



2027 ELCA Youth Gathering

JUNE 26 - JULY 2, 2027

MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

Fundraising for the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering

As we prepare for the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering, it is an expectation that all students and their families will contribute to the fundraising efforts. Our goal is to fundraise as a group to cover all remaining costs beyond the \$250 deposit and \$250 final payment per student. We have some additional funds available from the Youth Dedicated Fund and the Youth Ministry Budget. Depending on the number of students participating, we are looking at fundraising up to \$25,000.

Fundraising Plans & Involvement

All fundraising signups will take place at the Gathering Prep Meeting for students and parents on Sunday, October 11.

Tenzi Night | January 29, 2027

Students and parents are asked to be present for and help with our **Tenzi Night Fundraiser** on Friday, January 29, 7:30-9pm. There will be opportunities to help with food, spotters, registration/check-in, setup/tear down, kids activities, and providing snacks & prizes for the night. **(Goal: \$1,500 - \$2,000)**

Dinner Auction | March 13, 2027

This fundraiser is all hands on deck (students and parents). Each student participant and at least one parent will have the opportunity to sign up for planning teams at the Gathering Prep Meeting on October 11 for students and parents. **(Goal: \$20,000+)**

- **Auction Team** - responsible for coordinating auction (live and/or silent) and securing auction items (baskets, youth service, etc.) as well as coordinating the logistics of how the auction will happen that night.
- **Decorations Team** - responsible for creating a total experience through environmental elements, decorations, etc.
- **Food Team** - responsible for determining menu and coordinating food preparation, service, and all related details.
- **Setup Team** - responsible for coordinating setup needs (will work with other teams) to determine setup needs and coordinate with Epiphany staff and volunteers to help make sure everything gets setup as needed.
- **Tear Down Team** - responsible for coordinating tear down and cleanup on the day of the event. May recruit additional help as needed, but this team will be responsible for knowing where things go, and will be accountable to making sure everything is properly cleaned up and put away.
- **Entertainment Team** - responsible for coordinating and securing the entertainment for the evening (dancing, live music, recorded music, MC, etc.).

Additional Funding & Income Opportunities

In addition to planned fundraisers, we are hopeful for the following income sources.

Youth Dedicated Fund (\$30,000+)

Epiphany kicked off our Funding of the 2027 ELCA Youth Gathering with a gift of **\$30,000** after the 2025 End-of-Year Giving Appeal. We also have some funds leftover from our 2024 Gathering Fundraising efforts that allow us to kick start with this generous amount.

Money Wall / Sponsorships (\$5,000+)

This is happening on a modified timeline from previous years, but is in our back pocket for additional funding.

Support Letters

Students personalize a support letter that they can send to family and friends who may be willing to contribute to the cost of their trip (grandparents, aunts and uncles, godparents, etc.)

Apple Tree Legacy

Erin Haligowski and Mary Groom will be working to reach out to the Apple Tree Society to see if any funding is available to help defray the cost of the Gathering for our group.

A Note About the Young Adult Gathering

For the first time, Epiphany is organizing a group to attend the ELCA Young Adult Gathering, which happens parallel to the Youth Gathering for young adults ages 18-35 who are at least one year out of high school. We are going to partner on our fundraising and will know more information as we get through the registration process.

If you know a young adult who might be interested in attending the 2027 ELCA Young Adult Gathering, please have them reach out to Mary Groom (mgroom@epiphanydayton.org) as soon as possible to connect about registration, timelines, etc.

Financial Assistance

We are committed to fundraising enough to cover all but \$500 per student attending the ELCA Youth Gathering. Additional financial assistance is available for those who need it. Please reach out to Erin Haligowski for more information and if you require additional assistance. Please don't let finances be the reason that your son or daughter doesn't attend the Gathering!