



**Press Kit**

**Media Contact**

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**General Information**

Event name: 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering  
Abbreviated name: Gathering  
When: July 19–23, 2025  
Where: New Orleans, LA  
Social Media: @lcmsgathering // #LCMSYG

Gathering Identity Mark (color/BW – PNG) / Style Guides – Downloadable at [www.lcmsgathering.com/media](http://www.lcmsgathering.com/media)

**Event Schedule**

<b>Friday, July 18</b>	Early Registration at Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCCNO)
<b>Saturday, July 19</b> Evening	Registration at Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCCNO) Opening event at Caesar’s Superdome
<b>Sunday, July 20</b> Morning/Afternoon	Program elements at convention center Servant events throughout New Orleans
Evening	Event at Caesar’s Superdome
<b>Monday, July 21</b> Morning/Afternoon	Program elements at convention center; Servant events throughout New Orleans
Evening	Event at Caesar’s Superdome
<b>Tuesday, July 22</b> Morning/Afternoon	Program elements at convention center; Servant events throughout New Orleans
Evening	Event at Caesar’s Superdome
<b>Wednesday, July 23</b> Morning 12:00 p.m.	Closing event at Caesar’s Superdome Conclusion of 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering

**Gathering Key Terms**

**Adult Leaders** – Adults attending the Gathering with a congregational group.

**Community Group(s)/Community Group Time/Community Group Questions** –Smaller groups of 10 or fewer participants. During this time, you will gather to reflect, repent, praise and pray. It is important to be in community around God’s Word throughout the event. Community Group time can happen multiple times per day where, and when, it works best for each group. Daily Community Group Questions will be available in the Gathering Guidebook and Gathering App and will often be presented at the end of each Mass Event.

**Gathering Ambassadors** – Vital adult volunteers (ages 25+) who wear yellow shirts serve in a variety of roles such as hotel liaisons and in program areas such as Stadium Events, Interactive Center, Sessions, Bible Study, traffic/safety support, and late night. Ambassadors are selected through an application process and given roles for the entire Gathering. These volunteers are recognized by their yellow shirts.

**Congregational group** – All participants come to the Gathering as a part of a group associated with an LCMS congregation or school. These groups can be all from a single congregation or from multiple congregations attending together. Each group is required to have at least one Primary Adult Leader and one participant and to have approval from the pastor associated with their home congregation or school.

**Interactive Center/Thematic Floor** – Convention center floor that provides a wide variety of activities for participants to explore the Gathering theme. This center will feature hands-on learning opportunities, sports, crafts, games, service opportunities, New Orleans adventures, and other events throughout the day.

### Sessions

- **Sessions** – These workshops are held in meeting rooms, ballrooms, and theaters of the convention center and (possibly) hotels near the convention center. Presenters dig into God’s Word, a variety of important topics, and tell their witness of God working in their lives. Most sessions are speaker-based while some provide opportunities to laugh and learn with presenters and performers. (Dates, Times, Locations TBD)
- **Concerts** will open some sessions with music performed by Christian bands and musicians.
- **Adult Sessions** – Some sessions are designed to equip and encourage adult leaders to lead their youth ministry, know youth culture and strengthen youth ministry back home.

**LCMS** – The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Learn more about the LCMS [here](#).

**LSB** – The Lutheran Service Book is the most current hymnal serving the LCMS. The LSB was developed by the LCMS Commission on Worship and published by Concordia Publishing House in 2006. It offers a rich compilation of services, psalms, hymns and prayers.

**Primary Adult Leader (PAL)** – is the adult leader who serves as the liaison between the Youth Gathering and your church’s leaders, youth, and parents. The Primary Adult Leader is responsible for registering the group through the Gathering Office and will receive most of the direct communication from our office.

**Participants** – This refers to anyone, youth and adults, who has paid to attend the Gathering. Other terms that can be used are Adult Leaders, young adults, young people, or youth. We do not use the terms “kids” or “students” when communicating about youth participants.

**Servant Events** – Participants will engage in acts of mercy and service in the name of Jesus. Off-site servant events will engage participants in the New Orleans community as well as surrounding communities. A variety



of shorter on-site service learning options will be offered at the Convention Center. While serving, these opportunities will inform participants about issues in our community and country, like homelessness, the need for blood donors, and food insecurity. Please note many of these need additional forms and/or pre-registration before the Gathering.

**Team Flex** – Short term adult volunteers who serve in a variety of roles, mainly in program areas such as Stadium Events, Interactive Center, Sessions, Bible Study, and traffic/safety support. Team Flex is not limited, so any adult 18+ can apply. These volunteers can opt into a service based on their schedule, choosing one day or the whole Gathering. They will only be given credentials for the days they serve. These volunteers are recognized by their blue shirts and blue swag.

**Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs)** – A group of volunteers between the ages of 19 and 25. Their role is vital to ensuring the Gathering is a successful and memorable experience. YAVs serve as role models for teen participants while working in specific areas of the event such as Stadium Events, Interactive Center, Sessions, Bible Study, traffic/safety support, late night, and servant events. These volunteers are recognized by their orange shirts and sometimes called “Orange Nation.”