

# the hearth

URBANA  
THEOLOGICAL  
SEMINARY

Volume: 29 Issue: 2 Fall 2024



## *From the President's Pen*

Sitting in a coffee shop on Thanksgiving weekend, I pondered all that I'm especially thankful for at the end of 2024 . . .

**I thank our Lord for each of our students!** They are why God has called us to serve in this way—we delight to watch each of them grow deeper in Jesus, be challenged to learn to think as followers of Christ, and gain tools to understand and hear God more faithfully through His Word.

**Praise God for each of our Faculty, Staff, and Board!** They are wonderful to work alongside in ministering. 2024 has been an especially fruitful and creative year. Much of what has happened will most clearly be felt in future years, but I'm gratified to watch the process unfolding: new ways of engaging the Christian community in the world around us, new publications, a new Master's degree in process for approval with the IL Board of Higher Education, new thoughts about how to chart our course into the future to train God's people with impact and so much more!

**I'm so grateful for each of you who are in our broader Seminary community.** You are yet another gift from the Lord to us. We could

not do what God has called us to do without you! Thank you each for your donations, prayers, interest, and support.

Keep (or start!) praying for this ministry as we pour into the lives of God's people. There's a prayer guide in this Hearth — and I also encourage you to sign up to be in a circle of those who receive prayer requests more often (see pg 7).

Since it will be December by the time you read this, I want to take a moment to talk about the year ahead. We, like so many ministries, rely on God's provision through year-end gifts, along with regular financial contributions. I've already made a year-end gift to the Seminary, and I invite you to join me in supporting this ministry of equipping God's people and strengthening the church, which I believe is vital in advancing God's Kingdom.

As we say goodbye to 2024, I pray that you will consider how God has blessed you in this past year, and how you can give as we push forward into 2025.

Many thanks!

Ken Cuffey  
President

## Our Hermeneutical Huddle Supports Pastors



1 Thessalonians 5:11 advises, "*Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.*"

Urbana Seminary's Hermeneutical

Huddle is a small group of pastors who meet every other Wednesday morning with the primary focus being the preparation and delivery of sermons. We listen to and read each other's sermons, sometimes before they are delivered, and sometimes after, and provide feedback and analyze the relevant passages together. However, within that context we also discuss theology, ecclesiology, share pastoral concerns together, and of course tell quite a number of bad jokes, as assembled pastors are wont to do.

We also have excellent pastries and coffee. Some suspect this is the driving force behind the continued success of the Hermeneutical Huddle. Here is what a few attendees have to say.

"This group has continually been a place of encouragement for me. It's helped me think more deeply about my ministry and faith, and equipped me to answer questions I never would have thought to ask. It's been greatly encouraging to be a part of a group of men who think deeply about what it means to serve God and his people." Matt Kinzer, pastor, Champaign Church of Christ

"I've been part of multiple 'pastors groups'- this is the first time I've been challenged to grow deeper in my faith and my understanding of Scripture, while also discovering true friends in the process." Evan Stone, Campus Minister, CU Church

"Being a part of this group of pastors has been a God given blessing. It is very apparent that the Holy Spirit is actively involved as we study and share life together both on a pastoral and personal level. I am truly grateful for this encouraging, challenging,

*Huddle continued on pg 6...*

# Reformation Tour 2024

By Joe Thomas

Fifteen of us set off on our Reformation Tour on May 31. We began the tour in Prague and finished in Geneva, Switzerland. It was a good mix of Christian history and enjoying the distinct cultures of central Europe.

Beginning with Jan Hus in Prague revealed that many in the church, even before Martin Luther, had a desire to challenge the corruption and immorality in the church. We visited Bethlehem Chapel, where Hus preached from 1402-1413, and experienced the writings on the wall taken from Jan Hus' sermons and the Bible. Even though it is a reproduction from the middle of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it was not difficult to imagine Hus preaching in Czech from a Czech language Bible. The powerful words of Scripture caused the university students of the day to write songs about it, singing that "if you want to know the truth go to Bethlehem Chapel and read the words on the wall." The plainness of the Chapel stood in stark contrast to the grandeur of the Prague Cathedral.

Later in the trip we stopped at Constance a beautiful city situated on a lake with the same name. Here the Council of Constance was held in 1414 to elect a pope after suffering under three popes at once. Hus was invited with safe travel and in an act of bad faith the Council had him put to death. The monk Martin Luther read Hus' writings about one hundred years later and marveled that the church had put to death such a noble Christian. We also were able to have dinner at an authentic Czech restaurant where we ate Czech goulash and experienced traditional dancing and singing.

Crossing the border into Germany we took our time tracing the footsteps of the Protestant Reformer Martin Luther. At Wittenberg we witnessed the place where he nailed the 95 Theses to the door of the church on October 31, 1517, which is the traditional starting date for the reformation. We also saw his home and learned about his indomitable wife Katharina von Bora, who had been a nun before she embraced the Reformation message of "Justification by Faith Alone." They put up students at their home, which was the former monastery in Wittenburg. We also visited the spot where he burned the papal bull from the Pope declaring him a heretic. Just outside the city we walked through the lush gardens the townspeople keep.

We also visited the monastery in Erfurt in which Martin Luther suffered spiritually, not understanding how God could forgive such a great sinner as he. Erfurt is also known for a famous



Our tour group in front of the Huldrych Zwingli statue, Zurich

medieval shopping area that is built on a bridge over a river where we enjoyed looking for bargains.

We completed Luther's part of the Reformation with a visit to Eisenach and Worms. It is at the Wartburg Castle overlooking Eisenach that Luther hid under the name Junker George. As a heretic, and then declared an outlaw by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V at the Diet of Worms, Luther was a wanted man with no protection. But Duke Frederick protected him in his hunting castle. It was during his stay at the castle that he translated the New Testament into German. Eisenach is also known as the place where Bach developed as a musician. In the Bach Museum we were able to enjoy some of his musical compositions on instruments from his time.

We finished the tour in beautiful Switzerland. The bus ride through the Black Forest of Germany and throughout Switzerland offered its own type of enjoyment. At Zurich we visited the church where Ulrich Zwingli ignited the Reformation. With excellent political skills, Zwingli led the City Council to adopt legislation that required sermons to be preached from the Bible, in contrast to preaching on the lives of the saints. After a debate between Zwingli and a local Catholic priest, the City Council declared itself a Reformation city. Unfortunately, not all the reforming was welcomed by the City Council. Soon the emergence of the Anabaptist movement called into question the marriage between church and state, and caused the first martyrs among the Anabaptists to take place in the Limmat River.

Our Reformation tour ended in Geneva on June 10th. Here we were able to see the cathedral where John Calvin preached and the Auditoire where he taught. Since it was a Sunday, we were able to take in a church service in Calvin's Auditoire under the Scottish Presbyterian Church, which owns the Auditoire. It was a very appropriate sermon on the role of faith in our salvation. Afterwards, we visited the Swiss National Museum to see their display on Zwingli and go shopping for chocolate.

"As modern Americans living in a majority Protestant community it's hard for us to grasp how revolutionary the Reformation was to Catholic Europe... Luther and others were not just crossing the street to go to a different church, they were seen as tearing down the fabric of European society and they put their lives at stake doing it. This tour made that much more real to me."

Steve Wegman, trip participant



Martin Luther's monastic cell, Erfurt



Standing in Luther's shoes, Worms

Interested in learning more about the Reformation and church history? Sign up for Dr. Thomas's *History of World Christianity II* course this Spring! Taught Tuesdays, 6-9 pm, online.

## Training through Travel



Did you know that there are so many Bible-related sites in Turkey that the country is often referred to as the 'second Holy Land'? Urbana Seminary's *Training through Travel* is delighted to announce that this May 4-16, 2025, you can join us for a new trip to see Biblical sites in Turkey—including some we have not been to before! Like all of our trips to the lands of the Bible, this trip is designed to deepen your ability to read the Bible better to hear from God—in many ways it is a life-changing discipleship trip, giving you tools for envisioning the world of the Bible and understanding what God is doing.

Biblical Turkey 2024 will give you a panoramic view of the growth of the early church in the period of AD 50-100!

- Travel to Antioch to see the city and its harbor—the site where the Gentiles were first part of the intentional ministry of the early preachers and evangelists, where Peter came and preached, where Barnabas and Paul were commissioned for their 1st Missionary Journey.
- Visit Tarsus to ponder Paul's origins. As we travel West we will follow in the footsteps of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Missionary Journeys of Paul.
- In Ephesus we will consider the amazingly preserved remains of the city where both Paul and John had extended ministry. Imagine sitting in the huge theater of Ephesus to consider all that God did there through his apostles, as well as reconstruct in our minds the raucous riot that took place right where we will be sitting (Acts 19)! Did you know that early church tradition says that John brought Jesus' mother Mary here after Jerusalem was destroyed in AD 70?
- Turn North and visit the 7 Churches of Revelation. This lets us go deeper into what these sites and their history can teach us about what the Book of Revelation is all about. Why did John write a book like this? You'll also get the chance to enjoy Istanbul and the history of the early church, as well as some unexpected Old Testament connections! So much to see and so much for each of us to grow in Christ!

And in Spring 2024, Dr Ken Cuffey (who hosts and teaches this tour) will also offer a course on *The Book of Acts*. This will be a wonderful introduction to the sites and history we will see unfold on this trip. You can enroll for credit (dig in and earn credit, works as part of any degree we offer) or audit (just come to class and soak it all up)—either way will be the perfect entrée to what you will see with us in Biblical Turkey 2024.

*Turkey continued on pg 5...*



September 16-27, 2025

This coming fall we are going to be visiting the locations where C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien, and other Inklings shared their lives and work! Led by Dr. Melody Green, this adventure will help you better understand these writers whose work not only shaped contemporary genres, but who have helped many people on their spiritual journeys.



On this tour we will visit four cities in England:

- Birmingham, where Tolkien spent his childhood, attending church at the Birmingham Oratory and playing near Sarehole Mill and Moseley Bog.
- Oxford, where Tolkien and Lewis both attended as students and later taught. We will visit Lewis's home The Kilns, as well as the church he attended. We will tour the colleges both Tolkien and Lewis taught at, and walk along Addison's walk, where Lewis's life was changed by talking with Tolkien about whether or not the story of Jesus was just a myth. We will attend evensong, and visit other Inklings-related sites, including the University Church of Mary Magdalene, where C. S. Lewis preached "The Weight of Glory"
- Cambridge, where Lewis finished his academic career. We will visit the historic Crusader Round Church which was designed after the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. From there we will go on a C. S. Lewis-focused tour of Cambridge.
- London, where we will have the opportunity to view Chesterton's papers, and will visit Westminster Abbey to see C. S. Lewis's memorial stone in poet's corner.



Downpayment of \$255 is due by June 1.

For more information contact Dr. Green at [mgreen@urbanatheologicalseminary.org](mailto:mgreen@urbanatheologicalseminary.org)

# Snapshots from 2024



Dr. Ken Cuffey shares the Seminary's 20 year history as part of the "History Talks" series hosted by the Champaign County Historical Museum.



We kicked off the new school year with lots of great food and friends at the Seminary's Back to School Picnic.



Once again Dr. Green's class traveled to the Marion E. Wade Center at Wheaton College to see C. S. Lewis' wardrobe and other treasures related to the Inklings.



Spiritual Life Forum with Dr. Mel Lawrenz, titled "Seeking Wholeness in a Broken World."



Urbana Seminary ran information tables this year at several places. This picture is from the Graduate and Professional School Fair at Bradley University.



Ancient Israel in Chicago, our annual pilgrimage to the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures at the University of Chicago made the Bible come alive.



Our Urbana Seminary tent played host to many speakers and activities throughout the AudioFeed Festival at the Champaign County Fairgrounds.

## It's Not Too Late!

Our *Taste of Seminary: Christian Perspectives on Faith, Culture, and Contemporary Issues* lecture series took place Tuesday evenings October 21-November 12. If you were unable to attend, or would like to share the lectures with a friend, you will find the recordings on our YouTube channel!

**"Chesterton at 150: Why Read His Works Today?"—Dr. Melody Green**

**"Pascal for a Post-Secular Age"—Dr. Emily Wenneborg**

**"Insomniac America: A Theological Perspective on Sleep"—Dr. Todd Daly**



**Paradise Lost: A Contemporary Litmus Test for Our Moral Condition—Dr. Pearce Durst**

Check out these videos and more on our YouTube channel!



Want to find a Seminary lecture you missed? Subscribe to Urbana Seminary's YouTube channel by visiting [youtube.com/@urbanaseminary7804](https://www.youtube.com/@urbanaseminary7804)

Our channel is a space for sharing talks from past events. Whether you missed the talks from this year's Taste of Seminary, our Spiritual Life Forum, All Campus Worship, or any other speaking events hosted by Urbana Seminary, we encourage you to visit our YouTube channel and subscribe.

When you subscribe and get notifications, you will be alerted when we post new content from our Seminary events. Check it out today!

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<https://www.redbubble.com/people/UrbanaSeminary/shop?asc=u>



## 2025 Spring Courses

### BIBLICAL STUDIES

***New Testament Survey***—Dr. Kenneth Cuffey

***The Spirit and the People of God: The Book of Acts***—Dr. Kenneth Cuffey

### CHRISTIAN HISTORY & THOUGHT

***History of World Christianity II: Reformation to the Present***—Dr. Joseph Thomas

***Jesus at the Movies***—Dr. Pearce Durst

***Madeleine L'Engle: An Introduction***—Dr. Melody Green

***John Bunyan and Pilgrim's Progress***—Dr. Melody Green

***Theology II***—Dr. Todd Daly

**Theology and Contemporary Issues**—Dr. Todd Daly

### PRACTICAL MINISTRY

***Biblical Preaching: Theory and Practice*** —Dr. Randy Boltinghouse

Register here!

For more information or to register, please visit us at [urbanatheologicalseminary.org](http://urbanatheologicalseminary.org) or use the QR code to the right.



"I have been a pastor and missionary for over 40 years, and as such, have attended many fine lectures and training sessions. However, one of the best ever has been the class on Acts taught by Dr. Ken Cuffey of UTS. In a story-like manner, Dr. Cuffey leads us every week in walking with the growth and development, the challenges and struggles of the apostles and the young Church they birthed and nurtured. Whether or not they are a vocational minister, every follower of Christ would greatly benefit in learning and living in this experience offered by UTS."

Rob Gill, auditing student

*Turkey continued from pg 3.*

Come with us—to Antioch, Seleucia Pieria, Tarsus, Antalya (Attalia & Perga), Pisidian Antioch, Konya (Iconium), Laodicea/Hierapolis/Colossae, Miletus, Ephesus, Smyrna, Sardis, Pergamum, Troas, Istanbul, and so much more!

For further information or to register, contact Dee Hoiem, Trip Coordinator, at [travel@urbanatheologicalseminary.org](mailto:travel@urbanatheologicalseminary.org).

**There is still time to sign up! Reserve your space with an initial deposit of \$200 due by December 15th (we can flex with you if you need longer.) Deposits in by December 15th will help to allow Tutku Travel to keep the airline rates secure. Full cost of trip including roundtrip airfare from Chicago is \$4,590 per person, double occupancy. Balance is due February 3, 2025.**

Pray for this trip! May God equip us to hear Him speak through Scripture better! May God bring together each and every person he wants on this adventure! May the Holy Spirit inspire our hearts in following Jesus today as we trace His work in the growth of the early church in those early years!

Scan here for a full Trip Brochure PDF ▶



# AudioFeed 2024

Urbana Seminary is excited to have expanded our participation at the AudioFeed Music Festival in Urbana. This summer, in addition to our talks at our Seminary Tent, we provided speakers for the main stage line-up including leading a Sunday morning worship service (thank you Mark Hootman) with sermon by Dr. Cuffey. Other activities included a Readers' Theater, book sale, arts and crafts, gaming, Story-time with Dr. Emily and the ever popular, constantly evolving, painting "wall." We also provided a place of respite for those desiring a break from the bustle of the festival. Join us next July! [Audiofeedfestival.com](http://Audiofeedfestival.com)



Doug Peterson, author and UTS board member, illuminates his writing process.



Pearce Durst speaking on Superheroes at the main stage.



Story-time



Scored!!!!



Family painting on the "wall"



Some quiet reading outside the Seminary tent.



## Building the Future: Year-End Giving Options

Tom Krawczyk Director of Engagement

### "20 for 20" – Continuing the celebration!

All the past year, we've been celebrating God's goodness and provision for us over the 20 years He has been guiding and steering Urbana Theological Seminary. Our mission has always been to prepare people for Christian ministry and leadership, equipping them to love, know, and serve God and doing so in a way that keeps Urbana Seminary affordable and available to students, pastors, lay ministers, campus ministries, alumni, and our communities. If you feel the Seminary has been a benefit to you in any way, and you've never donated before, or give occasionally, would you please consider donating "20 For 20." It's so important, because regular recurring giving allows the Seminary to walk confidently into the

future, knowing its financial foundation is solid. Thank you for supporting the mission of UTS!

"20 For 20" is simply pledging to donate \$20 per month for the next 20 months. Go to "Donate" enter amount and on the next page fill out your information, select "give this amount regularly" "monthly" for "20 months."

Any gift before December 31 would also help us finish strong and start the new year with a solid foundation. Would you please consider giving? And if you already give, would you please pray and see if God wants you to "up your game" as well?

As we head toward the end of 2024, all of us here at Urbana Seminary are so grateful for our donors. Please know that you are making an impact!

Giving options at UTS: [urbanatheologicalseminary.org/giving](http://urbanatheologicalseminary.org/giving)

*Huddle continued from pg 1.*

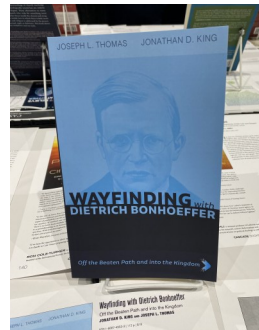
and spiritually uplifting group of pastors and friends." Doug Krukewitt, Pastor, Sidney Christian Church

"The Huddle has been for me a place of camaraderie, fellowship, and sharpening in ministry. Getting together with fellow pastors who have different backgrounds and yet a singular goal to serve Jesus has brought me not only encouragement, but joy." Luke Herche, Pastor, All Souls Presbyterian Church

"The Hermeneutical Huddle starts at 9:00 and is supposed to be done at 11:00. However, usually at 12 there are still pastors talking and hanging out and I don't know how to get rid of them. Sometimes it can get awkward. I am praying about this." Seth Kerlin, Pastor, Cornerstone Fellowship and host of the Huddle.

Like to learn more? Contact Seth at [skerlin@urbanatheologicalseminary.org](mailto:skerlin@urbanatheologicalseminary.org)

## Faculty Publications on View



While I (Ken) was walking through the publishers' displays at the annual Meetings of the Society of Biblical Literature the weekend before Thanksgiving, I was reminded of how blessed we are at Urbana Seminary to have such talented Faculty who are able to utilize their gifts to strengthen the body of Christ. There on display at the Wipf & Stock Publishers table was the just-released *Wayfinding with Dietrich Bonhoeffer*, co-written by our very own Church Historian Joe Thomas and one of our Alumni, Jonathan King (MAR, 2022). This book joins earlier Wipf & Stock publications from our Faculty, such as Todd Daly's *Chasing Methuselah*. We rejoice with Joe and Jonathan and pray this new resource will be a blessing to the body of Christ.

## An Update from Pascal Study Center: Being Christian in College

Pascal Study Center was excited to begin the Fall 2024 semester with a table at Quad Day, the University of Illinois's activity fair for student organizations. We were able to meet new and returning students, tell them more about PSC, and invite them to consider that God cares about their university studies. We are grateful to PSC's new student leadership team, composed of three UIUC undergrads and two grad students, for making possible our first-ever Quad Day.



As the semester progressed, we continued to consider how Christians should think about college. On October 4–5, guest speaker Dr. Chris Gehrz (Bethel University, MN) gave a workshop on “College for Christians.” Dr. Gehrz helped local parents and high schoolers think about three key questions: why go to college, which college to attend, and how to make the most of the college experience.



Dr. Gehrz's visit concluded with a public lecture titled “Christian Higher Education in a Post-Christian America.” In this lecture, Dr. Gehrz laid out a compelling vision for Christians in the future of higher education, highlighting especially the role of Christian study centers like PSC.

Want to catch up on Dr. Gehrz's lecture? You can find it on Pascal Study Center's YouTube channel! <https://www.youtube.com/@PascalStudyCenter>

Want to make sure you don't miss future PSC events? Go to <https://pascalstudycenter.org/get-involved/#mailing-list> to sign up for our email list.

Please continue to pray for Pascal Study Center to be a faithful Christian presence at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign!

## Pray for Urbana Seminary

Would you pray for us? Pray now, or better yet, put this list where you'll see it (tape it to a mirror, on your fridge, in your Bible, etc.) and be reminded to intercede regularly for this ministry.

### Praise:

- For God's gift of students this semester.
- For those who faithfully continue to pray for and financially give to Urbana Seminary.
- For a refreshing and successful Faculty/Staff /Board Retreat.

### Pray:

- For the new students that God will have join our classes this Spring and Summer—that we could serve the church well through equipping ever more followers of Christ.
- For our current students and their growth, for classes, the instructors, for God's Holy Spirit to work within each person and in all their interactions.
- For broadening our base of support in prayer and financial giving.
- For the Holy Spirit to guide us as we seek to Glorify God in the future.

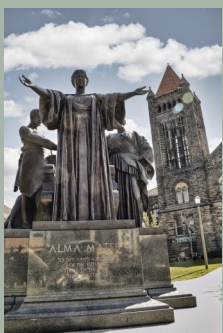
### How can YOU help the Seminary fulfill its mission?

Here's some tangible ways you can share in our mission to equip God's people to love, know, and serve God better:

- **Make a commitment to pray regularly for the Seminary.** We cherish those who commit to lifting the Seminary up in prayer on a regular basis. Would you join the **Seminary Prayer Team**? Pray with the guide in this Hearth, but also send your name and email to Elaine Chaille at ([echaille@urbanatheologicalseminary.org](mailto:echaille@urbanatheologicalseminary.org)). As needs arise, we will periodically send you emails with prayer needs. (Don't worry, we won't flood your inbox!) Let us know and we will add you to the list. Thank you!
- **Make a commitment to give to the Seminary on a regular basis.** Join our circle of financial supporters and give on a monthly or quarterly basis.
- **Give the gift of knowledge by paying for a friend, relative, or church member to take a seminary class.**

We deeply appreciate all of you who support the Seminary. May God bless you this Christmas Season!

## UIUC Prayer Walk



In this unique, historically-inspired, and locally-rooted episode of the *Wayfinding* podcast, Dr. Joe Thomas guides listeners on a walking prayer tour of the historic University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus. As a Christian historian at Urbana Theological Seminary, founder of local ministry Life Together House, and long-standing member of the Evangelical Christian Union, Joe holds a deep love for this campus and believes in its spiritual significance, from its founding to the present. Join Joe as he navigates campus, pointing out spiritual points of interest and noteworthy language on campus that will direct you in a prayer walk for the university. Along the way, Joe will pause at 10 focal prayer locations, offering things to consider and pray for as you walk. A special thanks to Alan Hable, current UTS student, who helped to conceive and write this prayer walk.

You can find the prayer walk at [wayfinding.buzzsprout.com](http://wayfinding.buzzsprout.com) or any major podcast platform. Thanks for joining us on this wayfinding journey.

## Faculty and Staff Speaking Engagements

### Ken Cuffey

- June 2 Sermon, Covenant Fellowship Church, Urbana, IL  
 June 8 Tour leader—*Ancient Israel in Chicago* tour, Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures Museum, Chicago, IL  
 June 17-26 Attendee—Antioch Seminar, Antakya, Turkiye  
 July 7 Sermon, Worship Service, AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 Sept 7 *How to Read Revelation*, Saturday Seminar, River Valley Christian Fellowship, Bourbonnais, IL  
 Sept 22 Sermon, Temple Baptist Church, Champaign, IL  
 Sept 29 Sermon, University Baptist Church, Champaign, IL  
 Nov 18 *The Book of Daniel*, Staff Training, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Urbana, IL  
 Nov 22-25 Annual Meetings, Institute for Biblical Research society of Biblical Literature

### Todd Daly

- May 29 "What is Bioethics?" University of Illinois, Genomics Forum, Champaign, IL  
 June 2 "Lord of the Sabbath" (sermon), Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church, Champaign, IL  
 June 2 "What it Means to Be Human" (adult education talk), Emmanuel Memorial Episcopal Church, Champaign, IL  
 June 9 "Shaped for Significance: Learning to Abide in Christ" (John 15:1-8), Hessel Park Reformed Church, Champaign, IL  
 June 26 "Neuroscience and the Ethical Challenges of Brain Intervention," Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS), Deerfield, IL  
 June 26 "Transhumanism and Christian Theology," Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS), Deerfield, IL  
 June 29 "Searching for Sleep: A Theological Response to Sleep as a Biomedical Problem," Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity (TEDS), Deerfield, IL  
 July 6 "Forget the Apocalypse: AI Is Already Making Us Subhuman," Audiofeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 July 7 Panel Discussion on Artificial Intelligence, Audiofeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 Sept. 11 "Abiding in Christ" (John 15:1-8), Temple Baptist Church, Champaign, IL  
 Sept. 21 "Searching for Sleep: Insomnia, Sleep Science, and Sleep Hygiene as a Biomedical and Theological Problem," Paul Ramsey Institute, Center for Bioethics and Culture, San Francisco, CA  
 Nov. 5 "Insomniac America: A Theological Perspective on Sleep and Sleeplessness," Taste of Seminary, Champaign, IL

### Pearce Durst

- May 12 "Hope and the Priest-King to Come: Psalm 110," Cornerstone Fellowship, Urbana, IL  
 June 30 "Worshiping God in the Wilderness: Psalm 91" New Horizon, Champaign, IL  
 July 6 "Exploring Sin and Redemption in The Rhyme of the Ancient Mariner," AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL

- July 7 "Superhero Films and the Quest for a Savior" AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 Aug 4 "Jesus Transforms Shame into Joy like Water into Wine: John 2:1-12," Cornerstone Fellowship, Urbana, IL  
 Sept 22 "Jesus Treads The Path You Fear: Matthew 14:22-33," Cornerstone Fellowship, Urbana, IL  
 Nov 3 "Jesus Rejected at Nazareth: Luke 4:14-30," Cornerstone Fellowship, Urbana, IL  
 Nov 12 "Paradise Lost: A Contemporary Litmus Test for our Moral Condition," A Taste of Seminary, Champaign, IL

### Melody Green

- May 23 "Jesus and Jewelry," Women's event, Fish Creek Community Church, Fish Creek, WI  
 May 30 "'The Sound of a Far Off Song' At the Back of the North Wind as a Response to the Victorian Dying Child Story': George MacDonald Bicentenary Conference, Wheaton College, Wheaton IL. Session chair: "Poetry, Language and Levity"  
 June 23 Sermon, Mark 4:35-41, Hessel Park Christian Church, Champaign, IL  
 July 5 "Why does Story Matter?" Audiofeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 July 6 "George MacDonald at 200" Audiofeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 July 7 "G. K. Chesterton at 150" Audiofeed Festival, Urbana, IL  
 Aug 4 "Narnia and the Norse: The Presence of Medieval Icelandic Literature in C. S. Lewis's Writings" Mythcon 53, Minneapolis, MN  
 Oct 10 "The Spiritual Needs of Victorian Children as Presented in George MacDonald's *At the Back of the North Wind* and Hesba Stretton's *Jessica's First Prayer*" Growing Younger: Southeast Conference on Christianity and Literature, Covenant College, Lookout Mountain, GA. Session Chair: panel on George MacDonald's *Lilith*  
 Oct 22: "Chesterton at 150: Why Read his Work Today?" Taste of Seminary, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL  
 Nov 8 Session(s) Chair, George MacDonald Bicentary Conference, St. Andrews, Scotland  
 Nov 24: "What is Imaginative Apologetics?" Brookfield Christian Reformed Church, Brookfield, WI

### Emily Wenneborg

- Oct 29 "Pascal for a Post-Secular Age" Taste of Seminary, Champaign Public Library, Champaign, IL

## Faculty and Staff Publications

### Todd T. W. Daly

"'Relief of Man's Estate': The Theological Origins of the Modern Biomedical Project," *Religions* 16, no. 6 (June 2024). <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15060729>.

### Melody Green

"C. S. Lewis and Derrida: An Exploration" *LinguaCulture* 15.1 (2024).

### Joseph Thomas and Jonathan King (alumni)

"*Wayfinding with Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Off the Beaten Path and into the Kingdom*" Cascade Press 2024