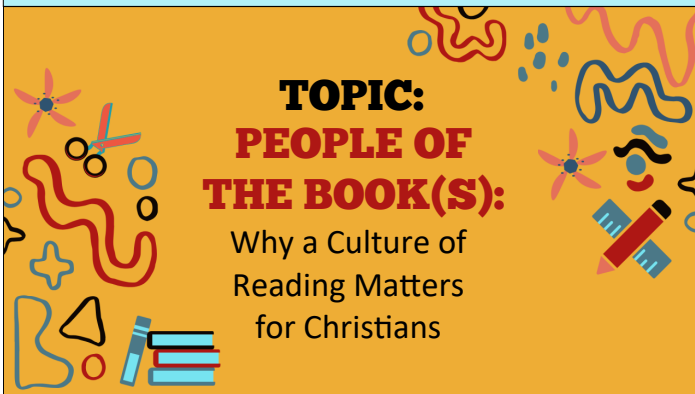


# Fall Membership Meeting & Topic

**Wednesday, November 27  
at 7:30 pm in the gym**

All families and members are encouraged to attend!

Voting will take place for School Board members, and a revised plan for the next phase of the school building will be discussed and voted on. The agenda and other meeting information will be sent home on November 14.



**TOPIC:**  
**PEOPLE OF THE BOOK(S):**  
Why a Culture of Reading Matters for Christians

**TOPIC:**

7:30 TO 8:20 p.m.

**DESSERT BREAK:**

8:20 to 8:40 p.m.

**AGENDA & BUSINESS:**

8:40 to 9:30 p.m.

**Presenter: Dr. Doug Sikkema - Redeemer University Associate Professor of English**

The three monotheistic world religions -- Judaism, Islam, and Christianity - are tied to sacred texts and it is for this reason that Jews, Muslims, and Christians have often been called "People of the Book." Yet in her book *Reader Come Home*, neuroscientist Maryann Wolf makes a compelling case that reading in the digital age with all its distractions is increasingly unlikely for young people and even adults. Our attentions are fractured, our habits incline us towards ephemeral videos and the addictive dopamine hits they provide. These findings should alert us to the important needs within our schools of fostering a love of reading - work that is challenging, friction-filled, slow, but so worthwhile for our discipleship and witness. In this talk I want to help us understand the current state of reading, the stakes this has for Christian presence in our secular age, and some practical things to consider as we foster a love of reading in our schools, churches, and homes.

**Biography:** Doug Sikkema is an Associate Professor of English and Humanities at Redeemer University and the current Board Chair and co-founder of Oak Hill Academy, a classical Christian school in Ancaster. Doug's research includes the intersection of religion and literature and ecology in contemporary American literature. He is currently working on a series of critical editions of Charlotte Mason's educational philosophy. Doug and his wife Vanessa, along with their four children Eli, Avery, Jackson, and Samuel live in Binbrook, ON, and are members of New City PCA in downtown Hamilton.