

What are professors for?

1 message

Consortium of Christian Study Centers <comm@cscmovement.org>

Sun, Mar 1, 2026 at 2:44 PM

Reply-To: comm@cscmovement.org

To: "\"Karlee Rene Bowlby\"" <comm@cscmovement.org>



Consortium of Christian Study Centers

PERISCOPE

March 2026 Newsletter

Dear Karlee,

A few decades ago now, the author, priest, and scholar Fleming Rutledge (who also happened to be my youth pastor) published a book entitled *The Bible and the New York Times*. The title is a riff on a quote attributed to Karl Barth stating that we must "hold the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other." (What Barth actually said, as recorded in a 1966 *Time* Magazine interview, was slightly more precise: "Take your Bible and take your newspaper, and read both. But interpret newspapers from your Bible.")

Indeed, Christians have been called to lean into current events since ancient times, and today nothing dominates the headlines more than AI. Many of the Consortium's member centers are leaning into this topic in various ways. Just last week, for example, the [Center for Christian Study at University of South Florida](#) (one of the several start-up centers we are working with) hosted Michael Sacasas from the nearby center in Gainesville whose [reflections on technology](#) have made him a popular guest speaker on this topic. Next month, AI will be the topic of the Wheelock Weekend at Dartmouth (more soon).

And, of course, *The Raised Hand* is running a year-long series in response to the prompt, "What is the role of human educators in the age of artificial intelligence?" (*The Raised Hand* is a Substack newsletter that is a joint effort of the staff of several Christian Study Centers that aims to help our host universities fulfill their missions by raising questions prompted by our unique vantage point on higher education. [Do you subscribe?](#))

In this month's *TRH* edition, our very own Nathan Barczy (Senior Theologian of the [Octet Collaborative](#) at MIT) provides an insightful and hopeful perspective on AI. "Math, art, history, language, science," he writes, are not just useful; they are also true, good, and beautiful. And "only human educators can pursue these ends." Do check it out.

As you will see from the long list of events below, we are in the meat of the semester. Much more is coming soon, including registration for the Consortium's 2026 Annual Meeting.

In Christ,



Karl E. Johnson
Executive Director

This Month's Highlights

- Register for the Consortium's upcoming online workshop on study center success
 - It's the last month to encourage a college senior to apply for the Consortium's Internship Program!
 - Check out March events in study center land
 - Learn about partner organization webinars, courses, and conferences
 - Read the latest from *The Raised Hand* and check out other interesting recommendations related to the study center movement
 - Take a look at the list of jobs available at several of our study centers and partners
-

CCSC News & Events



Last month to apply for the Internship Program

The deadline to apply for our Internship Program's 2026-27 cohort is approaching! Applications close at the end of March, but positions are filled on a rolling basis. So, if you know soon-to-be or recent college graduates who might be interested in working for a Christian Study Center after college, **please share this opportunity** with them and encourage them to apply as soon as possible. Click below for more information or to get in touch with our Internship Program Director.

[Learn more](#)



Online Workshop on "Lessons Learned"

Online: Thursday, March 19, 3pm ET

Of special interest to those in the process of starting a study center, **Frederick Barber** (CCSC Director of Strategic Initiatives) and **Will Harris** (Executive Director of Shiloh Society at Texas A&M, founded 2025) will lead this online workshop entitled "Lessons Learned: Factors for Success in Starting a Christian Study Center" looking at the data on the effective launch of centers in previous years.

[Register](#)

Study Center Events



Spiritual Wellbeing & Healthcare
Kristin Sandau
March 2 at 12pm
Minneapolis, MN

[Learn more](#)



CHRISTIAN
STUDY CENTER

Lecture on Virtue Formation
Antón Barba-Kay
March 4 at 7pm
Gainesville, FL

[Learn more](#)



A Historian's Journey to Faith
Molly Worthen
March 4 at 7pm
Lexington, KY

[Learn more](#)



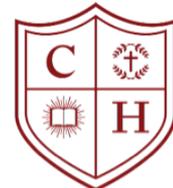
**What Medieval Thinkers & Artists
Can Teach Us About Humility**
Grace Hamman
March 5 at 4:30pm
Colorado Springs, CO

[Learn more](#)



**A Lesson from Job in Loving the Old
Testament**
Ellie Paley
March 5 at 7pm
Columbia, SC

[Learn more](#)



**Could Embracing Limits Unlock
Your Fullest Potential?**
Kelly Kapic
March 9 at 5:30pm ET
Ithaca, NY & online

[Register](#)



A Pastor & Professor Talk about Faith & Doubt

J. D. Greear & Molly Worthen
March 9 at 7pm
Chapel Hill, NC

[Learn more](#)



C.S. Lewis' Miracles & Mathematical Elegance

Russ Howell
March 12 at 4:30pm
Colorado Springs, CO

[Learn more](#)



**"Why Do We Suffer?"
Visiting Scholar Lecture**

Bob Chisholm
March 17 at 6:30pm
College Station, TX

[Learn more](#)



A Professor's Story of Doubt, Faith, & the Risks of Conversion

Molly Worthen
March 18 at 7pm
Ann Arbor, MI

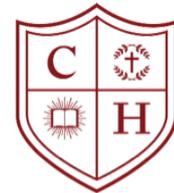
[Learn more](#)



What Does It Mean to Be Eastern Orthodox?

Michael Furry
March 19 at 6:30pm
Blacksburg, VA

[Learn more](#)



How Wonder & Awe Fuel Scientific Inquiry

Tomás Arias
March 19 at 5:30pm ET
Ithaca, NY & online

[Register](#)



Homeric Reverberations Concert
Byzantine Choir of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

March 21 at 6pm
Pittsburgh, PA

[Learn more](#)



Can we Solve Scarcity? Can we Survive Abundance?

Stephen Day
March 24 at 7pm
Richmond, VA

[Learn more](#)



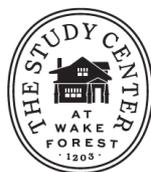
Crucifixion & Resurrection as the Pattern in the Story of Everything

Kavin Rowe
March 25 at 7pm
Raleigh, NC

[Learn more](#)



The Pastor as Gardener
Matt Erickson
March 25 at 11:30am
Madison, WI



What Is the Bible For?
Brad East
March 25 at 7pm
Winston-Salem, NC



Trustworthiness in the Sciences
Julia Wattacheril
March 26 at 7pm
Minneapolis, MN

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)



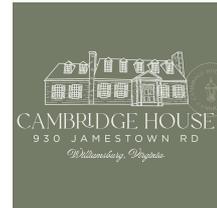
What Is the Bible For?

Brad East
March 26 at 7pm
Chapel Hill, NC



Beethoven's Eroica

Paul Munson
March 27 at 6pm
Pittsburgh, PA



Fireside Chat on the Holy Spirit

Jody Fleming
March 27 at 4pm
Williamsburg, VA

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)

[Learn more](#)



Is Jesus History's Most Under-Appreciated Philosopher?

Jonathan Pennington
March 27 at 6:30pm
Columbus, OH

[Learn more](#)

Partner Organization Events



CENTER FOR
PUBLIC JUSTICE

"Just Preaching" Webinar

Online: Wednesday, March 4, 3:00-4:30pm ET

This webinar will help pastors and lay leaders think critically about how Scripture offers both a theological foundation for political life and practical wisdom in sorting out how to build on this foundation in our own unique times and places. Drawing on his soon-to-be-released book, *Reimagining Biblical Politics: What Scripture Says About Public Life and Why It Matters*, **Michael Rhodes** will walk through the stories of Daniel and Esther. Then, in conversation with **Rev. Meg Jenista**, Program Director for Preaching Reformed Fellowship, the webinar will tease out new possibilities for preaching that offer God's people a greater capacity for wisdom in their public and political lives.

Register



Register for Davenant Hall's Spring Term

Online: April 6 – June 13, 2026

Davenant Hall advances and renews Christian wisdom for the digital age. Launched in 2019, their classes include multiple enrollment options and allow students to work through classic texts alongside expert guides, developing a firm grasp of God's Word and his world grounded in the classical Protestant tradition. They offer affordable 10-week courses in the treasures of Scripture, Christian doctrine, and the rich intellectual tradition through which they have flowed down over the centuries.

Learn more and register



Lecture Series on AI Ethics

Online: Monday, March 23 & Tuesday, March 24 at 7:30pm PT

Regent College is hosting two lectures by **Meghan Sullivan** on the subject of artificial intelligence and ethics in a series titled "Faith-Based Ethics for a World of Powerful AI." Click below to learn more and to find the links to the livestreams.

Learn more and tune in



The FOCUS Group Institute

*Monday, April 20 – Wednesday, April 22
St. Augustine, FL*

The FOCUS Group Institute is a two-day, in-person professional development opportunity. Experienced instructors will guide you through their proven material and ensure you have a clear plan to make your day-to-day work more effective. There are

a few spots left. Click below to explore the two track options and discover which is the right fit for you.

[Learn more](#)

Recommendations



The Raised Hand: "The Role of Human Educators is Love"

In this sixth essay in *TRH's* series addressing the question: "What is the role of human educators in the age of artificial intelligence?", **Nathan Barczi** (MIT Chaplain, Associate Director & Senior Theologian of the Octet Collaborative, and Associate Pastor at Christ the King Church) explores the purpose of education and the centrality of love to the formational experience.

[Read now](#)



LEWIS HOUSE
LEXINGTON, KY

Malcolm Guite Lecture Recording

In February, Lewis House hosted poet, priest, musician, and academic **Malcolm Guite** for a lecture titled "Imagination and the Kingdom of God." Click below to watch the recording.

[Watch now](#)



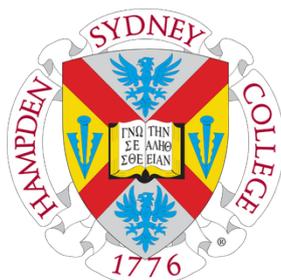
Scala Foundation
Transforming culture through beauty, creativity, and joy

Blog Post About Classical Education

[The Scala Foundation](#), which seeks to reestablish the architecture of traditional spiritual formation through an emphasis on the true, the good, and the beautiful, has recently redesigned their website. Check out their blogs *The Graced Imagination* by **Margarita Mooney Clayton** and *The Way of Beauty* by **David Clayton**. Click below to read a recent post about a unique approach to classical education.

[Read now](#)

Job Openings



Schaeffer Center at Hampden-Sydney College Director

[Apply here](#)

the Center
for Christianity
& Public Life



Hospitality Lead

Content & Communications Manager

Part-Time Executive Assistant & Office Coordinator

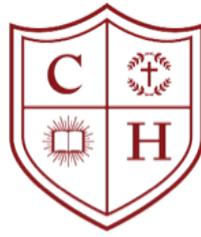
[Apply here](#)



RIVENDELL
INSTITUTE

Part-Time Administrative Assistant

[Apply here](#)



CHESTERTON HOUSE
A Center for Christian Studies at Cornell

Post-Doctoral Academic Associate

[Apply here](#)



Facilities Assistant

[Apply here](#)



Mann Institute for Christian
Faith & Learning Executive Director

[Apply here](#)



The Christian Study Center Movement

Have you seen the Consortium's video about the study center movement yet?
View and share the video [here](#).

As always, keep sending your events our way so that we may distribute them to all who have expressed interest in the good work of the Consortium's members and partners.

Did someone forward this newsletter to you?

Sign Up

Support the Movement



Cultivating Thoughtful Christian Presence

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