

Where: Houston, Texas When: June 27 – July 1, 2018

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation, interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship. This provides an excellent opportunity for young people to grow in faith and be challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

The theme for the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering is, "This Changes Everything." The primary scripture will be Ephesians 2:8 "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God."

Grace is a foundational and distinctive piece of the Lutheran faith. This gift, undeserved and freely given, changes lives and perspectives because of what Christ has done and we are called to serve our neighbors and share the good news.

## Resources:



#### The ELCA Website:

#### WWW.ELCA.ORG/YOUTHGATHERING

The Official Gathering Handbook: Tips and Tricks for Adult Leaders is available on the website and is especially useful to look through – whether you've been to a dozen Gatherings or this is your first!

### **Synod Coordinator:**



Jill Goldhammer Director of Youth and Family Ministry, Salem Lutheran, Peoria IL

Jill Goldhammer, will serve as the Gathering Synod Coordinator (GSC) for the Central/Southern Illinois Synod. As the primary resource person for our synod, Jill will assist in promoting the Gathering, sharing important event information, equipping and supporting congregation adult leaders as they prepare to bring young people to the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, TX. The GSC communicates Gathering details to congregational leaders and helps answer questions as they participate in registration and activities prior to the Gathering.

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# More details to come!!