

What is the LCMS Youth Gathering and Why is it a Big Deal?

The LCMS National Youth Gathering is a 5 day youth convention where 20,000+ youth and adults from around the world gather together to be encouraged in their walk with Jesus. Youth and adults gather to learn, grow, meet new friends, have fun, and serve the Gathering Host City.

This year's theme, In All Things, is a reminder that the Christian story encompasses all things. Nothing, and no one, is left out. In baptism, all things in our lives are brought under the gracious rule and reign of Jesus Christ. The story includes all of each of us. Christ is the single "big idea" in Paul's letter to the Colossians, and He will be the single big idea at the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering.

Critical Information:

Who is the Gathering For: All students in 8th – 12th Grade during the 2021/2022 school year

Date: July 9-13, 2022 (with one or two extra days before or after for travel).

Location: Houston, TX

Transportation: Flying

Estimated Total Cost: \$15,000 - \$25,500 - Estimate based on 4 - 9 Youth Participants

Participant Cost: \$200 - Due October 17 - This payment is nonrefundable.

Parent Chaperones: 2 will be needed. One male & one female

Registration Deadline: October 17, 2021

Expectations: Attend all group meetings, help with Football Parking as often as possible, attend worship with family as often as possible, be involved with FLC activities (youth & church wide), and others as listed on group covenant (still to be written).

Group Meetings: November, February, April, and June - Dates TBD (Expect meetings to be about 60-90 minutes.)

Can my child bring a friend? Yes! Your child can be a friend! I ask that they participate in Football Parking during the Fall, attend all the group meetings, and meet the other expectations.

What happens if we have a small group? If we end up bringing a small group of students (under 4 or 5), we will join Abiding Savior for the Gathering.

COVID 19 Guidelines –

The Gathering Planners are in continual conversations with the City of Houston, government officials and Synod leadership monitoring the developments of COVID-19. They will make decisions with the highest priority of safety and care of Gathering participants. It is our prayer that God would continue to lead us through this time of uncertainty and give us wisdom when presented with new information.

As the Gathering nears, they will communicate extraordinary safety precautions. These regulations may not match other communities in the United States, so accommodation by some attending groups may be necessary. They also appreciate that individual congregations or individual participants may take additional action to protect their health at such an event. We continue to pray for the health of all people and will monitor the effects of the virus and the vaccine.

The safety and health of Gathering participants, volunteers, and planners is of utmost importance. They will not host a Gathering if they cannot do so safely. We will continue to monitor the pandemic, the situation in the city of Houston, and feedback from LCMS congregations and make decisions accordingly.