Christ Academy is an event which is a highlight for the campus of Concordia Theological Seminary. Each year, during the last two weeks of June, some 40 to 50 high-school-aged men come to our campus for two weeks. Here they have the opportunity to grow in the faith given to them at their Baptism and to consider seriously whether the vocation of pastor is one they should pursue actively. The theme of the 15th annual Christ Academy is “Identity Crisis: The Church’s Response to Who We Are.” Students will hear lectures on topics relating to Baptism as the Christian’s identity.

Renowned among denominational youth organizations as a youth program par-excellence, Christ Academy is steeped in the rich traditions of daily catechesis, daily prayer and regular fellowship. Anchored by the four daily services in Kramer Chapel, services which set the tone and tenor of the event, giving it its content and ethos, students attend lectures taught by our own seminary professors. The young men who come to Christ Academy are here to learn the theology of their own church body and to grow in their understanding of the Office of the Holy Ministry. These are noble tasks. I have seen that it is a good complement to...
Baptism:
A Central Part of the Church’s Life and Mission

By Seminarian Chad L. Smith
To become a pastor in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a man must go through a formation process. This process happens primarily at a seminary. It is there that future pastors and deaconesses learn Scripture and the Confessions, the Church’s history, the rich liturgy of the Church and the edifying hymns of the Lutheran heritage.

For the past 14 years high school students have had the opportunity to experience seminary life. Young men from all over the world have been coming to Concordia Theological Seminary to attend Christ Academy – High School. Most high school students do not dream of going to “school” for two weeks out of their summer, but since its inception in 1999, hundreds of students have participated in Christ Academy.

During the two weeks, high school students will experience the life of a seminarian while learning and reflecting upon the Pastoral Office, to see if being a pastor is a vocation to which they should aspire. While at Christ Academy-High School, young men will have their day formed around worship services in Kramer Chapel and lectures with seminary professors from Concordia Theological Seminary. They will form friendships with other young men from all over the United States who love theology. In addition to studying, there is also plenty of time for fun. We go to a minor league baseball game, bowling, swimming and many other fun activities. There is never a dull moment. Many of the students who attend Christ Academy-High School eventually go on to study pre-seminary at a Concordia College or University and eventually come to the seminary to study for the pastoral ministry.

This year’s Christ Academy is entitled, “Identity Crisis: The Church’s Response to Who We Are.” It will focus on Baptism, which is the identity of every Christian. We live in a culture where individualism reigns supreme and people do not know who they are. The students will gain a greater understanding of what their baptism has given them: their identity. Through Baptism we are now identified as God’s children, crucified with Christ and risen in newness of life. The whole Christian life proceeds from our baptism. This is not a one-point-in-time event, but it is an event that continues and informs the daily life of each Christian so long as he lives. We are to put the Old Adam to death daily and be raised a new man in Christ to live before God in righteousness.

Through baptism, Christ defines us and reigns in our life. As St. Paul writes in Rom. 6:3-4, “Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by Baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.” Baptism gives a new identity, one that is found only in Christ. For it is Christ who is our rock and fortress in a world that is shattered and identity is lost.

In focusing on Baptism, we are also focusing on the Church’s mission. The last words of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew were given to the disciples. Before Jesus speaks these words, the disciples, upon seeing Him in His resurrected glory, fell and worshiped Him. Christ who once was dead now lived. They now listen to Jesus as He gives them the command to go into all nations. They have been entrusted with the important task to baptize all nations in the name of the Triune God.

This same command is given to the Church. We are to go into the world proclaiming Christ crucified. Christ went to the cross for all people to forgive all sins and overcome death. Death could not keep Him in its cold, dark chambers. The third day He overcame the sharpness of death and now lives and reigns to all eternity. So Christ institutes Baptism to give us this forgiveness of sins He won on the cross. As a result, the core of the Church’s mission is Baptism.

Jesus promises His disciples, “And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” This promise takes place in a physical way, that is, the Word of God in and with the waters of Baptism. We are certainly getting ready for an exciting topic this summer!

For more information about Christ Academy, please email us at Christ.Academy@ctsfw.edu or call us at 260-452-3141. Registration began January 1, 2013, and applications can be found on our website: www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy.

Chad L. Smith (Chad.Smith@ctsfw.edu) is a second-year seminarian at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind., and student director of Christ Academy—High School.
**Join us for Christ Academy:**

**Christ Academy** is a two-week residential program for high-school-aged men of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). It is a place where students come to study about Christ who is present in His Word and Sacraments, who died that our sins may be forgiven. While students experience the life of the seminary, Christ Academy offers these men the opportunity to explore the possibility of some day becoming a pastor.

"If you want to learn rich, Lutheran theology, sing timeless Lutheran hymns, fellowship with fellow Lutherans and play some serious Ultimate Frisbee, then Christ Academy is an opportunity you shouldn't miss." – Jesse Faile, Louisville, KY.

"It’s a great way to meet guys like yourself who share the same goals. CA gives the opportunity to bounce all sorts of ideas off of each other." – Jake Jansen, Anderson, SC.

"Christ Academy was a great way of enhancing my knowledge of the Scriptures, as well as providing me with strong apologetics material as I start a new chapter of my life." – Thaddeus Clark, Fowler, MI.

**Worship: The Center of the Experience**

Students are immersed in the daily prayer life of the seminary. The four daily offices are prayed by professors and students alike.

**Exploring the Holy Ministry**

Through a uniquely Lutheran lens, Christ Academy explores the many facets of pastoral ministry and its application in the world.

**Life-Changing Studies**

Christ Academy, like Concordia Theological Seminary, is centered on Christ crucified who dwells in His Church through the Means of Grace. Students of Christ Academy will study Exegetical, Systematic, Historical and Practical Theology. The classes are taught by professors from CTS and professors from our Concordia University System.

**Fun Activities**

Lifelong friendships are formed at Christ Academy. Through dorm life and activities such as trips to Cedar Point and TinCaps baseball games, flag football, capture the flag and more, students have time for fellowship with others who have similar goals and aspirations in life.
Frequently Asked Questions

Where will I stay during Christ Academy?
You will stay in dormitory rooms on the seminary campus, two guys per room. Each room has two closets, two chairs and two beds. Bedding and towels will be provided.

Who attends Christ Academy?
LCMS high-school-aged men who are interested in learning about theology and are open to the possibility of preparing for the Holy Ministry. Admission is competitive, based on seniority, ability to participate in the Academy for two full weeks and short admission essays.

What will I study at Christ Academy?
This year our professors will lecture on topics related to the theme of “Baptism: Our Christian Identity.” Among the lecturers will be the Rev. David Petersen, pastor, Redeemer, Fort Wayne; the Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, associate professor of Exegetical Theology; the Rev. Dr. Naomichi Masaki, associate professor of Systematic Theology; the Rev. Andrew Yeager, admission counselor and director, Christ Academy.

Do I need books for Christ Academy?
Some books will be required. A list will be sent to you when you are accepted into the Academy. All of the books will be available in our bookstore upon arrival. One of the following translations of the Bible will be required: ESV, KJV, NKJV, RSV, NAS.

Will there be musical opportunities?
Students will sing in the Academy choir which serves at special worship services during the Academy. Students who play brass instruments may bring them to participate in worship services.

What about sports?
There will be opportunities for basketball, soccer and other sports depending upon the collective interest of the students. Academy-wide games take place in the evenings.

What role does worship play at Christ Academy?
A very central role! Daily word and prayer services such as Matins, Vespers and Compline as well as Holy Communion are offered each week. Students also help lead worship by participating in the Academy choir.

Might I arrive early or spend an extra night?
Yes.

How much will this cost?
$500 covers tuition, room, board and activity fees. In addition, spending money will be needed for books, some snacks and optional activities.

For more information about Christ Academy, please call us at:

1-800-481-2155

You can also find information at the seminary’s website:
www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy

or email:
ChristAcademy@ctsfw.edu

Top 10 Reasons to Come to Christ Academy:
1. Worship in Kramer Chapel.
2. The professors’ knowledge and command of subject matter.
3. Fellowship with peers.
4. Capture the Flag.
5. The food is great!
6. Cedar Point.
7. Ping pong, basketball and foosball in the Commons.
8. Chanting.
9. Learning the LSB.
10. Evening activities and games.
treat them as noble students. We do not withhold from them any issue the church is facing, nor do we withhold any doctrine from them because it might be “over their heads.”

Christ Academy is designed to be the young man’s first step into the world as an autonomous person and seeks to equip these young men to make godly decisions on their own. People are making the decision in high school whether or not they will maintain an active participation in the life of the church, not in college or later. By the time most students reach college age, they have already decided which worldview holds the truth. Many fall away from the church at this time. As youth leaders, we need to be ready to equip those who strive for an active life of faith in their high school years with answers to life’s difficult questions.

Pastors, Christ Academy is designed to form youth in partnership with the formation given in the home congregation, by the local pastor. We cannot recruit future pastors without your help. It takes the eyes of wisdom from the called and sent men of God to name and raise up men for the Holy Ministry. It is our desire to work alongside you to build up the youth in your congregation, to strengthen their Lutheran convictions and prepare them for the Holy Ministry.

Your devotion and time spent with these young men is the beginning of their journey to the seminary. That is why the application process for Christ Academy—High School starts with you. We are asking you to endorse the young men coming from your congregation to Christ Academy and, if possible, to help raise the funds needed to get these young men here. Please take a look at the application and consider if there are any young men under your care who have the potential and abilities to pursue the Ministry.

It is a great honor and privilege to be a part of such an outstanding, formative event for our Synod’s young men. See you at Christ Academy 2013!

The Rev. Andrew T. Yeager (Andrew.Yeager@ctsfw.edu) serves as an admission counselor and director of Christ Academy at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind. More information concerning Christ Academy—High School can be found at www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy.
What is Christ Academy?
A two week retreat at Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Who should attend Christ Academy?
High-school-aged young men of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who are (or should be) considering becoming pastors. It is open to those who have completed their freshman year through those who have completed their senior year.

What does it cost?
$500 is all inclusive (housing, meals, Christ Academy polo shirt, admission to an amusement park and other events) Limited financial aid may be available at the recommendation of your pastor.

How do I get there?
Please arrange your own transportation to and from Christ Academy. We can offer suggestions for planning air or rail travel, airport shuttles, carpooling, directions and the like.

Please type or print in ink all information. The form must be completed in every detail. Answer “N/A” for all items that do not apply to you.

You may also download an application online at www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy

Personal Information

Name ______________________________________________________________________________
First Middle Last

Permanent Address ______________________________________________________________________
Street, Route, Box #

City ________________________________ State _______ Zip __________________

Phone ( _____ ) _______ – __________ Email Address __________________________

Date of Birth ___ / ___ / _____ Year of High School Graduation ________________

T-Shirt Size__________ Musical Experience ________________________________________________

Do you play an instrument? ______ If yes, what instrument(s)? ______________________________

Church Membership Information

Home Congregation _________________________________________________________________

Church Address _______________________________________________________________________

City ________________________________ State _______ Zip __________________

Church Phone ( _____ ) _______ – __________ Year of Baptism _________________

Year of Confirmation__________ Years as LCMS Member ________________

Pastor’s Name __________________________ LCMS District __________________________

“I, (Pastor): __________________________, give my recommendation and approval for (Student): __________________________ to attend the Christ Academy at Concordia Theological Seminary. He has shown interest in the Academy and in learning more about theology and the Holy Ministry.”

Signed: Rev.________________________________________ Date _______/_______/_______

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following questions: (Please mail with application.)

1. What does the Gospel mean to you?
2. How does the Holy Spirit work in your life?
3. Why do you seek to attend Christ Academy?

Please return this form to:
Christ Academy Registration
Concordia Theological Seminary
6600 N. Clinton St.
Fort Wayne, IN 46825-4996

For more information please call:
1-800-481-2155
www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy
ChristAcademy@ctsfw.edu

June 16-29, 2013
H.S.
How does God’s kingdom come? God’s kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His Holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and hereafter in eternity.

Christ Academy High School
The Summer Event for High School Men

REGISTER TODAY!

Do you know there are lots of other guys like you? Many young men across the country are considering the Holy Ministry for their future vocation. Come to Christ Academy to worship, study and get to know others who have your same aspirations while finding direction for your future.

This year, our professors will lecture on:

- Baptism: Our Christian Identity—Rev. John Dreyer
- Shadows and Types of Baptism in the Old Testament—Rev. Andrew Yeager
- The Theology of St. Paul for Today—Dr. Peter Scaer
- Baptism in the Lutheran Confessions—Dr. Naomichi Masaki
- How Baptismal Faith Is Lived in Prayer—Rev. David Petersen

We will also go to Cedar Point and a TinCaps Baseball game!

www.ctsfw.edu/ChristAcademy

Concordia Theological Seminary seeks to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.