



Confirmation Packet

2023 All Youth Gathering

We are so excited that you will be joining us at Cragun's for the NE MN Synod All Youth Gathering! Our prayer is that this will be a meaningful faith experience as well as a fun time for you and your young people.

Below is information to help you prepare for the Gathering. Please read through these materials carefully. If you have any registration or program questions please contact the registrar, Leigha Lange: youth@nemnsynod.org.

In Christ,
All Youth Gathering Planning Team

Group Registration and Payment Confirmation

The email confirmation you received after submitting your registration and/or payment is the confirmation of your registration. If you did not receive an email or if any information in the email is incorrect, please contact youth@nemnsynod.org.

All payments are due at the time of registration and are non-refundable. Checks should be made payable to "NE MN Synod LYO Gathering Account" and mailed to:

NE MN Synod, Attn: AYG
1111 London Road
Duluth, MN 55802

A final Confirmation Form will be emailed to Primary Leaders by November 9. This document will confirm your total registration, pizzas, payments, and Health Forms still missing.

Changes to Your Group Registration

To make substitutions or cancellations to your Group Registration use the "Changes Form" button at www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth.

Housing

Don't forget to update your housing reservation if you make changes to your Group Registration!

All housing changes (additions, substitutions, cancellations) must be done via email. Email Lorie at Lbourassa@craguns.com to make your changes. Cragun's will work with you as much as they are able to adjust room assignments to maximize occupancy for the lowest rates. If this is not possible, occupants will be charged the rate based on the occupancy type of the new configuration (single, double or triple occupancy rate). **Please note:** If you do not notify Cragun's of cancellations, you will be charged the full rate for that participant!

To Do Before the Event

Forms

There are two forms that are required for participation at the All Youth Gathering:

- **Health and Release Form.**
Youth AND Adult Leaders must submit this form online by November 11. Give parents and Adult Leaders this link to submit the form online: <https://www.cognitoforms.com/NortheasternMinnesotaSynod/2023AllYouthGatheringHealthAndReleaseForm>. They will need the email address of the Primary Leader. Once completed, a copy will be automatically forwarded to the Primary Leader for your records. Print and bring with you to Cragun's in case of emergency.
- **Participant Covenant.**
Download at www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth. Please review the expectations with youth and adult leaders before signing. You can mail to the synod office by November 11 or bring with you to the registration desk at Cragun's.

Read/Pass Out to Adult Leaders

These are helpful resources that will help Adult Leaders prepare for the event:

- **Adult Leader Job Description:** Gives an overview of what is expected from Adult Leaders and includes tips from experienced Adult Leaders.
- **Step by Step Guide to the All Youth Gathering:** This walks through every activity of the All Youth Gathering so adults know what to expect. A great resource, especially for new leaders!
- **Family Time Discussion Guide:** There are opportunities to meet with your congregation group during the All Youth Gathering to discuss what youth are learning and experiencing. This guide is a resource to lead those discussion.
- **Discipline Guidelines:** Discipline issues are a rare occurrence at the All Youth Gathering! But when they do occur, the LYO Board wants congregations to know how we will support you through this experience and how we will work with you to determine which actions to take.

We hope to have these resources posted on or before November 13 at www.nemnsynod.org/AllYouth.

Meet With Your Group

Prepared groups get the most out of the All Youth Gathering! Use this meeting to go over expectations, sign and collect forms, share logistical information with youth and their parents (rides, times, what to pack), and do group building activities (name games, interactive games – do a Google search for “Youth Ministry Games” if you need ideas). Include a devotion (perhaps on the Ten Commandments), and/or prayer.

Getting to Cragun's & Checking In

Driving Directions

From Brainerd, drive north on Highway 371 for 3 miles to County Road 77 (Pine Beach Rd.). Turn left onto County Road 77, and continue 6 miles to Cragun's. The entrance will be on your right. Visit www.craguns.com for more info and written directions to the resort.

Cragun's Phone #: 866-988-0562

Address: 11000 Craguns Drive, Brainerd, MN 56401

Checking In

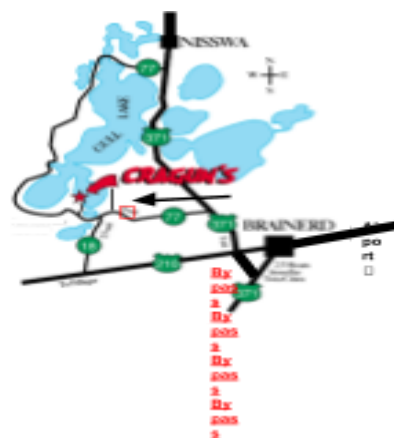
Registration is from 4:30pm – 6:30pm in The Centre, not the front desk. Participants who arrive prior to the beginning of registration will be asked to wait outside until 4:30pm to allow for set-up.

Register **first with the LYO Board**, then move to the Cragun's housing table (also in the Centre). Please do not bring youth to the registration desk to avoid congestion and confusion. The LYO will have a short activity for your youth as you enter the Centre while you register. Free parking is available in various lots near your rooms.

In case of emergency, call or text **Sarah at 605-929-7607**. If no one answers the cell phone, you can also leave a message for Sarah at 866-988-0562 (Cragun's). Between 4-7pm Friday and Saturday, ask the clerk to bring the message to the Centre. If your group is running late, still come to the Centre first to register.

Adult Leader Training Meeting

All adult leaders need to attend a mandatory adult leader training meeting at 6:40pm. The meeting includes tips and training for the event and your role as an adult leader. Bring your youth to their assigned rooms for “Hola Hour” at 6:30pm where they will have activities and supervision by the LYO Board (comprised of youth and adults). Your assigned room will be indicated by the wristbands you receive at registration. Then come to the **Dining Room** which can be accessed through the stairway in the lobby or from the pool area. If your group is running late, still go to registration first, then make your way to the meeting as soon as possible.



Program Information

What to Bring

Comfortable clothing, toiletries, swimsuit, Bible, pen, money for offering.

Leaders sometimes ask why we encourage youth to bring Bibles when we may not use them during the large group learning events. During Family Time, you will have the opportunity to share a devotion and have faith conversations with your youth. This is a great learning time for youth to open their Bibles and use them outside of a church setting.

Optional: Camera, money for snacks at the front desk.

Do Not Bring: Alcohol, drugs, weapons. Our covenant asks that all participants (youth and adults) refrain from using electronic devices, unless (with adult leader permission) they are used for their camera function. In this case we ask that devices be set to airplane mode and data is turned off so they don't transmit. We will leave it up to adult leaders to police this, but LYO will ask participants to put devices away if we see them being used inappropriately.

Adults Only: We understand the need for – and encourage - adults to carry a cell phone in case of emergency. Please make sure your phone is set to vibrate, and refrain from using except for emergency calls or for taking pictures.

Offering

The offering collected during Closing Worship at the All Youth Gathering will be given to the **Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ingria in Russia (ELCIR)**.

Meals

Breakfast is the only meal included in your registration fee. Be sure to make plans to stop for dinner in Brainerd before arriving or bring food with you (rooms have microwaves and refrigerators). If you have a long ride home, you may want to factor in additional time and spending money for a lunch stop on the way home.

Pizza

Large pepperoni, sausage and cheese pizzas from Little Caesar's are available for purchase for \$7 each. **All pizzas must be pre-ordered, pre-paid, and are non-refundable.** Additional orders will NOT be available when you arrive at Cragun's. Pizzas can be picked up at the poolside during Hotel Life, late evening on Night One. And remember: This is a snack, not dinner – don't forget to feed your group before arriving at Cragun's! ☺

Quiet Room during GiGs

We understand how difficult it can be for youth with sensory or other challenges to be part of the large group sessions (GiGs) at the All Youth Gathering. If youth need to step out to collect themselves, we have a "Quiet Room" with a bin of calm-down items available in Room 371 during all large group sessions. Adult Leaders must accompany youth to use this room.

Tentative Schedule *(Subject to Change)*

Day One

4:30-6:30pm	Registration in the Centre
6:30pm	Hola Hour (Arrival Activities)
6:40pm	Adult Leader Meeting
7:40pm	GiG #1
9:00pm	Family Time
9:30pm	Hotel Life
12:00am	Family Time Check-In
1:00am	Lights Out

Day Two

7:45-8:35am	Breakfast Buffet
8:45am	GiG #2
9:10am	Learning Cluster #1
10:05am	Learning Cluster #2
10:45am	Check-Out/Pack Cars
11:15am	Closing Worship
12:30pm	Depart

Primary Leader Checklist

Use this checklist to make sure you have the essentials before departing for Cragun's!

- ☐ **Health and Release forms:** Have a paper or accessible electronic copy of each form. Forms should be automatically forwarded to the Primary Leader once submitted. If you are missing forms due to an incorrect email address entered, contact Leigha at youth@nemnsynod.org to request a form be forwarded to you.
- ☐ **Participant Covenant signed by all participants** (Two copies – one for synod, one for you)
- ☐ **Dinner plan** for feeding your group before you arrive at Cragun's.
- ☐ **Lunch plan** for feeding your group on the way home from Cragun's.
- ☐ **Prayers, love, enthusiasm...**and a good night's sleep the night before you come! ☺