matters Where Your Child Goes to School*, is a case for classical Christian education. She currently serves as principal of Innova Academy, a classical Christian school in Newmarket, Ontario, Canada.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Mark Wheeler is a rhetoric English teacher at Hickory Christian Academy in Hickory, North Carolina, where he has taught a variety of classes over the past 11 years and has also coached the Mock Trial team for several years. He attended Pensacola Christian College receiving a BA in English and MDiv degree. He and his wife, Leah, have six children who are either enrolled at Hickory Christian Academy or aspire to be once they reach an appropriate age.



Matt Whitling has taught elementary and secondary classes at Logos School in Moscow, Idaho, for the past 22 years. He is currently the secondary and elementary principal, junior high boys PE teacher, and varsity boys basketball coach at Logos. He has published numerous textbooks on spelling, writing, poetry, and a variety of other subjects. Matt earned a BA at Fresno State University in liberal studies and taught remedial math to secondary students in California before moving to Idaho. Matt lives in Moscow with his wife, Tora, and their seven children: Josiah, Jedidiah, Cotton, Miles, Beatrice, Jasper, and Boaz.



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.



Nancy Wilson is married to one of the founders of Logos School (Douglas Wilson), is mother of three Logos graduates (Rebekah Merkle, N.D. Wilson, and Rachel Jankovic), and grandmother of one graduate (so far) with sixteen more to go. She taught high-school literature classes at Logos for over a decade and has written several books for Christian women, including her most recent book, *Learning Contentment*.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



Christie Wright serves as the assistant head of school at Highland Rim Academy in Cookeville, TN. 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 an undergrad in English literature at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and an MA in curriculum and instruction from Tennessee Technological University. She at one time held state licensure in the state of Tennessee but has since fully recovered. She enjoys her country home with her husband of 16 years and four young children, two of whom will be entering grades two and four at HRA this fall.



Kent Young is what you might call a choir geek. He is a music teacher at the Oaks Classical Christian Academy in Spokane Valley, WA, and holds degrees in vocal music performance (BA) from Bethany College, Lindsborg, KS, and choral conducting (MM) from Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO. Over his 17-year teaching career—12 years at The Oaks—he has taught strings, K-6 general music, choir, and New Testament. His great love is teaching others to sing beautiful sacred songs beautifully. His other great love is his wife, Terri, and their two children, Corbin (17) and Lindy (13), both of whom attend the Oaks.