



## David Hicks: Commentary on Hospitality, Education History, and Classical Architecture

Introduction: David and Betsy Hicks

### Outline:

#### Introduction to David and Betsy Hicks

- Artwork in the home prompts David to discuss hospitality as the essence of Christian faith and worship captured in the Church's liturgy, eucharist, and sharing in meals together.
- Betsy keeps a season journal by the year to record the nature history around their home as a reference for the following year's display of nature.
- Iconography adorns the Hicks home informed after their ancient faith tradition that regards the home as a little church. They promote devotion and prayer by the family, but not to be confused with art. Rather, they are reminders that the family is in the company of all the saints with Christ and point to the preservation of the faith passed down through the apostles.
- The ranch sits atop an open range surrounded by several mountain ranges overlooking a seven-mile wide lake. The land was placed in trust and dedicated for the purpose of building an Eastern Orthodox monastery in the future.
- David shares a story of a mining family from the past who described an encounter on the land which confirms David's own feeling there is something really sacred about the space.
- The house plans were at first just a "thought exercise" by David, but with Betsy's encouragement, together they learned to build the house over the course of eleven humbling years.
- There is even a rattlesnake entombed in one of the walls of stone.