

2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING

# boundless

JULY 24 — JULY 28  
MINNEAPOLIS

GOD BEYOND MEASURE

## What is the Gathering?

The NYG happens once every three years, and gathers nearly 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA for a week of faith formation. Our time together will include interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship. Through this event, young people grow in faith are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

## When & where will the NYG be?

The next Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, July 24—July 28 in 2022. Our main events will take place at US Bank Stadium, home of the Vikings. We will also be meeting at the convention center.



## When do we leave?

This is a great question! Much of this will depend on how we travel. It also could change depending on what we want to do as a group.

One of the blessings that comes with any Gathering is the opportunity to explore a city unlike the place we all call home. Minneapolis is full of rich traditions and has plenty of things to do. Together we could take in the Mall of America, we could journey to the home of Prince, take in the sights on a river cruise, or any number of other creative options. Another idea, is a standing invitation to join Jan and Blake Grangaard for part of a day. Perhaps we could join them for morning worship, lunch, and then start off the Gathering. Before any firm decisions are made, we want to hear everyone's ideas.

With all that in mind, pencil in leaving somewhere between the 21<sup>st</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of July.

## How will we get there?

This is another great question. At this time transportation is yet to be determined. It is likely that we will rent a van and make a drive to Minneapolis. However, depending on our group size, flying isn't out of the question. Another opportunity may be pairing up with a few other congregations in our area to travel together by bus. Once we have our group size figured out we can determine transportation.

## Once we get there, Where will we stay?

We hope to be staying in downtown Minneapolis. Hotel arrangements are made by the Gathering. (We cannot choose our own hotel.) Traditionally hotel arrangements are announced in January or February. We will not know where we are staying until that time. One guarantee is that we will be doing a lot of walking during the week to/from the hotel and Gathering locations.

## Life during the Gathering?

The Gathering has two partial days and three full days. One day will be with our Synod for Bible Study, worship, and fellowship. One day will be for interactive hands on learning. One day allows us time to serve the community. Every day will include a mass gathering, with speakers, concerts, and worship. It will be non stop fun from sun up to sun down. Be prepared to come home tired!

## Dining at the Gathering?

How do you feed 30,000 people at once? You don't, at least not easily. To make this as simple as possible, youth will likely be given a daily allowance around \$40 to cover the cost of meals. Does this seem high? It's not! Remember, we will be paying big city prices and there isn't a McDonalds on every corner. Recommendations are for us to budget \$10 for breakfast and \$15 for lunch and dinner. Throw in a midday snack and it all adds up. In the end, all your meals will be provided for the Gathering.

## When are we coming home?

At this time, we will plan on leaving pretty quick after the Gathering. Again much of this will depend on how we travel. Either way, right now it's probably safe to say we will be home either on or before Saturday, July 30. Of course we hope to see everyone refreshed and ready for worship on Sunday, July 31st!

## How much will this cost?

The Gathering doesn't come cheap. By the time you add in registration, travel, hotels, meals, and a few extras the Gathering costs over \$1250 per person. Fortunately, we've done a great job raising funds over the past several years and we are well on our way to having the Gathering paid for without impacting the church budget. This is good news! While this is good news, it doesn't fully answer the question you are asking, "how much is it going to cost for me to go?"

### \$600 per person

That might sound like a lot, but remember this includes everything except your souvenirs and offering. (Yes there is an offering at the Gathering!) Now, lets make this a little more interesting. You can attend the Gathering for as little as:

### \$500 per person

That's right, you can save \$100 per person by living out our mission statement; "We are called to go out, and care for all!" As we care for all, our youth are challenged to 20 hours of mission and service. 10 hours within the congregation. 10 hours within the community. For each hour you work, you can save \$5 off of the total cost of the trip, up to \$100. Volunteer forms will need to be submitted and can be picked up at a later date. If you volunteer, and someone wants to pay you, please consider that as an additional gift to the Youth Group and not a gift to cover your own expenses.

## How do we register?

Registration for First Lutheran will begin mid September and will close on November 1. At the time of registration, a \$150 non refundable deposit is required. After that, payment plans will be established for the remaining balance.

Did you say non refundable? Yes, that is the Gathering's policy. Once we reserve a spot, the deposit is non refundable. The only exception that we will make would be if we happen to have someone who would register late and be willing to fill your vacated place. Other monies paid, beyond the deposit would be refundable regardless of whether or not we can fill the vacated place. However, should we fly, this policy may change as airfare will be consider non refundable as well.

## What happens between now and the Gathering?

Every month we will get together to for a Pre-Gathering Meeting. These will be full of team building, Bible Studies and other conversations helping us bond and learn more about the Boundless God we worship and praise. These meetings will be required and will likely happen on the first or second Sunday of the month.

Also, stay tuned to your email for a weekly Top Ten Tip as we look forward to our registration date.