



President's Greeting

February 2026

Dear Friends of IRBS,

Greetings in the Name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Tomorrow (2 February) is Groundhog Day, that unique day when people want to know whether Punxsutawney Phil will see (or fail to see) his shadow and forecast the end or the continuation of winter. Despite the fact that everyone knows the event is for fun and should not be taken seriously, it still registers annually on the national newscasts.

The beginning of February marks a different and far more important time for our students, for it is the approximate date when classes begin in the Spring semester. Some things are certain: whether sunshine or overcast, students will meet their professors and begin to receive outstanding instruction in their courses. In this semester, professors will be teaching courses such as Greek, Christology, Eschatology, Ethics, Puritanism, Symbolics and others. Most will be offered in Mansfield, TX, and others in Ramsbottom, UK, St. Jerome, PQ Canada, and Chilliwack, BC Canada. Students are gathering textbooks, preparing to listen and learn and to study with diligence. They know that each lecture hour is a step of preparation for the service of Jesus Christ and His people. Unlike the events in Punxsutawney, PA, these generally unseen and perhaps obscure moments are of significance in the Kingdom of God. Our classes won't receive publicity, but they are far more important than silly reports on the nightly news shows.

Since you are interested in the work of IRBS, you know how significant our labor is. Thank you for your loving support. Will you please continue to pray

for us as we pursue the regular and ordinary tasks before us?

In Christ,
James M. Renihan
President, IRBS



Dr. Renihan's Speaking Schedule:

Feb 1, Sanford, FL
Feb 21 IRBS OTR Believers Baptist Church, Emery TX
Feb 26-27 IRBS OTR TRBS, Carlisle, PA
March 14-15 RefCon and IRBS OTR, OKC

An Exciting Update about the Future of IRBS

Our Trustees have been carefully considering the future of IRBS and have made some significant decisions.

We now believe that it is time to resume a primarily residential educational model. Our goal is that by 2028 we will have a fully functioning program in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area, building a seminary community for our students. We will still offer distance courses (especially for international students), but we desire that the majority of students will come to Texas to study with us.

Several steps toward this goal have been taken or are in process. In July 2024, we appointed two professors to serve as Academic Dean and Dean of Students. Our Academic Dean has begun the process of seeking accreditation for the Seminary. Last year, in July 2025, we hired our second full-time professor and are planning that he and his family will move to the Dallas-Fort Worth area in summer 2026. We hope to employ a third full-time professor to join us in Texas in the next year or two.

Each year, we will increase the number of classes that are held live in Texas, some intensive and some offered weekly throughout the semester.

We have been hard at work with preparations large and small. As an example, our library has over 14,000 cataloged books, including outstanding works in our reference section as well as commentaries on Scripture and the best theological works available.

With the help of some generous donors, we have begun the process of finding a centrally located building in the Metroplex. The Lord has allowed us to develop excellent relationships with many pastors and churches in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, most of which are an hour or more away from Mansfield. It is our desire to move closer to them. This will allow us to deepen these relationships as well as provide permanent stability for the Seminary.

Dallas-Fort Worth is a great place to grow IRBS. With more than 8,000,000 inhabitants, it is now the fourth largest metropolitan area in the United States. It is centrally located in the country and is home to the second busiest airport in the nation. The cost of living is relatively low compared to other large metro areas, and with many churches for students to attend and serve internships, it is an ideal location for growth.

Please pray with us for these changes.

IRBS On the Road 2026:

2 Lecturers
3 Lecture Topics
The choice is yours!

Bring a unique educational experience to your church with IRBS on the Road!

This one day event is perfect for any Christian interested in deepening their understanding of these important topics.

Event Highlights:

- Topics:
 1. **Deep Dive into Baptism (Renihan)**
 2. **Sola Scriptura, God's Precious Gift to Us (Renihan)**
 3. **Gazing at the Glorious Trinity (Scheiderer)**
- Speakers:
 1. Dr. James Renihan, President and Professor of Historical Theology
 2. Dr. Daniel Scheiderer, Assistant Professor of Christian Theology
- Duration: 3-4 hours
- Who Can Attend: Open to your church and other local churches
- Check out the **Theology in Particular** episode #221 that aired on 10/27 for more details.

For more information or to schedule an IRBS on the Road Day for your congregation, please contact Brent Ward at giving@irbsseminary.org.



Upcoming Courses

Legacy (self-paced) Course List

Spring 2026 Course Schedule

Registration is open now!

Puritanism - J. Renihan

Theological Anthropology - D. Scheiderer

Greek III - J. Henson

Philosophical Theology - J. Dolezal

Ethics & Reformed Moral Theology - D. Sparks

Christology - J. Dolezal

Pastoral Theology II / Practical Theology - J. R. Davidson *

Symbolics - J. Renihan **

Foundations of Theology - C. Rennie *

* Class to be held in Ramsbottom, UK

** Class to be held in Quebec, CA

Summer 2026 Course Schedule

Registration opens April 2.

Hebrew I - J. Wilson

General Epistles & Revelation - T. Decker

Covenant Theology - D. Scheiderer

Soteriology - T. Hicks *

[Apply for Enrollment Today](#)

Email admissions@irbsseminary.org for more information about any IRBS classes.



Particular Baptist Theological Society

Save the date for the first meeting!

- Friday, May 15, 2026
- Mansfield, Texas

- This year's theme is *Chalcedonian Christology*.
- Our plenary speaker will be Dr. James Dolezal, PhD.
- One-day meeting to include a plenary session alongside concurrent side sessions that consist of papers presented by scholars, students and ministers interested in the goals of the Society.
- The doctrinal standard will be the New Hampshire Confession of Faith.
- Stick around for the IRBS Class of 2026 Commencement on May 16.

Questions may be sent to pbts@irbs.org.

[More information](#)

Churches Officers have auditing fees waived

Did you know that officers of IRBS Partner Churches enjoy waived auditing fees on their choice of IRBS classes? Contact giving@irbsseminary.org to join today!

[Learn More](#)

Opportunities to Connect

Join the Women of IRBS for Fellowship & Prayer

Student wife? Female student? Faculty wife? Sister in Christ?

All interested ladies are invited!

Our Women's Fellowship will meet on **Tuesday, February 10 (7:30PM CT)** for **scripture, fellowship, and prayer**. If you (or a lady in your life) is interested in joining us, please send your (her) email address to kristen@irbsseminary.org to be added to the invitation list.

Student-led Missions Prayer Meeting

All are welcome to join us **Saturday, 28th February**, at 10am CT for the **Haystack Prayer Meeting**. We will be joining together to pray for the work of missions throughout the world. The New Creation Mandate given by the Lord Jesus Christ to his disciples to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations," stands now and even to the end of the age. Therefore, let us join ourselves in prayer, beseeching our God for the building of his everlasting kingdom.

The **Zoom** link will be posted in the Populi dashboard and calendar.

Questions may be emailed to bnasmith1@gmail.com.

IRBS Merchandise

Hoodies, T-shirts, coffee tumblers, and more!

Merch Store



in partnership with Wrath & Grace

Upcoming Conferences



Jesus Christ, the Same: For His People. Forever.

RefConOKC 2026

- March 12-13 (Thursday-Friday)
- Edmond's FBC, Edmond, OK

Speakers include:

Jim Renihan

James Dolezal

Matthew Emerson

Register today. Tickets are going fast!

CONFESSING THE FAITH



Topic: 2LCF Chapter 3 Of God's Decree

Confessing the Faith 2026

- April 10-11 (Thursday-Friday)
- Free Reformed Church in Chilliwack, British Columbia

Speakers include:

Jim Renihan

Rich Barcellos

David Charles

Register today.



IRBS
WESTERN CANADA

Introducing IRBS Western Canada

For our brothers and sisters in British Columbia and the surrounding area, we are excited to announce that IRBS classes will now be held yearly in conjunction with the Confessing the Faith Conference in Chilliwack. This year's class is Symbolics with Dr. Renihan.

**Recently published articles
by Professor Timothy Decker, PhD:**



The Majesty of the Style of Biblical Hebrew Poetry
Timothy L. Decker

CTJ 60.2 (2025):217-247

**The Poetic Form and Theological Function
of Romans 3:10-18**

Timothy L. Decker

Podcasts



After taking January off to devote time to planning, Joe & Daniel will be back in February with new episodes.

Airs every Monday. Listen on your favorite podcast app or find all episodes on our [website](#).



Just a few minutes to listen? Check out our microcast, featuring brief discussions between Dr. Renihan & Pastor Fred Pugh, IRBS Chairman of the Board, on matters about and within the 2nd London Confession of Faith. Listen on your favorite podcast app or find all episodes on our [website](#).

Prayer Requests

Praise God for His many blessings, including:

- Generous donors who have made it possible for us to look for a building to serve as a residential campus in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.
- A successful winter term and spring classes beginning now.

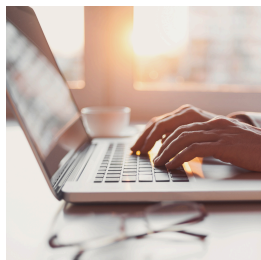
Please pray for:

- Wisdom as we seek a building and prayerfully work toward a residential program.
- An exciting international conference coming in 2027, to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the 2LBCF. Stay tuned for details.

Thank you for your faithful prayer support.

May IRBS continue to be an effective tool in His hand.

Soli Deo Gloria!



LEARN FROM ANYWHERE

Enrollment in and completion of our degree programs is now accessible to students from all over the world! Nearly all classes are available via video conferencing and may be attended from anywhere. We also offer several pre-recorded, self-paced Legacy courses. Reach out to [admissions](#) for details.

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