

FLY CONVENTION



FLY 2023

RESTORED

REV. 21:5-7

JULY 3-6, 2023 | ESTES PARK, CO

**FLY 2023**

# WELCOME

For you who are reading this, we want you to know that it's an answer to our prayers that you are here, holding this booklet, and ready for a great week. Know that we continue to pray that this week would impact you in such a way that, more than anything else, you'd come to more fully know and embrace the restorative work of Christ in your life.

A brief note about this booklet. It has been compiled and given to you to be a helpful tool for you this week and, maybe, beyond this week. So, it's important that you hold on to it and bring it with you wherever you go. In it you'll find the schedule for the week, a helpful map of the YMCA campus, the policies we agree to abide by, information on workshops and electives, a word from our sponsors and exhibitors, and much more. Of course, if there are questions you may have that aren't covered or found in this booklet, please visit the FLY Office in the Longhouse where the office staff will be happy to get you any information you may require.

Thank you again for spending the week with us!

— The 2023 FLY Committee

**REV. 21:5-7**

THE PURPOSE OF THE FREE LUTHERAN YOUTH (FLY) CONVENTION IS TO PROVIDE CONGREGATIONS WITH A TOOL TO: WIN THE LOST, BUILD THE BELIEVER, AND ENCOURAGE STUDENT DISCIPLESHIP IN THEIR LOCAL CONGREGATION.

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
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# DAILY SCHEDULE

“...a time for every matter under heaven...”

ECCLESIASTES 3:1

## MONDAY EVENING

3:30 p.m.	Registration Opens 📍 ASSEMBLY HALL
4:30 p.m.	Dorm Check-in 📍 DORMS
5:30 p.m.	Evening Session Staff Meeting 📍 LONGHOUSE
5-6:30 p.m.	Supper 📍 CAFETERIA
7:15 p.m.	Longhouse opens 📍 LONGHOUSE
8 p.m.	Evening Session 📍 LONGHOUSE
9:30 p.m.	Dorm Dismissal 📍 DORMS
10 p.m.	Dorm Devotions 📍 DORMS
10:30 p.m.	Lights Out 📍 DORMS

## MORNINGS AT FLY

6:45-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast 📍 CAFETERIA
7-7:30 a.m.	Prayer Walk 📍 CAFETERIA
8-8:15 a.m.	DRL Meeting 📍 Willome Hall
8:35 a.m.	Gathering Music 📍 LONGHOUSE
8:45 a.m.	Morning Bible Study 📍 LONGHOUSE

Thursday: Election (9:30-9:45 a.m.) 📍 LONGHOUSE

9:45 a.m. Workshop 📍 LONGHOUSE

**Tuesday:** Dr. Christopher Yuan, Testimony

**Wednesday:** Dr. Christopher Yuan, A Christian Response to Homosexuality w/closing Q&A

**Thursday:** Dr. Walt Mueller, Identity and Social Media (Part I)

**Friday:** Dr. Walt Mueller, Identity and Social Media (Part II) w/closing Q&A

11 a.m. Electives (see pages 14-18) 📍 VARIOUS LOCATIONS

AND HE WHO WAS SEATED ON THE THRONE SAID, "BEHOLD, I AM MAKING ALL THINGS NEW." ALSO HE SAID, "WRITE THIS DOWN, FOR THESE WORDS ARE TRUSTWORTHY AND TRUE." AND HE SAID TO ME, "IT IS DONE! I AM THE ALPHA AND THE OMEGA, THE BEGINNING AND THE END. TO THE THIRSTY I WILL GIVE FROM THE SPRING OF THE WATER OF LIFE WITHOUT PAYMENT. THE ONE WHO CONQUERS WILL HAVE THIS HERITAGE, AND I WILL BE HIS GOD AND HE WILL BE MY SON.

REV. 21:5-7

## AFTERNOON SCHEDULE (1:30-5 p.m.)

Noon-1:30 p.m. Lunch 📍 CAFETERIA

Wed-Fri: "Lunch Break" for Adults/YW (Box Lunch) 12:30-1:30 p.m. 📍 ASSEMBLY HALL

2-5 p.m. Afternoon activities 📍 VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Thursday: Free Time w/youth groups 📍 VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Wednesday: Business meeting 2:30 p.m. 📍 ASSEMBLY HALL

5-6:30 p.m. Supper 📍 CAFETERIA

## EVENINGS AT FLY

6:15 p.m. Longhouse opens 📍 LONGHOUSE

6:30 p.m. Group Interactives 📍 LONGHOUSE

7 p.m. Evening Session 📍 LONGHOUSE

8 p.m. Break

8:30 p.m. Late Hour 📍 LONGHOUSE

Tuesday: Ben Glenn, Chalk Guy

Wednesday: Ben Fuller, musician

Thursday: Youth Group Night

Friday: Bryan Drake, illusionist

10:15 p.m. Dorm Dismissal 📍 DORMS

10:30 p.m. Dorm Devotions 📍 DORMS

11 p.m. Lights Out 📍 DORMS



# YMCA MAP

"...This is the way,  
walk in it..."

ISAIAH 30:21

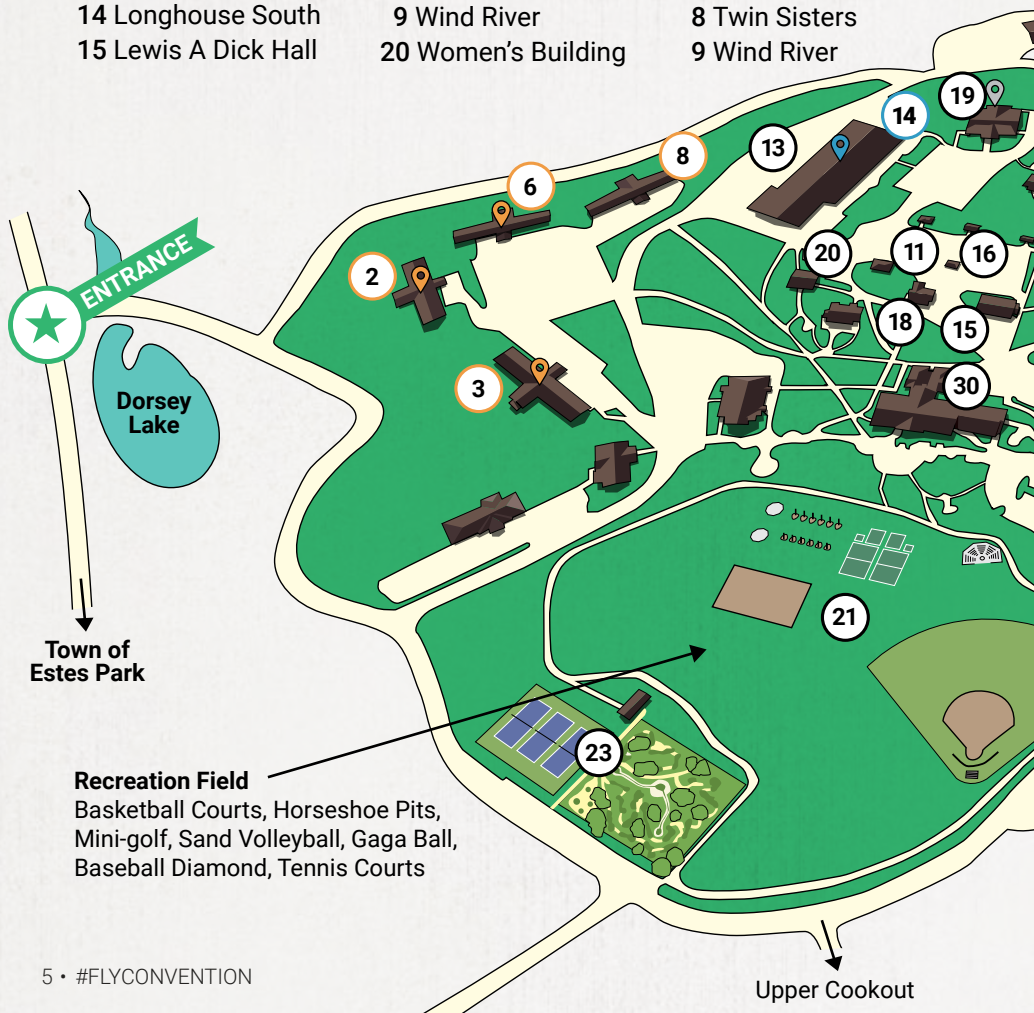


## Meeting Places

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| 10 Assembly Hall       | 16 Kansas Cabin      |
| 11 Colorado Cabin      | 6 Rainbow Fireside   |
| 12 Dakota Cabin        | 7 Ram's Horn Lodge   |
| 2 Deer Ridge Fireside  | 17 Reusch Auditorium |
| 3 Eagle Cliff Fireside | 18 Texas Cabin       |
| 5 Long's Peak Lodge    | 8 Twin Sisters       |
| 13 Longhouse           | 19 Willome Hall      |
| 14 Longhouse South     | 9 Wind River         |
| 15 Lewis A Dick Hall   | 20 Women's Building  |

## FLY Dorms/Housing

- 1 Alpen Inn
- 2 Deer Ridge Lodge
- 3 Eagle Cliff Lodge
- 4 Emerald Mountain
- 5 Long's Peak Lodge
- 6 Rainbow
- 7 Ram's Horn Lodge
- 8 Twin Sisters
- 9 Wind River



## Recreation Field

Basketball Courts, Horseshoe Pits,  
Mini-golf, Sand Volleyball, Gaga Ball,  
Baseball Diamond, Tennis Courts



### Recreation

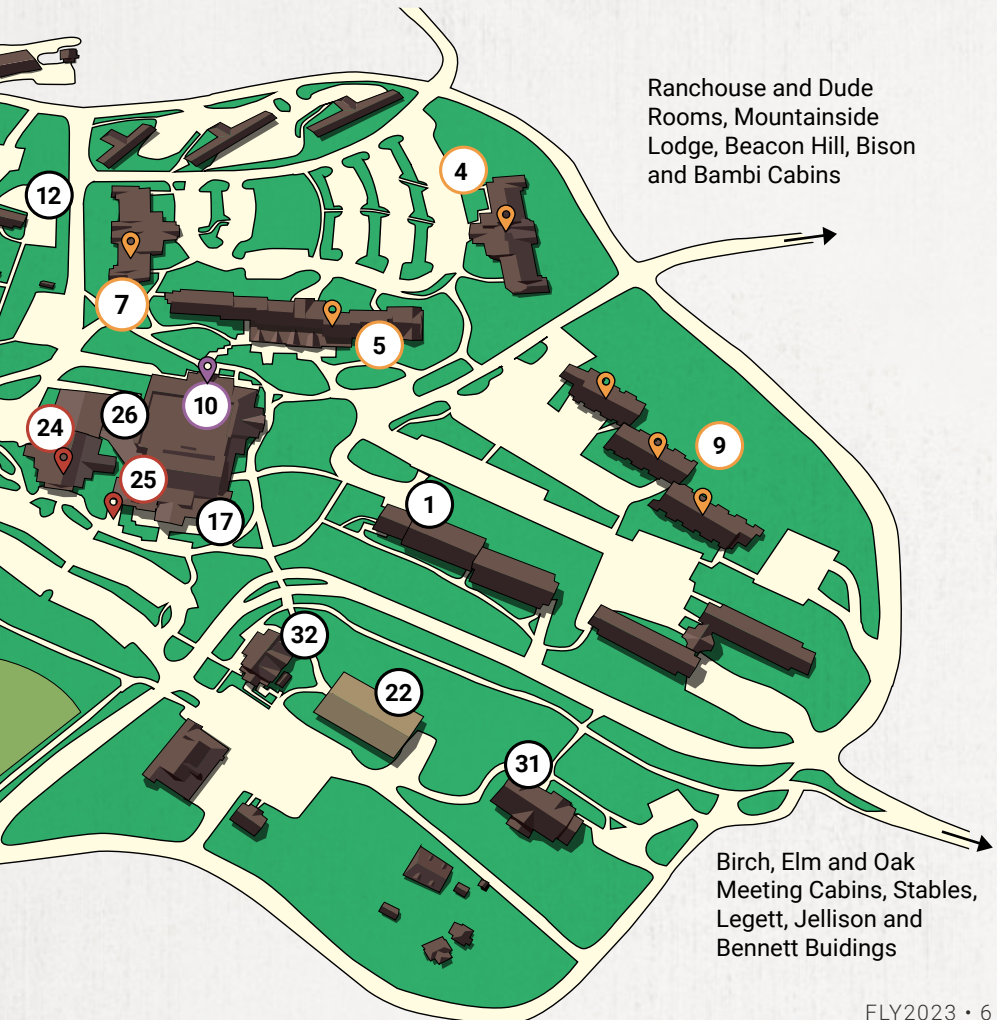
- 21 Basketball Courts
- Volleyball Courts
- Horseshoe Pits
- Gaga Ball Pits
- 22 Indoor Swimming Pool
- 23 Mini Golf Course
- Tennis Courts
- 30 Mountain Hiking Check-In
- 10 Assembly Hall Lobby

### FLY Places

- 24 Pine
- 25 Aspen
- 26 Walnut
- 30 Crisis Response
- 13 FLY Store Longhouse
- 13 First Aid Home
- 13 FLY Office

### YMCA Buildings

- 30 Administration Building
- 30 General Store
- 31 Mootz Family Craft Center
- 31 Playground
- 32 Sweet Memorial Program



# CONVENTION POLICIES

**“The wise of heart will  
receive commandments...”**

PROVERBS 10:8a



## DRESS CODE

Please dress casually and comfortably. Jeans, shorts, and t-shirts are great – even at evening sessions.



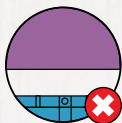
**FLY staff will ask you to change if you are not adhering to the dress code. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action, which may include being sent home at the offender's expense.**

“Your adornment must not be merely external... but let it be the hidden person of the heart, with the imperishable quality of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is precious in the sight of God.”

– 1 Peter 3:3–4

## CLOTHING GUIDELINES

no midriff showing



no spaghetti straps



no short shorts



no short skirts



no low-cut tops



no skin-tight clothes



no underwear showing



no cutoffs



Guy must wear shirts at all times, except while swimming



Girls can wear 1-piece swimsuits or 2-piece swimsuits that cover their midriff



Girls can wear dresses or skirts



Guys cannot



## CONVENTION POLICIES

# CELL PHONE & TECH



### Use of Handheld Mobile Devices is Permitted for:

- Purposes of Bible use, Bible reference, and note-taking during all sessions.
- Camera or clock use throughout the day.
- General use during free time.



At no time during sessions are students to be using earbuds, air pods, or any similar listening devices.

#### DISCLAIMER:

- If staff see your phone becoming a distraction to yourself or others, they will ask you to put it down.
- If it continues to be a problem, FLY staff will take it away for the rest of that session.
- The FLY Committee is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

## CONVENTION POLICIES

# ZERO TOLERANCE



Please leave knives, skateboards, tobacco, vaporizers, and any of the following prohibited items at home.

The FLY Convention® holds a Zero Tolerance Policy for illegal and prohibited weapons (including firearms, explosives, knives and other weapons that might be considered dangerous or that could cause harm), tobacco, alcohol (in any form), marijuana, any marijuana products (including any substance containing any quantity of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol), e-cigarettes (and e-cig. juice), vaporizers (and vape juice), drug paraphernalia (including syringes unless needed for prescription medication), and other drugs. Drugs include, but are not limited to, the following: any mind-altering or psychoactive substance and their analogs (without a valid doctor's prescription); any controlled substance, scheduled drug, and their analogs (without a valid prescription); any substance that cannot be legally possessed by the individual according to either state or federal law; any substance that can be readily abused as a mind-altering substance; or any other substance

that is used or intended to be used as a drug of abuse.

Skateboards, longboards, razors, and other similar coasting devices are not permitted on YMCA paved areas.

Remedial action will be taken if any attendee is caught using or in possession of these things. Remedial action may include, but is not limited to, the attendee being sent home at their expense, the prohibited items being mailed home at the owner's expense, or other remedial actions. Any criminal conduct will be reported to the local authorities. FLY Convention® Security reserves the right to search dorm rooms, one's person, and one's possessions, if FLY Convention® staff suspects that the Zero Tolerance Policy has been violated. The Crisis Response Coordinator and the FLY Committee will make all decisions for remedial action for each attendee.

All adults, dorm room leaders, and staff attending the FLY Convention® are expected to act in accordance with and are subject to this policy.

# HIKING AND LEAVING



## Mountain Hiking:

- All YMCA hiking trails are open unless restricted by the YMCA or FLY.
- All hiking is “at your own risk.” Trails are not consistently monitored. Hiking should be performed in groups only at the designated times.
- Closures will be announced during evening announcements.
- Eagle Cliff is closed indefinitely.
- Hiking during the morning or evening sessions is not allowed.
- Signing out/in for hiking on trails leading from the YMCA during the recreation hours of 1-5 p.m. is not required.
- Sunrise hikes are permitted, but all hikers must be signed out the day before by an adult leader in the FLY Convention® office. Each hiker is required to have a flashlight. The FLY Convention® office has a limited number of flashlights available for rent. Upon returning from their hike, an adult leader must check in the entire group at the FLY Convention® office.
- No sunset hikes are allowed.
- For information about hiking trails, see the Sweet Memorial Building.

## Leaving YMCA Campus:

- All registered students and Dorm Room Leaders (DRL) must not leave the YMCA campus for any reason (including during the afternoon recreational hours) without signing out with the FLY Convention® office.
- Only the group leader, not a DRL, is allowed to check out a group. All names of those who are leaving must be listed.
- Upon return, the leader must check their group back in at the FLY Convention® office.
- Per the session policy, no off campus activities are to be organized that would remove students from attending morning or evening sessions.
- If an emergency arises, and the group will not make it back before the evening service, they should call the FLY Convention® office.



## CONVENTION POLICIES

# SESSIONS



### REQUIRED:

(for all students and Dorm Room Leaders)

**All morning sessions**  
(worship times, large group workshops,  
elective hour, and Bible studies)

**Evening sessions**

**Late hour sessions**

**Dorm devotions**



- Daily meetings are required for all Dorm Room Leaders.
- All afternoon activities are optional.

**All Students and Dorm Room Leaders are expected to attend all required sessions with the following exceptions:**

**1) Health Concerns.** If a student or dorm room leader becomes ill during the week, or extremely overtired, they may only be excused from a required session with a written excuse. Please follow these steps:

- When reasonably possible, the ill attendee should first consult with their youth leader or dorm room leader. If the illness needs further attention or the leader feels the attendee might need to be excused from a session, the leader can then direct the attendee to the First Aid office.
- First Aid staff will assess the attendee, and may provide a written excuse to miss a session(s) at their discretion.
- The ill attendee must remain in the care of the First Aid team. They can only be released into the care of their Youth Leader, Dorm Room Leader, or another designated adult to be accompanied to their dorm room to rest. (Adult dorm room leaders may be released with a written note.)



**2) Conviction or Objection.** If an adult (Parent, Pastor, or Youth Leader) finds a session or offerings at the 2023 FLY Convention® to be in conflict with their personal convictions and would prefer their student(s) to not attend a particular session, they may be excused. Please follow these steps:

a) If the objection arises before the Convention:

- i) Please contact the 2023 FLY President Gideon Johnson or FLY Convention® Coordinator Daniel Keinanen to express concern.
- ii) After which, if the objection still exists, a document outlining the objection and agreed upon solution will be signed.
- iii) FLY Staff will work with church leaders at the Convention to assure the agreed plan is executed.

b) If the objection arises at the Convention:

- i) The concerned adult (Parent, Pastor, or Youth Leader) should seek out a member of our Crisis Response Team to express their concern.
  - ii) A statement outlining the concern, the agreed upon solution, and the names of who are asking to leave will be drafted and signed.
  - iii) The concerned adult (Parent, Pastor, or Youth Leader) will be allowed to leave the session with their students to a designated area, and will be fully responsible for the students until they return to the regular sessions.
- Only adults (Parents, Pastors, and Youth Leaders) can object to and leave a session; students who have an objection must work through their leader as outlined above. Students are not allowed to leave a required session without an adult.
  - Dorm Room Leaders cannot remove students from a session if those students are not from their local congregation, unless the leader from their local congregation agrees.
  - A congregational leader can object and remove students not staying in their room. However, these students must then remain in the care of the said leader until the session is over.
  - A FLY Committee member will follow up with the involved parties.



# GETTING HELP

“...Oh restore me to health  
and make me live!”

ISAIAH 38:16b

## + First Aid

8 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Longhouse
12:30-6:30 p.m.	Porch of the Administration Building
6:15-10 p.m.	Longhouse
10 p.m.-8 a.m.	Contact Crisis Response through Dorm Head



First Aid Staff encourages all campers to carry a water bottle and **increase water consumption** during the week to decrease the effects of altitude sickness & dehydration.

**Symptoms of altitude sickness include:**  
headache, nausea, shortness of breath, and fatigue.

## Intervention Resource Team

God doesn't want us to be alone with our struggles. Along with your Dorm Room Leaders and other convention leaders, FLY staff includes the Intervention Resources Team. The team is made up of women and men with specialized training to talk with you about challenges and how you can overcome them. They can help you face school problems, anxiety, relationship problems, fear, family problems, pornography, depression, cutting, thoughts of suicide, or other challenges. You can meet with one of them by yourself or you can bring a friend, a Dorm Room Leader, etc. Don't go it alone!

**1:30-5 p.m., Lewis Dick Hall**

Find them (wearing orange name tags)  
at the location above or set up a time  
through your Dorm Room Leader



**FLY** ON SOCIAL

**Follow @FLYConvention on Instagram this week to see camp highlights AND more!**



**REC**

All electives from FLY 2023 will be recorded and available to download and/or listen to post-convention via the AFLC Youth Ministries' app and/or the FLY Convention website. ➔



The release of the elective recordings will be announced on the FLY Convention Podcast.

Subscribe now so you don't miss the announcement and more!



# 11 AM ELECTIVES

**“...be filled with the knowledge of his will  
in all spiritual wisdom and understanding”**

COLOSSIANS 1:9b



## **1. Race. What Does The Bible Say About Race?**

WED, FRI » LONGS PEAK CHASM | ADAM ERICKSON

As a result of God's work of creation and recreation, there is no place for racism in a Christian worldview. We are all made in the image of God, and Christ died for us all. How can we address racism as Christians in talking with others?

## **2. Anxiety. How Do I Deal With It?**

TUES, THUR » WIND RIVER B | PASTOR MATTHEW NELSON

Anxiety and stress are often related to such things as performance, looks, status or friends. Anxiety is real, and the causes can be dealt with in ways that are healthy, God honoring, and Christ centered.

## **3. Loneliness. Are Relationships Really That Important?**

WED, FRI » DAKOTA CABIN | JEN HOLT

In a world of connection, people are more lonely now than ever. Why is that so prevalent? Are there consequences to living the lonely life? How can valuable relationships with God and others make a difference?

## **4. Value. Why Am I Valuable?**

TUES, THUR » WIND RIVER C | PAM OLSON

Our value lies in that we are all fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image. True value can only be found through a living relationship with Jesus.

## **5. Church. Why Do I Need to Belong?**

TUES, THURS » LONGS PEAK DIAMOND EAST | PASTOR ANDY COYLE

God's design for His church involves you; that's where He nurtures your faith which is vital to your spiritual health. Your attendance is only the beginning. How does being part of a congregation affect you and your faith?

## 6. Truth. Can Your Truth Be Different From My Truth?

TUES, THUR » ASSEMBLY B | PASTOR JASON GUDIM

There is one absolute truth; God's perfect law and teachings. There is no your truth or my truth. What you believe about truth will affect your faith, and how you live your life.

## 7. Love. How Do I Love Others Without Abandoning The Truth?

TUES, THUR » REUSCH AUDITORIUM | PASTOR MICAH HJERMSTAD

The words love, acceptance, and approval are often considered synonymous in our culture. Being armed with clear definitions of love and truth will help us to know how to love others without accepting or approving what they believe or do.

## 8. Sports. How Do I Live Out My Faith On The Field?

TUES, THUR » LONGS PEAK KEYHOLE | LOGAN STRAND

Sports can be fun, and good. Sometimes sports can be something we love and find our identity in more than God, which then becomes idolatry. How does one balance faith and doing our best with competition and idolatry?

## 9. Creative Arts. How Can My Gifts Be Used To glorify God?

WED, FRI » LONGS PEAKS KEYHOLE | MONICA COYLE

How can my creative gifts reflect the beauty of Christ in a broken world? How can I join with Him in His work of restoration, as both an image-bearer and creator? What could it look like to steward my creative gifts for God's glory within the church and beyond?

## 10. Death. How To Deal With It?

TUES, THUR » LONGS PEAK DIAMOND WEST | MOLLY BARSENESS

Since the fall of mankind, we are constantly faced with the reality of death. Do we deny it or ignore it, or believe there will eventually be a cure? We can deal with death by looking to the one who conquered the grave, and gives us hope and peace in the midst of grief and fear.

## 11. Forgiveness. How Do I Forgive Even When It Seems Impossible?

WED, FRI » ASSEMBLY A | JORDAN LANGNESS

The Bible says to forgive and forget, but that's not as easy as it seems. How can I let go of hurt when the wrongs done to me are painful, perhaps even unimaginable? Forgiveness can happen, not in a way that will guilt you, but that will bring healing and health.





**12. Guys Only: God Made You Relational; What Does That Look Like?**

WED, FRI » WILLOME | PASTOR AARON OLSON

Throughout life, you'll have relationships with both guys and girls, but are they healthy relationships? The Bible has some good advice when it comes to looking for, and nurturing, good friendships, and dealing with romantic love.

**13. Girls Only: God Made You Relational; What Does That Look Like?**

WED, FRI » ASSEMBLY B | EMILY HERSET

Throughout life, you'll have relationships with both guys and girls, but are they healthy relationships? The Bible has some good advice when it comes to looking for, and nurturing, good friendships, and dealing with romantic love.

**14. Gender. What Does The Bible Say About Male and Female?**

TUES, THUR » WIND RIVER A | PASTOR JUSTIN NELSON

Biblical masculinity and femininity is God's perfect design. The Word can equip us to thoughtfully engage others who would challenge what God has to say about gender, gender fluidity, and tolerance of how others choose to express themselves.

**15. Religion. How Is The Christian Faith Different?**

WED, FRI » LONGS PEAK DIAMOND EAST | PASTOR NATE JORE

Do all roads lead to God? Christianity stands apart from other religions in the world. This is done by emphasizing salvation by grace through faith, much different from working for it.

**16. Leadership. Am I Called To Lead?**

WED, FRI » REUSCH AUDITORIUM | PASTOR WADE MOBELY

Christians have a variety of gifts, and these gifts can be expressed through different leadership styles. Servant leadership is possible even for those who feel they cannot lead because they are too quiet or unqualified, as exemplified by Christ himself.

**17. Lutheran. What Does It Mean To Be A Lutheran?**

WED, FRI » WIND RIVER A | PASTOR TIM JOHNSON

What exactly is a Lutheran? Why is Lutheranism distinct from other church bodies? How did it get started in the first place? Why is it important to someday find/attend a congregation that holds to the authority of God's Word, preaches Law and Gospel, and points you to Jesus?





**18. Music. How Is What I Listen To Shaping Me?**

TUES, THUR » LEWIS DICK HALL | TIM HERSET

I don't listen to the words, I just like how it sounds." Music we listen to leaves an imprint on minds; God has designed our brains to easily remember the words put to music. We can learn to discern between edifying and harmful lyrics, and God can restore us through the power of His Word in song.

**19. Calling. God's Calling You...To What?**

TUES, THUR » DAKOTA CABIN | JOEL RASMUSSEN

Some feel called to professional ministry. Many don't. God's call isn't something only pastors, youth leaders, and missionaries receive; God calls all His redeemed to live lives in accordance with His will and unto His glory. What does the doctrine of calling, or vocation, mean for me, and how is it relevant where God has placed me in the world?

**20. Purity. How Do Purity And Restoration Relate?**

TUES, THUR » ASSEMBLY A | PASTOR ADAM OSIER

We are not by nature pure; who is truly pure in all of their thoughts, words, and deeds? Christ has come to restore us to purity; this happens when we confess our sins. He is faithful and just, forgives us, and purifies us from our unrighteousness.

**21. Stewardship. What Should I Do With What God Has Given Me?**

WED, FRI » WIND RIVER B | SHARON RYKHUS

God's common grace is shown to us all in the things we are given each day. What do we do with these things? We can steward what God has blessed each of us with, whether that be time, relationships, money, or possessions. God is in the business of restoring all things, and that should motivate us to give liberally, with thanksgiving and praise.

**22. The Bible. Why Is This Ancient Bible Relevant Today?**

WED, FRI » LEWIS DICK HALL | PASTOR BRETT BOE

The Bible was written thousands of years ago. Why in the world should I look to, listen to, study, and share this book? The Word of God, even though old, is not only true, but applies to the world we live in now. It can speak to us today if we read, study and apply what it says.



## 23. Conversation. How Do I Converse With Someone Who Thinks Differently Than I Do?

TUES, THUR » WILLOME | PASTOR JASON HOLT

Whether in youth group, at school, or while hanging out with friends, there will always be differences of opinion, conviction, or beliefs. Instead of canceling, learn to converse with others, pointing them toward the truth of God and His Word.

## 24. Joy. I Want It; How Can I Have It?

WED, FRI » WIND RIVER C | PASTOR STEVE JENSEN

Joy is often something people long for. Are we looking in the right place? Where can it be found? The joy that is found in Jesus Christ is everlasting, even when difficult circumstances make it difficult to discern.

## 25. Distractions. What Takes My Eyes Off Of Jesus?

WED, FRI » LONGS PEAK DIAMOND WEST | SETH AND KIRSTIE SKOGERBOE

In a world that is constantly competing for our attention, what can we do to keep our attention focused on the Lord? What are some ways we can be pulled away from Jesus, and what does it look like to stay fixed on Him?

## 26. Holy Spirit. Does The Spirit Work?

TUES, THUR » LONGS PEAK CHASM LAKE | PASTOR DAVID HANDSAKER

The Holy Spirit, as part of the Trinity, is an important part of our faith. As a Christian, am I filled with the Holy Spirit? The Holy Spirit is living and active; what does that mean for us as believers?





## YOUTH LEADER TRACK

4 Electives: Tuesday–Friday

**AFLC Youth Ministries is excited to have Dr. Walt Mueller at FLY 2023 to present through the week for our Youth Ministry Leaders' Elective Track designed for youth leaders, parents, pastors, and other interested adults.**

### **Understanding and Teaching God's Design for Sex and Gender**

**ASSEMBLY C | DR. WALT MUELLER**

Our children and teens are growing up in a world where “It’s all up to you!” is the mantra that guides – or more accurately mis-guides – our students into embracing and living out ideologies on sex and gender that undermine their human flourishing. In this four-part seminar, Walt will walk you through how the Sex Positive movement and LGBTQ+ ideologies are forming the beliefs and behaviors of our kids, along with how and what to teach about the beauty of God’s sex-and-gender-positive design as the path to spiritual growth, relational growth, and sexual flourishing.



**Dr. Walt Mueller** is the founder and President of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding, a non-profit organization serving schools, churches, and community organizations across the U.S, Canada, and worldwide in their efforts to strengthen families. Walt has been working with young people and families for over 35 years. He is a recognized authority on youth culture and family issues, and has appeared on numerous media outlets internationally to discuss teenagers and their world.

## CONVENTION CONCERNS

Convention Concerns Staff will be available to receive your feedback on the FLY Convention during the week. From a big matter to a small question, Pastor Jason and Jennifer Holt will welcome your constructive criticism for the national youth gathering’s improvement for future years. In addition to the personal connection hours listed below, you may complete a Convention Concern Form at any time during the week in the FLY Office.

**Assembly Hall (South Entrance)**

11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. (Tues–Fri) | 3:30-4:30 p.m. (Tues–Thur)



## AFTERNOON OPPORTUNITIES

### SPORTS TOURNAMENTS

1:30–5 P.M. TUES/WED/ FRI  
SIGN UP IN ASSEMBLY HALL

**Tues:** Gaga ball, basketball

**Wed:** Finishing basketball,  
volleyball, ultimate frisbee

**Fri:** Finishing volleyball and  
ultimate frisbee

### ARTICULATE

2-5 P.M. TUES/WED/ FRI

WILLOME HALL

Express your creativity as we make and discuss art. Individual projects include: paint and canvas, watercolor, calligraphy, jewelry and an ongoing large group project with other campers.

### PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT TUESDAY-FRIDAY

Explore the YMCA campus while searching for clues and taking pictures along the way. Awards will be given out daily.

**Visit Assembly Hall for more information!**

### TALENT SHOW

3 P.M. WEDNESDAY

REUSCH AUDITORIUM

Sign-Up & tryouts will be required to participate in the show. Acts should be glorifying to God and FLY appropriate!

### AMBASSADOR CONCERT

3 P.M. TUESDAY

REUSCH  
AUDITORIUM

### MOVIE: LIFEMARK

3 P.M. FRIDAY

REUSCH  
AUDITORIUM



# EXHIBITOR HALL

Assembly Hall: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Visit the many ministries represented at FLY this week. Maybe even **score FREE stuff** at some of their booths! Check out the following page for a chance to win a \$100 Amazon gift card.

## FLY STORE

Located in the Longhouse:

3 p.m.-5 p.m. & 6:15 p.m.-7 p.m.

(also open between evening session and late hour)

*Check out this  
year's fantastic  
FLY merchandise*

T-shirts • Hoodies • FLYons-(Lion Stuffed animal) • Lanyards,  
Key Chains • Water Bottles • Fanny Packs (shoulder bag) • Stickers

Cash, Debit/credit card and checks accepted



# EXHIBITOR ★ BINGO ★

FLBC	Journey Missions	World Missions	Concordia University Irvine
Youth Ministries	Home Missions	AFLC	Lutherans for Life
Evangelism & Discipleship	FLY Store Thursday	Parish Education	PACCT

## HOW TO PLAY

(Students only eligible to win)

Visit all exhibitor booths located in Assembly Hall between 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. daily and receive their unique stamp on your bingo card.

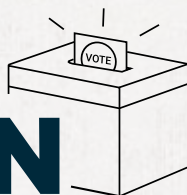
Once you have received all stamps, bring your completed bingo card to the FLY Office by 5 p.m., Thursday and you will be entered into a drawing to win a **\$100 Amazon Gift Card!**

The winner will be announced at either the Evening Service, or Late Hour on Thursday.





# 2025 FLY Committee ELECTION



The election of the 2025 FLY Committee will take place on Thursday morning prior to the morning workshop. This committee is charged with planning the 2025 FLY Convention.

## NOMINEES:

(\*indicates an incumbent).

### PRESIDENT

- Pastor Steven Jensen, *Hope Free Lutheran, Ishpeming, MI*
- Pastor Ryan Patenaude, *West Prairie Free Lutheran, Kindred, ND*

### FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

- Alex Monseth, *Living Hope, Rogers, MN*
- Sharon Rykhus, \* *Abiding Savior Free Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD*

### SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT

- Ignacio Davalos, *Hope Lutheran, North Mpls, MN*
- Micah Moan, *Solid Rock Free Lutheran, Anoka, MN*

### SECRETARY

- Ruth Gunderson, \* *Living Hope, Rogers, MN*
- Jackie Bingham, *Abiding Savior Free Lutheran, Sioux Falls, SD*

### DEVOTIONAL LIFE SECRETARY

- Cody Halverson, *Prince of Peace Free Lutheran, Beulah, ND*
- Isak Olson, *Hope AFLC, Enderlin, ND*

**FLOOR NOMINATIONS:** To nominate a person for a committee position not listed on the ballot, you can find and fill out a Nomination Ballot found at the FLY Office. When nominating someone, you must (1) verify that person is willing to be nominated and (2) is a member in good standing of an AFLC congregation. The Nomination Ballot also requires your signature and a second signature to complete the nomination. Only nominations that fulfill the FLY Constitutional requirements on the ballot will be included on Thursday's ballot for election. Completed Nomination Ballots are due in the FLY Office NO LATER than 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

# 2023 FLY COMMITTEE



**Pr. Gideon Johnson**  
President



**Sharon Rykhus**  
1st Vice President



**Caleb Holt**  
2nd Vice President



**Ruth Gunderson**  
Secretary



**Bryce Timmerman**  
Devotional Life  
Secretary



**Emily Goff**  
Treasurer



**Daniel Keinanen**  
FLY Coordinator



**Adam McCarlson**  
AFLC Youth Board  
Representative



**Chris Rasmussen**  
AFLC Youth Ministry  
Coordinator

# STAFF

## Coordinators

LONGHOUSE  
Andrew Abel

HOUSING  
Steph Inskeep

SPEAKER  
Susan Parsley

SOCIAL NETWORKING  
Ashley Blake

AFTERNOON  
Katie Johnson

CRISIS RESPONSE  
Peter Pillman

SPIRITUAL CARE  
Brett Boe

OFFICE  
Liz McCarlson

LATE HOUR  
Dave Ryerson

VISUALS  
Luke Edlund

MUSIC  
Seth Moan

FLY STORE  
Rick & Penny Sullivan

## Managers

WOMEN'S DRL  
Diana Alverson

ARTICULATE  
Emily Kregel

ADULT HOUSING  
Michelle Olson

FLY SQUAD  
Phil & Kathy Bernards

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Libby King

RECREATION  
Britton Unverzagt

ASSEMBLY HALL  
Eric Christenson

PODCAST INTERVIEW  
Andrew Kneeland

OPERATOR  
Levi Smith

ELECTIVES  
Nathan Crellin

DAY INCIDENT  
Matthew Pillman

FIRST AID  
Amy Swanson

SOCIAL NETWORKING  
Hallie Dutton

HOSPITALITY  
Kelani O'Neil

EVENING INCIDENT  
Kirk Thorson

ON-SCREEN  
Tasha Foss

ALTAR CALL  
Randy Nelson

CONCERNS  
Jason Holt

ELECTIVES  
Nathan Monseth

NETWORK  
Thom Jones

VIDEO  
Dawson Propst

INTERVENTION  
RESOURCE  
Joel Lambrides

PRODUCTION  
Luke Quanbeck



# BIOS

## BIBLE STUDY LEADER



**Pastor Eric Rasmussen** lives in Fergus Falls, MN with his wife and four children. He is a Pastor at Calvary Free Lutheran Church in Fergus Falls, MN. He enjoys fishing, target shooting, coaching, and spending time at a lake or state park. Eric loves FLY and teaching and he is excited to be the Bible Study Leader for FLY 2023.

## MONDAY EVENING SPEAKER



**Ryan Patenaude** is the pastor of West Prairie Free Lutheran in Kindred, ND. He is a father to five kids, a husband to one wife, and care-taker to 13 chickens. He keeps bees, roasts coffee, and likes to build things. He's excited to speak at FLY because God meets man's greatest needs through his Word, and it is a joy to bring the two together.

## TUESDAY EVENING SPEAKER



**Pastor Alex Amiot** lives with his wife and kids in sunny Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Pastor Alex likes soccer, chess, basketball, and woodworking. He's blessed to serve two congregations: Our Saviour's Lutheran Church and Reiner Lutheran Free Church. He is excited for FLY because Jesus has restored his hope. He praises God who has drawn him near, not by anything in him, but by the blood of Christ.

## WEDNESDAY EVENING SPEAKER



**Pastor Micah Hjermsstad** serves as president of the AFLC, headquartered in Plymouth, MN. In his free time, he loves to travel with his wife, play golf, and teach his son sweet tricks. He loves telling people about Jesus, and can't wait to share about how Christ restores and sustains us each and every day. He's looking forward to sharing some verses with you that changed his life as a 16 year old. It's going to be a great week in Colorado!

#### THURSDAY EVENING SPEAKER



**Pastor Adam Osier** lives in Maple Grove, MN with his favorite (and only) wife and three children. Since 2019, he has served as the dean of the Free Lutheran Bible College in Plymouth, MN. He is passionate about the freedom found in the gospel of Jesus Christ, and loves to talk with people about it. He also enjoys hiking, biking, drinking good coffee, binge listening to audiobooks, and eating donuts, though not all at the same time. He also has two different colored eyes, has slept through both an earthquake and a tornado, and once was greeted by name by the children of a high-ranking government official. But mostly he's glad to know that he is loved by Jesus through whom he has forgiveness and life that can't end. He's excited about the opportunity to speak about that truth at FLY.

#### FRIDAY EVENING SPEAKER



**Pastor Phil Hooper** lives in Duluth, Minnesota. He does Church Maintenance and is a Metaphysicist. He enjoys video production/editing, fencing, odd music, and daydreaming what his hobbies will be when he is out of school. The FLY convention is always a mixture of fun and inspiration—but especially inspiration. We get to go to the mountains to hear about and focus on God, who is mighty like the mountains (El-Shaddai. Look it up), and yet this same God loves us more than we will ever understand; He has a beauty and artistry about Him that goes waaaaay beyond the greatest mountain vistas or sunsets. It's exciting to be together with so many people who are serious about their faith, and to worship Him with them. It's an exciting privilege to help point out just one thin slice of who He is, who brings restoration to us and who will one day make all things new.

# WORKSHOP SPEAKERS AND TOPICS



**Dr. Christopher Yuan:**

## **A Christian Response to Homosexuality**

Dr. Christopher Yuan graduated from Moody Bible Institute in 2005 and received a master's in biblical exegesis in 2007 and a doctorate of ministry in 2014. Christopher taught the Bible at Moody Bible Institute for twelve years and his speaking ministry on faith and sexuality has reached five continents. He speaks at conferences, on college campuses, and in churches. Dr. Yuan has co-authored with his mother their memoir, *Out of a Far Country: A Gay Son's Journey to God*, *A Broken Mother's Search for Hope*, which has sold over 100,000 copies and is now in eight languages. Dr. Yuan's newest book, *Holy Sexuality and the Gospel: Sex, Desire, and Relationships Shaped by God's Grand Story*, was named 2020 Book of the Year for Social Issues by Outreach Magazine.



**Dr. Walt Mueller:**

## **Identity and Social Media**

Dr. Walt Mueller is the founder and President of the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding and has been working with young people and families for over 35 years. As a result of his work with CPYU, Walt has become an internationally-recognized speaker and author on contemporary youth culture. He has written extensively on youth culture and family issues and is the author of 7 books. Walt earned his doctorate at Gordon-Conwell in "Ministry to Postmodern Generations." Walt has served in ministry with the Coalition for Christian Outreach and as a youth pastor in churches in Johnstown, PA and Philadelphia.



# EVENING ENTERTAINMENT



## Ben Glenn

Ben ("The Chalk Guy") struggled with Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) throughout his formative years, ultimately finding it impossible to stay interested in school and leaving following his junior year in college. Although his ADD caused him to struggle academically, it proved to be a perfect companion in his career as a performer, creator, and educator. Rather than let it hold him back, he chose to be inspired by his condition. He uses it as a tool for writing, speaking, painting and performing his live art presentation.



## The Bryan Drake Show

The Bryan Drake Show gives Bryan and Karla Drake a bizarre and unique platform to live out their calling. Bryan's quick wit and dry sense of humor combined with Karla's attention to detail quickly puts the audience at ease while totally blowing their minds! A combination of crowd interactive illusions and mentalism causes the audience to quickly realize that what they see and are led to believe is not always reality. The message is clear that the entire experience is an illusion, fake, and not real. Yet, Bryan and Karla create an atmosphere of tension and anticipation that attracts the audience, holds their attention and prepares them to see God's plan from a new perspective.



## Ben Fuller

Ben turned to cocaine and alcohol at a young age. In 2017, he abruptly lost his best friend to a heroin overdose and his entire outlook on life shifted. Motivated to change, he moved to Nashville to pursue a career as a country singer in late 2018. A family Ben was close with invited him to church one Sunday and as he walked the halls into the auditorium filled with 3,000 people, he knew one day he would sing "that kind of music" for the rest of his life. Falling face first into his new-found relationship with Jesus, he began writing with a burning desire to share what God did to turn his life around. Today, Ben lives completely sober, while sharing his story filled with hope, mercy and grace.

# AFLC Youth Min

Available in App Stores



DOWNLOAD TODAY

<http://get.theapp.co/nxxr>

SUBSPASH®



# Free Lutheran BIBLE COLLEGE

3134 E Medicine Lake Blvd, Plymouth, MN 55441  
763-544-9501 | FLBC.edu

Discover where  
you belong in  
God's World!



## Free Lutheran Bible College

offers a two-year, college-level Bible and ministry program centered around studying **Scripture**, building authentic Christian **Community**, and fostering your God-given gifts within the **Body of Christ**.

Plan a visit to our campus and experience it for yourself!

**Visit [FLBC.edu/visit](https://FLBC.edu/visit) for more info.**





# FREE A CHILD *FROM* POVERTY IN JESUS' NAME

YOUR GIFT PROVIDES:



EDUCATION



PROTECTION



LOVE



DISCIPLESHIP



NUTRITION



PLAY



EMOTIONAL  
SUPPORT



HEALTHCARE

Visit the Compassion booth  
to sponsor a child today.

  
Releasing children from poverty  
**Compassion**  
in Jesus' name



*facilitating two kinds of opportunities for you to travel to the mission field*

WHERE IS YOUR  
**JOURNEY  
TAKING  
YOU?**

**WE OFFER**

**Follow**

*For a chance to win a prize*



*Short Term Trips*

Individuals and congregations train for and experience one-to-three week ministry trips



*Missionary Assistant*

Living cross-culturally and partnering with a missionary for a temporary period of time



# Win. Build. Equip. Multiply.

AFLC Youth Ministries exists to encourage local congregations to WIN teens to Christ, to BUILD teen believers in God's truth and love, to EQUIP teen workers to live and share their faith, and to MULTIPLY maturing disciples in Jesus Christ.

[aflc.org/youth](https://aflc.org/youth)



ROMANS 12:1-2

# BE TRANSFORMED

FLY BEYOND 2024

## NATIONAL YOUTH EQUIPPING CONFERENCE

**JULY 14-18, 2024**

Association Retreat Center in Western Wisconsin

Registration Opens In January  
Visit [aflc.org/youth](https://aflc.org/youth)



AFLC  
WORLD MISSIONS

# MAKING DISCIPLES WORLDWIDE

FOLLOW FOR A  
CHANCE TO  
WIN A PRIZE



# YOUTH WORKER WEEKEND

*An annual retreat for those  
that serve teens.*



*January 12-14, 2024*



*Association Retreat Center  
in Osceola WI*



[aflc.org/youth](https://aflc.org/youth)





# THE CHURCH NEEDS *YOU* ←

Did you know that only **28%** of Gen Z attend church at least once a month?

Gen Z is the least Christian generation in American history as only about **4%** holds a biblical worldview.

**You are the church of TODAY.  
You are the church of the FUTURE.**

You are the best missionaries amongst your peers.

Scripture specifically tells us that we each have a unique role, each role is vital to the growth of the Kingdom.

**Empowered through the Gospel, let's join together in God's mission.**

Come to Pastor Andy's Elective! » Page 14, Elective #5

**AFLCHomeMissions.org**

Email us at  
**homemis@aflc.org**



**HOME MISSIONS**  
A Ministry of the AFLC



## Concordia University Irvine's **AROUND-THE-WORLD SEMESTER**

Travel around the globe with fellow students and professors for a whole semester, all while studying world history and literature and experiencing the Gospel through missional service. Explore God's beautiful creation on epic excursions and living in off-the-beaten-path destinations. Did we mention you'll earn a minor in Global Cultural Studies in the process? That's Concordia's Around-the-World Semester.®

# THE ASSOCIATION OF Free Lutheran Congregations

"...Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is *freedom*."

II CORINTHIANS 3:17

[AFLC.ORG](http://AFLC.ORG)



[763.545.5631](tel:763.545.5631)

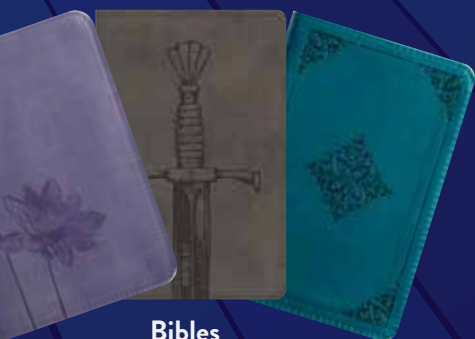
Lutherans For Life

## YOU are made 4 LIFE!



Y4Life equips high school and college-aged students to spread the Gospel-motivated message that YOU are made 4 LIFE.





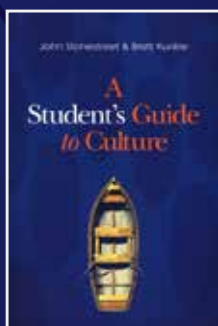
Bibles



## RESOURCES TO HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT GOD AND GROW IN YOUR FAITH



Devotional Books



Books About  
Culture And Faith



Bible Studies



Prayer Books  
and Journals



Pendants and Bracelets

Free pens and  
flashlights!



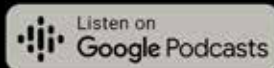
Shop our booth in Assembly Hall or online at:  
**[ambassadorpublications.org/store](https://ambassadorpublications.org/store)**  
parished@aflc.org | 763-412-2010



# FLY CONVENTION podcast

A tool for the local congregation:  
Speaker Interviews  
FLY Updates  
Behind the Scenes

Join us for a **LIVE Recording** on  
Wednesday afternoon at 1:00PM  
Assembly Hall South Lobby



# CPYU PARENT PAGE



CENTER FOR PARENT/YOUTH UNDERSTANDING

WWW.CPYUPARENTPAGE.COM

The CPYU Parent Page is a **monthly newsletter** designed by the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding to **help keep parents informed** about the latest happenings and trends in the world of youth culture. Hundreds of churches and youth groups, Christian schools, and other youth organizations subscribe to this **easy-to-use resource** and are encouraged to distribute it to the parents of their teens.



# P.A.C.C.T.

Pastor And Congregational Care Team

*While you serve Christ, our team is standing with you.*

**Ministry can be difficult, but you are not alone**

PACCT exists to nurture healthy congregations; youth, youth leaders, pastors and wives; coming alongside to provide a listening ear, a caring heart, and a supporting hand as you serve Christ together.



Jerry & Kristi Nelson  
608-780-6685



Roger & Lindsay Benson  
612-269-1036



Marlin & Joyce Harris  
612-559-2886

See our website for  
more details:

[aflc.org/pacct](http://aflc.org/pacct)







Take time this week to write a message of encouragement to our outgoing National Youth Director Jason Holt. Let's thank Jason for his years of service and love to teens. You can find the banner in the Longhouse.



## THE HOLY SEXUALITY PROJECT

When it comes to sexuality and gender,  
who's influencing your teenager?

Peers? Public school? Social media?

God has ordained you as the parent to  
be the primary influencer for your teens  
to disciple them on biblical sexuality.  
But how?

Dr. Christopher Yuan has produced The  
Holy Sexuality Project, a video series for  
parents and their teens.

For more information, go to  
**[holysexuality.com](http://holysexuality.com)**



# Notes

# Notes



