



**ENDURE**  
2025 LCMS YOUTH GATHERING  
**18 MONTH SAMPLE PLANNING TIMELINE**

*The sample planning timeline is a tool to help Adult Leaders frame their task lists and connection opportunities with the congregation and youth and adults participating in the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering. Each congregation's planning timeline will look different.*

Planning Meetings with youth, parents and adult leaders can be adjusted to your needs. Our timeline includes 5 meetings with youth and adult leaders (2 which also include parents) and 3 meetings with just adult leaders.

- This timeline uses the assumption that connections with youth participants will begin following Summer 2024. Your congregational context may allow for additional connections to happen over the summer months.
- Some congregations may need fewer standalone Gathering meetings due to other opportunities to connect with parents and youth.
- Some "Adult Leader Meeting" material and planning may be communicated or decided over email rather than a face-to-face meeting.

Communication and Updates will come regularly from LCMS Youth Ministry and your District Coordinators. To keep up to date, you can check in one (or more than one) of these places at least monthly.

- Sign up for [Gathering Update emails](#) (scroll to bottom of home page)
- Participate in monthly Gathering Update times with other Adult Leaders
- Join Gathering Facebook sites: [LCMS Youth Ministry](#) and [LCMS Gathering Page](#)
- Follow the Gathering on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#)
- Review information on Gathering [website](#)

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### January 2024

- Join us for our first Gathering Update on Zoom on January 11.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episode released on January 30.
- Make plans for adult leaders to attend National Lutheran Youth Workers Conference (NATIONAL24). Registration and hotel information will be available on the website.

### February 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on February 8.

### March 2024

- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episode released on March 12.
- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on March 14.
- Ambassador application closes on March 15.
- Develop an initial budget for the LCMS Youth Gathering and share with appropriate congregational leaders (pastor, DCE, finance staff, or chairperson, etc.).

### April 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on April 11.
- Develop a fundraising plan using initial budget and fundraising ideas.

### May 2024

- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episode released on May 7.
- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on May 9.
- Begin the process of recruiting and selecting adult leaders for the Gathering.

**Ambassador Application Open**



### June 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on June 13.
- Before June 28, register for [NATIONAL24](#) in New Orleans. (Registration closes July 1.)
- Build a list or database of youth eligible to attend the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering and begin to reach out to them. (Eligible youth are those finishing 7th grade in the 2023–2024 school year or no younger than 13 on July 15, 2025, and no older than 20 on July 15, 2025.)

### July 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on July 11.
- Young Adult Volunteer Application opens for those aged 19–25 years old on July 15.
- Attend the NATIONAL24 on July 21–24 at the Astor Crowne Plaza in New Orleans.
- Create a pre-Gathering meeting schedule for youth, parents, and adult leaders with the suggested agendas, “**ENDURE**” Thematic pre-event Bible Studies, and devotions to prepare hearts and minds.

### August 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on August 8.
- Registration Materials will be available on Gathering Website.
- Host first adult leader meeting for interested, or selected, adult leaders.

### September 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom in September 12.
- Have first parent, youth and adult leader meeting.
- Receive congregation ID (or registration mailer) in your church mail.

### October 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on October 10.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episode released on October 22.
- Gather Registration info in the congregation.
  - Adult and Youth registration forms are due to Primary Adult Leader.
  - Payment due as part of congregation policy/covenant (*can be a partial amount*).
  - Receive feedback from participants about program options (if applicable).
- Begin registration with the LCMS Youth Gathering Office.
  - Primary Adult Leader completes online registration for congregational group.
  - Rank program options (if applicable).
  - Garner necessary signatures and deposit payment.

### November 2024

- Mail in forms & deposits to the Gathering Office starting November 1 (cannot be postmarked before November 1).  
*Those postmarked on November 1 receive the \$395 registration rate.*  
*Registration between November 2 and March 1 will be \$425.*  
*Registration will be confirmed by LCMS Youth Ministry through the registration software or via email.*
- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on November 14.
- Have second youth and adult meeting. At this point, meeting should shift in focus from information to building group community and preparing spiritually.



### December 2024

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on December 12.
- Start making specific travel arrangements for your group.
- Young Adult Volunteer application closes on December 31.

### January 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on January 9.
- Team Flex applications open January 15.
- Have your second adult leader planning meeting.

### February 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on February 13.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episode released on February 25.
- Have third youth and adult leader meeting.
- Begin to make plans for food with the help of information on the website.

### March 2025

- Registration price increases to \$475 if postmarked on March 3 until registration closes.
- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on March 13.
- Look for hotel information either through the registration software or via email.

### April 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on April 10.
- Deposit for hotel due to the Gathering Office (date subject to change).
- Team Flex applications close April 30.
- Youth and adults sign-up to participate in District Events during the Gathering.
- Have fourth youth and adult leader meeting.

### May 2025

- Registration Closes/Deadline for Express Registration on May 1.
- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on May 8.
- Last Day for Substitutions and Cancellations on May 28.
- Have final adult leader planning meeting.
- Look for deadline to get LCEF cards this month.

### June 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on June 12.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episodes released on June 17.
- Have final parent, youth and adult leader meeting.

### July 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on July 10.
- Hold a Commissioning service for all participants of the LCMS Youth Gathering by July 13.
- Attend **ENDURE** - LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 19–23, 2025.

### August 2025

- Join us for our Gathering Update on Zoom on August 14.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering Finishing Pack.
- Share with your home congregation about your LCMS Youth Gathering experience!
- Look for post-Gathering Bible studies and resources to be made available to continue to unpack and digest what was learned and experienced at the Gathering.

Registration \$425 November 2 – March 2.

Late Registration \$475 on  
March 3 to May 1.