

National Youth Gathering Initial Information

What Exactly Is The National Youth Gathering?

The gathering is a triennial* event that draws around 25,000 young people from LCMS churches all over the country and even internationally! For 5 days this massive community of youth worship, serve, learn, and grow together in an unforgettable experience. Next summer the “NYG” will be held right in our backyard as Minneapolis is the host city for the first time ever!

The magnitude, features, and impact of this event are truly mindboggling. This amazing event features top Christian artists, great teachers on hundreds of topics, nightly worship at US Bank Stadium, and an environment unlike anything else. Spending 5 days in this swarm of young believers has an enormous impact too. In fact, many grown adults claim the NYG as a foundational moment in their faith story decades after they participated as youth!

*“every 3 years”...but how often do you get to use the term triennial?

What Are The Details?

Trip dates are Wednesday, July 10th-Monday, July 15th.

A typical gathering day involves getting up early and heading to the convention center for a whole day of learning, Bible study, serving, concerts, and fun! After dinner our group will walk to US Bank Stadium for a high energy night of worship, teaching, and community! The final day of the gathering concludes with a worship service and the powerful experience of sharing communion with 25,000 fellow believers.

During the gathering we'll be staying in hotels downtown, but we'll be adding an additional day on the front end of the trip for our group to get to know each other better and get our hearts ready for the days ahead! During this time we'll sleep at church, do some fun activities, worship together, and serve in our community!

Who Can Go?

This event is open to current 8th-12th grade students and we'd love for as many folks to go as possible. However we do ask that participants fall into these guidelines:

- **We need to know you and see you regularly.** Taking students we don't have a relationship with makes leading the group challenging, hinders our ability to build community, and limits the lasting impact the event can have. Participants should be involved in Roots and Foundations and be at all trip meetings.
- **Friends are welcome to attend but they need to be known to us too.** Their parents should also connect with Patrick before signing up. It is also recommended that WLC students bring only one friend each.

How Do I Register?

Registration and deposits can be completed at WLCYouth.org. The registration will go live at noon on Monday, September 17th and participants should be registered by Sunday, October 7th to guarantee a spot. The possibility of adding students after October 7th is more difficult and is not guaranteed.

A \$150 deposit is required to register for the gathering. This deposit is only refundable if we are able to find someone to fill that spot prior to February 15th.

What is the Cost?

\$750-850. That price covers conference registration, hotel lodging, all meals, local transportation, t-shirt, and additional fun activities.

Ways To Offset The Cost

Doughnut Fundraiser at the Valley Creek Campus. Doughnut sales training will happen on September 23rd between services (9-9:30 and 10:30-11:00) in the Bridge or Patrick's office.

Easter Breakfast at Oak Hill and Valley Creek Campuses, April 20th-21st

Garage Sale Fundraiser at Valley Creek Campus, May 7th-11th, 2019.

Support letters. Sending notes about the event to friends and family allows them to help make it a reality!

Put it on your Christmas or birthday list! Ask for contributions to this experience instead of other gifts!

Odd Jobs. If you're a babysitter, lawn mower, or willing to do odd jobs like moving furniture or yard work, we can pass your name on to congregation members looking for students to serve.

An Additional Option in Summer 2019!

We want to give youth the option of a service focused week in 2019, so we'll also be having a mission trip! More details will be out in October, but a trip to Camp Lebanon (Burtrum, MN) is set for June 16th-21st! The cost for a week of camp activities, service projects, and meals is only \$175.

We'd love NYG participants to participate in this event as well, so we're offering a \$100 discount on the total cost of your summer trips if you do both! Spots are limited on this trip so students not attending NYG will be given first priority in attending. Additional spots will be given in order of registration until full. Signups beyond that will go on a wait list.

Are You An Adult Who Wants To Be Part Of It?

We're so blessed to have so many great leaders on our trips every summer! With as popular as this trip is, it's likely that we won't have enough spots for all the adults who are interested in going. However there are other ways to plug in next summer! The NYG will need a lot of local volunteers to help run the event, and there are 2 informational meetings on those opportunities in the next few weeks. Please attend if you're interested.

Sat, Sept. 29th 6:30-8:30 @ Trinity Lutheran Church-Waconia -or- Sun, Sept. 30th 2-4:00 at Concordia University

There will also be opportunities to help with the aforementioned mission trip to Camp Lebanon in June!

Our leader team for 2019 trips will consist of adult leaders and parents who have significant and lasting connection to the students going. If you'd like to be considered for either of these please let Patrick know!

Questions?

Contact Patrick Brewer. brewerp@woodburylutheran.org or 651-247-1563