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By John Muether

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A FAITH THAT SPEAKS TO TODAY
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WHO WE ARE
Reformed Theological Seminary exists to glorify the Triune God and to serve his church in all branches of evangelical Christianity, especially Presbyterian and Reformed churches, by providing Reformed graduate theological education that is globally accessible. RTS equips its students for ministry, primarily through pastoral preparation, to be servant leaders marked by “a mind for truth, a heart for God.”

As such, Ministry & Leadership seeks to show how God is working through the ministries of RTS graduates, faculty members, and students. Our goal is that readers will become partners with RTS through prayer, financial giving, educational experience, and student referral, as well as providing placement opportunities.

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A GREAT
COMMITMENT

DR. LIGON DUNCAN
Bold, humble trust in God undergirds an exciting and decisive move for RTS Jackson. A great commitment to the mission and future of RTS spurs it on. For 56 years now, the Belcher campus of Reformed Theological Seminary, located in West Jackson, Mississippi, on 60 beautiful acres of green grass and tall trees, has been the home and headquarters of the entire RTS system.

The Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of RTS announced at the various Presbyterian General Assemblies and Synods this summer that they had purchased a new property. The seminary is planning to open a new Belcher campus for RTS Jackson that is centrally located in the heart of the city in the summer of 2023. This location will usher the incoming students of that academic class into a new, beautiful, state-of-the-art home.

The move is a major upgrade at a time when most theological seminaries in North America are in decline and when residential theological education is experiencing significant duress. Indeed, in a recent article in *Christianity Today*, Kirsten Sanders, commenting on the trend of closing and downsizing seminaries, says, “There is no good news coming from freestanding seminaries, and there hasn’t been for some time.” But, by God’s grace, Reformed Theological Seminary is a bright and almost singular exception to this trend. RTS has grown over 12% in the last several years and teaches more residential credit hours than ever before. We have set records the last two years, even in the wake of the pandemic, for residential instruction.

Why is this the case? How is RTS growing? And why is the RTS Board of Trustees prepared to make such a significant and strategic investment in Jackson at this time? Those are questions our trustees have carefully and prayerfully considered for the last several years. The answers are manifold, but we will highlight a few of the most important factors.
The Extraordinary and Encouraging Growth of RTS

Why is RTS growing, and particularly in residential students, when other seminaries are declining? As best as we can discern, this is due to the Lord’s blessing on several features that are unique to RTS. Our system of regional campuses puts us close to more students and more healthy churches. Consequently, no other seminary provides more seminary internships and church membership and ministry opportunities with more local churches. RTS is the most affordable seminary among our accredited peer institutions and yields the best “return on investment.” We give more than $5.5 million in scholarships each year—far more than any other confessional Reformed seminary. Our degree cost is lower than many of our sister institutions, and the cost of living at our residential campuses is advantageous. This means that our students graduate with little to no debt (which has become a major problem at other institutions).

Furthermore, the faculty, curriculum, ethos, and theological fidelity of RTS have combined to make it more attractive to students than ever before, especially in the current climate. The quality and quantity of RTS’ faculty are unparalleled in graduate theological education. RTS has the largest, most widely regarded, and prolific confessional Reformed faculty in the world. And while other seminaries have been dramatically reducing course requirements and credit hours, RTS has upheld our standards while keeping student cost low. We think that the RTS Master of Divinity (MDiv) is the best bargain in all of graduate theological education. At the same time, RTS is one of the most trusted institutions in the evangelical world because of our commitment to the plenary verbal inspiration, infallibility, inerrancy, and sole final authority of Scripture, and to the Reformed theology of the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms. Every class at RTS is taught from this perspective. Biblical fidelity and confessional integrity have been hallmarks of our institution and its public reputation from the beginning. The trust that people from a wide diversity of personal and denominational backgrounds have in us, because of this, allows us to commend the Reformed faith, not only in confessional circles but beyond. Students who come to RTS can trust that what they will hear taught in every class is faithful to the Scriptures.

The RTS ethos is also unique and attractive to students. It combines things that are rare in theological education in our time: we love and care about truth, doctrine, and theology. We also care about producing godly, loving people who will serve the Lord and his church in such a way to commend the faith with their lips and lives, their conviction and character. Some seminaries are winsome, but not Reformed. Others are Reformed, but not winsome. We want to be both. We want to model and commend embodied truth, love, and mission. We want to graduate students who have a theological backbone, tender hearts, and a disposition of service.

Expanding Our Roots with a New Jackson Campus

Each RTS campus is embedded in vibrant communities across the nation. The campuses are distinct and located in dynamic and growing regions around the country. The city of Jackson, Mississippi, is no exception. It is a scenic center
of the American South, located in a region where historical events and people still mark the city’s identity and culture. Jackson’s heritage is a story of tragedy and struggle. It is a place of inspiring sacrifice and courageous action in a state where change and opportunity now shape the future possibilities for industry, commerce, and education.

RTS began its work here. Churches throughout the entire region supported the seminary in its infancy. Thousands of faithful Christians invested their time and earthly treasure to build a place that would serve the church by preparing her leaders. From this city, they built a future for RTS that would grow into an educational enterprise that is recognized across the world as one of the unique models for teaching, learning, and research among all institutions of higher education.

We are relocating and upgrading the campus out of a sense of mission for the future. From the bucolic environs of our historic campus to a
FROM THIS CITY, BELIEVERS BUILT A FUTURE FOR RTS THAT WOULD GROW INTO AN EDUCATIONAL ENTERPRISE THAT IS RECOGNIZED ACROSS THE WORLD AS ONE OF THE UNIQUE MODELS FOR TEACHING, LEARNING, AND RESEARCH AMONG ALL INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.
The relocation will provide an upgraded infrastructure that will help every RTS campus and will bring operational cost efficiencies that enhance our overall stewardship of resources.
residential campus in the growth corridor of the city, the future of RTS Jackson lies in positioning a residential campus known for its affordability, community, and opportunity. The future capacity for the Jackson campus will grow as a result of this investment in this new facility.

Indeed, we believe that this move will be a great encouragement and blessing to the city of Jackson. We will be located in the heart of a thriving commercial and retail hub, nestled between The District and Highland Village, just minutes from downtown and other popular Jackson neighborhoods. This puts us closer and more convenient to our partner churches and supporters, who can benefit from proximity to the seminary in ways they have never before been able to utilize. I’ve lost count of the number of people who have told me they want to audit courses, come to chapel services, visit the bookstore and library, and enjoy a new level of connection and accessibility to RTS Jackson.

We also think the relocation will serve the entire RTS system well. It will provide an upgraded infrastructure that will help every RTS campus and will bring operational cost efficiencies that enhance our overall stewardship of resources.

State-of-the-art classrooms will be equipped with the latest education technology tools that will serve the faculty and students for years to come. Affordable housing options will enable students to provide and care for their families in a location hospitable for their time as RTS students. The RTS Jackson library is one of the top-tier theological research resources in the world. Its collections serve the entire RTS system, and the new climate-controlled library facility will house, preserve, and provide these books, documents, and other research tools for decades of service to RTS faculty and students. The RTS administrative headquarters remains central to the overall operation of Reformed Theological Seminary. It will be closer to the airport and the major transportation corridors. The new Jackson facility will also upgrade the information technology equipment and increase the ability of the Office of Business and Financial Services to better serve all RTS campuses more effectively. The entire relocation effort will result in a strategic advance for RTS Jackson and the entire RTS system.

Bold trust has characterized the leadership of RTS over the years. From Sam Patterson’s question to Erskine Wells, “How Big is Your God?” to making a new investment in residential theological education when everyone else is downsizing, the RTS Board of Trustees has been willing to walk by faith and not by sight.

The call for us at this time in the history of RTS is for a great commitment from us as stewards of what has been given to us. We move forward together trusting in the merciful providence of God to direct our steps, strengthen the work of our hands, and prepare us for service in the coming days as RTS continues to prepare leaders to serve the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Dr. J. Ligon Duncan is the Chancellor and CEO of RTS.

Original color watercolors by Wyatt Waters.
As the Director of Gift Processing at Reformed Theological Seminary, Tim Thompson plays an integral role in the ongoing growth of the seminary. Tim processes all donations to RTS, ensuring gifts from our community of support are handled correctly and efficiently. He also assists in maintaining our relationship with donors, keeping our database and details up-to-date and accurate.

Before joining RTS, Tim served in the Air Force in Rapid City, South Dakota, where he met his wife, Donna. From there, he received a bachelor’s degree in pastoral ministries from Mid-South Bible College in Memphis, Tennessee. He later attended Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary, also in Memphis. Through the 1980s, Tim pastored three Southern Baptist churches then went on to work in the retail furniture business. When the furniture business closed after he worked there 25 years, Tim was unsure of his next step. He was 61 and a career change felt daunting.

While Tim was attending First Presbyterian Church in Yazoo City, he came to know one of the church elders who recommended him for the Director of Gift Processing position with RTS. Tim was familiar with RTS through his church and was encouraged at the thought of working for a Christian ministry. Tim accepted the job and began his work with RTS in October 2014.

Tim considers it a privilege to become acquainted with a handful of students through his work at the seminary, having attended seminary himself. His heart has greatly grown for RTS Jackson’s international students in particular: “I have been able to get to know several students from other countries. I admire them for being able to come over here and learn whatever they didn’t know of English, and then also Hebrew and Greek!”

Although his role is often out of the public eye, Tim recognizes the underlying significance of his work.
Mark Erickson served as the Assistant to the Chief Development Officer at RTS until the summer of 2022. “I do this job to the best of my ability in glorifying God and fulfilling his purposes,” Tim says. He sees the work of the whole development team as an integral part of the ministry of RTS. By maintaining a seamless relationship with RTS’ donors, Tim’s work further encourages the growth of support toward training faithful servants for worldwide ministry. “I try to be an ambassador of goodwill in a way.”

In caring for donors by diligently and accurately documenting their gifts and intentions, Tim takes an important step in helping them find joy in their giving and honoring their generosity. His role in donor care gives our friends confidence that their gifts will be handled with the highest professional standards and that the investments made will be faithfully applied to further RTS’s mission.

Tim has witnessed the faithful generosity of RTS’ long-term supporters firsthand. “I have seen the whole spectrum from those who give a dollar and those who give several million,” Tim says. “While I appreciate the big gifts, I really admire those who give consistent, small monthly gifts, such as a lady who is 102 years old!”

Major Gifts Officer Matthew Bryant had this to say about Tim: “Tim Thompson defines humble service. His attention to the smallest details, his faithful and steady work ethic, and his kindness and care for his colleagues and our donors make him a treasure to RTS. I am thankful for his service to RTS and for his friendship.”

Tim has just completed his eighth year with RTS. “I hope to make a positive contribution to the work of the ministry here at RTS in the future for as long as I am here,” he says. “I will continue to pray and labor for this ministry that God has called us to. It is a wonderful privilege to be ‘laborers together with God’ (1 Cor 3:9).”

Mark Erickson served as the Assistant to the Chief Development Officer at RTS until the summer of 2022.
Inspired by the words of founder Sam Patterson, “How big is your God?”, Reformed Theological Seminary was born in Jackson and has been supported by Mississippians from the very beginning.

RTS is pleased to deepen this great commitment to prepare leaders for the next 50 years in a new space closer to the heart of Jackson.

FOR MORE UPDATES VISIT rts.edu/greatcommitment
REACHING OUR STANDARDS

JOHN MUETHER
Reformed Theological Seminary was founded in 1966 firmly committed to the inerrancy of the Bible and the teaching of the Westminster Standards (Confession of Faith and Larger and Shorter Catechisms). It was a strong testimony of Reformed orthodoxy amid a confessional crisis in American Presbyterianism. The Northern (mainline) Presbyterian Church was a year away from passing the Confession of 1967. This neo-orthodox statement of faith was accompanied by a loosening of the role that confessions played in the unity of the church’s faith. Confessions lost their binding character and were relegated to relics from the church’s past that ministers and elders were encouraged to consult. The Southern Presbyterian Church would embrace a similarly diminished confessionalism within the next decade.

“We must urge the seminaries . . . to teach the standards as the ground and obvious organizing principle of its theological curriculum”
For over half a century, RTS has fought against confessional obsolescence and has emphasized the theology of the Westminster Standards in its curriculum. Among the requirements for completing its Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree is the memorization of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. This was and continues to be unique among all North American theological seminaries. Assessment instruments consistently demonstrate that RTS graduates excel in the doctrinal portions of presbytery licensure and ordination examinations.

Still, confessional confusion continues in the denominations in which RTS alumni serve. Many observers have suggested that seminaries should rethink how the standards are taught. There is growing doubt among some that a 17th-century confession and catechisms can speak relevantly to the 21st-century church. Others worry that the confession does little to unite the church today as it did in the past. This has prompted the seminary to consider exploring how the Westminster Standards could make an even greater impact on our MDiv curriculum.

Conversations began nearly a decade ago when Dr. Ligon Duncan was appointed the fifth chancellor of RTS in 2013. His hope was that his tenure would be marked by a renewal of the confessional commitment that lay at the very heart of the school’s mission since its founding. Dr. Duncan’s concern was not that RTS had become a-confessional, much less anti-confessional. Instead, his vision was a reminder that where confessions are institutionally assumed, they can too easily become forgotten. Two years later, he led an effort to unify the MDiv curricula across the RTS campuses. At the time, the institution’s curricula were about 90% identical; but differences were emerging between campuses that threatened to create a sense that RTS was a loose confederation of several independent schools. Dr. Duncan’s call was for one seminary with eight campuses, aiming at unity but not uniformity.

At the same time, RTS was aware of an increasing number of voices in the churches it served who lamented the loss of the confessions in their denominations. Many directed their concerns to the seminaries that were failing to teach the confessions, especially the Westminster Standards, in their curriculum. In the words of one concerned pastor, Dr. David Strain of First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, Mississippi:

> We must urge the seminaries . . . to teach the Standards as the ground and obvious organizing principle of its theological curriculum and not just as a minor elective survey course along the way. We want candidates for gospel ministry who know the Standards, who love the Standards, and who will joyfully, vigorously, and faithfully defend and promote the teaching of the Standards as the system of doctrine taught in Holy Scripture.
WHAT IS A QEP?

John Muether

Earlier this year, Reformed Theological Seminary hosted visitation teams from the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). These accreditation visits, which happen once every 10 years, involve peer reviews of our educational curricula, student services, and financial practices. In addition to measuring compliance to established standards, SACS invites each school to identify an area it seeks to improve through a carefully crafted five-year Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). Last spring, RTS presented a plan to integrate the Westminster Standards even more fully into its Master of Divinity (MDiv) curriculum.

In 2020, five RTS faculty members (Dr. John Fesko, Dr. Tommy Keene, John Muether [chair], Dr. Blair Smith, and Dr. Charlie Wingard) joined Angela Queen, Director of Academic Administration, to form the QEP Steering Committee. A cross-section of four campuses (Jackson, Orlando, Charlotte, and Washington, D.C.) and three fields (biblical studies, systematic and historical theology, and pastoral theology) were all represented on the committee.

Over the course of two years, the committee reviewed where the Westminster Standards touched the MDiv curriculum, surveyed graduates, and conducted focus group meetings with alumni. Based on the data gathered, the committee developed a plan for more comprehensive coverage of the standards beyond systematic theology and church history courses. In addition to a general competency in the standards, the focus fell on equipping students to practice the standards in pastoral ministry, including worship, prayer, preaching, discipleship, and counseling. In these areas, the temptation is strong to separate Reformed faith and practice. RTS is excited about deepening the imprint of the Westminster Standards in its MDiv curriculum.
Dr. Duncan’s vision led the institution to identify the Westminster Standards as its Quality Enhancement Plan topic earlier in 2022. (See sidebar on “What is a QEP?”)

RTS’ initiative to reinforce its confessional fidelity was not addressing a new problem for Presbyterian churches. Well over a century ago, Professor B. B. Warfield of Princeton Seminary, perceiving confusion in the Presbyterian Church in his day, wrote an insightful article entitled “The Presbyterian Churches and the Westminster Confession of Faith.” Warfield’s purpose was to remind readers of the vital functions the standards play in Reformed churches. He identified three. First, and most obviously, they are tests. After seminary, ministerial candidates are obliged to demonstrate their familiarity with the Westminster Standards in their ordination examinations. In this sense, RTS is teaching the standards thoroughly and has a good record of success in students passing ordination exams.

But what happens after ordination? Warfield goes on: Second, confessions are also texts. They are weighty resources that belong in the pastor’s study next to Calvin and Bavinck and others, to be consulted often. But even here, they hold a certain pride of place. Confessions are not merely the wisdom of great minds of the church. They are the voice of the church itself speaking. Students need to understand the authoritative and constitutional role of the standards in the churches they seek to serve.

"THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION AND CATECHISMS SHOULD SHAPE THESE SERVANTS OF THE WORD THROUGHOUT THEIR LIFELONG VOCATION"
Thirdly, Warfield notes that confessions are testimonies before God and others. Before God, confessions shape the worship and liturgy of the church. Before others, they comprise what Paul called the “pattern of sound words”: They are tools of discipleship in the church and words of its witness to the world.

Tests, texts, and testimonies: We believe that Warfield was right in urging students to master the Westminster Standards’ importance for the church in each of these three functions. Together, they will yield a positive confessionalism that will provide clarity and unite the church’s witness. Confessionalism today is often misunderstood both by its defenders and its critics. At RTS, we are eager to commend the Westminster Standards, especially as a unifying tool for the church, an antidote to the threat of Reformed tribalism, and as a clear voice in an age of post-Christendom.

We might even do Warfield one better and add a fourth: The Standards are also a target. Carechesis doesn’t end when students pass the seminary’s catechism exam. Confessional formation is not complete when students earn their MDiv degree. Rather, the Westminster Confession and Catechisms should shape these servants of the Word throughout their lifelong vocation. And so, we hope that the RTS MDiv program will begin the calling to “reach the standards” in pastoral ministry.

John Muether is Dean of Libraries for the RTS system and Professor of Church History at RTS Orlando.

**Institute for Faith, Work, & Culture**

Situated amidst a vibrant faith and work community in Central Florida, RTS Orlando is uniquely positioned to engage the faith and work conversation. RTS Orlando formed the IFWC to facilitate the development of a biblically-grounded, God-centered vision for integrating faith and work in both its current students and the wider church.
This text message from Michael Card finally gave Dove Award-winning singer, songwriter, and author Ginny Owens the nudge she needed to pack up her life in Nashville, where she’d called home for twenty years, and move to New York City — mere blocks from Central Park — to pursue a degree at Reformed Theological Seminary.

Owens always wanted to go to seminary but felt too busy with her active music career and ministry. She had also long dreamt of living in New York, a city where conveniences like mass transportation are better suited for someone like Ginny, who has been blind since childhood. In 2018, these dreams converged.

2018, however, was not the beginning of her story with RTS. Growing up in Jackson, Mississippi and attending Presbyterian churches, Owens cannot remember a time when she wasn’t aware of RTS. Her grandfather Robert Ostenson was one of the founding pastors of the Presbyterian Church in America, so it was no surprise that several of her aunts and uncles found their way to RTS, along with all her pastors and youth pastors. As a baby, she even lived at the RTS Jackson campus with her family.

Owens credits the influence of RTS for her early, solid foundation of faith during her formative years. She recalled, “I was taught not only the fundamental principles of the Christian faith but also why those principles are true. I learned to respect the truth and life-giving power of God’s Word.” The Westminster Shorter Catechism and concepts such as total depravity and predestination were part of her spiritual upbringing.
As a young adult, however, she began to wonder if her faith was too “heady” and not practical or actionable enough. She explained, “While I was surprised to learn that my non-Reformed friends had not been taught to think through their faith as I had, I appreciated, in that season, the ‘simplicity’ of their Christianity. In my mind, they trusted God instead of overthinking their faith.” When Owens moved to Nashville for college to study music education, she thought her days of being connected to RTS were over. God had other plans.

Over time, her thinking changed: “I began to learn from pastors such as Dr. Tim Keller that Reformed theology is a beautiful call to trust God while thinking out our faith. It is not an ‘academic’ theology meant to promote a cold and aloof Christianity, but a robust theology that aims to provide ways of answering the greatest questions about God and humanity — in every culture and every age — and ultimately, to bring its hearers into worship of their sovereign God.” Owens knew a thing or two about bringing others into worship of their sovereign God.

After establishing herself in the contemporary Christian music industry, a growing desire to become a more skilled and responsible Bible teacher and writer of theologically rich songs for the church drove Owens to consider seminary. She explained, “I knew I needed the rigor and discipline of the school environment to challenge and change me.”

When that persistent pull toward seminary crescendoed into a fever pitch, she began the process of discerning the next
steps, turning to her pastors and wise friends for counsel. Owens explained that if God spoke through opportunities, “doors to New York were flying open.”

At times, Owens dedicated herself full-time to her Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) program. During other times, ministry responsibilities meant she enrolled part-time to make space for songwriting, leading worship, speaking, and, more recently, penning her first solo-authored book, *Singing in the Dark: Finding Hope in the Songs of Scripture*, released in 2021. Over the past year, she has also had the opportunity to serve as Interim Women’s Ministry Manager and Assistant Director of Worship Arts at her church.

Whether pursued full-time or part-time, RTS New York City gave Owens further insight into God’s Word and taught her to think about how it could change her and her interactions with others. She reflected, “I’ve been blessed with professors who both teach these truths and preach to the heart. They beautifully communicate God’s Word and help us to wrestle with what it means for life beyond the walls of the classroom.”

What Owens learned about how to study Scripture helped her immensely with songwriting, teaching, and having a rich devotional life. It gave her confidence, without which, she explained, she would never have been able to write her book, lead a women’s ministry, or walk alongside others in various situations and point them toward truth. She shared, “While Bible survey classes have provided a wonderful overview of each part of Scripture and how to read it in the context of the bigger story of redemption, systematic theology classes have helped me understand how the Bible speaks as a whole on the most important topics: God, humanity, sin, etc. All my classes have challenged me to think about how I think, how our culture thinks, and how to apply the truth of God’s Word to every aspect of life — and to encourage others to do the same.”

Her classes have moved her to moments of conviction of sin, repentance, great hope, and joyful revelation.

“All My Classes Have Challenged Me to Think About How I Think”

She continued, “These moments have brought about a deeper desire to share the love of Christ by every means possible. After all, he is our only true hope. Lives cannot be profoundly changed without him.”

Owens has always loved the tools Reformed theology provides for a deeper devotional life, and, combined with the training she received at RTS, she hopes to continue mining Scripture’s depths to walk more closely with the Lord. She shared, “With this foundation, my prayer is to, from now until eternity, become a wiser discipler, a bolder evangelist, and a more dependent and eager pray-er. I want the Lord to make me as useful as possible in his work, and I’m certain seminary has provided the next step of preparation in all that future work might be.”

As a recent graduate, Owens looks forward to using what she’s learned to continue to bring glory to God, his love, his truth, and the great mysteries of his gospel through song and word wherever — and however — he may lead.

Alicia Akins works in international education by day, is a part-time Master of Arts (Biblical Studies) student at RTS Washington, and is the author of Invitations to Abundance, published by Harvest House.
CONFESSING with the CATECHISMS:

A FAITH that Speaks to Today

DR. WILLIAM FULLILOVE
FOLLOWING CENTURIES of the CHRISTIAN CHURCH, when we confess our sins in worship, we confess both the wrong we have done and the good we have left undone. In so doing, we follow a long tradition of deeply considering the full implications of God’s commandments, reading them expansively — never narrowly — searching out both the positive and negative implications of each for the Christian life.

The Reformed tradition is by no means the only Christian tradition that does this; all Christians must, as we are merely following both the Old and New Testaments, the teaching of Moses and the teaching of our Lord himself. Yet, our Reformed tradition provides an often surprising, even shocking, depth to the practice.

THE OLD TESTAMENT envisions a maximal reading of the law, a thirst to apply the principles of God’s commands into every area of life, not a mere keeping of the letter of the law. Leviticus 6:1–7 is telling:

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “If anyone sins and commits a breach of faith against the LORD by deceiving his neighbor in a matter of deposit or security, or through robbery, or if he has oppressed his neighbor or has found something lost and lied about it, swearing falsely—in any of all the things that people do and sin thereby—if he has sinned and has realized his guilt and will restore what he took by robbery or what he got by oppression or the deposit that was committed to him or the lost thing that he found or anything about which he has sworn falsely, he shall restore it in full and shall add a fifth to it, and give it to him to whom it belongs on the day he realizes his guilt. And he shall bring to the priest as his compensation to the LORD a ram without blemish out of the flock, or its equivalent, for a guilt offering. And the priest shall make atonement for him before the LORD, and he shall be forgiven for any of the things that one may do and thereby become guilty.” (Lev 6:1–7)

Leviticus is clearly working out the implications of the eighth commandment, indicating that “stealing” is far more than simply taking something from another. Deception in issues of a deposit, actual taking, oppression of another, finding something lost and avoiding returning it, misleading others—all these, and by implication even more, would count as violations of the spirit of the eighth commandment. In other words, the law itself indicates that it should be read expansively, not narrowly.
IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, Jesus follows and extends this Old Testament understanding of how one ought to apply God’s commands. For instance, he famously engaged a young man on these issues in Matthew 19:

> And behold, a man came up to him, saying, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” He said to him, “Which ones?” And Jesus said, “You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to him, “All these I have kept. What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions. (Matt 19:16–22)

The young man got the point, but sadly he chose not to follow Jesus—a sobering end to the conversation. Christ’s point, of course, was that the young man’s piety was not as exemplary as he would have hoped. True piety did not simply stop with the sins of commission, being able to say, “These I have kept.”

Jesus’ teaching in the Sermon on the Mount is replete with this lesson. Considering the sixth commandment, he states:

> You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.” (Matt 5:21–22)
Christ makes the same point again, beginning in verse 27, about the seventh commandment:

“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.” (Matt 5:27–30)

Nor does our Lord limit such thinking to only the ten commandments. In verses 33–37, he approaches the issue of oaths, this time drawing from Leviticus 12:

Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil. (Matt 5:33–37)

Jesus apparently urges that we take a maximal approach to applying the law in our lives, not a narrow, limited application.

Passages such as these are the basis for what is often called the third use of the law, that Christians rightly use the Old Testament law not only to drive us to Jesus (Rom 7:7–11), nor only to restrain evil (Rom 13:1–4), but also to guide us in living the good works God would have us do (Eph 2:10).
THE WESTMINSTER DIVINES engaged in this thinking extensively, not in the Confession, but in the catechisms, especially the Westminster Larger Catechism, a document whose depth of thought is often astounding to modern readers if we stop to consider the prayerful reflection behind its exposition of the law. For instance, in answering the question “What are the duties required in the sixth commandment?” the Larger Catechism states:

The duties required in the sixth commandment are, all careful studies, and lawful endeavours, to preserve the life of ourselves and others by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices, which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any; by just defence thereof against violence, patient bearing of the hand of God, quietness of mind, cheerfulness of spirit; a sober use of meat, drink, physical, sleep, labour, and recreations; by charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, kindness; peaceable, mild and courteous speeches and behaviour; forbearance, readiness to be reconciled, patient bearing and forgiving of injuries, and requiting good for evil; comforting and succouring the distressed, and protecting and defending the innocent. (WLC 135)

Further, answering the next question, “What are the sins forbidden in the sixth commandment?” the Larger Catechism continues:

The sins forbidden in the sixth commandment are, all taking away the life of ourselves, or of others, except in case of public justice, lawful war, or necessary defence; the neglecting or withdrawing the lawful and necessary means of preservation of life; sinful anger, hatred, envy, desire of revenge; all excessive passions, distracting cares; immoderate use of meat, drink, labour, and recreations; provoking words, oppression, quarrelling, striking, wounding, and whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of any. (WLC 136)

When I read examples like questions 103–148 of the Larger Catechism in class, students often react with nervous laughter, both at how much the Westminster Divines got out of each commandment and at how relevant – often in surprising ways – their answers are to major
cultural and societal issues today. Yet, what the catechisms do is precisely right. They simply follow what the Scripture has modeled for us regarding ethical thinking – working to maximally apply God’s commandments and his law into every area of our lives. The Divines did so in their world, just as we ought in ours.

We have tremendous resources in our confessional documents to search out how our faith applies to modern issues, not just personal but also social. The Westminster Divines provide us a powerful training, one that forbids us from adopting a merely privatized faith, ignoring the issues of our day. To do so comprehensively – on all of God’s law, not just one piece – provides another powerful training, one that requires us to address the issues of our day in a biblical fashion, not simply running to society's solutions. The Divines’ call on us would be to emulate the same patterns of thought, searching every area – personal, societal, everywhere in between – so that we might grow in godliness. 

Dr. William Fullilove is Professor of Old Testament and Dean of Students at RTS New York City.

As a unique expression of the Paideia Center, RTS New York City invites you to usher in your advent season with reflections from Drs. Michael Allen and Jay Harvey on Athanasius’s classic text On the Incarnation of the Word. Spend the evening over a meal thinking through how this work is a source of spiritual encouragement for us today.

REGISTER AT PAIDEIACENTER.COM
Click “Fall 2022 Reading Groups” and select the New York City Reading Group
PURPOSE
BEYOND PROFITS

MARY DAVIS
Jared and Suzanne Olshefski have always had close friends who are pastors, missionaries, or others working in some capacity on the mission field. Seeing their sacrifices often made Jared wonder, How am I serving the Lord behind a desk? Should I be on the mission field somewhere?

During a time when this dilemma was weighing heavy on Jared, he attended a providentially-timed luncheon at Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte with Dr. Michael Kruger, who addressed that very topic. “Mike said there isn’t a shortage of students at RTS who want to be pastors and missionaries, but a much more pressing need is men and women who can give financial resources so that those students can be trained at RTS and sent into pulpits and onto mission fields where they will impact thousands for Christ,” remembers Jared. “Those words gave me purpose beyond profits.”

Jared serves as president of Quality Builders Warranty (QBW), a 35-year-old company founded in Pennsylvania by Jared’s father, Joe. QBW is now based in Charlotte.

“Long ago, my dad established tithing as a standard annual practice for our business.” This practice of giving laid the foundation for an eternal business perspective. “We started to change the direction of our business to focus on long-term impact for the kingdom,” says Jared. “That has been far more energizing than more dollars in a portfolio.”

The Olshefskis learned years ago that giving to a ministry can be a conflicting thing. Giving can bring joy when humility is at heart or self-righteousness when pride has taken hold. But Jared says that when they came to realize that all blessings come from the Lord and everything is his, they found new freedom in giving what the Lord had given them.

“We realized that writing a check is no different than a parent handing a child a dollar to put in the church offering plate. This concept of giving what isn’t ours and getting to experience joy in the process is an incomprehensible gift from the Lord, one that we have undeservingly been able to witness.”

But with so many institutions and ministries looking for donors, why does RTS stand out to the Olshefskis?

Jared and Suzanne say that what pulls most heavily at their family’s heart is the seminary’s faithful commitment to the kingdom. “RTS has held true to its mission since it was founded over 55 years ago . . . It seeks to hire and train up men and women who love the Lord and are dedicated to the inerrancy of the Bible.”

“In the 1960s, doubting Christians said a seminary started in Jackson, Mississippi didn’t stand a chance to succeed,” prompted Jared. “But founding evangelist Sam Patterson responded with a question: ‘How big is your God?’

“When our family is faced with situations where blind unbelief comes out in others or within ourselves, we are reminded of Sam Patterson’s question,” Jared says. “His words demonstrated a deep level of faith that was clothed in unashamed boldness, which is necessary for a seminary or any person trying to follow Christ in today’s world.

“Suzanne and I feel a deep appreciation for a seminary that will send out pastors and missionaries who believe and teach the whole Bible, as it is.”
The Olshefskis have close family ties to RTS.

In 2007, Jared’s brother, Jordan, was living in Pennsylvania and working for QBW when he sensed a call to ministry. Jordan discussed it with a friend who promptly visited the RTS website and requested a student application be sent to Jordan’s house. The groundwork had been laid. That summer, during the week Suzanne and Jared were married in Charlotte, Jordan visited the Charlotte campus of RTS. He went on to receive his MDiv from RTS Charlotte in 2011 and has served in ministry in Charlotte ever since.

“Through Jordan’s experience and passion for RTS, our family has felt a close connection to the seminary,” says Jared.

“While we’ve had the privilege to hear many remarkable stories over the years, most notable has been a theme that is so often repeated...which is that most students at RTS are there because the Holy Spirit convicted someone to be generous and they answered the call.”

The Olshefskis say this has changed how they think about their business and their financial support of ministries like RTS. “I stopped looking at business deals for what the deal means for the bottom line,” Jared explains. “Instead, I began to think, If we close this deal, what will this do for the kingdom? How many students can we get to RTS to send out onto the mission field?

“Pursuing a life in ministry requires great sacrifice, so it’s all the more humbling to meet men and women who are willing to follow the Lord’s call, even when they aren’t sure how they will be able to afford it,” says Jared. “Those stories should cause any Christian to offer support, especially financial support when possible.”

Mary Davis is a Canadian transplant to the South. Wife and mother by day, she moonlights as a freelance writer and editor.

“This concept of giving what isn’t ours and getting to experience joy in the process is an incomprehensible gift from the Lord...”
As we continue to reflect on how the Lord has blessed RTS, we want to celebrate the achievements of our faculty. Since spring, many RTS faculty members have achieved the rank of full professor or associate professor.

This year also saw several transitions in academic administration, a notable retirement, and new faculty and staff appointments.

Finally, we’ve seen the many ways in which the seminary continues to grow and prepare for the future, including the development of a Quality Enhancement Plan and RTS Jackson’s upcoming relocation.

On June 1, 2022, Dr. William Fullilove was promoted to Professor of Old Testament at RTS New York City. Dr. Benjamin Gladd was promoted to Professor of New Testament at RTS Jackson. At RTS Charlotte, Dr. Jim Newheiser was promoted to Professor of Christian Counseling and Pastoral Theology while Dr. William Ross was promoted to Associate Professor of Old Testament.

Dr. D. Blair Smith took Dr. Guy Waters’s place as Academic Dean for RTS Dallas and RTS Houston. On August 1, 2022, Dr. Greg Lanier became Academic Dean for RTS Global, succeeding Dr. James Anderson.

Dr. Fullilove is a graduate of Princeton University (A.B.), RTS Orlando (MDiv), and The Catholic University of America (MA, Ph.D.). He joined RTS as Assistant Professor of Old Testament and Assistant Academic Dean at the Atlanta campus in 2013. In 2015, Dr. Fullilove helped to establish RTS New York City. He also serves as Dean of Students for the campus.

In addition to his work at RTS, he serves as Executive Pastor and Scholar in Residence at McLean Presbyterian Church in McLean, Virginia.
Executive Director Dr. Jay Harvey said, “Dr. Fullilove is the founding professor of our program in NYC. No one combines scholarly acumen, pastoral wisdom, and pedagogical excellence more than Bill Fullilove. This promotion to full professor is a well-deserved recognition of his transformative influence on students and his faithful service to the church.”

**DR. BENJAMIN GLADD**
**PROFESSOR OF NEW TESTAMENT /// JACKSON**

Dr. Gladd earned a B.A. in Greek and Hebrew from the Master’s College. He completed an MA in Biblical Exegesis and a Ph.D. in New Testament from Wheaton College. Before joining the faculty of RTS Jackson in 2012, he served as an adjunct faculty member at Wheaton.

A widely published author and researcher, Dr. Gladd’s academic interests are in biblical theology, biblical exegesis, and the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament.

Dr. Gladd is passionate about teaching students how to engage the Bible in its original languages. He teaches intensive Greek courses in RTS Jackson’s Summer Institute for Biblical Languages.

“He. Ben Gladd exemplifies RTS’s commitment to scholarship for the church,” said Dr. Guy Waters, Academic Dean. “He is passionate to show students and readers the grand unity of Scripture as a book about Jesus Christ. I am profoundly grateful for Dr. Gladd’s contributions to the RTS Jackson faculty and to evangelical biblical scholarship and am delighted at his promotion to Professor of New Testament.”

**DR. GREGORY LANIER**
**ACADEMIC DEAN /// GLOBAL EDUCATION**

Dr. Lanier took over as academic head for the online program from Dr. James Anderson, who also serves as RTS New York City’s Academic Dean.

Dr. Lanier will continue in his role as Associate Professor of New Testament at RTS Orlando, where he has taught courses related to New Testament exegesis and interpretation, Greek, and preaching since 2016.

Before completing doctoral studies at the University of Cambridge, he earned degrees at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.S.) and Reformed Theological Seminary, Charlotte (MDiv).

 Provost Robert Cara shared, “Dr. Lanier’s impressive publishing record shows his concern for academic quality. He is also known for his interaction with students, both in person and in online venues. I am looking forward to working with him in this new capacity.”
Dr. James R. Newheiser, Jr.
Professor of Christian Counseling and Pastoral Theology /// Charlotte

Dr. Newheiser is also the Director of the Christian Counseling Program at RTS Charlotte. He earned a Bachelor of Business Administration from Baylor University as well as MA and DMin degrees from Westminster Seminary California.

Dr. Newheiser is the author of numerous books and articles, including Money, Debt, and Finances: Critical Questions and Answers (P&R, 2021) and How to Love Difficult Parents (New Growth, 2021).

Dr. Michael Kruger, President of the Charlotte campus, commented on Dr. Newheiser’s promotion: “We are so thankful to have Jim Newheiser as part of the Charlotte faculty. After many years as both a pastor and a counselor, Jim brings a treasure trove of wisdom and biblical application to our students in the classroom. The future of the church will be blessed because of his impact on the next generation of leaders.”

Dr. William A. Ross
Associate Professor of Old Testament /// Charlotte

Dr. Ross joined the RTS Charlotte faculty in 2019. He received a B.S. from Grove City College, an MDiv from Westminster Theological Seminary, and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Cambridge as a Cambridge Trust Scholar under Dr. James K. Aitken. His dissertation, entitled Postclassical Greek and Septuagint Lexicography, was published by SBL Press in spring 2022.

Dr. Ross has co-authored and edited several recent publications, including Postclassical Greek Preposition and Conceptual Metaphor: Cognitive Semantic Analysis and Biblical Exegesis (edited with Steven E. Runge; DeGruyter, 2022) and The Septuagint: What it is and Why it Matters (with Gregory R. Lanier; Crossway, 2021).

Dr. Michael Kruger, President of RTS Charlotte, commented on Dr. Ross’s promotion: “We are so thankful to have Will Ross as part of the Charlotte faculty. He has already established himself as one of the leading Septuagint scholars today and is active both in the academic community and the local church. That combination embodies the RTS ethos, and we know our students will be blessed by his ministry for years to come.”

Dr. D. Blair Smith
Academic Dean /// Dallas, Houston

In his new role, Dr. Smith is the academic head of both Texas campuses, a position previously held by Dr. Guy Waters.

Dr. Smith joined the faculty of RTS Charlotte in 2016 and will continue there as Associate Professor of Systematic Theology. He earned a earned a B.S.
at Bob Jones University, an MDiv at Reformed Theological Seminary, a Th.M. at Harvard Divinity School, and a Ph.D. in historical theology at Durham University under the supervision of Lewis Ayres.

In addition to his scholarly responsibilities, Smith has served on the seminary’s Quality Enhancement Plan Steering Committee and is co-editor of Reformed Faith & Practice, the RTS faculty journal, along with John Muether.

“As Provost, I am happy to have Dr. Smith join the Academic Deans’ Committee as a new academic dean,” shared Dr. Robert Cara. “Dr. Smith was my student and has been my professorial colleague for several years. He knows RTS well and will work to continue the winsomely Reformed ethos that already exists at RTS Dallas and Houston.”

Dr. Mark McDowell, Executive Director of RTS Dallas and RTS Houston, said, “I can’t thank Dr. Waters enough for his service to Texas, but I also can’t think of anyone better to succeed him than Dr. Smith. Blair brings theological wisdom, pastoral sensitivity, and administrative experience to the role.”

In June, Dr. Irwyn L. Ince, Jr. was appointed as an adjunct professor at RTS. Dr. Guy Waters succeeded Dr. Miles Van Pelt as Academic Dean at the Jackson campus. Several campuses also welcomed new staff members earlier in the year.

Dr. Ince earned degrees from the City College of New York (B.E.), Reformed Theological Seminary (MAR), and Covenant Theological Seminary (DMin). He has served in a variety of church and parachurch contexts.

Currently, Dr. Ince serves as Coordinator of Mission to North America, the domestic missions arm of the Presbyterian Church in America. He is author of The Beautiful Community: Unity, Diversity, and the Church at Its Best (IVP, 2020).

**APPOINTMENTS**

**DR. IRWYN INCE**

**ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF PASTORAL THEOLOGY /// ATLANTA, ORLANDO, WASHINGTON**

Dr. Ince has taught regularly at RTS for five years, during which he has taught on multiple campuses across the RTS system. In his new role, he serves as an adjunct professor at the Washington, Atlanta, and Orlando campuses. Though based at RTS Washington, Dr. Ince will continue his multi-campus work.

“Dr. Ince’s commitment to sound Bible-based and confessional theology as well as his love for the work of the gospel and the global church makes him an excellent and needed voice at RTS,” said Dr. Scott Redd, President of RTS Washington.
Dr. Guy Waters
ACADEMIC DEAN /// JACKSON

Dr. Waters joined the RTS faculty in 2007 and is currently the James M. Baird, Jr. Professor of New Testament. More recently, he has also served as Academic Dean of RTS Dallas and RTS Houston.

He received a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, an MDiv from Westminster Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. from Duke University. Prior to joining the RTS faculty, he spent a year teaching Hellenistic Greek at Duke Divinity School and five years as Assistant Professor of Biblical Studies at Belhaven College (now Belhaven University).

Dr. Waters succeeded Dr. Miles Van Pelt, who stepped down after over 15 years in the role to devote larger amounts of time to research, writing, and teaching.

“Dr. Waters is a world-class New Testament scholar, an exemplary churchman, an able systematic theologian of the church, and a superb academic administrator,” said Dr. Ligon Duncan, President of the Jackson campus. “His leadership could not come at a better time at this exciting moment in the history of RTS Jackson.”

RTS announces Jackson campus relocation initiative

RTS Jackson will move its operations to a new location within one of Jackson’s major commercial and residential hubs at 1400 Meadowbrook Road, just off Interstate 55.

“Jackson is our state’s capital, and we want to be part of a renaissance here. We want to invest in this city,” said Dr. Ligon Duncan, RTS Chancellor and Jackson campus President. “This is a strategic upgrade of our campus location and facilities.”

The RTS trustees’ decision to move the campus was made out of a desire for RTS to be able to serve students, local churches, and the entire region more effectively, which in turn provides for the seminary’s long-term health and growth.

To learn more about the relocation, visit rts.edu/greatcommitment.
Dr. James “Jim” Hurley retired from his service to Reformed Theological Seminary on May 31, 2022. The RTS Board of Trustees named him Professor of Counseling Emeritus upon retirement. Dr. Hurley is the longest-serving residential faculty member in RTS history, having joined the faculty of RTS Jackson in 1985 to assist in starting what eventually became the Master of Arts in Counseling program.

Dr. Hurley graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University. He went on to earn an MDiv at Westminster Theological Seminary as well as a D.Phil. in New Testament at the University of Cambridge and a Ph.D. in marriage and the family at Florida State University.

His two doctoral degrees gave him a unique perspective as he taught courses designed to help students understand the relation of psychological studies, counseling, and Scripture.

“Jim Hurley was instrumental in both the establishment of our MFT program and its transition to the MAC program,” said Dr. Ligon Duncan, President of RTS Jackson. “Jim and Phyllis are treasured members of the RTS family. We thank God for them and wish them the best in Jim’s retirement.”

An ordained minister in the PCA since 1975 and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist since 1985, Dr. Hurley’s therapeutic focus is with highly conflictual couples, individuals with historical trauma and abuse, and pre-marital couples.

Dr. Hurley has been involved in Prison Fellowship, the Sexual Abuse Coalition, and served on the board of Mt. Salus Christian School. He is a clinical fellow and approved clinical supervisor of the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy and a practicing professional therapist. In his time at RTS, he served not only as a professor but as Director of the MAC Program.
**JACKSON**

**OCT 11–13:** John Reed Miller Lecture Series with Rev. Brian Habig
*For more information, call (601) 923-1600.*

**WASHINGTON**

**ORLANDO**

**OCT 26:** Inaugural Bavinck Lecture with Dr. James Eglinton
**NOV 8–9:** Hughes Preaching Lecture Series with Dr. David Strain
**JAN 5, 2023:** Evening lecture event with Dr. Carl Trueman
**FEB 28, 2023:** RTS Orlando Vision Dinner
**MARCH 22–23, 2023:** Kistemaker Academic Lecture Series with Dr. Richard Hays
*For more information, call (407) 366-9493.*

**ATLANTA**

**OCT 11–13:** Systematic Theology: Ecclesiology and Sacraments course with Dr. Sinclair Ferguson
**MARCH 7, 2023:** Preview Day
*For more information, call (770) 952-8884.*

**CHARLOTTE**

**MARCH 7, 2023:** Harold O.J. Brown Lecture Series with Dr. Timothy George
*For more information, call (704) 366-5066.*

**WASHINGTON**

Dr. Gray Sutanto hosts the “Grace in Common” Podcast along with James Eglinton, Cory Brock, and Marinus de Jong. The four talk about theology, religion, public faith, culture, and more.

**SUBSCRIBE TO DR. RICHARD’S BLOG AT GUYMRICHARD.COM AND FOLLOW THE NEW RTS ATLANTA INSTAGRAM:** @RTS.ATLANTA
TRAVEL AND SPEAKING

DR. MICHAEL ALLEN

OCT 27: Speaking at the World Reformed Fellowship General Assembly, Orlando, FL.

NOV 15–17: Speaking at the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

DR. JAMES ANDERSON

FEB 28–MAR 1, 2023: Speaking at the Van Til and the Future of Reformed Apologetics Conference, Westminster Theological Seminary, Glenside, PA.

DR. ZACHARY COLE

NOV 17: Speaking at the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

DR. KEVIN DEYOUNG

JAN 30–FEB 1, 2023: Speaking at the Bethlehem Conference for Pastors, Bethlehem College & Seminary, Minneapolis, MN.

FEB 24–26, 2023: Speaking at the Philadelphia Conference on Reformed Theology, University Reformed Church, East Lansing, MI.

DR. J.V. FESKO

SEPT 23–24: Speaking at the Prince George’s Conference on Reformed Theology, Greenbelt Baptist Church, Greenbelt, MD.

OCT 28–30: Speaking at Reformation Day Conference, New Life Presbyterian Church, La Mesa, CA.

NOV 15–17: Panelist at the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

DR. MICHAEL KRUGER

NOV 15–17: Presenting a paper at the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

JAN 20, 2023: Speaking at Rhythms Seminar, Christ Covenant Church, Atlanta, GA.

FEB 24–25, 2023: Speaking at Winter Conference, Christ Church Associate Reformed Presbyterian, Denver, CO.

For up-to-date information on travel and speaking engagements, please contact the event organizers.
TRAVEL AND SPEAKING

DR. JAMES NEWHEISER

SEPT 5–8: Teaching at European Bible Training Center, Berlin, Germany.

SEPT 30–OCT 5: Speaking at the Association of Certified Biblical Counselors Annual Conference, Cordova, TN.

OCT 7–8: Biblical counseling training at Peace Church, Cary, NC.

OCT 23: Preaching at Calvary Baptist Church, Manchester, TN.

OCT 28–30: Speaking at Ignite Conference, Grace Covenant Church, Beaver Creek, OH.

NOV 6: Preaching at Living Faith Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC.

NOV 8: Counseling training, Cornerstone Fellowship Church, Apex, NC.

NOV 10: Counseling training, Family Ministries Counseling Ministries, Green Bay, WI (via Zoom).

NOV 10–13: Speaking at Family Conference, Cornerstone Baptist Church, Wylie, TX.

NOV 17–19: Speaking at a Biblical Counseling Conference, Lancaster Baptist Church, Lancaster, CA.

JAN 9–13, 2023: Teaching “Preventative Counseling” at Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI.

JAN 21, 2023: Teaching “Biblical Peacemaking” at Christ Covenant Church, Matthews, NC.


FEB 24–26, 2023: Speaking at Men’s Conference, Covenant of Grace Church, Copley, OH.

MARCH 19–26, 2023: Speaking at Congress on Biblical Counseling, Mérida, Yucatán, México.

DR. SCOTT SWAIN

NOV 15–17: Attending the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

NOV 19–22: Attending the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.

FEB 3–5, 2023: Speaking at the Theology in Practice Conference, Four Oaks Church, Tallahassee, FL.

DR. GUY RICHARD

FALL 2022: Teaching Women’s Bible Study at RTS Atlanta, Marietta, GA.

OCT 28: Presenting a seminar at the World Reformed Fellowship General Assembly, Orlando, FL.

NOV 13: Speaking at the Missions Conference, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Boerne, TX.

MRS. JENNIFER PATTERSON

OCT 8: Speaking at the Christian Legal Society National Conference, Newport Beach, CA.

DR. GUY WATERS

NOV 15: Speaking at the Evangelical Theological Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO.
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Books

DR. MICHAEL ALLEN
Editor: The New Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine
(Cambridge University Press, 2022)

DR. KEVIN DEYOUNG
Editor: Justification & Regeneration: Practical Writings on Saving Faith
(Westminster Press, 2022)

DR. J.V. FESKO
The Birth of Christ: The Biblical Significance of Christmas
(Reformation Heritage, 2022)

DR. BEN GLADD
From the Manger to the Throne: A Theology of Luke
(Crossway, 2022)

DR. CHARLES HILL
The First Chapters: Dividing the Text of Scripture in Codex Vaticanus and Its Predecessors
(Oxford University Press, 2022)

DR. GRAY SUTANTO

DR. WILLIAM ROSS
Editor: Postclassical Greek Preposition and Conceptual Metaphor: Cognitive Semantic Analysis and Biblical Interpretation with Dr. Steven E. Runge
(De Gruyter, 2022)

DR. MICHAEL KRUGER
Bully Pulpit: Confronting the Problem of Spiritual Abuse in the Church
(Zondervan, 2022)

DR. WILLIAM ROSS
Neo-Calvinism: A Theological Introduction with Cory C. Brock
(Lexham Press, 2023)

Editor:
The New Cambridge Companion to Christian Doctrine
(Cambridge University Press, 2022)

From the Manger to the Throne: A Theology of Luke
(Crossway, 2022)

The First Chapters: Dividing the Text of Scripture in Codex Vaticanus and Its Predecessors
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Arminius and the Reformed Tradition: Grace and the Doctrine of Salvation
(Reformation Heritage, 2022)

Bully Pulpit: Confronting the Problem of Spiritual Abuse in the Church
(Zondervan, 2022)

Bully Pulpit: Confronting the Problem of Spiritual Abuse in the Church
(Zondervan, 2022)
BOOKS

DR. MILES VAN PELT

DR. GUY WATERS
Facing the Last Enemy: Death and the Christian (Ligonier, 2023)

PUBLICATIONS

DR. ROBERT CARA

DR. WILLIAM ROSS


DR. KEVIN DEYOUNG
“Harry Emerson Fosdick and the Spirit of American Liberalism” for Reformed Faith & Practice (2022)

“The Power of the Two-Parent Home” for Eikon (2022)

DR. D. BLAIR SMITH
“Traces of the Trinity? The Trinity in God’s Works in City of God Book XI and Beyond” for Reformed Faith & Practice (2022)


“God” in Church in Antiquity (AD 100–700) (Lexham Press, 2023)
MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU FROM ZION,
HE WHO MADE HEAVEN AND EARTH!

PSALM 134:3
Featuring watercolors by renowned Mississippi artist Wyatt Waters, this merchandise from MIND + HEART highlights some of the historic structures of the Jackson campus: The White House, Grace Chapel, and chapel pulpit.

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We’re Seeking More Partners to Invest in the Next Generation

RTS.EDU/GIVE

We exist to serve the church by preparing pastors, counselors, educators, missionaries, and other leaders through theological education.

We long to see the next generation persevere within a crooked culture. We aim to equip leaders who will provide theological ballast so that the church remains steadfast to truth.

We pray that our children and grandchildren will never lack well-trained and caring leaders who point them to the good news of Christ.