

2022 ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING

# boundless

GOD BEYOND MEASURE

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a binding promise

# group covenant

Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Bethany Lutheran Church

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**TO ALL PARTICIPANTS:**

By signing a covenant, you are agreeing to live by certain expectations in order to be a part of a community. Agreeing to a covenant is a CHOICE, and in exchange, you will receive financial assistance from the Church and get to be a part of our group at the ELCA National Youth Gathering in 2022.

A covenant is not a list of rules but a binding promise. It is a commitment to standards that will benefit both you and the group's safety, well-being, and ability to have a FUN and meaningful experience through the Gathering.

The mission of the ELCA Youth Gathering is faith formation in teens: growing in faith, experiencing new things, having fun, and being challenged in an intentional Christian community. All agreed upon standards reflect our desire to share in that mission.

**SINCERELY,**  
Ann Hunhoff  
Youth Ministry Coordinator

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## gathering preparation

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I will:

- submit payment for the \$100 deposit to my respective church on or by November 1st.
- submit the second installment of the expected family contribution (\$150) on or by May 1st **OR** I will communicate need for financial assistance on or by November 1st.
- understand I will not receive a refund for any reason.
- submit all intake forms on or by November 1st.
- regularly attend worship and/or youth group.
- attend all Getting Ready meetings in-person or via Zoom unless I communicate a reason for absence BEFORE the day of the meeting. (Expect 5-8 Getting Ready meetings between November and the Gathering. Will most likely occur Sunday afternoons.)
- participate in spiritual preparation from Getting Ready meetings.
- be present at/participate in my church's fundraising events unless I communicate a reason for absence BEFORE the fundraiser.
- review the packing list one week before departure and pack one day before departure.
- decide which shoes I will be bringing and walk in them 1-2 miles per day beginning one week before departure
- be intentional about hydrating for at least a week prior to the Gathering.
- try to get 8 hours of sleep each night for at least a week prior to the Gathering.
- provide proof of vaccination or a negative covid test.

## gathering responsibilities

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I will:

- be responsible for any items I bring, including electronics.
  - be ready to go every morning PRIOR to the given meeting time.
  - abide by "lights out" time & respect my own need for rest as well as the rest of others.
  - wear appropriate footwear at all times.
  - wear clothing that makes me feel good.
  - wear clothing that my guardians would allow me out of the house in.
  - wear Gathering t-shirt when required.
  - prop hotel doors open if there are people present who do not sleep in that room.
  - be responsible for my daily food money, keeping track of it & budgeting it out throughout the day.
  - pay attention to groupme communications.
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## gathering behavior

I will:

- abide by all health & safety measures set by the ELCA.
- refrain from using my cell phone while walking, during sessions, or while in a group meeting.
- be respectful of all people who are impacting your experience: hotel staff, food service workers, Gathering volunteers, bus drivers, etc.
- always be with at least one other member of our group.
- listen to any Adult Leader decisions & acknowledge that it is their desire to enhance the group's experience.
- show concern for others' physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual well-being.
- maintain a positive attitude OR fake it til I make it.
- be responsible to my fellow groupies by communicating through conflict, being on time for every single thing, and hyping one another up.
- not participate in any illegal activity.
- use common sense & good Jesus judgment when it comes to matters not explicitly addressed in the covenant.
- honor the equality of all people, avoiding all forms of discrimination and respect the dignity of each person without regard to status, gender, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or physical/mental abilities.

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## post-gathering

I will:

- bring back stories and photos to share with others.
- attend follow-up debrief + worship presentation prep.
- participate in sharing experiences with my respective congregation during worship.
- continue to participate in Christian community through worship or youth group.

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## consequences

If I do not abide by the agreements of the covenant, I understand:

- I will have a private conversation with Primary Adult Leader (Ann).
  - I may be asked to spend part or all of the day under the direct supervision of an Adult Leader.
  - that illegal or immoral behavior will not be tolerated and may result in contacting authorities and/or being sent home at my or my family's expense.
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Before signing, please ask any questions that may have come up while reading.

message ann via remind app

text ann: (402) 992-3373

email ann: ann@immanuelfamily.com

By signing this, I am communicating that I have read and understood all elements of the Immanuel & Bethany group covenant for the 2022 ELCA National Youth Gathering.

participant signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_

guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if participant is a student)