



## Breakaway Session A

### Frankenstein's Folly

Mrs. Jocelyn Benson

AR - A - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bruning

Victor Frankenstein created a living, breathing identity crisis. God created you. You are not an identity crisis, nor do you need to have one, despite popular opinion. Come learn from Frankenstein (and his folly), his creature, and your Creator. They have much to teach us in terms of who we are (and who we are not) and how to avoid an identity crisis amidst all of the lies the devil, the world, and our own sinful flesh craft for us.

*Jocelyn Benson is the head teacher at Wittenberg Academy in Chatfield, MN. You can reach her at [mrsbenson@wittenbergacademy.org](mailto:mrsbenson@wittenbergacademy.org).*

### Why Are You Lutheran?

Rev. Dr. Ron Bogs

AR - A & B - Boreham 120

What do you tell your friends when they ask, "Why are you Lutheran?" Do you know what you would say? Do you know why you are Lutheran? Because you were born Lutheran? Not only is it important to be able to give an answer for your faith, so also is knowing why you believe as you do. Come and learn how to give an answer to "Why are you Lutheran?" and be able to ask, "Why are you . . . ?"

*Rev. Dr. Bogs is the pastor of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield in Houston, TX. You can reach him at [pastorbogs.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbogs.smlcw@gmail.com).*

### Who's That in the Dress?

Vicar Jonah Clausen

AR - A & B - Wilson 114

This breakaway will cover the vocation of the pastor, starting in worship settings and stretching out until it covers his role at conferences. You will learn the symbolism behind the various pieces of vestments and why the pastor faces the altar and, at other times, faces the congregation. By learning more about your pastor's identity and vocation, you will learn more about how his identity relates to yours. While his vocation might differ from yours, he is here to remind you of the love of Christ.

*Vicar Clausen is the Higher Things summer vicar. He's receiving his training from Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN. You can reach him at [jonah.clausen@ctsfw.edu](mailto:jonah.clausen@ctsfw.edu).*



## A Soldier's Identity In Christ

Rev. Dr. Joshua Cook

AR - A & B - Wilson 132

Confession and Absolution is one of the medicines that God has provided for His Church. Corporate Confession is something that many of us are familiar with because of its inclusion in the Divine Service. Still, many are uncomfortable with the idea of personally utilizing the Gift of Private Confession and Absolution. In this breakaway session, we will explore Private Confession and Absolution and learn how God used this Gift to help heal an Iraqi War veteran so that he could become a pastor. Understanding the Gift of confession and Absolution leads to a richer understanding of who we are in Christ Jesus.

*Rev. Dr. Cook is the pastor of Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church in Louisville, KY. You can reach him at [pastor@oursaviorlouisville.com](mailto:pastor@oursaviorlouisville.com).*

## Self-Esteem Is Demonic

Rev. Harrison Goodman

AR - A & B - Seay Student Center - RCC - Hanna

Self-esteem is a no-win scenario. Too little is bad, but so is too much. And you don't get to choose. When what's expected of us crashes into what we actually do, the mess left behind very rarely matches up with the person we wish we were. It leaves us feeling lost, worthless, and without a place. When we carry all that baggage around, expecting someone to actually love us becomes an exercise in schizophrenia or a lifetime spent in fear of people finding out the truth. Your worth is not in what you can do. It's found in what's been paid for you.

*Rev. Goodman is the content executive for Higher Things and a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon, IA. You can reach him at [rev.goodman@higherthings.org](mailto:rev.goodman@higherthings.org).*

## Seraphim, Cherubim, Angels and Demons

Rev. Christopher Hall

AR - A & B - Boreham - Baldor

God's unseen creation is all around us, and Scripture is full of references to the holy angels who minister and the unholy ones and their opposition to us. What actually are they? What do they do for us? Do we really have a guardian angel?

*Rev. Hall is the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Tulsa, OK. You can reach him at [srpastor@glctulsa.org](mailto:srpastor@glctulsa.org)*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## Be a Man

Rev. Chris Hull

AR - A & B - Walton - Rowntree Theater

What does a Godly Man look like? Rather than look to the world for this answer, we are called by the Holy Spirit to look to Christ Jesus. To be a Christian Man is to be meek, meaning one who is strong and yet humbled in the forgiveness of his sins. Pastor Hull will walk through biblical manhood and why it is the thing needed to help our Church and society today.

*Rev. Hull is the pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church and Student Center in Macomb, IL. You can reach him at [luther1546@gmail.com](mailto:luther1546@gmail.com).*

## Shoving Jesus in the Chest

Rev. Ian Kinney

AR - A & B - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bean

Lazarus dies. Jesus lets it happen. He even waits longer to make sure it happens. Then, the gall to just \*show up\*. Martha runs out crying and screaming, "WHERE WERE YOU?!" She shoves Jesus in the chest and yells, "IF YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN HERE, MY BROTHER WOULD NOT HAVE DIED!" Believers and unbelievers alike struggle with the question of why bad things happen. God has a lot to say about it if we will listen.

*Rev. Kinney is the pastor of First Lutheran Church in Sabetha, KS. You can reach him at [pastoripkinney@gmail.com](mailto:pastoripkinney@gmail.com)*

## Justified by Faith or Works?

Rev. Carl Roth

AR - A & B - Wilson 209

"You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone" (James 2:24). "We hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law" (Romans 3:28). So which is it? Justification by works or justification by faith? Or could James and Paul be talking about different things? This session will resolve this apparent contradiction in Scripture by distinguishing between our justification before God and our justification in the sight of one another. Knowing that God looks at me as His beloved, justified child leads me to a life of love for my neighbor.

*Rev. Roth is the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Elgin, TX. You can reach him at [pastor.roth@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.roth@gmail.com).*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## One Big Broken Baptized Family

Rev. Kent Schaaf

AR - A & B - Wilson 122/123

In the Divine Service, we walk into Jesus bringing heaven on earth. But who exactly belongs in the Divine Service? Are there those who don't belong? Why? What about those who don't identify as a Christian or even remotely like you or me? Join Pastor Kent Schaaf as he explains the center of our lives in the Divine Service and how that is not only for you but for the entire world around us. We will dive into the tough questions of how the Divine Service is centered on you but also your neighbors, strangers, and those who don't "fit in." Bring your questions, curiosity, and prayers as we examine the one big, broken, baptized family of God.

*Rev. Schaaf is the pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Little Rock, AR. You can reach him at [kent.schaaf@glclr.org](mailto:kent.schaaf@glclr.org).*

## What is a Cantor (or a Kantor)?

Dr. Tim Shewmaker

AR - A & B - Boreham 124

Cantor (or Kantor) is the traditional title for a Lutheran church musician. In this session, you'll learn about the role of the Cantor in support of the office of the Pastor, the skill sets needed, and the weekly and seasonal routines of the job. We'll also discuss training, career trajectory, and the joys of this particular vocation. Along the way, we'll have time for anecdotes that illustrate the caring and artistic nature of the job.

*Dr. Shewmaker is the cantor of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dallas, TX. You can reach him at [tshewmaker@orlcs.com](mailto:tshewmaker@orlcs.com).*



## Breakaway Session B

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## My Parents Are the Worst

Rev. Brett Simek

AR - B & C - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bruning

You know the Fourth Commandment. It's your parent's favorite commandment, but maybe not yours. It seems like a cheat code that some parent snuck into the Bible to force their kids to do whatever they say. It was written by a parent, our heavenly Father, so maybe there is something good in it. But what is so good about parents, especially when they are the worst? What should our relationship with our parents look like when we go to college, move out of the house, or get a job? Do I still have to keep the Fourth Commandment when I'm grown up? Join us as we see how parents and other authorities can point us to the greatest authority.

*Rev. Simek is the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Rantoul, in Hilbert, WI. He is also the catechesis coordinator for Higher Things. You can reach him at [brettsimek@higherthings.org](mailto:brettsimek@higherthings.org).*





## Breakaway Session C

### Church Work Vocations and You

Rev. Dr. James Baneck

AR - C - Boreham 120

Have you thought about what career you want to pursue after high school? Do you prayerfully ponder serving the Lord in a full-time church work vocation? Have you considered how your gifts, talents, and abilities will inform how you can make a positive impact in this world? Come and hear about LCMS church work vocations and listen to the stories of current Concordia church work students. Learn about their pathway toward a church work vocation to help you understand your own vocational journey.

*Rev. Dr. Baneck is the executive director of the LCMS Office of Pastoral Education in St. Louis, MO.*

### Rags to Riches to YOU

Mrs. Michelle Bauman

AR - C & D - Seay Student Center/RCC/Bean

A spoiled king and an orphan girl. A beauty pageant and an evil villain. An uncertain bride and an oblivious groom. Sounds like the storyline from The Selection series by Kiera Cass, doesn't it? But this rags-to-riches tale is real. Even more, it reminds us of who we are and how we're equipped for such a time as this to uphold life. Find out how YOU are called and equipped to be God's hands, feet, and voice in the world. Find out how you are blessed to uphold LIFE!

*Michelle Bauman is the executive director of Y4Life, the youth arm of Lutherans for Life. You can reach her at [michelle@y4life.org](mailto:michelle@y4life.org).*

### Vocations - Our Exciting Callings in Life

Mrs. Katie Brech

AR - C - Wilson 114

Life with Christ is exciting! But is it always? Homework, chores, jobs, families. Hear my story and how even when things aren't going as you'd hoped, God still has great plans. God is using you now in your vocations, and He has amazing plans for you always! Let's discuss our vocations, our career goals, our hopes, and our dreams – knowing and trusting that His plan and His timing is always best. We can be a light in this world, serving in our vocations, and God will fill our stories with life and adventure.

*Mrs. Brech is a member of Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Tucson, AZ. You can reach her at [mrs.brech@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.brech@gmail.com).*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## Christ Sings-So Can You

Mr. Luther Gulseth

AR - C - Wilson 209

"You shouldn't sing." Have you heard those stinging words that deny how Christ has redeemed your voice? "Your voice is a gift from God, and you can sing." These words confirm the reality that you are a baptized and singing child of God. Come challenge the idea that some people shouldn't sing, hear how your singing is a good work for your neighbor, and know how Christ, in the end, has redeemed you for a life of singing God's praises.

*Luther Gulseth is a member of Village Lutheran Church in St. Louis, MO. You can reach him at [music@gulseth.net](mailto:music@gulseth.net)*

## What am I Doing Here?

Rev. Rich Heinz

AR - C - Wilson 132

"Each week we baptized children of God gather for the Divine Service. We stand. We sit. We sing. We quietly listen. We receive the Eucharist. There is a lot going on in that hour! What does this mean? "Who Am I"" is addressed with every Divine Service by our Risen Lord as He gives His Gifts. Join Pastor Heinz as he walks us through an introduction to the Liturgy, as we look at what we are doing and, more importantly, what Christ is doing for you!"

*Rev. Heinz is the pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lowell, IN. You can reach him at [revfrheinze@gmail.com](mailto:revfrheinze@gmail.com)*

## Basketball Jesus

Rev. Eli Lietzau // Patrick Sturdivant

AR - C - Seay Student Center - RCC - Hanna

Jesus and Michael Jordan meet on a basketball court for a little 1-on-1; first to 11, the winner keeps the ball. You're sitting on the sidelines for this once in a lifetime opportunity: the greatest basketball player in the history of the world vs. the Lord of all creation. Who is going to win? Will it even be close? ... Come join us as we talk about the Person of Christ, His divinity and His humanity, and what that has to say about and for you in the midst of your average, run-of-the-mill, spaghetti dinner life.

*Patrick Sturdivant is the development executive of Higher Things, and Rev. Lietzau is the pastor of Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wheat Ridge, CO. Patrick's a member at St. Thomas Lutheran Church (UAC) in Magnolia, TX. You can reach Patrick at [patrick@higherthings.org](mailto:patrick@higherthings.org) and Pastor Lietzau at [pastorwrlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwrlutheran@gmail.com).*



## Superheroes! A Lutheran Evaluation

Rev. Robert Mayes

AR - C - Walton - Rowntree Theater

"The Avengers! Spiderman! Batman! Lego Batman! Why do people like superheroes so much today? Why did people start liking superheroes in the first place? And even more - how should Lutherans think about superheroes from a Biblical perspective? Are they good? Bad? Harmless? Come join Pastor Robert Mayes to discuss a wide range of issues that relate as we evaluate superheroes from a Lutheran perspective. Also, you'll find out which superhero Pastor Mayes loves best and which one he can't stand."

*Rev. Mayes is the pastor of Immanuel and Zion St. John Lutheran Churches in Beemer & Wisner, NE. You can reach him at [revmayes@hotmail.com](mailto:revmayes@hotmail.com).*

## Rallying Pride in the Cross

Dr. Kurt Rouser

AR - C - Boreham - Baldor

Institutions of "higher" learning are a place where cultural norms conflict with our identity in the cross of Christ. Our identity is found outside ourselves, but the world is full of despairing souls looking inward for identity in the flesh and who need to hear the Gospel. This session is a rally cry not "to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ" (Galatians 6:14). No matter where we find ourselves, we echo the Apostle Paul, "From now on let no one cause me trouble, for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus" (Galatians 6:17).

*Dr. Rouser is a faculty member at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, OK.*

## My Parents Are the Worst

Rev. Brett Simek

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You know the Fourth Commandment. It's your parent's favorite commandment, but maybe not yours. It seems like a cheat code that some parent snuck into the Bible to force their kids to do whatever they say. It was written by a parent, our heavenly Father, so maybe there is something good in it. But what is so good about parents, especially when they are the worst? What should our relationship with our parents look like when we go to college, move out of the house, or get a job? Do I still have to keep the Fourth Commandment when I'm grown up? Join us as we see how parents and other authorities can point us to the greatest authority.

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# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## God vs. ???

Michael Sinn

AR - C - Wilson 122/123

Throughout the Bible, we have seen God come across “challenges” that are not even in His league and blow away the competition with ease. When He is determined there is nothing that can stand in between His goal and keeping the promises that were made. In this session, we will dive into what the 1st commandment means when it talks about not having any other gods and the poetic justice that God, the maker of Heaven and Earth, can deliver.

*Michael Sinn is a DCE at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bartlesville, OK. You can reach him at [dce.sinn@rlcbvl.org](mailto:dce.sinn@rlcbvl.org).*

## Hat or No Hat: Who Am I?

Rev. Neil Wehmas

AR - C - Boreham 124

In 1995, the movie Toy Story was released. It was followed by three sequels, with a fourth currently in development. When I watched it as a pre-teen, it was just a movie to enjoy. As an adult, I have learned that, whether intentional or unintentional, it provides an incredible answer to the question: "Who Am I?" from infancy to the nursing home.

*Rev. Wehmas is the pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Ida Grove, MN. You can reach him at [pastorwehmas@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwehmas@gmail.com)*



## Breakaway Session D

### Rags to Riches to YOU

Mrs. Michelle Bauman

AR - C & D - Seay Student Center/RCC/Bean

A spoiled king and an orphan girl. A beauty pageant and an evil villain. An uncertain bride and an oblivious groom. Sounds like the storyline from The Selection series by Kiera Cass, doesn't it? But this rags-to-riches tale is real. Even more, it reminds us of who we are and how we're equipped for such a time as this to uphold life. Find out how YOU are called and equipped to be God's hands, feet, and voice in the world. Find out how you are blessed to uphold LIFE!

*Michelle Bauman is the executive director of Y4Life, the youth arm of Lutherans for Life. You can reach her at [michelle@y4life.org](mailto:michelle@y4life.org).*

### Faith Means Jesus, Not Me!

Rev. Brad Drew

AR - D - Wilson 122/123      AR - E - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bean

Who am I? I am a believer, right? What if I'm not so sure? What if I, too, can pray, "Lord, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief?" Where do I find my identity? In me? Or, in Jesus? Come and hear how the Bible never uses faith to trouble you. That's because the Bible never aims faith against Jesus. It uses faith to always point you away from yourself to Jesus. That's your identity now. Jesus!

*Rev. Drew is the pastor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church Metairie, LA. You can reach him at [pbdrew89@gmail.com](mailto:pbdrew89@gmail.com).*

### Hurt (or what I wish I knew to tell Ashley)

Rev. Harrison Goodman

AR - D & E - Seay Student Center - RCC - Hanna

When someone close to you is hurting, you just want it to stop. When it leaves scars and welts, it's terrifying. The temptation to answer with platitudes like "it will be OK" gives way to outright lies that only try to bury the hurt instead of facing it. The truth is, sin isn't just an idea that can be pushed aside by a smile and positive thinking. Sin is brokenness and hurt, but our God really did bleed for sin. Our God really did die for you. It is already finished.

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Who Am I - 2024

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## Wet & Miserable

Deac. Emma Heinz

AR - D & E - Wilson 132

Being wet and miserable sounds, well, miserable! We avoid being uncomfortable or experiencing pain. We sometimes expect our faith to spare us from suffering and evil. We put our trust in God to preserve us from evil (rightly), but we then forget the words of Christ Jesus, which plainly tell us if we lose our life for His sake, we will gain life eternally (Matthew 16:25). So what are we to do? Cling to your Baptism! Suffering in this life will not be removed, but take heart: Christ has overcome the world. Remember your Baptism and learn to faithfully endure being wet and miserable, knowing that Christ Jesus is with you.

*Deac. Heinz is the registrar for Higher Things, and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lowell, IN. You can reach her at [e.brauckman@gmail.com](mailto:e.brauckman@gmail.com).*

## Jesus: In Full Color

Vicar Benjamin Heinz

AR - D & E - Boreham 124

White Jesus, Brown Jesus... what does it matter what Jesus looked like? And why do Christians depict Him so differently in art? What is a "graven image" anyway? Join as we take a look at depictions of Christ throughout the history of Christian art, learning what the heck we're supposed to do with our eyes in a religion that says: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

*Vicar Heinz is the vicar at Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, MO, and is receiving his training from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO. You can reach him at [benjaminheinz127@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminheinz127@gmail.com).*

## Beyond the Bubble

Rev. Chad Hoover

AR - D & E - Boreham 120

What does God have in store for you after high school? How will you grow spiritually (without your parents waking you up for church on Sunday morning)? How do you find a church to attend? How important is it to surround yourself with Christian friends? What does adult membership in the church look like? This session will explore practical aspects of Christian living that you've never been asked to think about before (since you're in high school) but should totally start thinking about because (someday - perhaps soon) you'll need to bust out of the bubble and make decisions for yourself.

*Rev. Hoover is the campus pastor at Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne, IN. You can reach him at [choover@clhscadets.com](mailto:choover@clhscadets.com).*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## The Scandal of Binary Thinking

Rev. Kelly Krieg

AR - D & E - Walton - Rowntree Theater

Pastor Krieg seeks to explore the topic of transgenderism and the dangers that lie within this ideology. The transgender movement's departure from God's design for humanity as male and female is causing confusion, depression, and, in many cases, irrevocable harm to those caught in its grasp. Pastor Krieg will address the dangers of transgenderism, including identity confusion and mental health issues, as well as the compassion needed for individuals caught up in the transgender identity lies. Learn what it means to be created in the image of God, and in this truth, answer the question, Who Am I?

*Rev. Krieg is the pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in William Penn, TX. You can reach him at [kellydeankrieg@gmail.com](mailto:kellydeankrieg@gmail.com)*

## Red and Yellow, Black and White...

Rev. Eli Lietzau

AR - D & E - Boreham - Baldor

The sinner divides his neighbors into groups and factions and classes that keep “those” people over there and “these” people over here. While the sinner can and does divide based on many things, one of the most egregious ways in which it is done is based upon what society would call “race.” But to know someone by only their race is to no longer see them as an individual but as a caricature; and our Lord would not have this of us because our Lord knows nothing of race except the human race, of which He has made Himself one in nature. So join us as we talk about the evils of racism, hatred, bigotry and the ways in which Christ has overcome this by His human nature and delivers the victory through His Body, the Church.

*Rev. Lietzau is the pastor of Wheat Ridge Evangelical Lutheran Church in Wheat Ridge, CO. You can reach him at [pastorwrlutheran@gmail.com](mailto:pastorwrlutheran@gmail.com).*

## Won't You Be My Neighbor?

Rev. Michael Mohr

AR - D & E - Wilson 209

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*Rev. Mohr is the president of the Central Illinois District in Springfield, IL, and a member of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Vandalia, IL. You can reach him at [mmohr@cidlcms.org](mailto:mmohr@cidlcms.org).*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## Ending the Fiery Trials of Satan

Rev. Daniel Voth

AR - D & E - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bruning

You are under attack. Constantly. By the world. By your own flesh. And by the forces of evil in this dark age, by Satan and his demonic horde. So what is a Christian to do? In our session, we will look at how Satan attacks, even Christ Himself; see what Christ did to defeat the old satanic foe for you; and how He equips you to withstand the fiery darts of the evil one as you stand as a baptized beloved child of God.

*Rev. Voth is the pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Grand Forks, ND. You can reach him at [voth@immanuelgf.org](mailto:voth@immanuelgf.org).*

## Best Friends for... Never!

Rev. Paul Warneke

AR - D & E - Wilson 114

Were you friends with somebody, and now you're not? Did you have an argument that drove a wedge between you and your former friend? Is he or she being so unreasonable that it would take nothing short of a miracle for the friendship to be restored? Guess what! God is in the business of working miracles. And there are passages of Scripture that deal specifically with this very matter. Join us as we study God's Word and His way of restoring broken relationships.

*Rev. Warneke is the pastor of Christ & St. Paul Lutheran Churches in Nebraska City & Weeping Water, NE. You can reach him at [pastorwarneke@hotmail.com](mailto:pastorwarneke@hotmail.com).*





## Breakaway Session E

### Faith Means Jesus, Not Me!

Rev. Brad Drew

AR - D - Wilson 122/123      AR - E - Seay Student Center - RCC - Bean

Who am I? I am a believer, right? What if I'm not so sure? What if I, too, can pray, "Lord, I believe, help Thou mine unbelief?" Where do I find my identity? In me? Or, in Jesus? Come and hear how the Bible never uses faith to trouble you. That's because the Bible never aims faith against Jesus. It uses faith to always point you away from yourself to Jesus. That's your identity now. Jesus!

*Rev. Drew is the pastor of Mt. Olive Lutheran Church in Metairie, LA. You can reach him at [pbdrew89@gmail.com](mailto:pbdrew89@gmail.com).*

### Hurt (or what I wish I knew to tell Ashley)

Rev. Harrison Goodman

AR - D & E - Seay Student Center - RCC - Hanna

When someone close to you is hurting, you just want it to stop. When it leaves scars and welts, it's terrifying. The temptation to answer with platitudes like "it will be OK" gives way to outright lies that only try to bury the hurt instead of facing it. The truth is, sin isn't just an idea that can be pushed aside by a smile and positive thinking. Sin is brokenness and hurt, but our God really did bleed for sin. Our God really did die for you. It is already finished.

*Rev. Goodman is the content executive for Higher Things and a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon, IA. You can reach him at [rev.goodman@higherthings.org](mailto:rev.goodman@higherthings.org)*

### Wet & Miserable

Deac. Emma Heinz

AR - D & E - Wilson 132

Being wet and miserable sounds, well, miserable! We avoid being uncomfortable or experiencing pain. We sometimes expect our faith to spare us from suffering and evil. We put our trust in God to preserve us from evil (rightly), but we then forget the words of Christ Jesus, which plainly tell us if we lose our life for His sake, we will gain life eternally (Matthew 16:25). So what are we to do? Cling to your Baptism! Suffering in this life will not be removed, but take heart: Christ has overcome the world. Remember your Baptism and learn to faithfully endure being wet and miserable, knowing that Christ Jesus is with you.

*Deac. Heinz is the registrar for Higher Things, and a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Lowell, IN. You can reach her at [e.brauckman@gmail.com](mailto:e.brauckman@gmail.com).*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## Jesus: In Full Color

Vicar Benjamin Heinz

AR - D & E - Boreham 124

White Jesus, Brown Jesus... what does it matter what Jesus looked like? And why do Christians depict Him so differently in art? What is a "graven image" anyway? Join as we take a look at depictions of Christ throughout the history of Christian art, learning what the heck we're supposed to do with our eyes in a religion that says: "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

*Vicar Heinz is the vicar at Trinity Lutheran Church in Springfield, MO, and is receiving his training from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO. You can reach him at [benjaminheinz127@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminheinz127@gmail.com).*

## Beyond the Bubble

Rev. Chad Hoover

AR - D & E - Boreham 120

What does God have in store for you after high school? How will you grow spiritually (without your parents waking you up for church on Sunday morning)? How do you find a church to attend? How important is it to surround yourself with Christian friends? What does adult membership in the church look like? This session will explore practical aspects of Christian living that you've never been asked to think about before (since you're in high school) but should totally start thinking about because (someday - perhaps soon) you'll need to bust out of the bubble and make decisions for yourself.

*Rev. Hoover is the campus pastor at Concordia Lutheran High School in Fort Wayne, IN. You can reach him at [choover@clhscadets.com](mailto:choover@clhscadets.com).*

## The Scandal of Binary Thinking

Rev. Kelly Krieg

AR - D & E - Walton - Rowntree Theater

Pastor Krieg seeks to explore the topic of transgenderism and the dangers that lie within this ideology. The transgender movement's departure from God's design for humanity as male and female is causing confusion, depression, and, in many cases, irrevocable harm to those caught in its grasp. Pastor Krieg will address the dangers of transgenderism, including identity confusion and mental health issues, as well as the compassion needed for individuals caught up in the transgender identity lies. Learn what it means to be created in the image of God, and in this truth, answer the question, Who Am I?

*Rev. Krieg is the pastor of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in William Penn, TX. You can reach him at [kellydeankrieg@gmail.com](mailto:kellydeankrieg@gmail.com)*



# Arkansas Breakaways

Who Am I - 2024

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## Red and Yellow, Black and White...

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## Youth Ministry 101

Mrs. Crysten Sanchez

AR - E - Wilson 122/123

Thinking about putting together a youth program can seem daunting. Let's start with some building blocks that go into a healthy, sustainable, safe youth program! We'll share resources and ideas as well! Crysten Sanchez, former youth coordinator at a church in Iowa, will walk you through the many pieces of the puzzle.

*Crysten Sanchez is the events executive for Higher Things and is a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Mt. Vernon, IA. You can reach her at [csanchez@higherthings.org](mailto:csanchez@higherthings.org).*



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