

Have an idea of what you want to see at the Gathering? Let us know!
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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.



Gathering partners

Curious who are partners are? See who we're working with! Check out our [Interactive Learning](#) partners and the ministries that will be present during your Interactive Learning Day. You can also see the many partners in Houston that we're working with for [Service Learning](#) at the Gathering. See all the great things the city is doing and where you might be going!

Service learning webinar



Did you miss our service learning webinar? On April 12, we were joined by the Service Learning Team leader, Jessica Noonan, as we hosted our webinar focused on all the work her team is planning for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering. [Watch it](#) to learn more about how to prepare, what to expect, what to bring, what to wear and so much more! If you still have questions or concerns, please email us at Gathering@elca.org. Our next webinar is our transportation webinar on May 10 at 7 p.m. Central. [RSVP here!](#)

Airport shuttles

April 27 is the last day to [sign up for the TMS shuttles](#) to and from the airport. The shuttles are \$20 per person each way (\$40 round trip).

Check out the availability and take advantage of this great offer before it's too late!



May 15 deadline

Deadlines are approaching! Your final payment is due by May 15. Please make sure to print out your final payment letter in your [account](#) and send your check to the address indicated. May 15 is also your last day to send in your deposit for your housing. Check the housing letter in your Gathering account for information on how to send that to your hotel.

Gathering for advocacy

This month, our getting ready materials are gathering for advocacy. The Gathering will feature migration in Service Learning, Interactive Learning and post-Gathering resources. Texas is a hub of human migration from Central America and Mexico. There is an immigrant detention center close to Houston. As a church, we respect all human life and strive for justice and peace in all the world.

At the Gathering, there will be opportunities to learn about human migration so you can make a difference in your community and beyond.



Be sure to download our [April getting ready materials](#) to help prepare your group to learn more about advocacy at the Gathering.

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



April 25-May 9 we're focusing on our sub-theme based on "The road to Emmaus – God's hope changes everything: **Hope** changes everything." Share with us where hope is needed. #ELCAYG2018 #HopeChangesEverything.

Remembering Donna Wiegel

It is with the saddest of hearts that we share that our beloved colleague, Donna Wiegel, died on Saturday, April 20. Donna loved her family fiercely. She found joy in the sun at the beach. She was a champion for those on the margins. Donna loved the ministry of the Gathering and served as registrar and housing guru since 1997. She is already deeply missed. We ask that you keep her family in your prayers.

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.



Prayer from Evangelical Lutheran Worship.

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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