



**March 14, 2018**  
**FEEDING YOUR CREW**

Dear Gathering Grown Ups,

There's always been a concern about how to feed your group without waiting in line for an hour and without blowing the budget. Here are some suggestions:

**Restaurants —**

Attached please find a list of restaurants grouped by location. It is always best to call for a reservation when possible. For great ideas on how to pay for meals, please see pages 53-54 of the Official Gathering Handbook.

Remember, tipping servers generously is very important to their income and a great Christian witness. Click [HERE](#) for an interesting essay about why we should tip. Click [HERE](#) for an article about Christians and tipping. A fun idea for you would be to take a bunch of cards with you to leave for the restaurant server explaining that you are Lutherans, where you are from, wish them a good day, and include a Bible verse. Never do this in place of a monetary tip, though.

**Delivery —**

Of course there are many pizza delivery places, but there may be an unusually long wait, so think about calling in your order several hours early.

**Hotels —**

Some hotels offer a free breakfast, while others may offer a "grab-n-go" breakfast at a reasonable price. It is best to contact your hotel directly to see what they offer.

**Make Your Own —**

Since many youth don't eat breakfast and very few actually have a "sit down" breakfast, you can bring breakfast bars, bagels, fresh fruit, PB&J with you, or purchase it at a grocery store when you arrive. Then your youth can stop by your room in the morning and grab a little something to put in their back pack. Many hotels offer refrigerators in your room, so you can keep milk and juice for breakfast or snacks.

**WELCA —**

At one congregation, their WELCA committee is putting together a shoebox of cookies and treats for each participant for bedtime snacks. This is a great way to connect Youth and WELCA and represents a huge cost savings compared to sending out for pizza every night.

**At the Gathering —**

There will be food to purchase at concession stands and food trucks at the Dome and NRG Center.

Please note that this email is being sent to the Primary Leader of each group registered for the ELCA Youth Gathering from Northeastern Iowa. Please share this email with other adult leaders, parents, and youth as you see fit.

Your Gathering Partner in Ministry,

Pastor Mark A. Anderson