

I was so fortunate to be able to participate in the National Youth Gathering this year. Going into the trip, I really didn't know what to expect. I was hoping to gain a more solid base for my faith that I could carry with me to college this fall. The gathering exceeded my expectations. It is unlike any faith event I have ever been to. Just seeing the sheer amount of people coming together that all have the same values and beliefs as me was something I didn't know I needed to see until I did. The sense of community was overwhelming and extremely comforting. There, I learned that God is always with me. I had been told that before but the gathering was able to present that knowledge in such a relevant way to this modern generation of teenagers that we could better see how God was working in our everyday lives. That experience was so rejuvenating to my faith and my relationship with God. If anyone is even considering going to the National Youth Gathering in the slightest, go. I promise you, you will be so happy with your decision. Being together with not only your immediate church family but with such a huge group of LCMS youth is so amazing to witness and you can truly feel God present there.