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### Give me the quick details!

**Who?** Young Adults ages 18-24

**Where?** Milwaukee, WI, the City of Steeples.

**When?** June 7-12, 2025

**Cost?** $600

### What’s the theme all about?

The church points to Jesus in all the ways He hides in plain sight. Not just with words and hymns. With art and architecture. The way your church is built points to the miracles done in plain sight. Little details proclaim with intention the giant hope that sustains the saints. They beg you to ask. What does this mean? The art hung in homes, in studies, in museums, and in parish halls points to the God who does not hide. Art. Architecture. Even the stones cry out of Jesus, turning blindness into sight and opening eyes to see.

### What will we be doing?

So much. Throughout the week, you’ll join with dozens of other Lutheran young adults to learn how Christ is confessed through the art and architecture of the church. We’ll do this together by worshiping at the historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Milwaukee, which burned in 2018 and has been lovingly restored since. We’ll visit other Christian places of worship to compare how each space confesses its beliefs. We’ll learn together in retreat sessions the historical significance of how the church visually confesses. We’ll hang out together with fellowship activities like games, movie nights, and challenges. And there is more, too! Join us to find out!

Also, walking. Like, a few miles at a time walking. Be prepared for it!

### What’s the schedule going to be like?

We’ll gather on Saturday, June 7, 2025 starting at 3:00 pm, and finish the event on Thursday, June 12, 2025 at noon. During our time together, you’ll not only develop your understanding of how Christ is confessed through the art and architecture of the Church throughout history, but also amazing friendships with like-minded young adults gathered together, excited to experience an HT Young Adult event!

This event will be filled with all of the things you know and love from Higher Things conferences

* Worship services from the Lutheran Service Book that connect us to historic Christianity
* Meaningful teaching that will edify and challenge you to grasp new concepts and a deeper understanding of the topic
* We’ll take field trips to historic [Trinity Lutheran Church](https://trinitymilwaukee.org/) in Milwaukee, which burned in a massive fire in 2018, to see the rebuilding efforts the congregation has undertaken since. We’ll head out to the [Basilica and National Shrine of Mary Help of Christians at Holy Hill](https://holyhill.solutiosoftware.com/) to see the gorgeous architecture and how even nature proclaims the wonders of God. We’ll go to [Annunciation Greek Orthodox](https://www.annunciationwi.org/) church to see how another Christian tradition confesses their faith through architecture.
* A ton of great fun and fellowship time hanging out with the event attendees, allowing you to get to know everyone in a great way

### What is included in the cost?

Included

* Housing (Double occupancy dorm style, as per usual!) for five nights and six days
* All event meals (Saturday supper through Thursday breakfast)
* Five retreat sessions on Art and Architecture in the Church
* Fifteen worship services throughout the week
* All event programming, which runs morning to night during the event, including evening activities
* All event materials
* Transportation during the event

Not Included

* Transportation to and from the event site
* Personal items and supplies
* Snacks & beverages outside of the included meals
* Spending cash for souvenirs

### Who will be leading this thing?

Edward Riojas, Lutheran artist of Sacred themes, will be your retreat speaker, teaching about art and architecture in the church from the Old Testament to today. You may know Edward from his many pieces circulating in the Lutheran world; his book *A Complete Guide to Christian Symbols* published by CPH; or the HT conference logos, of which he designed almost all! Rev. Harrison Goodman, Content Executive of Higher Things, will lead the group in worship as the Chaplain for the event. HT Events Executive Crysten Sanchez will be your cruise director for the week.