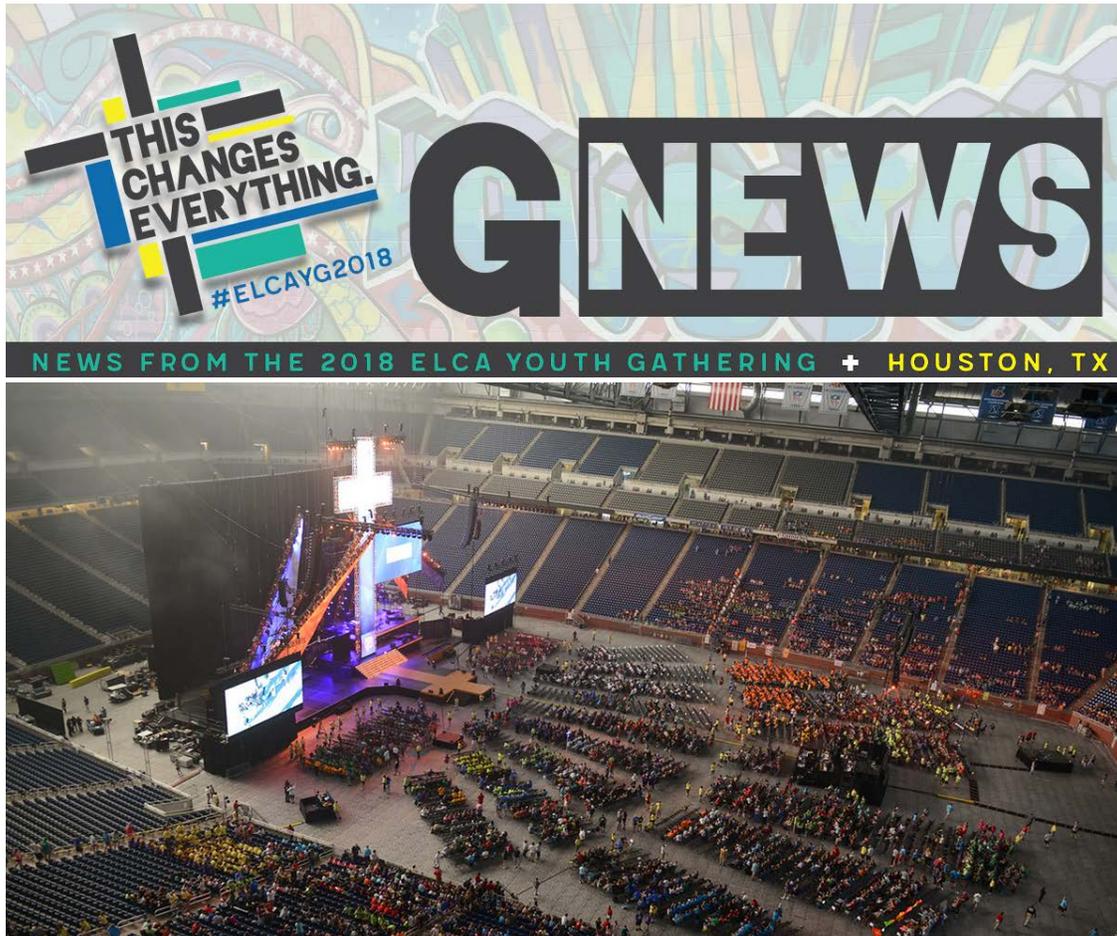


Have an idea of what you want to see at the Gathering? Let us know!
[Download gNews](#) (under the Promotional Items tab). | [View in your browser.](#)



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God's work. Our hands.



Housing letters are available!

Housing assignment forms are near the bottom of the homepage of your [congregational account](#). Click the print button and review the information carefully. **Do not call your hotel until after they send you confirmation that they have received your deposit and rooming list!** Hotels are not authorized to make changes to your congregation's housing assignment.

- To drop rooms, email gathering@elca.org.
- To add rooms, first contact your [Gathering synod coordinator](#) to see if another congregation has available beds and would be willing to share. If no space is available, contact gathering@elca.org. Please note: Most hotels are at or exceeding capacity. The Gathering cannot accommodate single occupancy rooms.

Stories to share

We're continuing to ask for your youth's reflections and stories to share on the big screen at the

Gathering. Every two weeks we'll have a new prompt to reflect on. Submit your videos on Instagram by using the assigned # or DMing the Gathering (@ELCAGathering). Please save the videos! If yours is chosen, we will DM you with instructions on how and where to send your video.

Guidelines

- Youth featured must be in 8th-12th grade.
- Videos should be 3-10 seconds long.
- Post in the identified timeline.
- Use listed #s.



March 25-April 9 we're focusing on our sub theme based on John 4:1-42, Woman at the Well – God's Love Changes Everything: "Through the cross, God's **love** changes everything." Share with us what God's love looks like. #ELCAYG2018 #LoveChangesEverything

ELCA World Hunger: Global Farm Challenge

The Global Farm Challenge is a year-long, youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the agriculture-related programs of ELCA World Hunger, our church's ministry to end hunger and poverty. Many youth and youth groups will raise funds in advance of the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in June, and many will bring their offerings to the Gathering. At the Interactive Learning Space in the NRG Center, youth and young adults will have the chance to participate in an unforgettable experience designed to immerse them in what it's like to be a smallholder farmer. To learn more about the Global Farm Challenge, visit the [website](#).



Service Learning webinar



Save the date! On April 12 at 7 p.m. Central we will have our Service Learning webinar, led by Jessica Noonan. [Sign up here!](#) Bring all your Service Learning questions. We can't wait to

share what the team has been planning.

Devotion

Jesus walks on water
Matthew 14:22-23

As I reflect on our Scripture reading, I find that I am very similar to the disciples throughout my walk with Jesus. There have been many times when I have asked the same question, “Who is this man?” I feel as if it is very easy to forget who Jesus truly is and to be amazed by how he grabs our attention. Just as Jesus was able to grab the attention of his disciples, he has done the same thing in my life. During my sophomore year, I tore my MCL and meniscus playing basketball. I was scared, and I was asking Jesus, Why me? Why should I have to miss a year of sports when I put so much time into them? His answer was simple. Jesus put my life back into perspective and gave me time to spend with family. Time spent with my family changed everything. During my rehab, I was able to spend time with two family members who would pass away the following year. I learned so much and will cherish those final moments with them forever. I also wouldn't have had that time with them and my family if it wasn't for Jesus putting the spotlight on what should be one of the most important values in my life. The fame and the desire to play sports soon came in a distant second. Due to my injury, I learned to keep my faith close to me and to not be afraid of the path the Lord has made for me. I encourage you to trust in your walk with Jesus, just like I did and like the disciples when they were scared.



– Brenden Bergquist, North Dakota

2018 Gathering timeline at a glance

May 15 – Registration closes and all payments are due

June 24-27 – [MYLE](#) and the [tAble](#)

June 27-July 1 – [ELCA Youth Gathering](#)



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Contact us

Please [contact us](#) with your ideas and comments. Please forward this email to others who may be interested.
Mail: ELCA Youth Gathering, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, Illinois 60631.

Make sure you receive this monthly eNewsletter by adding gathering@elca.org to your contacts or address book.

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