



HILLSDALE COLLEGE

PURSuing TRUTH · DEFENDING LIBERTY SINCE 1844

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jan. 7, 2026

CONTACT:

Emily Stack Davis

517-803-3745

PR@hillsdale.edu

Follow [@HillsdalePR](https://twitter.com/HillsdalePR)

Hillsdale College Blake Center for Faith and Freedom Announces 2026 Events

Speakers will discuss literature, American history, classical education, and more.

HILLSDALE, Mich. — Hillsdale College's Blake Center for Faith and Freedom in Somers, Connecticut, is scheduled to host various lectures in 2026 focusing on Christianity, its relationship to Western and American thought, and questions of faith and reason.

"At the Blake Center, we seek to preserve America's heritage of both Christian faith and civil and religious liberty," said Alan Crippen, executive director and chaplain of the Blake Center. "Our lectures are one way we foster the truth-seeking dialogue that comes with faith and freedom."

Upcoming events include:

The Story of the Declaration of Independence

Jan. 16

Speaker: Matthew Spalding, vice president of Washington operations and dean of the Van Andel Graduate School of Government at Hillsdale College and author of "The Making of the American Mind: The Story of Our Declaration of Independence"

The Totalitarian Impulse with Daniel Mahoney

Jan. 30

Speaker: Daniel Mahoney, senior visiting fellow at Hillsdale College and author of "The Persistence of the Ideological Lie: The Totalitarian Impulse Then and Now"

John Calvin's Influence on the American Revolution

Feb. 13

Speaker: D.G. Hart, professor of history at Hillsdale College and author of "Calvinism: A History"

The Exodus Story and Freedom

Feb. 27

Speaker: J.A. Jackson, chair and professor of English at Hillsdale College

C.S. Lewis on Dystopia

March 13

Speaker: Michael Ward, distinguished fellow at Hillsdale College and author of “Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C.S. Lewis”

Jonathan Mayhew’s Pulpit of American Resistance

March 27

Speaker: Glenn Moots, professor and chair of political science and philosophy at Northwood University and author of “Politics Reformed: The Anglo-American Legacy of Covenant Theology”

Mercy Otis Warren’s History of the American Revolution

April 10

Speaker: Wilfred McClay, Victor Davis Hanson Chair in Classical History and Western Civilization at Hillsdale College and author of “Land of Hope: An Invitation to the Great American Story”

Assessing the Roberts Court

April 24

Speaker: Ronald J. Pestritto, graduate dean and professor of politics at Hillsdale College

John Locke: Philosophy and the Revolution

May 1

Speaker: Joseph Loconte, New York Times bestselling author, educator, filmmaker, and author of “God, Locke, and Liberty: The Struggle for Religious Freedom in the West”

Making Education Classical Again

May 22

Speaker: Daniel B. Coupland, dean of the Diana Davis Spencer Graduate School of Classical Education and professor of education at Hillsdale College

Noah Webster: Education and the Revolution

June 5

Speaker: Jonathan Den Hartog, chair and professor of history at Samford University’s Howard College of Arts and Sciences and author of “Patriotism and Piety: Federalist Politics and Religious Struggle in the New American Nation”

Pagan America?

June 19

Speaker: John Daniel Davidson, senior editor at The Federalist and author of “Pagan America: The Decline of Christianity and the Dark Age to Come”

Attendance at Blake Center events is by invitation only. To learn more about Blake Center events, visit blakecenter.hillsdale.edu. To inquire about a particular event or request a tour of the Blake Center, call (860) 222-0386 or email blakecenter@hillsdale.edu.

For photos of the Blake Center, click [here](#). For photos of Hillsdale College, click [here](#). For a high-resolution copy of the Hillsdale College clocktower logo, click [here](#).

About the Blake Center for Faith and Freedom

Philanthropists Prestley and Helen Blake donated the buildings and acreage of their estate in Somers, Connecticut, to Hillsdale College in 2019. The Blake Center for Faith and Freedom is a religious institution that includes an exterior replica of Monticello, Thomas Jefferson's renowned neo-classical home in Virginia. The College utilizes the property to host events that further its mission, focusing on the foundational principles of faith and freedom. To this end, most events held at the Blake Center have clear religious themes, focusing on topics relating to Christianity, man's relationship to God, and faith generally. For more information, visit blakecenter.hillsdale.edu.

About Hillsdale College

Hillsdale College is an independent, nonsectarian, Christian liberal arts college located in southern Michigan. Founded in 1844, the College has built a national reputation through its classical liberal arts core curriculum and its principled refusal to accept federal or state taxpayer subsidies, even indirectly in the form of student grants or loans. It also conducts an outreach effort promoting civil and religious liberty, including a free monthly speech digest, *Imprimis*, with a circulation of more than 7.2 million. For more information, visit hillsdale.edu.

###