



UNBREAKABLE

WITH THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD

**LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA
NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING
2025**

**WILFRED LAURIER UNIVERSITY
WATERLOO, ON**

JULY 4 - 8, 2025

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Welcome to UNBREAKABLE 2025!

On behalf of the 2025 Lutheran Church-Canada National Youth Gathering Committee, welcome to UNBREAKABLE 2025! We've been prayerfully planning and working on this event for over two years and we're excited to see all the praying and planning finally come together. We've been thinking about you as we've been planning and we're thankful that God has brought you here.

Most of the information that you'll need to know about UNBREAKABLE 2025 is in this book. We've included the schedule, information about the presenters, maps, devotions for your group to use, and information about various groups who are here at the event. Please take some time to look through this book.

We're so thankful for our hosts at Wilfrid Laurier University. Please act graciously as you interact with the staff and other visitors at WLU.

We're also very thankful for the many volunteers that help to make this event happen. They are here to help you have the best experience at this event that you can have. Please remember to thank them for their hard work.

If you have any questions or concerns, check first with your 7+1 Leader. If they don't know the answers or solutions, they'll help you to find the people who do. 7+1 Leaders, if you have questions, check in with our dedicated 7+1 liaisons.

Have a great National Youth Gathering. We pray that God will work in you this weekend, equipping you with the whole armour of God, helping you to stand firm, reminding you that you belong to Him in Jesus and that He's given you the gifts of faith, forgiveness, eternal life, and the Holy Spirit. God loves us and while we were still sinners, Christ died for us!

Peace in Jesus,

The 2025 Lutheran Church-Canada National Youth Gathering Committee

ABOUT THE THEME

The Gathering is called "UNBREAKABLE," based on Ephesians 6:10-18, and the theme verse is: "Put on the whole armour of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil" (Eph 6:11). The committee hopes that the youth who attend will learn that the full armour of God makes them unbreakable in the face of worldly things that could make them feel breakable, and the sessions will show that God does not use only perfect people, but that scripture is full of accounts where He took very broken people and made them unbreakable.

The NYG's mission statement is: "Providing opportunities for Lutheran youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ."

This booklet contains much of the important information your group will need to navigate the Gathering. A paper copy is available for each 7+1 leader, and it is also available for download from our website, www.lccnyg.ca.

Thank you to Scott Refvik for the logo design, and to Rita Rickus and the congregation at Trinity Lutheran Church, Fisherville, for the booklet layout and printing!

Access a PDF copy of the NYG25 UNBREAKABLE booklet, here:





WHEN & WHERE

2025 NYG Schedule - Friday, July 4

When	What	Where
1:00 - 6:00 pm	Registration	King Street Residence Lobby
3:00 - 5:30 pm	Social-Lite/Campus Tours	Science Atrium (Lobby & 2 Adjacent Rooms), the Field
4:30 - 5:30 pm	7+1 Leader Orientation	Leaders Lounge (Main Floor King Street Dorms)
5:30 - 6:45 pm	Dinner	Cafeteria
6:45 - 8:15 pm	Main Session 1	Theatre
8:15 - 9:15 pm	UNBREAKABLE Connections	Various Locations
9:30 - 10:00 pm	Opening Worship	Theatre
10:00 - 11:00 pm	Evening Fun - Wide Game/ Youth Lounge	Science Atrium (Lobby & 2 Adjacent Rooms), the Field
11:15 pm	7+1 Devotions	Various Locations
11:45 pm	Lights Out	

The schedule in this booklet may have changed since it was printed. For the most up-to-date schedule, visit the website: <https://lccnyg.ca/schedule/>



2025 NYG SCHEDULE - SATURDAY, JULY 5

When	What	Where
7:00 - 8:30 am	Breakfast	Cafeteria
8:45 - 9:15 am	Morning Prayer	Theatre
9:15 - 9:30 am	Group Photo	TBA
9:30 - 11:00 am	Main Session 2	Theatre
11:00 - 12:00 pm	UNBREAKABLE Connections	Various Locationns
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Cafeteria
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Breakout Session 1	Bricker Academic Building (classrooms, exhibitors, bookstore)
2:45 - 4:15 pm	Daytime Fun (Youth)	Gymnasium
	Leaders' Training (7+1 Leaders)	Bricker Academic Building
4:30 - 5:30 pm	Breakout Session 2	Bricker Academic Building (classrooms, exhibitors, bookstore)
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Dinner	Cafeteria
7:00 - 8:15 pm	Panel Session	Theatre
8:15 - 9:15 pm	UNBREAKABLE Connections	Various Locations
9:30 - 10:30 pm	Late Night Options	Science Atrium & the Field
10:30 - 11:00 pm	Evening Prayer	Theatre
11:15 pm	7+1 Devotions	Various Locations
11:45 pm	Lights Out	

2025 NYG SCHEDULE - SUNDAY, JULY 6

When	What	Where
8:30 - 10:00 am	Breakfast	Cafeteria
8:45 - 10:00 am	Youth Leaders' Round Table	Paul Martin Room
	Youth Lounge Open	Science Atrium
10:30 - 12:00 pm	Divine Service with Holy Communion	Theatre
12:00 - 1:30 pm	Lunch	Cafeteria
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Breakout Session 3	Bricker Academic Building (Classrooms, Exhibitors, Bookstore)
2:45 - 3:45 pm	FREE TIME	
4:00 - 5:00 pm	Breakout Session 4	Bricker Academic Building (Classrooms, Exhibitors, Bookstore)
5:00 - 6:30 pm	Dinner	Cafeteria
6:30 - 8:00 pm	Main Session 3	Theatre
8:00 - 9:00 pm	UNBREAKABLE Connections	Various Locations
9:15 - 10:15 pm	Late Night Options	Science Atrium & the Field
	(Leaders' Meeting re Servant Events)	Leaders' Meeting: Leaders' Lounge
10:15 - 10:45 pm	Evening Prayer	Theatre
11:00 pm	7+1 Devotions	Various Locations
11:30 pm	Lights Out	

2025 NYG SCHEDULE - MONDAY, JULY 7

When	What	Where
7:00 - 8:15 am	Breakfast	Cafeteria
8:30 - 8:45 am	Morning Prayer	Theatre
8:45 - 9:00 am	Servant Event Instructions	Theatre
9:00 - 10:00 am	Travel Time	
10:00 - 12:00 pm	Servant Events (Bagged Lunches)	Off Campus
12:00 - 12:30 pm	Travel Time	
12:30 - 4:00 pm	Bingemans Excursion (Including Time to Eat Lunch)	Off Campus
4:00 - 4:30 pm	Travel Time	
4:30 - 5:30 pm	FREE TIME	
5:30 - 7:00 pm	Dinner	Cafeteria
7:00 - 8:15 pm	Main Session 4	Theatre
8:15 - 9:15 pm	UNBREAKABLE Connections	Various Locations
9:30 - 10:30 pm	Late Night Options	Science Atrium & the Field
10:30 - 11:00 pm	Evening Prayer	Theatre
11:15 pm	7+1 Devotions	Various Locations
12:00 am	Lights Out	

2025 NYG SCHEDULE - TUESDAY, JULY 8

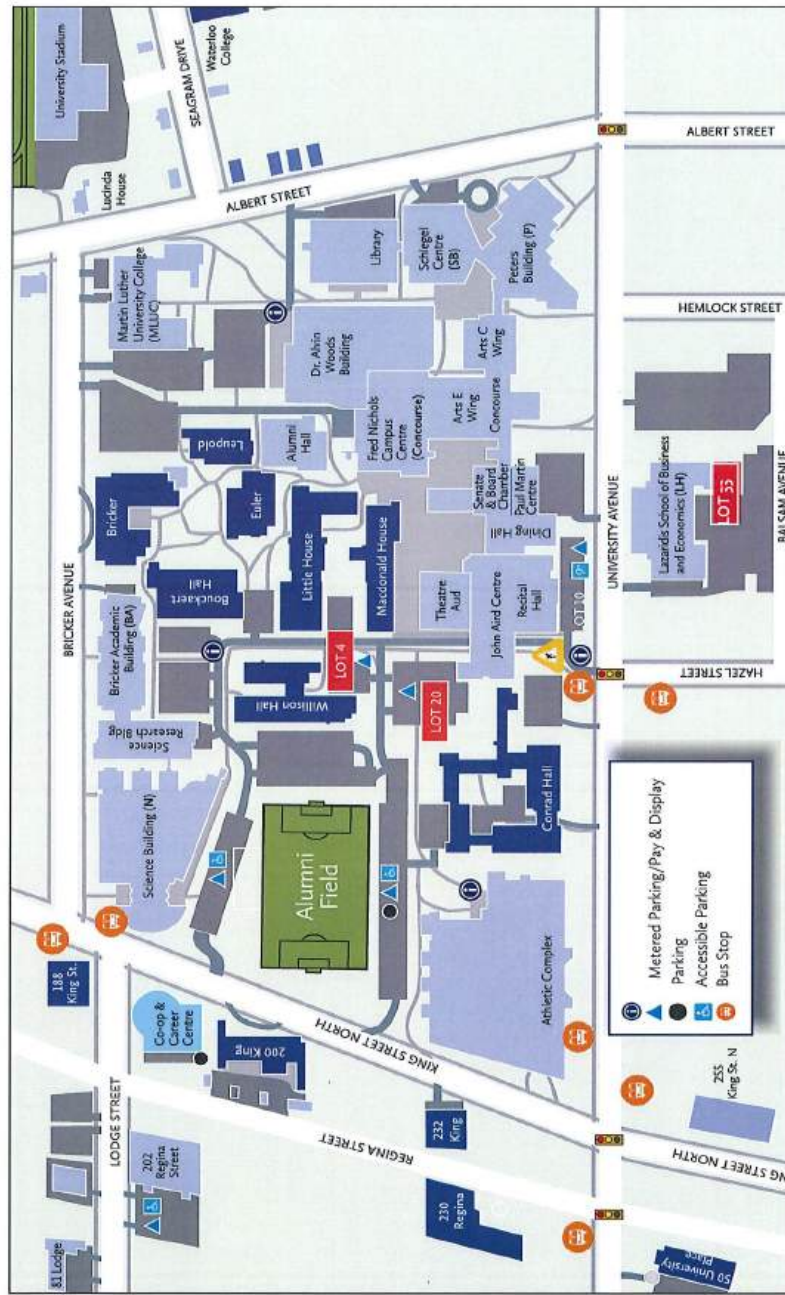
When	What	Where
8:00 - 9:30 am	Breakfast	Cafeteria
10:00 - 11:00 am	Wrap-Up, Slideshow & Goodbyes, Awards Show	Theatre
11:00 - 12:00 pm	Closing Worship Service	Theatre
12:00 pm	So long...Farewell...Auf Wiedersehen...Goodbye!	

CAMPUS LOCATIONS

- Dorms: King Street Residence
- Cafeteria: Fresh Food Company in the Paul Martin Centre
- Theatre: Lazaridis Theatre in the Lazaridis School of Business and Economics
- Exhibitors and Breakout Sessions: Bricker Academic Building
- Welcome Party, Late Night Options, Chapel: Science Building Atrium and adjoining field
- Gym: Laurier Athletic Complex

NYG Custom Google Map:





LAURIER
WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY

YOU BELONG HERE. REALLY.

The mission of the Church
needs you — your voice, your faith,
your questions, your hope!



At Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada, we've been around for generations, helping people **grow in faith** and **share the Gospel**. Now we're building something new — with you in mind!

This is **your space** to:

- Connect with a community that's growing in faith together.
- Grow your devotional life, even when things feel chaotic!
- Discover new ways to serve, lead, and make a real impact in your church and community.

Whether you're looking for resources & service trips, mentorship, creative outreach ideas, or just a real convo about faith that isn't sugar-coated — **we're here for it.**

Explore. Equip. Encourage.

We're creating a space for young leaders who want to **live their faith** with purpose — and we want **your voice** in the mix. Let's build something that matters. **Together.**

- Check it out: www.lll.ca/mentorshipproject
- Or email Lisa: director@lll.ca
- Or call us (yeah, we still pick up): 1-800-555-6236



Built by generations. For your faith. For your future.
Real life. Real faith. Real connection.



Who's Who AT THE NYG

WHO'S WHO AT THE NYG!



Main Speaker

PASTOR ROBERT BUGBEE serves as a pastor at First Lutheran Church and Christian Academy in Windsor, Ontario, where he has been since 2018. From 2008 to 2018, he served as the Synod President of LCC. At the 2013 NYG in Winnipeg, *Stand Firm*, he served the gathering as the Bible Study Leader. Pastor Bugbee was born in Ohio, then studied at Wartburg College in Iowa and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, with semesters in Germany. Concordia Theological

Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana, conferred on him the honorary degree Doctor of Divinity. He is married to Gail, and they have four children and ten grandchildren.



Main Speaker

JENNIFER KERR (MAMFT, RMFT) is a mental and relational health counsellor from Regina, Saskatchewan. She has a husband named Rocky, a cat named Kirby, and a guitar named Bennett. Throughout her time working with kids, youth, and young adults in many different organizations, Jennifer knew she wanted to grow in her abilities to serve young people and families. That led her to complete her Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy and become

a professional counsellor. Jennifer has been part of many LCC youth gatherings as a musician, and spoke at IMPACT 2023 on mental health from a faith perspective, but this is her first time as a co-main speaker. She is pumped to attend UNBREAKABLE in 2025! Find Jennifer online at www.throughtherapy.ca.



Guest Speaker

CASSIE MOORE is an author, speaker, and leadership consultant with 15 years of experience in ministry to young people. She is the author of Faith Notes: A Christ-Centered Survival Kit for Young Women, Authentic Youth Ministry: Straight Talk about Working with Kids, Teens & In-Betweens, The Gallivanter Saga adventure series, and a contributing author for Connected for Life: Essential Guide to Youth Ministry, and Words of Peace and Protection: Devotions for Women. She’s also the creator of the webinar series, From A to (Gen) Z: The Church and the Digital Generation with Concordia Publishing House. She has published over 80 articles on youth and culture in addition to freelance curriculum writing. She grew up in Illinois and Minnesota, earned her Master’s Degree in organizational leadership from the Townsend Institute at Concordia University Irvine, has worked on national & district youth gatherings, and enjoys speaking internationally.

Moore currently consults and contracts out for non-profits, churches, schools, and local government organizations regarding youth engagement, understanding Gen Z and Gen Alpha, leadership, strategic planning, and mental health advocacy. She has a certificate in Franklin Covey’s The 4 Disciplines of Execution® and is a QPR Gatekeeper Trainer in suicide prevention, and serves on the board for a multi-site counseling center. She loves travel, hiking, and talking to strangers. She and her husband, Pastor Tyler, live in Hood River, Oregon and have two dogs. Connect with her at cassieahmoore.com.



MC

PASTOR PETER KNELSON grew up in Saskatchewan, where youth gatherings played a pivotal role in shaping his faith and fostering friendships. Although he never had the chance to attend a National Youth Gathering as a youth, he’s making up for it now—serving as the MC for the 2025 NYG! His hope is that today’s youth will find this gathering just as impactful, inspiring, and fun as his own experiences. Pastor Peter serves St. John's Lutheran Warman and St. Paul's Lutheran Bergheim. When he’s not pastoring, he’s helping his wife, Laurel, keep up with their two energetic kids. And when the house finally quiets down, you’ll often find him playing guitar and recording music. He can’t wait to stand alongside you in putting on the full armor of God!



Music Team

ASHTON HART has been surrounded by music his entire life. Inspired by his mother Tara Hart’s love for music, he began his own journey learning the violin at the age of five and spent his childhood playing with several orchestras and chamber ensembles. In high school, a school project led to him discovering his passion for composition. Since then, his goal has been to create inspiring music for visual media that speaks to people the same way his favourite soundtracks spoke to him growing up. After graduating with a Bachelor of Music with distinction from Wilfrid Laurier University, he now works to create beautiful music for media around the world. He even teaches composition courses at the Southwestern Ontario Suzuki Institute summer program alongside a wide array of professional musicians from across the globe. He hopes that every day he can find more ways of sharing his love of music with others.



Music Team

TARA LYN HART is a Juno-nominated Canadian singer/ songwriter who loves music almost as much as she loves being a mom! At 18 years old, her childhood dreams came true when she signed a record deal with Sony Music Canada. After a few years of recording and touring she realized that she wanted to stay home and focus on her growing family, and so she gave up her contract with Sony and started teaching voice lessons.

Although it has been a long time since she has climbed any country music charts, she still finds time to perform and share her love of music in a variety of ways. If you would have told Tara 25 years ago that she would be married to a pastor and have 5 kids she would have laughed really hard, but she thinks it’s pretty amazing how she has been blessed with a life full of adventure, even if it wasn’t what she had planned.



Music Team

ROB WINTONYK began playing piano in the country music genre during his teenage years after playing organ and trumpet for several years in church and school band where he grew up in southern Saskatchewan. He enjoyed travelling in his late teens and early twenties with a few country music recording artists throughout western Canada, including Tara Hart. During his career outside of music, Rob became involved again a number of years ago playing a local corporate event band enjoying different genres of music catering to local charitable organizations again, sharing the stage with Tara, this time in the Kitchener/Waterloo area. Music has always been and will continue to be an important part of Rob’s life, sharing it with his wife and two adult daughters.



Nurse

Our nurse is ERIKA GARDINER, and her contact info will be shared at the 7+1 leaders’ orientation meeting. She will be available for basic first aid needs - but in an emergency, please call 911!



Chaplain

PASTOR PAUL ROGGOW is the Associate Pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Kitchener, husband to Jackie, and Dad to 5 of the best children (who put up with his bad dad jokes). He says he’s looking forward to being the chaplain for NYG 2025 right in his backyard, and even more he’s longing for our King Jesus to return to make everything sad untrue and to make all things new!

7+1 Liaisons

RHONDA KELMAN and DEACON AMANDA HASTINGS are here to support the 7+1 leaders! Their contact info will be shared at the 7+1 leaders’ orientation.

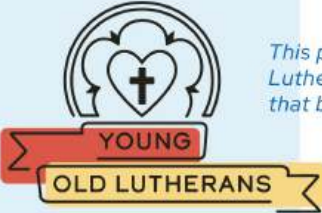


NYG Committee

The NYG committee is **NATHAN VAUGHN**, **MICHELLE HEUMANN**, **TONY MARCHAND**, **DEACON AMANDA HASTINGS**, **GAIL HAEUSSLER** (Registrar), **PASTOR ERIC MOFFETT** (Co-Chair), **RHONDA KELMAN**, **PASTOR GLENN WORCESTER** (Co-Chair), **KAYLA MOFFETT**, and **PASTOR PAUL ROGGOW**.

The volunteers in the yellow shirts are the NYG Minions, who are here to help out however they can! If they don't know the answer to your question, they can help you find someone in a purple shirt - the NYG committee and program team - to get what you need!





This project explores the stories of the faithful young people in Lutheran Church–Canada congregations, and the One True Faith that binds us all together—young and old—as one Body under Christ!



ARI | St. Matthew's (Roblin, MB)

"I have been a member at St. Matthew's in Roblin since August 2021. One of my favourite things about being Lutheran is the rich hymnody. Each hymn is a sermon in a nutshell. I often find myself humming them throughout the week. My favourite hymns are usually the older ones with medieval harmonies (like "We All Believe in One True God").

As you can guess, I love music, especially accordion, which is a little uncommon for someone my age. After high school, I want to study music with my brother at university. After that, we plan to attend seminary together."



MIKAYLA | St. Paul's (Cobourg, ON)

"I was brought up in the Lutheran church since I was born, and have been a member at St. Paul's in Cobourg my whole life. My parents raised me to attend church every Sunday, and Lutheranism is all I've ever known and believed in. I sang in the choir, went to Sunday school, participated in annual Christmas plays, and volunteered at various church events throughout my life. I also recently attended my first EDLYA (East District Lutheran Young Adults) retreat!

Back in 2015, I moved out on my own to Toronto to attend fashion school and pursue my marketing career. I ended up finding out about Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church downtown Toronto, and this is where I started attending church while living alone in the city. It was the first time in my life that I was going to church on my own and choosing to go versus being told to go by my family members. I realized how important my Lutheran faith was to me during this time and how I wanted to explore it more as an independent young adult."



READ MORE





ACTIVITIES

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Breakout sessions will be offered on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and there are many to choose from! They will all be located in the Bricker Academic Building.

There is a specific track of sessions for youth leaders, which is open to adult leaders only.

There is also a track of sessions for young adults who are around grade 12 and in their 20s.

All the other sessions are open to anyone at the gathering, but are specifically planned for the youth!

Check out the full schedule on the website.



OUTSIDE OF SESSION ACTIVITIES

Social-Lite Welcome Party

The Social-Lite Welcome Party is Friday, July 4, starting at 3 pm and ending at 5:30, and will be in the Science Atrium. It will be drop-in style as groups arrive, and multiple activities will be available such as giant board games, banner painting, and plenty of snacks.

Immediately following the welcome party is a BBQ supper provided by Concordia Lutheran Seminary, which will take place in the cafeteria.

UNBREAKABLE Connections

UNBREAKABLE Connections are daily breaks to enjoy some extra food and drink with time to socialize, have Bible study and discussion, and nurture relationships made at the gathering.

Daytime Fun

Daytime fun will be in the gymnasium on July 5 between 2:45 -4:15 pm and will include various games such as basketball, volleyball, dodgeball, and ultimate spoons.

Late Night Options

Late night options will be every evening and have a rotation of outdoor and indoor activities, including:

Friday, July 4:

Atrium: Bingo Night, Air Dry Clay Magnets, Board Games, and Snacks

Field: Ultimate Frisbee, Yard Games

Saturday, July 5:

Atrium: Perler Beads, Board Games, and Snacks

Field: Capture the Flag

Sunday, July 6:

Atrium: Assorted Crafts, Board Game Roulette, and Snacks

Field: Ultimate Frisbee and Yard Games

Monday, July 7:

Atrium: Trivia, Board Games, Assorted Crafts, and Snacks

Field: Capture the Flag

Squad Games

Every NYG is different. It happens at a different location than the previous NYG. There are different youth attending and for those who were at a previous NYG they are now older youth or have transitioned to minions or even 7 + 1 leaders. And with every NYG there are different challenges that arise... This NYG however, we're going to be giving some challenges to YOU, in a new team-based competition that will be featured throughout all the days of the NYG. We call it... Squad Games! There will be three teams composed of youth from all the different regions, working together to gain the most points for their team. Get ready for all the latest information and updates on how you can participate. Game on!



Gathering Chapel

Need a quiet place to pray? A pastor to talk to? The chapel is located in a room adjacent to the Science Atrium, and is open during the entire gathering for personal prayer. As well, during the afternoon breakout sessions, free time, and late night options, a pastor will also be there if you have a question or just need to talk. Check out the chapel!

Prayer Requests

If you have a prayer request, you can share it with the chaplain, Pastor Paul, using this link or the paper forms in the theatre where the main sessions are. You can include your name, or submit it anonymously.



Panel Discussion

This session will provide an opportunity for all the youth to anonymously ask any questions they want. Is there something in God's Word that you don't understand? Is there something happening in the world you'd like to hear a church worker speak on? Is there a personal question about yourself that you would like to ask? Is there a question you've always wanted to ask, but didn't know where to ask it? Would you just like to try and stump the panel? Bring your questions and see what these brothers and sisters in Christ have to say!

IMPACT
youth gathering

**COMMUNITY, GROWTH,
AND EQUIPPING
CENTERED ON CHRIST**

JOHN 15:5 - "I AM THE VINE; YOU
ARE THE BRANCHES. WHOEVER
ABIDES IN ME AND I IN HIM, HE IT
IS THAT BEARS MUCH FRUIT, FOR
APART FROM ME YOU CAN DO
NOTHING."

**JUNE
27-30
2026**

PINES BIBLE CAMP
GRAND FORKS, BC

EARLY BIRD PRICE \$325 BY APRIL 10
REGULAR PRICE \$350 BY MAY 11
@IMPACTYOUTHGATHERING
www.impactyg.ca

The poster features a stylized illustration of a mountain landscape with evergreen trees and a blue sky. The word 'IMPACT' is written in large, bold, orange letters, with 'youth gathering' in smaller blue letters below it. A large blue splash graphic is positioned to the right of the title. The main theme 'COMMUNITY, GROWTH, AND EQUIPPING CENTERED ON CHRIST' is written in bold orange letters. A blue circular badge contains the dates 'JUNE 27-30 2026'. The location 'PINES BIBLE CAMP GRAND FORKS, BC' is written in blue. At the bottom, pricing information and social media details are provided in white text on a dark blue background.



7+1 LEADERS' INFO

7 + 1 LEADER RESPONSIBILITIES

Overall Task

To lead, guide, pray for, and care for the young people from your 7+1 group so that their experience of the Gathering is the best it can be.

During the Gathering

1. Pray that, through the work of the Holy Spirit in the Word, National Youth Gathering youth attendees, 7+1 leaders, and volunteers would be encouraged to stand firm on God's promise of salvation in Jesus.
2. Attend the 7+1 Leader Orientation on Friday, July 4 at 4:30 pm (to be held in the 7+1 Leaders Lounge, found in the King Street Residence lobby) .
3. Attend any mid-Gathering 7+1 Leader updates (as needed).
4. Be responsible for your 7+1 Group. This means you:
 - Know where they are at all times.
 - Let them know where you are at all times.
 - Inform and remind them about the rules for the National Youth Gathering.
 - Be sure they are wearing their name tags (required for access to meals) and wristbands (required for access to campus) whenever they are outside of their dorm room.
 - Remind them about the self-discipline required to be a part of a large event like the National Youth Gathering. Take responsibility for your youth at all times.
5. Be prepared to correct and offer discipline (if needed) and receive the same from other National Youth Gathering leadership (if needed).
6. Attend and participate in all National Youth Gathering events and encourage your group to participate, too!
7. Lead your group through the 7+1 devotion times as scheduled. There are devotions included in this book. These devotions will help you to connect the

experiences of the day with your youth and their faith lives. Please use this time to also check in with any concerns your group may have.

8. Conduct late night checks on your youth and get up on time in the morning.
9. Do everything you can to safeguard the youth in your care (and at the Gathering) from any form of abuse.

After the Gathering

1. Pray for a safe trip home for everyone.
2. Pray that God would use the National Youth Gathering experience to lead all those involved to share their faith with others.
3. Host at least one post-National Youth Gathering social event to share and reflect on the whole experience.
4. Encourage your youth to share their experience with their congregation through a special Sunday service announcement, a youth night, a voter's meeting or any other opportunity.

Help - - I am having trouble with my 7+1 Group! Is a youth or two in your group causing you to unravel? The NYG is here to support you. Contact Rhonda Kelman or Amanda Hastings to help you with any leadership needs that you have.

Sometimes youth just need someone to talk to - we've been there! Being at the NYG and talking about some of the different topics can bring up strong emotions. If your youth are looking for a listening ear, we encourage them to reach out to one or more of the following people: their 7+1 Leader, a Chaplain, or they could contact Kids Help Phone - call 1-800-668-6868 or text 686868. If you are concerned a youth may be in physical danger, please call 911 right away, and tell someone on the committee so we can help coordinate the arrival of EMS.

Got a question?

Our friendly Minions and their fearless leaders Kayla Moffett and Nathan Vaughan are here to serve. Armed with the basic knowledge of NYG details, Minions (in yellow shirts) will try to answer your questions or direct you to someone who can.

7 + 1 Leaders...Need a place to recharge?

Check out the 7+1 Leader's Lounge (King Street Residence Lobby) Connect with other 7+1 Leaders to share news of good things happening in your youth group or to brainstorm ideas about dealing with challenges. The 7+1 Leader's Lounge will be open during late night options on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday from 10:00 – 11:00 pm.

Leaders Meeting re Servant Events

On Sunday night, immediately following Evening Prayer, there will be a short meeting about the Servant Events which will take place on Monday. Please stay in the main session room for this important meeting.

Youth Leaders' Round Table

Sunday from 8:45 am—10:00 am Leader's Lounge - Paul Martin Room.

This round table is open to all adults who have an interest in youth ministry in Canada. We want to hear from you!

First Aid Assistance

For first aid assistance, please contact our NYG first aid attendant, Erika Gardiner. Her phone number and location will be shared during the 7+1 Leaders' Meeting. Our first aider is available 24/7.

As always, your first all in an emergency should be 911. If you call 911 please let the NYG first aider and the Wilfred Laurier University Residence Office know to expect first responders.

RULES FOR THE UNBREAKABLE 2025 NYG

1. Respect your leaders! (your 7+1 Leader, other volunteer leaders, minions)

NYG volunteers are here to serve you as you enjoy this event, so please listen to them when they ask you to do (or not do) something.

Follow any rules your +1 leader sets.

2. Respect the event.

Your family, your leaders, your congregation, and our Synod have invested heavily in terms of time and money so that you can be here.

Attend all sessions and activities on time, and participate with open ears, open eyes, an open mind, and an open heart.

We strongly suggest no use of cell phones, tablets, computers, or other media devices. Please follow the rules set out by your +1 leader.

Focus on people here with you and not on people or things far away.

3. Respect the Wilfrid Laurier University staff and facility

We are guests in this place and we're thankful to be here. Please take care of the facilities. If you notice any damage, please report it to your +1 leader ASAP.

Please treat all staff at all the different locations around campus, and any other places off-campus, with respect and care.

You must wear your nametag and wristband whenever you are not in your dorm room. The nametag is required for access to meals, and the wristband is required for access to campus. If you are not wearing your wristband, security may ask you to leave the campus!

We want everyone to enjoy their time at the NYG. If there are behaviour concerns, steps will be taken to address the issue. Ongoing issues or serious events could result in an early trip home at your parents' expense.



EXHIBITORS AT THE NYG

Concordia Lutheran Mission Society
Concordia Lutheran Seminary
Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary
Creation Ministries (*Sunday afternoon only* - they will have books and other resources for sale)

Lutheran Association of Missionary Pilots
Lutheran Bible Translators Canada
Lutheran Church-Canada
Lutheran Laymen's League
Lutherans for Life
Lutheran Women's Missionary League Canada

Bookstore

As well, our guest speaker, Cassie Moore, will have a book table throughout the weekend.

Exhibitor Hall, located in main floor hallways of the Bricker Academic Building, will be open:

Friday July 4

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Saturday July 5

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm
9:30 pm - 10:30 pm

Sunday July 6

9:00 am - 10:15 am
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
9:15 pm - 10:15 pm

Monday July 7

4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Concordia Lutheran Mission Society



Why "MISSIONS"?

- We are enormously blessed in Canada!
- **Yet, our world is broken by personal sins, hurtful relationships, poverty, political repression, and war.**
- CLMS helps Lutheran Church Workers in Ukraine, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Canada share Jesus' **unbreakable** love through His Word, through education, and through humanitarian aide.

Fellowship event for Ukrainian youth following 2024 Confirmation Class >



< In 2022 the Nicaraguan youth came to the Mission Centre in Chinandega for a National Youth Gathering. There will be another event there in 2025.

How can CLMS do all this?

- Through **YOU**! Through **OTHERS** within LCC, all partnering together!
- Through **PRAYERS**, through **GIFTS**, through your **TIME & TALENTS**!

For more information, please visit our website at:

www.concordiamissions.org

OR our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/ConcordiaLutheranMissionSociety/CLMS

Telling anyone about the UNBREAKABLE love of Jesus, is doing MISSION work!

CHECKOUT INSTRUCTIONS

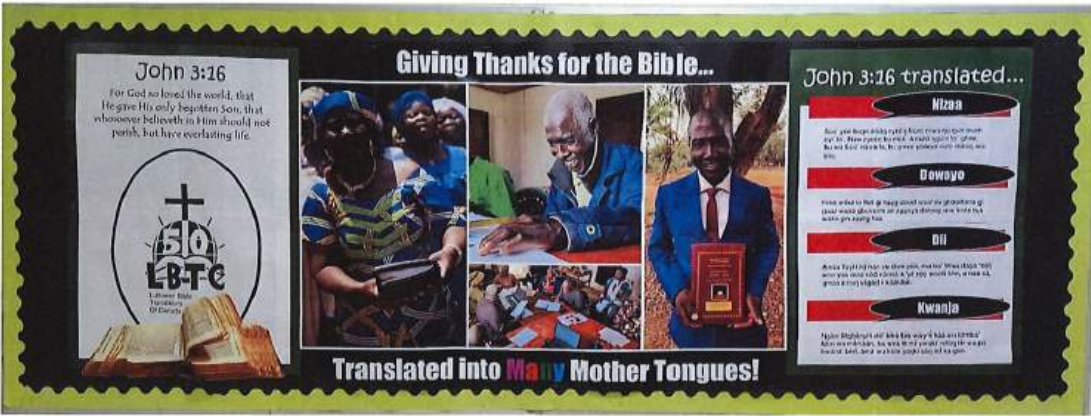
Checkout for everyone leaving on Tuesday is 1:00 p.m.

For those who are leaving on a flight that leaves after that time on Tuesday, they can keep their luggage in their room until they leave but **they must confirm that they need a later checkout with the Registrar in advance.**

Keys to all dorm rooms must be returned to the Hotel Laurier office on the first floor of your residence at check-out.

If you check-out outside of office hours, there is a key drop box in both the King Street Residence and the Bricker Residence.

There will be a charge to your group for any keys that are not returned.



Check out these opportunities

Translator

Scripture Use Specialist

Literacy/Linguistics Specialist

Ethno-Musicologist

LBTC Board Member

LBTC Office Staff

Prayer & Financial Support

For more information, please contact...

Pastor Ron Mohr
226-868-9352
Executive Director

700 Glen Forrest Blvd
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 4K6
pastor.r.mohr@lbtc.ca



Devotions

NYG25 Devotions - Friday, July 4

The Lord has clothed us with His Whole Armour, with Himself. Paul has told us that in Ephesians 6. We know that God fights for us. He gives us His strength “to stand” in the battle. But how do we know that God will come through for us when the “fighting is fierce, the warfare strong”? In order to know what God will do now and in the future. We must take to heart what our Lord has done in past battles. And there is no better place to look than when God rescued His people out of Egypt.

SDFR (Super Duper Fast Review)!!! God, in the burning bush, called Moses, and Aaron, his brother and speaker, to lead God’s people out of Egypt. It took 10 plagues (water to blood, frogs, gnats, flies, livestock, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and death of the firstborn) until the Passover celebration to have Pharaoh’s whips, bricks, and evil tricks in their rearview mirror. God’s people left with the wealth of Egypt and camped next to the Red Sea. That’s where we pick up with Exodus 14.

Read Exodus 14:1-12. Why did God have His people camp by the Red Sea? What was God’s people’s reaction when Pharaoh’s army drew near? Have you ever been completely stuck with no way back and no clear way forward? How would you react?

God has a battle plan for God’s people. And here’s the connection with Ephesians 6. There will be a lot of standing and a lot of fighting. Can you guess who does the standing and who does the fighting?

Read Exodus 14:13-14. How does God save His people in the battle then? How does God save you when you’re in the battle now? What comfort does that give you?

This Exodus was remarkable. But it pointed to a greater Exodus. When Jesus was transfigured, changed in appearance and glorified, Luke 9:30-31 tells us: “And behold, two men were talking with [Jesus], Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of *his departure*, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.”

Now we get to the heart of the conversation between Jesus and Moses and Elijah. Unfortunately, many English translations do us a disservice when they use the word “departure.” The Greek word here that is sometimes translated “departure” is actually exodus. Exodus. Exodus! Wait a second? We know that word! Do you mean to tell me that Jesus and Moses and Elijah were talking about how God’s people of old were rescued out of Egypt and safely brought through the Red Sea waters? Well, there’s certainly a connection!

But there is something more going on. They are talking about Exodus alright, but a greater Exodus. You see the Exodus out of Egypt is the Easter event of the Old Testament. God’s people are rescued as the pillar of cloud and fire went before them and between them and Pharaoh’s army during the whole night walking through the Red Sea on dry ground. And at the break of day when morning came, when the sun rose on that glorious day, all of God’s people’s enemies, all of Pharaoh’s army were drowned in the bottom of the Red Sea waters.

But Jesus speaks with Moses and Elijah about a greater “Exodus”, “His Exodus.” But this Greater Exodus will cost the life of God’s Greater Son, who will be accused of great blasphemy, will be beaten with great blows, will be mocked with great scorn, and will be glorified through His great suffering and death.

But at the break of day when morning came, on the 1st day of the week, when the sun rose on that glorious Easter day, all of God’s people’s enemies, all of your enemies, all of your need to listen to yourselves instead of God, all of your busy schedules that don’t allow to listen to His Son, all of the allure of the evil one to lean on your own understanding, and even the fear of your last breath, all of your enemies are drown in the bottom of the waters that unite you with the Greater Exodus of the resurrected one, Jesus Christ. In Jesus God has already fought and won the battle for you, and He will help you stand all the way to the end.

NYG25 Devotions - Saturday, July 5

After Jesus was arrested on the Thursday evening of Holy Week, in the early morning hours of Good Friday he was brought before Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor of Judea, and the only person in the area who could condemn a person to death. John 18 records the conversation:

Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷ Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” ³⁸ Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

The world today still struggles with the same question: “what is truth?” You can learn about as many different answers to that question as there are people. Some say “truth” is within you. Some say “truth” is what you decide. Others say “truth” is found in a religion like Islam, Mormonism, or Buddhism. And still some people say you can’t even know what “truth” is. But the Bible has a completely different perspective on truth. To know “truth” is to know Jesus.

Read John 14:1-6. Jesus has this conversation with His disciples just a few hours before he speaks with Pontius Pilate. According to John 14, what is truth? And why can we trust the Bible’s answer?

Jesus speaks clearly: “I am the way and the truth and the life; no one comes to the Father except through me.” The Kingdom of God, where Jesus reigns as King, is exclusive. There’s only one true, life-giving way into God’s Kingdom—Jesus. But the Kingdom of God is also inclusive. There is always enough room for every person who is clothed with the truth of Jesus for the daily battle.

And if our battle is against the “devil’s schemes” and devil means “slanderer” and is the “father of lies” (John 8:44), then “truth” is the appropriate weapon with which to fight him. But this isn’t a Christian virtue that Paul is speaking about in Ephesians 6. In other words, Paul isn’t telling you and all Christians that you must be truthful in order to fight the devil or that we have to come up with our own truth. Remember, the armour is a gift from God to you. God gives you His truth to fight the battle against the devil. “The truth” is Jesus, and He gives it freely to you and to all.

How can we be sure? John says it this way in His Gospel: “And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.” (1:14) God’s Word proclaims that Jesus fulfilled every Word of the Bible, was crucified, died, and was buried, and was raised from the dead never to die again. The death and resurrection of Jesus deliver this truth to you in your Baptism into Christ—you are forgiven, you are protected in the daily battle against the devil, and nothing can separate you from His love, not even people proclaiming that you can’t know what truth is.

But you don’t have to just take my word for it. Listen to Jesus, the One who is the “truth” now and always: This is what “Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, ‘If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’” (John 8:31-32)

NYG25 Devotions - Sunday, July 6

Today you learned again about God’s armour and the shield of faith. It’s all a gift from God. But the devil would like nothing more than for you to toss this gift in the garbage because you can’t defend yourself on your own from his deceitful schemes. And the devil has a much better chance to finish you off if he can isolate you and take you away from God’s church. He uses all kinds of tricks to get you to believe that being in worship, being around God’s people, and being where God has promised to protect you (His Church) is either boring, a bad thing, or that you don’t need it. Being all alone you are a much easier target for the devil.

But the book of Hebrews helps you understand how you are not alone in your life. There are many people of faith who have gone before us and lived and died as Christians and many Christians that are around you right now. (And that’s true even if you go back to your home congregation as one of the only or the only youth there!) But not only that, the risen Lord Jesus, Your champion is always with you.

Read Hebrews 11:1-7. How does faith bring us better vision?

Hebrews 11 begins with these words, which tell us that faith isn’t a feeling or what I conjure up in myself. “Faith is being certain of what we do not see.” In verse 7 it reads: “By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark.” And then in verse 10 it says: “For Abraham was looking forward to the city with foundations.” “Walk by faith not by sight.” This is Hebrews 11. This is their life, and this is our life more and more.)

Read Hebrews 11:8-22. How did Abraham live by faith?

Since Abraham believed in God’s promise to show him this new land, “by faith” in that promise he “obeyed” God’s Word, rather than his knowledge or comprehension. Faith was the reason for his hope “for a place that he would receive” from God “as an inheritance.” He believed in what he could not see. And because the inheritance of

Abraham is a “place”, it is much more than just the land of Canaan. His inheritance would be a residence in the heavenly homeland, the eternal “city” of God.

And although God gave Canaan to Abraham as his home, he lived there “as in a foreign land.” Like his son and grandson, he resided in “tents” rather than in more permanent houses anchored in a particular part of the land. By “residing in tents” Abraham confessed his faith in an unseen, hoped-for place that God would eventually provide for him as his inheritance from God. “By faith” in God’s promise to give him something far more permanent than a house on a piece of farmland, he did not settle down in the land and claim it for himself; instead, “he was looking” for a city, not just any city but “the city that has foundations.”

The city that Abraham was looking for was the very best of all, because it is the only city with divine foundations (Psalm 87:1). God is the architect who designed it and the royal builder who constructed it. Unlike the city of Rome in which the first hearers of Hebrews lived or the ancient city of Jerusalem and the temple which David built as God’s place of residence, God’s heavenly city is the true city of God, an eternal city built by him for His people to live with him there.

But the best encouragement of all is that Jesus is your shield of faith. He is the One who is always with you. And that’s where Hebrews 12:1-3 directs you: “Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.”

NYG25 - Monday, July 7

It is probably difficult for you to think that you shouldn’t attack anyone in the daily battle with all of the weapons God gives you. But the Lord’s encouragement to you through Paul’s letter to the Ephesians is clear: “stand...withstand...stand firm.” The reason God gives you His “full armour” is to defend you “against the schemes of the devil.” One of the temptations for you will be to think you should take the battle to the enemy. But that isn’t God’s plan for you.

Remember, the battle belongs to the Lord. But you aren’t waiting for Christ to win the battle, and you certainly aren’t supposed to be fighting for Him. Even when it doesn’t look like it or feel like it, Jesus has already won the victory for you. You are baptized into Christ’s victory. It is yours now. No matter how difficult the day or fierce the fighting, you will be standing victoriously in the end.

Read 1 Samuel 17:1-11. What is the description of Goliath? How do the Israelites respond?

Goliath is literally a giant, who is described as a “champion.” In Hebrew it literally means “the man of the space between two armies.” In other words, don’t poke the bear, the giant Philistine. In battle you are not getting past Goliath alive.

No wonder all of the Israelites “were dismayed and greatly afraid.” They knew that they had no chance to win in hand-to-hand combat against Goliath. They weren’t strong enough, skilled enough, or good enough to be the champion.

Read 1 Samuel 17:12-30. What opinion to people have of David? What does he learn about the fighting with the Philistines?

David is the youngest, smallest son from Jesse’s family. He is the last person his father or even the army would send into battle against the giant Goliath. But when he

hears the champion speak against the Lord and His people, David is shocked. He knows that the Lord fights for His people now just as He did in the days of old.

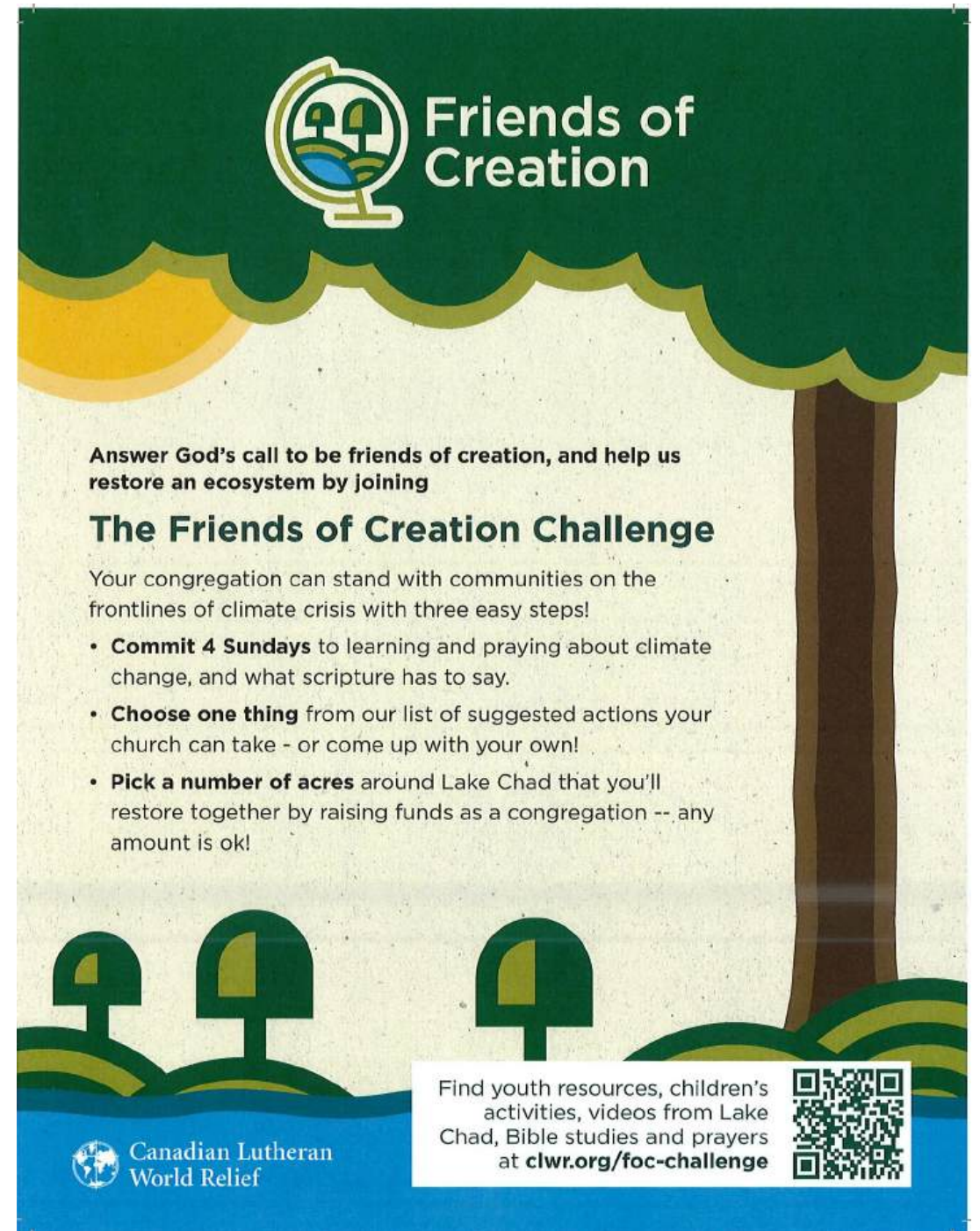
Read 1 Samuel 17:31-50. How does David defeat Goliath, the champion?

David doesn't defeat Goliath. The Lord won the victory even when it looked impossible. The least likely person defended himself from Goliath, and God gave him victory over his enemy. It would point to an even more unlikely victory scene. The sky on this day was completely dark. The area was used for dumping waste but was littered with people who liked a spectacle. Three people were pinned to crosses of wood with iron nails slowly suffocating as they strained to breathe.

The One in the middle had been severely beaten before His death sentence was announced. The sign above Him read "The King of the Jews," and He wore a crown fitting for a crucifixion, which was made of thorns. Before He heaved his last breath, Jesus called out, "It is finished." And with that the fight was over.

The devil and his demons were delighted at the outcome. The former champion seemed to be defeated, dead, and done in...but this was only the first day of his victory. On the third day, the Champion, your Champion, Jesus Christ rose from the dead standing victoriously with His glorified feet over your sin, over death, and even over the devil.

You know how this battle will turn out. Jesus has given you His "full armour" for a complete defence during the fight and full victory when the war is over. You are baptized into His victory. You are a champion with Christ. He calls you to be where He will continue to protect you—gathering in church for worship, reaching out with His Gospel peace even to your enemies, and always safe under the Lord's protection until He comes again.

A poster for the Friends of Creation Challenge. At the top, a green tree canopy frames the 'Friends of Creation' logo, which features a stylized house and trees inside a circle. Below the logo, the text reads: 'Answer God's call to be friends of creation, and help us restore an ecosystem by joining The Friends of Creation Challenge'. The challenge is described as: 'Your congregation can stand with communities on the frontlines of climate crisis with three easy steps!'. Three bullet points follow: 1. 'Commit 4 Sundays to learning and praying about climate change, and what scripture has to say.' 2. 'Choose one thing from our list of suggested actions your church can take - or come up with your own!' 3. 'Pick a number of acres around Lake Chad that you'll restore together by raising funds as a congregation -- any amount is ok!'. At the bottom, there is a QR code and text: 'Find youth resources, children's activities, videos from Lake Chad, Bible studies and prayers at clwr.org/foc-challenge'. The Canadian Lutheran World Relief logo is in the bottom left corner. The background of the poster is a light beige with a large tree trunk on the right and stylized green hills and water at the bottom.

Friends of Creation

Answer God's call to be friends of creation, and help us restore an ecosystem by joining

The Friends of Creation Challenge

Your congregation can stand with communities on the frontlines of climate crisis with three easy steps!

- **Commit 4 Sundays** to learning and praying about climate change, and what scripture has to say.
- **Choose one thing** from our list of suggested actions your church can take - or come up with your own!
- **Pick a number of acres** around Lake Chad that you'll restore together by raising funds as a congregation -- any amount is ok!

Find youth resources, children's activities, videos from Lake Chad, Bible studies and prayers at clwr.org/foc-challenge

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our many sponsors and donors. Our event would not be able to take place without your support. We would like to give special recognition to the following organizations:

Lutheran Women’s Missionary League-Canada, Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, R.E.E.F. (Redeemer Lutheran Church), The K-W Foundation For Lutheran Education (Historic St. Paul’s Lutheran Church), Peace Lutheran Church Winnipeg, and private donors.

Thank you to the many people who have given of their time, talents, and treasures to make the 2025 NYG a success. We appreciate each and every person who contributed to this event and helped achieve the NYG mission of providing opportunities for Lutheran youth to grow in faith and relationship with others as the body of Christ.

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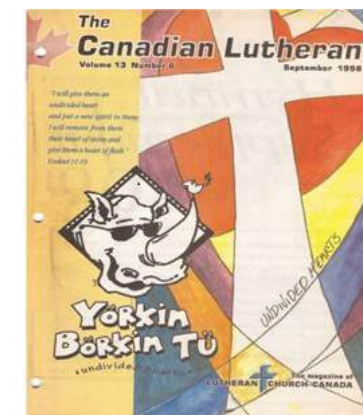
1998 NYG Throwback

The fourth LCC NYG was held at the University of Waterloo in 1998, and was called "Yörkin Börkin Tü: Undivided Hearts."

The theme verse was Ezekiel 11:19; "I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh."

Why was it called Yörkin Börkin Tü and why did the logo feature a rhino? If you were on the 1998 NYG planning committee and know the answer to those questions, please let us know! But from all accounts, it was a legendary gathering.

UNBREAKABLE is the thirteenth LCC NYG.



UNBREAKABLE
WITH THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD