

REAL.
PRESENT.
GOD. | 20 | LCMS Youth
19 | Gathering

2019
National Youth Gathering
Information Booklet



Concordia Lutheran Church
Kirkwood, MO

The National Youth Gathering (NYG) is a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod - sponsored event that is a once-in-a-high-school-career-life-time experience. Concordia has been blessed to send youth to previous Gatherings. We look forward to sending another group to Minneapolis, Minnesota in July 2019 to join more than 25,000 other Christians in celebration and fellowship. This booklet is written to help you as you decide about your child's and/or your involvement in the 2019 National Youth Gathering. Please read through it carefully and pray about your participation. We look forward to having you join us for this special event as we celebrate God's joy and love through Jesus Christ!

In Christ,
Jayme Nichols

VISIT
LCMSGATHERING.COM
FOR MORE INFORMATION

REAL.PRESENT.GOD.

2019 LCMS Youth Gathering

Held every three years since 1980, the LCMS Youth Gathering provides thousands of youth and adults the opportunity to come together as a community of God's people to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity.

During the five days of the Gathering, youth spend time together in God's Word, worship, service and fellowship with others from across the Synod. This event is organized by LCMS Youth Ministry here in St. Louis, MO.

The theme for the 2019 National LCMS Youth Gathering is Real. Present. God.

This theme comes from Psalm 46 (ESV) -

God is our refuge and strength,

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,

though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble at its swelling. *Selah*

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;

God will help her when morning dawns.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;

he utters his voice, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*

Come, behold the works of the Lord,

how he has brought desolations on the earth.

He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

he burns the chariots with fire.

"Be still, and know that I am God.

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress. *Selah*



Gathering Dates

The dates for the Gathering are Thursday–Monday, July 11-15, 2019. We will travel to Minneapolis by bus, arriving on or around Wednesday, July 10, and returning home on or around Wednesday, July 17.

Who Can Attend?

- Youth must be a member of Concordia Lutheran Church, Kirkwood, or the friend of a Concordia youth. Friends of Concordia youth will be permitted to go if they meet with the following two requirements and have a family interview with one of our ministry staff
- Must be in grades 9-12 for the 2018-2019 school year.
- Must be willing to commit to the established goals of the trip and the Gathering and willing to work in Christian community towards achieving these goals.

Our Adult Leaders

All adult leaders must be at least 21 years of age and will be selected through an application process that will be reviewed by our Pastors, DCE and the NYG Action Team. Adult leaders will be members of Concordia Lutheran Church who are active in worship, are in the Word, and have a heart to see high school - age youth follow Jesus. If you are interested in applying please fill out the application CKhome.org/NYG.

Hotel Arrangements

The Gathering has contracted 40-50 hotels to ensure that there will be ample space for participants. Each church group will be assigned to one official hotel. Gathering hotels will be within walking distance of the U.S. Bank Stadium and the Convention Center. Upon our group's registration, we identify our top choices for hotel and then the Gathering lets us know which hotel we will be using.

Transportation

We will travel from Concordia to Minneapolis on at least one 55-passenger Charter Coach bus. It is expected that those who travel with Concordia's group will remain with the group throughout the entire trip and will participate in all Gathering and post - Gathering activities. Individuals will not be allowed to arrange for their own side trips.

Finances and Fundraising

We estimate the trip to cost between \$1,200-\$1,500. This cost includes housing, transportation, meals, NYG registration, after trip, and all activity fees. We will communicate the final price NO LATER THAN March 31, 2019, once all arrangements have been made.

Nonrefundable deposit due 9/30/2018: \$100

Payment 2 due 2/3/19: \$450 (total of account should equal \$550)

Payment 3 due 5/15/19: \$450 (total of account should equal \$1000)

Balance due 6/30/19: Balance

The schedule is based on the funds the church will be spending ahead of the trip to prepare and register, as well as helping spread the weight of the payment out for families. The deposit is not refundable once the church has remitted the \$100 to the LCMS to secure reservations in late October.

You will receive account statements as of 1/15/19 and 6/15/19.

Paying for Your Trip

The church will help the youth offset the cost of the trip in several ways.

1. We will hold two fundraisers, the Resurrection 5K Run on Easter morning and a Car Wash in May, 2019. All NYG participants fundraising will get a pro-rata share of the proceeds earned. For example, if a fundraiser earns \$10,000 and there are 50 youth fundraising, each account gets credited \$200. All participants get credited equally regardless of the hours worked. Money earned will be reflected on your account statement. Teams should really encourage all to participate in some way. If a participant cannot make a fundraiser, there may be other ways to help (make signs, phone calls, etc.). Family Group leaders should know the status of each team member's availability and participation. The fundraisers will NOT cover the entire cost of the trip as we typically have around 80 total participants.
2. The church will produce a Youth Service book specifically designed to help NYG raise money through serving the members in our congregation. Individual youth or family groups may advertise services such as baby sitting, car washing, lawn service, birthday parties, personal shopping, etc. Concordia will produce and market this book throughout the year, encouraging members to help youth toward the trip.

3. Many youth send letters to family and friends asking for help. The church has examples of such letters if the youth need ideas. Any check written to the church for an individual will be credited to their account. (This will not be considered a tax deductible donation to the giver because it benefits an individual and not the group as a whole.) calls, etc.). Family Group leaders should know the status of each team member's availability and participation. The fundraisers should not be assumed to cover the entire cost of the trip. Many youth choose to get side jobs, babysit, or send letters to family and friends asking for help. The church has examples of such letters if the youth need ideas. Any check written to the church for an individual will be credited to their account. This will not be considered a tax deductible donation to the giver because it benefits an individual and not the group as a whole.

Registration Process

Initial \$100 Registration Payment must be turned in by...

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

The \$100 payment is non-refundable after October 1.

Register at CKhome.org/NYG

Ways to Pay

1. Online at CKhome.org/NYGPayment
2. Check made out to "Concordia Lutheran Church" turned into the Youth Office

CK Youth Ministry is responsible for collecting the money needed and paying the necessary bills at the appropriate times. All funds collected will be deposited in Concordia's dedicated accounts. All funds raised through NYG group activities remain the property of CK Youth Ministry to be utilized only for this trip and will be credited to each participant as long as registration has been completed. After October 1, 2018, no refunds will be given. Any person who cancels must find a substitute who will replace the funds they have on deposit or forfeit any money earned to the group at large. Any funds left over at the end of the trip will remain in CK Youth Ministry's dedicated accounts to be designated for other youth ministry trips and ministry.

