



# 2012 ELCA Youth Gathering

citizens with the saints

Ephesians 2:14-20

July 13-23, 2012 | New Orleans, LA

Lord of Life 9th-12th Grade Youth

[lordoflife.org/youthgathering](http://lordoflife.org/youthgathering)

# ELCA National Youth Gathering

## New Orleans, LA | July 13-23, 2012

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# CITIZENS WITH THE SAINTS!

*Jesus is our peace. In his life and death on the cross, Jesus broke down the dividing walls so that we are no longer strangers and outsiders, but we are **citizens with the saints** and also members of the household of God. The foundation of God's house was built of apostles and prophets, and Jesus, the cornerstone, holds it all together.*

## Love like Jesus

### PRACTICE DISCIPLESHIP

Together we're going to explore and figure out what it takes to be a follower of Jesus. How does that change us? What does God want us to become?

### PRACTICE PEACEMAKING

Together, we're going to figure out what we can do to make the world a better place. God has a vision for the world, and God want us to help make that vision a reality. We're going to explore that together.

### PRACTICE JUSTICE

It's not enough to talk about this stuff. We need to do it. We'll spend one solid day with 12,000 friends (1/3 of the Gathering) doing service and hurricane reconstruction in the city of New Orleans. We're going to start changing the world, one place at a time.



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### **Hanging in the Dome...**

Every night, the whole Gathering (39,000 people!) will gather in the Superdome for a massive celebration of what God is doing in our lives and in the lives of those we connect with in New Orleans. Amazing bands...speakers... drama... it's all a part of the Dome experience. It's an amazing part of every day at the Gathering!

**AND WHY SHOULD YOU GO?** The National Youth Gathering is a unique, life-changing opportunity to see and experience the WHOLE church and what we are capable of as a community united in Christ. It challenges you to be a witness to others, to practice discipleship and to strive for peace and justice. It gives you an amazing perspective of what you are a part of as Christian youth in the world. You will not be disappointed!

# National Youth Gathering Q & A

## **What is a Youth Gathering?**

The ELCA National Youth Gathering happens every three years and is a gathering of over 40,000 Lutheran youth from across the US and the world. We meet in different cities for a week of service, worship, learning and coming together as the body of Christ. Find out more about this particular Gathering on the Youth Gathering 2012 page in this packet.

## **How much does it cost?**

Good question! And we wish we could tell you! In this packet is a breakdown of the estimated cost, along with notes on why and how it may change. Our best guess right now is \$750. Throughout the year you will have many opportunities to fundraise to be able to lower your actual cost.

## **How long will we be gone?**

10-11 days. As of now, the dates of our trip are July 13-23, 2012. See the enclosed itinerary for a more detailed breakdown of what we will be doing on all those days.

## **Where will we stay?**

In a hotel. Every night, there are community activities at the hotels including inflatable games/obstacles, dances, food, music, etc. You won't be bored, we promise.

## **What will we do all day?**

Lots of stuff! On the way down to New Orleans, we will be doing service work for a couple days and some "touristy" activities. When we are in New Orleans, we will be participating in Gathering activities. They have a morning worship/Bible study, an evening concert/speaker, as well as lots of stuff to do in the afternoon and evenings.

## **How do we get there?**

We take a bus. It is a long ride there and back, so we don't take Zippy, instead we take a nice coach bus. The bus drivers are professionals and the ride is actually part of the fun!

## **Who can come?**

Anyone currently in grades 9-12. Friends are more than welcome, as well as non-Lord of Life members.

## **How do I get ready?**

We will be having monthly meetings to come together as a community, work on fundraising, do Bible studies, and get to know one another. The meetings are held Saturday mornings. You'll get a letter with all the meeting dates and times on it. Also, be sure to check out the website at [lordoflife.org/youthgathering](http://lordoflife.org/youthgathering), join our Youth Gathering Facebook group and sign up for Text Alerts. Those will be our main ways of communicating with you.

## **Will there be a lot of adults there?**

The ELCA demands a 1:10 adult to youth ratio but we will probably be somewhere between 1:7 or 1:5.

## **How do I register?**

You need to fill out the attached registration form and medical form and return it to the Youth and Family Office. Be sure to fill out each form completely. The ELCA will not accept your registration without that information! You also need to turn in a non-refundable \$150 deposit, either by check or by paying in the Lord of Life Office with a credit card. Online registration will not be available due to the ELCA's need for the registration forms.

## **When do I need to register by?**

You need to register by October 5, 2011. We know that's early, but the Gathering sometimes fills up on the first day of registration. We won't be able to accept registrations that come in after October 5.

## **What if I have more questions?**

Check the website at [lordoflife.org/youthgathering](http://lordoflife.org/youthgathering). There is tons of information on there, plus a link to the Gathering website. They have up-to-date information on musicians, speakers, schedules and more. Or, contact Elizabeth at 763.420.5015, ext 130 or [elizabethp@lordoflife.org](mailto:elizabethp@lordoflife.org).

# National Youth Gathering 2012

## Cost Estimate

Gathering Registration	\$315.00
Transportation	\$220.00
Hotel	\$220.00
Tshirt	\$15.00
Misc	\$30.00
Pre-Gathering Expenses (food & housing)	\$100.00
Sub Total	\$900.00
Minus LOL Support	-\$50.00
Grand Total	\$850.00

\*\* This is only an estimate of the cost of the trip. It is subject to change depending upon gas prices, bus prices, cost of housing, and other costs. This is the best estimate we can give 11 months out from a trip, though we don't expect it to drastically change. It will be updated regularly on the website.

\*\* There will be a \$150 non-refundable deposit due when you turn in your registration.

\*\* Please do not let the cost of the trip keep you from attending! There will be fundraising opportunities throughout the year. We will have a variety of fundraising options so you should be able to find something that fits your schedule and abilities. Also, if the cost is a burden, please talk to Elizabeth or Todd about scholarships.

\*\* The cost of meals is not included in this estimate. This is something we will talk about as the planning progresses, but you can plan on being responsible for most of your meals.

\*\* If you have questions about this breakdown, please contact Elizabeth at 763.420.5015, ext. 130 or [elizabethp@lordoflife.org](mailto:elizabethp@lordoflife.org).

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## Tentative Itinerary

Day	Date	Destination	Details
1	Friday, July 13	Halfway to Biloxi, MS (maybe St. Louis)	On the bus all day!
2	Saturday, July 14	Biloxi, MS	Drive the rest of the way to the bottom of the US!
3	Sunday, July 15	Biloxi, MS	Worship, explore Biloxi, go to the beach?!
4	Monday, July 16	Biloxi, MS	Service projects
5	Tuesday, July 17	Biloxi, MS	Service projects
6	Wednesday, July 18	New Orleans, LA	Check into hotel, explore New Orleans, Gathering starts!
7	Thursday, July 19	New Orleans, LA	Gathering activities
8	Friday, July 20	New Orleans, LA	Gathering activities
9	Saturday, July 21	New Orleans, LA	Gathering activities
10	Sunday, July 22	Halfway home (perhaps St. Louis)	Closing worship, load bus, start driving home!
11	Monday, July 23	HOME!	In the bus all day, arrive home in the evening.

\*\* This itinerary will become more clear as time goes on. Check the website at [lordoflife.org/youthgathering](http://lordoflife.org/youthgathering) for updates!