



15 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 2022 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 2021. 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.

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

May 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on May 6th.
- Before June 30, register for [National Lutheran Youth Workers Conference](#) in Houston.
- Develop a budget for the LCMS Youth Gathering and share with appropriate leaders in the congregation (pastor, DCE, finance staff or chairperson, etc.).
- Develop a Youth Gathering fundraising plan.



June 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on June 3rd.
- Start listening to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering Starter Pack Episodes.
- Confirm the process for selecting and recruit adult leaders for the LCMS Youth Gathering with the pastor and/or church leadership.
- Download [“In All Things” Thematic Development](#) and use it to prepare your hearts and minds for the Gathering theme.

July 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on July 1st.
- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on July 13th.
- Attend the [National Lutheran Youth Workers Conference](#) on July 11-14, 2021, at the Hyatt Regency Houston.
- [Young Adult Volunteer Registration](#) opens for those aged 19-25 years old.
- Create a pre-Gathering meeting schedule for youth, parents and adult leaders.
- Build list or database of youth eligible to attend the 2022 LCMS Youth Gathering and begin to reach out to them. (Eligible youth are those finishing 7th grade in the 2020-2021 school year or no younger than 13 on July 15, 2022 and no older than 20 on July 15, 2022.)

August 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on August 5th.
- Registration Materials will be available on [Gathering Website](#).
- Have first adult leader meeting for interested, or selected, adult leaders.

September 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on September 2nd.
- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on September 7th.
- Have first parent, youth and adult leader meeting.



October 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on October 7th.
- Start fundraising.
- 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*)
 - Consider dividing the financial responsibility of each family into numerous payments.
 - Receive feedback from participants about program options (if applicable).
- Register with the LCMS Youth Gathering Office.
 - Primary Adult Leader completes on-line registration for congregation group.
 - Rank program options (if applicable).
 - Garner necessary signatures and deposit payment.

November 2021—

- Mail in forms & deposits to the Gathering Office (cannot be postmarked before November 1).
- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on November 2nd.
- Join us for our Facebook Live on November 4th.
- Have second youth and adult leader meeting. At this point, meetings shift in focus from informational to building community and group spiritually.
- Your registration will be confirmed by LCMS Youth Ministry either through the registration software, via email or via letter. Just keep an eye out!
- Continue fundraising.

December 2021—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on December 2nd.
- Start make specific travel arrangements for your group.
- Continue fundraising.
- [Young Adult Volunteer](#) registration closes on December 31st.

January 2022—

- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on January 4th.
- Join us for our Facebook Live on January 6th.
- Have your second adult leader planning meeting.
- Continue fundraising.



February 2022—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on February 3rd.
- Look for Choir and Band applications to open.
- Have third youth and adult leader meeting.
- Continue fundraising.

March 2022—

- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on March 1st.
- Join us for our Facebook Live on March 3rd.
- Continue fundraising.

April 2022—

- Join us for our Facebook Live on April 7th.
- Deposit for hotel due to the Gathering Office (date subject to change).
- Youth and adults sign-up to participate in District Events during the Gathering.
- Make Plans for Meals.
- Have fourth youth and adult leader meeting.
- Continue fundraising.

May 2022—

- Listen to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering episode released on May 3rd.
- Registration Closes/Deadline for Express Registration on May 4th.
- Join us for our Facebook Live on May 5th.
- Last Day for Sub/Cancellations on May 31st.
- Have final adult leader planning meeting.
- Continue fundraising

June 2022—

- Gathering Registration Closes on June 1, 2022.
- Join us for our Facebook Live on June 2nd.
- Listen to the End Goals Podcast Gathering episodes released on June 14th and 28th.
- Have final parent, youth and adult leader meeting (final information is presented and handed out).



July 2022—

- Hold a Commissioning service for all participants of the LCMS Youth Gathering on July 3rd (or before).
- Attend In All Things - LCMS Youth Gathering in Houston, TX July 9-13, 2022.
- Start listening to the [End Goals Podcast](#) Gathering Finishing Pack on July 19th.

August 2022—

- Finish listening 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.