

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing this letter to inform you that next year Faith Lutheran will be attending the National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We will be leaving on approximately June 27, 2027 and returning on July 2, 2027. We have not ironed out many of the details yet, but we would need to know who plans on attending so we can plan our activities.

Many of our youth have attended this event in the past. For those that have attended, it is a great week of spiritual growth, bonding, and fun!! All youth who are going into 8th grade (September 2026) through those finishing 12th grade (June 2027) will be eligible to go. The cost is approximately \$1500 per person, but through fundraising we hope to raise most of the cost. To register and reserve your spot with Faith Lutheran we ask for a deposit of \$250 by September 30, 2026. To register call Faith Lutheran (701-223-2236) and bring a deposit check made out to Faith Lutheran with National Youth Gathering Deposit in the memo line. If mailed to the church, please add participants' names. Also, do not let money stop you from going. If money is an issue, please get ahold of me (Kenny) and we can find available scholarships.

The 2027 gathering theme is "Imagine More". There will be over 20,000 screaming youth from across the country who will get the opportunity to not only learn and grow in their faith, but to also serve the people in Minneapolis. Besides mixing in fun along the way, once at the gathering there will be speakers, bands, and projects to keep challenging and growing our youth in their faith.

This will personally be my fourth time going and Pastor Derek's fourth as a leader and sixth overall. We recommend that all youth would consider going! You can find more information about the gathering by going to the web site at www.elca.org/Gathering. Thanks, and we hope to see you there!

God Bless,

Kenneth Opsal

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