

CLASSICAL CONFLUENCE

Con'flu-ence (kŏn'flōō-ěns ; 86), *n.* 1. A flowing together; a junction of streams, or the stream or body so formed; a place of meeting. 2. Act of flocking, or coming together; concourse: as . vast confluence of people.

Happy New Year! We've reformatted the first page as a Family Worship guide with suggestions for you as you begin your home days. - Liz, Michelle, and Zach

HOME DAY PRAYER

A Liturgy for First Waking from
Every Moment Holy - Douglas Kaine McKelvey

*I am not the captain of my own destiny,
Nor even of this new day, and so
I renounce anew all claim
to my own life and desires.
I am only yours, O Lord.
Lead me by your mercies through these hours,
that I might spend them well,
not in harried pursuit of my own agendas,
but rather in good service to you.*

*Teach me to shepherd the small duties
of this day with great love,
tending faithfully those tasks
you place within my care
and tending with patience and
kindness the needs and hearts of
those people you place within my reach.*

*Nothing is too hard for you, Lord Christ.
I deposit now all confidence in you
that whatever these waking hours bring,
my foundations will not be shaken.*

*At day's end I will lay me down again to sleep
knowing that my best hope is well kept in you.*

*In all things your grace will sustain me.
Bid me follow, and I will follow.
Amen.*

FAMILY SCRIPTURE READING

Our all academy Scripture memory this quarter is Ephesians 4:1-16. The grammar school is using the [tune from Arma Dei Academy](#).

CATECHISM

What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

That we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be forever freed from all sin in a renewed, restored creation.

ALL ACADEMY HYMN

By Faith

*By faith, we see the hand of God
In the light of creation's grand design;
In the lives of those who prove His faithfulness,
Who walk by faith and not by sight.*

*By faith, our fathers roamed the earth
With the power of His promise in their hearts
Of a holy city built by God's own hand –
A place where peace and justice reign.*

*We will stand as children of the promise,
We will fix our eyes on Him, our soul's reward.
Till the race is finished and the work is done,
We'll walk by faith and not by sight.*

*By faith, the prophets saw a day
When the longed-for Messiah would appear
With the power to break the chains of sin and death,
And rise triumphant from the grave.*

*By faith, the church was called to go
In the power of the Spirit to the lost
To deliver captives and to preach good news,
In every corner of the earth.*

*By faith, this mountain shall be moved
And the power of the gospel shall prevail,
For we know in Christ all things are possible
For all who call upon His name.*

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FIVE FAVORITES: MR. DIETRICH'S FAVORITE BOOKS OF 2025

Each year, I look back and note the books that shaped me the most. In no particular order, here were my five favorites.

Heaven is a World of Love by Jonathan Edwards
This little booklet showed me how accustomed we are to the stench of sin and how amazing heaven will be when love comes to define all of our relationships. I read it twice last year!

[Called to Freedom: Retrieving Christian Liberty in an Age of License](#) by Brad Littlejohn
The nature and ramifications of Christian liberty has been an issue that has interested me for sometime. Many Christians proudly wear the word "Freedom." I hope many continue to study it.

[Remaking the World](#) by Andrew Wilson.
The year 1776 changed the world. "Well, obviously," we think as our mind runs to the Declaration of Independence. But I didn't realize how many significant discoveries, editions, and

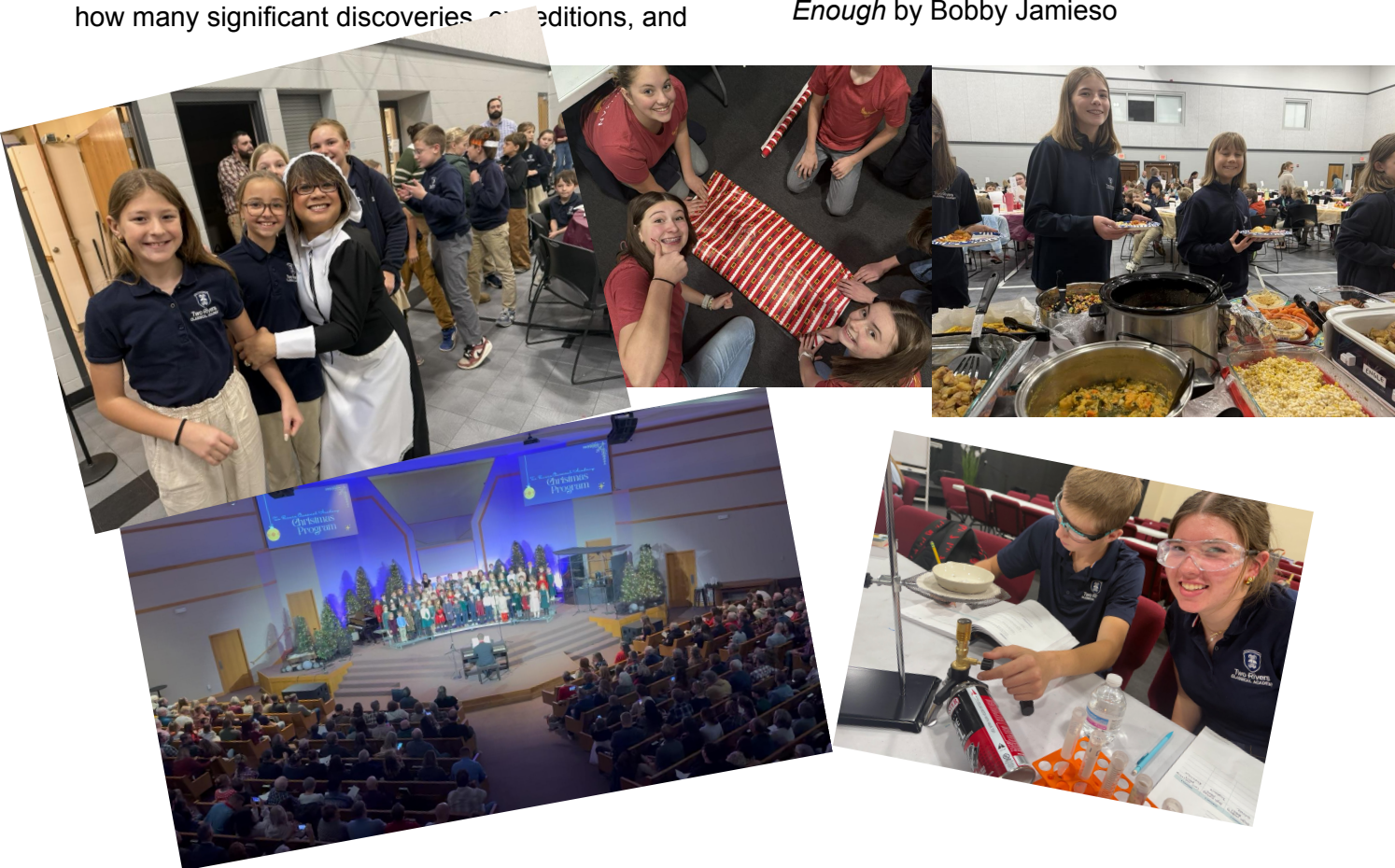
writings from one year radically upended the world. This book had been recommended to me a couple of years ago.

[The Lord of Psalm 23](#) by David Gibson.
Gibson takes two of my favorite themes, Psalms and Union with Christ, and wrote a theologically rich meditation on a psalm we think we know better than we do.

[Just Be Honest: How To Worship through Tears and Pray without Pretending](#) by Clint Watkins.
I read this book early in the year and knew immediately it would be one of the most significant books I read this year. Watkins uses his own story of suffering (it is heart wrenching) to teach us how to lament.

Other honorable mentions: (*The Aeneid* by Virgil. *You Were Never Meant to Do It All* by Kelly Kopic. *The Discarded Image* by C.S. Lewis.

On deck for next year: *The Body Teaches the Soul* by Justin Earley, *The Republic Everything is Never Enough* by Bobby Jamieson



LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

“We Need to Disagree: The Importance of Honesty and Debate in an Age of Political Tribalism”

Speaker: Mark Vance / Time: Monday, Feb 09, 2026 at 6:00 pm / Location: Great Hall, Memorial Union

When the Classical Confluence team saw this [event](#), we thought it was too interesting not to share. As always, sharing it isn't necessarily an endorsement.

We are living in an age of anger and political tribalism. What we need is not a loss of deeply held viewpoints and differences, but a way for those who disagree to articulate those differences and understand each other. Our greatest need as a culture is not agreement but respect; this necessitates both thoughtful convictions and viewpoint diversity in public spaces. Using the acronym of TRIBAL (Them, Religious Creed, Intolerance, Battlefield, Aggressive, Legalism), I explore the use of language to both break down and build up political tribalism.

RESOURCE RECOMMENDATION

Our resource recommendation this month is quite special. The wait is over! We are pleased to announce that we now have our very own timeline cards! They will be great for visualizing the timeline, making new games, and integrating in our history sound offs. Stay tuned for more details on how you can purchase this new resource!

TRCA TIMELINE CARDS!

Creation, Fall, Flood, Tower of Babel, Abraham settles in Nile River Valley, Exodus at Sinai, Kufu builds the Pyramids at Giza

Timeline card features!

- Playing card size
- 71 unique cards
- Famous art and photography on the front
- Corresponding sound offs on the back

**Launch sale price:
\$20 per deck**

476
When did the Western Roman Empire fall?
The fall of the Western Roman Empire occurred when the Germanic tribe known as "Visigoths" attacked and burned Rome in 476.

24 The Course of an Empire: Destruction, Thomas Cole, 1836