

Make sure you're on track for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering!  
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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.



## Deadlines

**May 15 is quickly approaching, which means the following deadlines are ahead:**

### Registration:

All registration closes on May 15. This is your last chance to add or change a registration in your [Gathering account](#)!

### Cancellations:

Cancellations need to be done by May 15 in order to receive a refund on your registration fees (minus the \$150 non-refundable deposit). To make a cancellation, log into your [Gathering account](#), and click "edit" next to the participant who will no longer be attending. Change their status from "attending" to "canceled." Any cancellations made after May 15 will still be responsible for the entire registration fee.

**Final Gathering payment:** Your final Gathering payment must be sent by May 15. Please download the payment letter in your [account](#), and send the checks to:

**ELCA Youth Gathering**  
**P.O. Box 5026**  
**Hagerstown, MD 21741-5026**

**Hotel deposit:**

Your hotel deposit and rooming lists are due to the hotel on May 15. Please download the housing assignment letter in your [Gathering account](#), fill out the form, and send it to the address indicated in your letter.

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## Transportation webinar

Tonight is our transportation webinar! Join us at 7 p.m. CDT as Transportation team leader Kim Adams tells us everything we need to know about transportation for the Gathering! We'll talk about what to expect, launch times, how you're getting from point A to point B and address all of your other questions! [Sign up](#) or join us on [Facebook live!](#)

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## 3TC

On May 15, Molly Beck Dean will be the guest on the ELCA Youth and Family Ministry Network's Third Tuesday Conversation! As director of the Gathering, Molly will answer questions and give an inside scoop of what it's been like to plan the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering!

The webinar is from 1-1:30 p.m. CDT, and you can [register here!](#)



## Global Farm Challenge



ELCA World Hunger's **Global Farm Challenge** is a yearlong, youth-driven fundraising challenge to support the agriculture-related programs of our church's ministry to end hunger and poverty. Many youth and youth groups will raise funds ahead 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 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 around the world.

The goal of the Global Farm Challenge is to raise \$500,000 or more in 2018 to equip communities around the world and in the United States with livestock, seeds, tools, training and other agriculture-related activities to turn a hungry season into a hopeful season. Perhaps your youth group is already hard at work raising funds. If so, thank you for all you've already done to take part in this life-changing initiative!

Now, thanks to generous friends of the ELCA, your gifts will go even further: **All gifts toward the Global Farm Challenge will be matched – dollar for dollar – up to \$515,000, so together we can raise more than \$1 million this year to create healthier families, stronger economies and a future filled with hope.** To learn more, participate or find helpful resources, visit [ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge](http://ELCA.org/globalfarmchallenge).

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## 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](mailto:gathering@elca.org) to your contacts or address book.

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