2024 ELCA Youth Gathering





As we prepare for our journey to New Orleans, We call upon Your

BRAVE

Spirit to be with us.

or feeling insecure about who we are, remind us that we are created to be

AUTHENTIC.

bringing our whole selves to wherever we are called to be.

transformed by the power of Your liberation, knowing that Jesus has come and set us to be













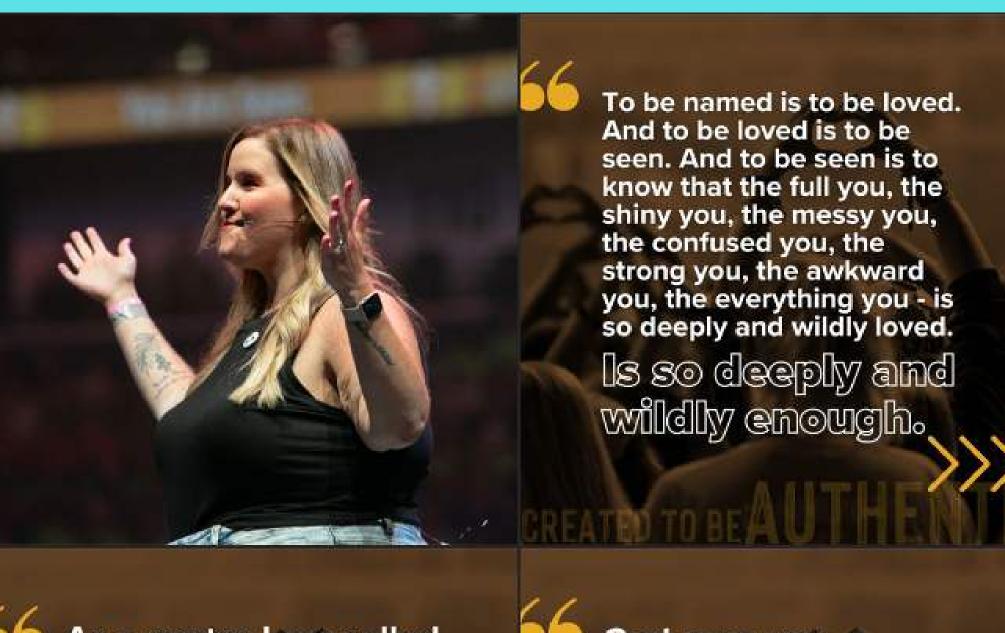












As a pastor I am called every single day to tell you this truth:

God sees you.

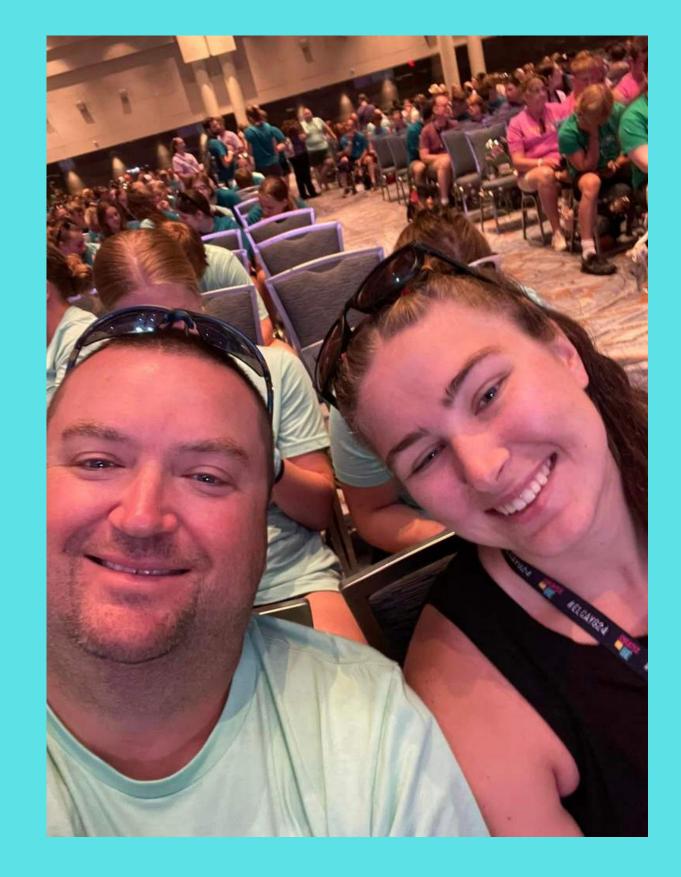
Not because of what you have or what you don't have. Not because of your sobriety. Not because of your mental health.

God sees you...
Not because of your grades. Not because of your goodness.
Not because of what you produce.

God sees you.















"The freedom work that we are called to is to honor the human dignity of every person in the world..." - Austin Channing Brown, Mass Gathering Speaker Night 3 **



When God created you, God said "AND YOU ARE GOOD."

You all have done a lot of work in this city over this week. You all have seen a lot right? Have you seen a lot of injustice in this city? The people of color in this city and the people in this room are not the work. Let me say it again...

People of color, YOU ARE NOT THE WORK.



- Austin Channing Brown nelcayg2024



There's a lot of justice work to be done. But you, you are not the work.

People who are homeless are not the work. Housing is the work.

People who are hungry are not the work. Food insecurity is the work.

The people who live in toxic neighborhoods are not the work. Environmental racism is the work.

Education, Our children. Our students, Right here in this city and right there where you live is not the work. The way we fund education is the work.

- Austin Channing Brown automatics



Even on this stage just tonight we heard an acknowledgement and an apology of racial harm and students of color I need you to know that YOU are not the work.

Racial justice is the work.

- Austin Cheming Brown milcogg1024



The freedom work that we are called to is to honor the human dignity of every person in the world...but that includes your dignity too. I need you to honor the diginity of children and I need you to honor the dignity of the food insecure and of those who don't have access to a good education but I also need you to honor your dignity.

Because you are fearfully and wonderfully made.

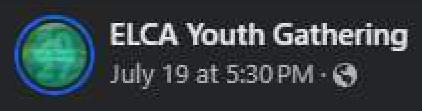


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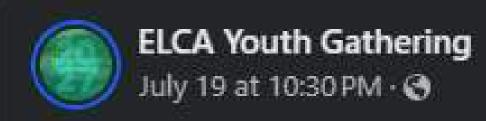




"Instead of being bound by the expectations of others, contorting myself into the most uncomfortable positions for their approval - I found myself chasing the freedom of expression that God intended for all of creation." - Keats Miles-Wallace, Mass Gathering Speaker Night 3 **

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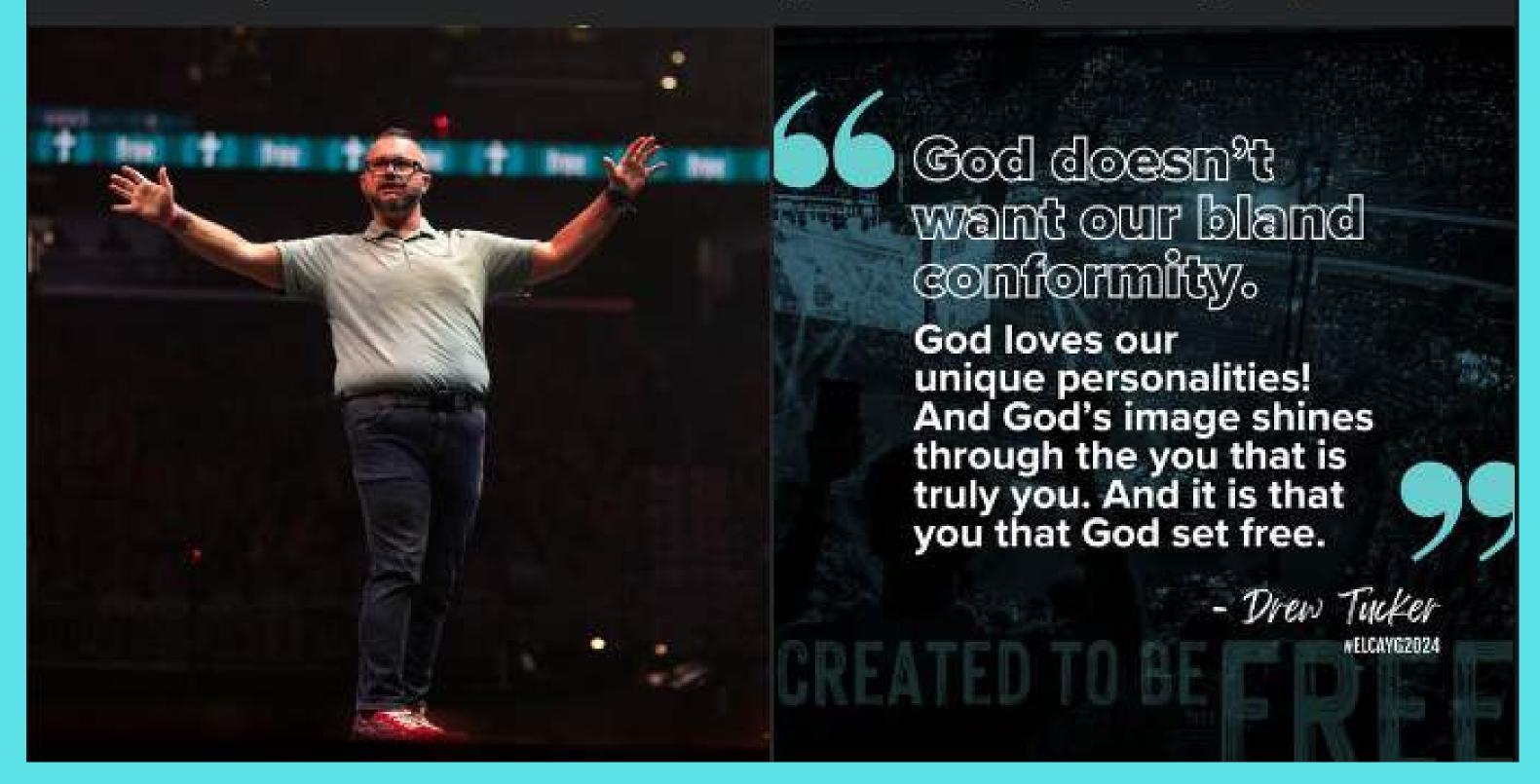


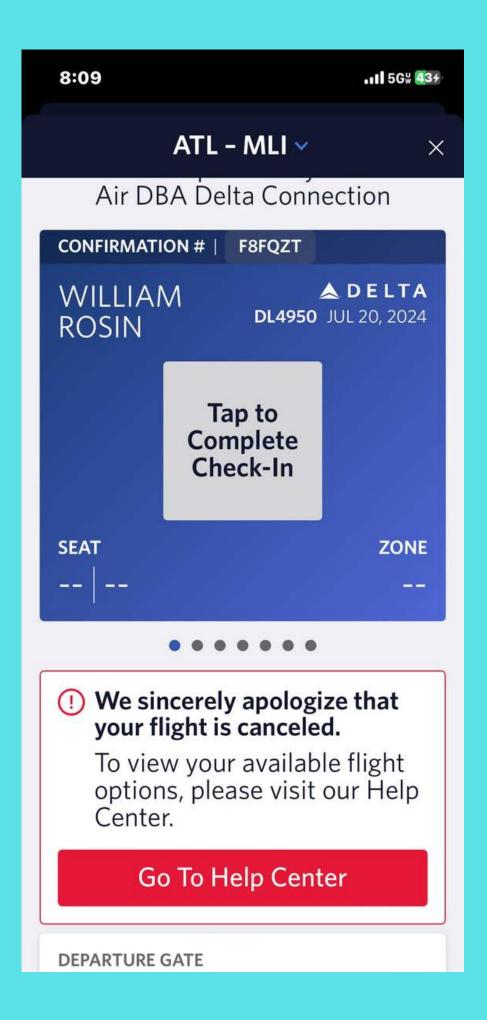


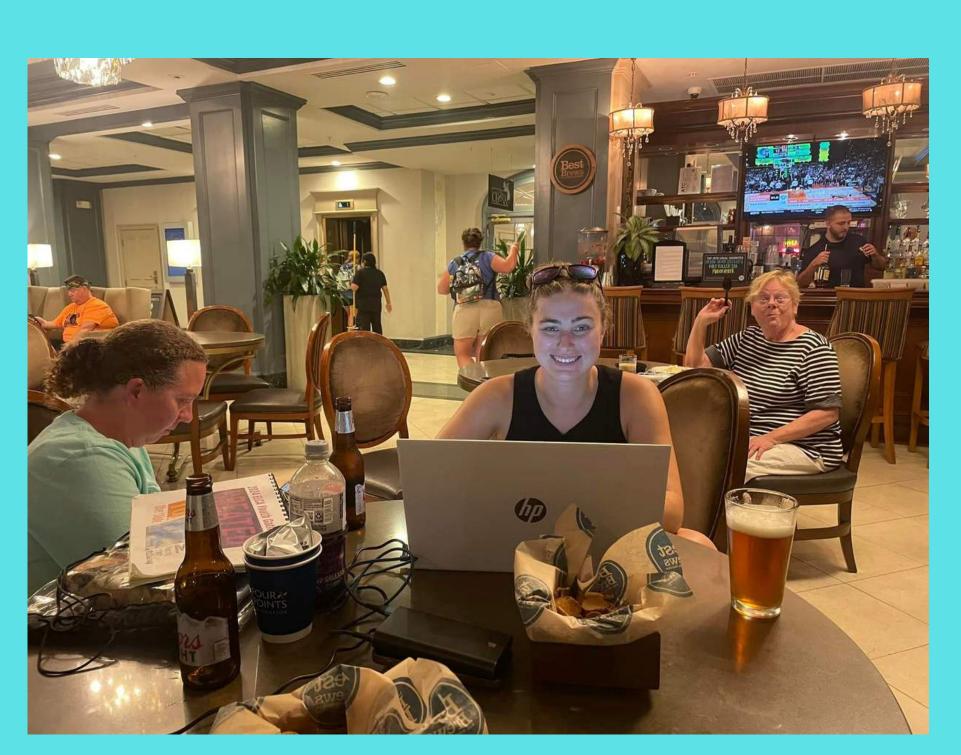
"God loves our unique personalities! And God's image shines through the you that is truly you.

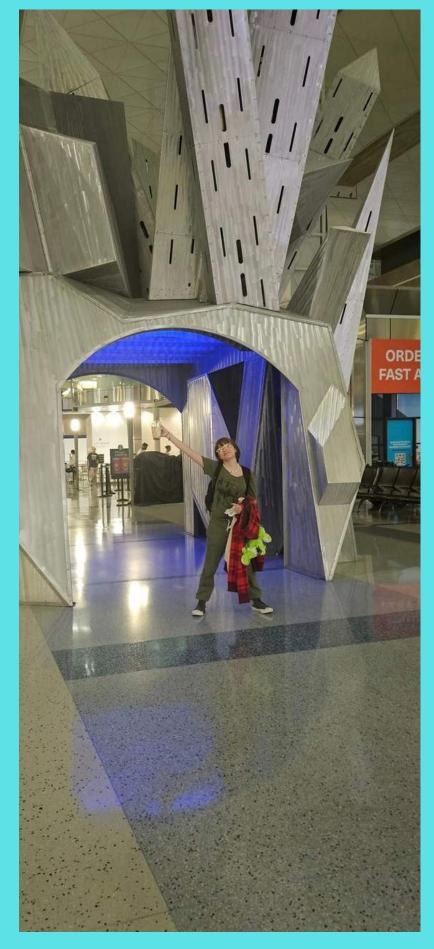
And it is that you that God set free." - Drew Tucker, Mass Gathering Speaker Night 3 ***

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"Every human being deserves to be safe and free." - Sally Azar, Mass Gathering Speaker Night 4

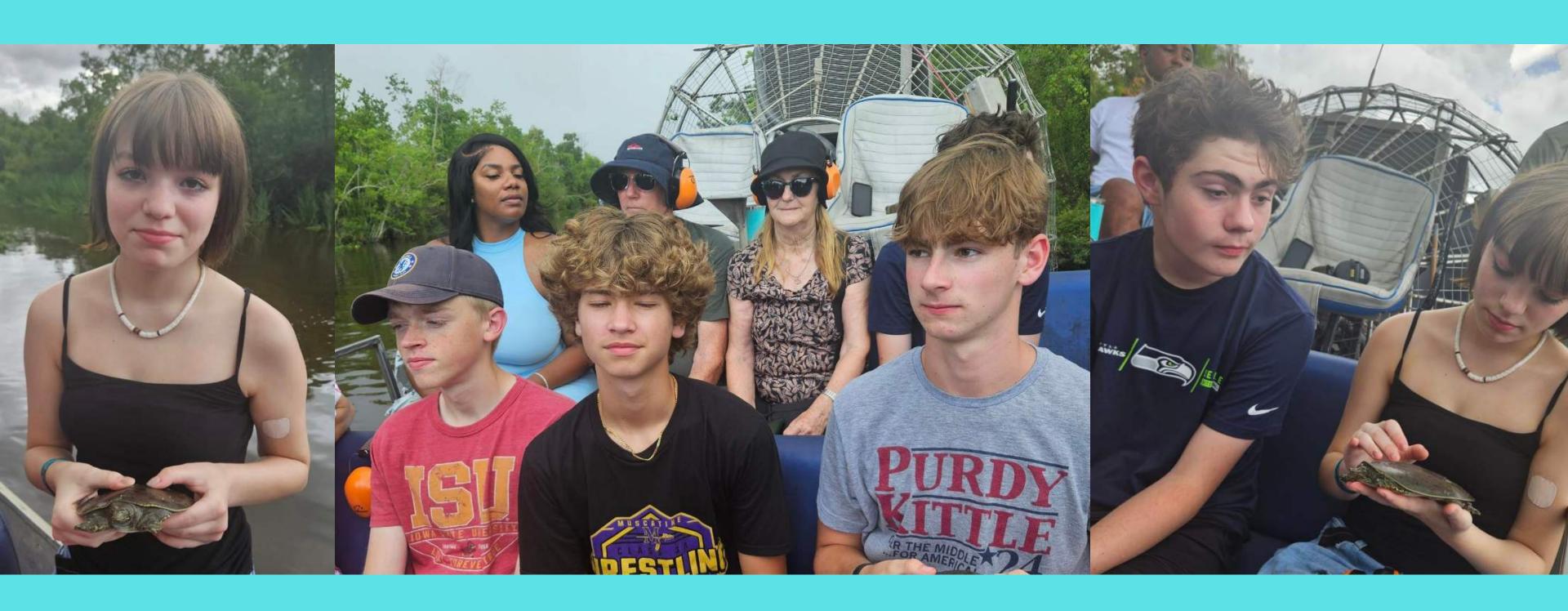
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"I am not a mistake! You are not a mistake!" - Lori Fuller, Mass Gathering Speaker Night 4 🐪



