

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Michigan Gathering is not possible without the dedicated work of volunteers that help plan and implement the event. Beyond planning, we are in need of adult leader, young adult, and youth volunteers at the event to help it run smoothly. We require assistance in the following areas:

### Adult Opportunities

- Covenant Team Members - Help us to keep the gathering safe by checking wristbands of everyone who comes in the front door.
- Small Group Adult Floaters - Provide support and supervision of small groups.
- Recreation Supervision - Watch participants as they use the pool, the recreation special events, and games in Exhibit A.

### Young Adult Opportunities

- Worship/Jumpstart Doors – Help invite participants in to the Banquet Room

### Youth

- Worship – Help in serving communion and ushering

**Sign up at registration or at Gathering Central!**

## EAT AT DOMINO'S

Domino's Pizza has been a gracious donor to The Michigan Gathering. Please thank them by ordering their delicious pizza to fill your bellies.

### Domino's Pizza

820 W. Saginaw  
(517) 372-3030



Isaiah 58: 5b-11



### The Radisson Hotel

111 N. Grand Ave.  
Lansing, MI

[www.elcalivingwater.com](http://www.elcalivingwater.com)

## Table of Contents

---

Welcome	Page 2
Featured Speakers & Musicians	Page 3
The Community of the Michigan Gathering	Page 4
Room Keys & Wristbands	Page 4
Congregational Time & Young Adult Time	Page 5
Peer Ministry	Page 5
Small Groups	Page 5
Adult Small Groups	Page 6
Service Projects	Page 6
In-Kind Offering	Page 6
Spirit Days	Page 7
Penny War Rules	Page 7
Co-Convenor Tryouts	Page 8
Discovery	Page 8
Downtown Dining	Page 8
Skillshop Options & Locations	Page 9
Skillshop Descriptions	Page 10-13
“Do It Anyway”	Page 14
Recreation Options & Locations	Page 15
Recreation Descriptions	Page 16
Event Schedule	Page 17-18
Radisson & Lansing Center Maps	Page 19-20

## Welcome

Rebellion. What did you just think of? Chances are that your mind went to something violent, or something that people perceive as negative. But what does a rebellion rooted in Jesus look like? Love, peace, justice? I think so, and that is what we are going to dive into at The Gathering this year.

What does it mean for our lives to truly follow Christ? What kind of change can we bring to the world when we do? How do we find our voice and the strength to boldly love others, serve others, and walk alongside others in a world that continues to embrace division? The rebellion we are seeking isn't rooted in hate or violence. The rebellion we are seeking is rooted in Christ's Kingdom. In Christ's Kingdom the sick are healed, the mourning find joy, the homeless find shelter, and the oppressed are lifted up. Christ has set us free to be a light to others. This is the rebellion we seek.

We are glad you are here! The rebellion needs you, the world needs you, this is Kingdom work, and you are part of the kingdom. The Peace of God isn't just something we share at worship - we can transform the world through the peace of Jesus. So make the most of your time at The Gathering. Have fun, learn, lead, serve others, and be in a community centered in Christ. Build yourself up to be strong in your faith so that you can go home and continue the rebellion in your community. Thank you for being here, and welcome to The Michigan Gathering.

Peace,

Nicole McCarthy  
Program Innovator  
Living Water Ministries

---

## Mission

Bringing together all of God's children to experience Christian community, grow in faith, develop leadership skills, and serve others.

## Vision

Create communities centered in Christ to transform lives and the world.

## Featured Speakers & Musicians



### Rev. Neichelle Guidry

Rev. Neichelle Guidry is a spiritual daughter of New Creation Christian Fellowship of San Antonio, Texas, where the Bishop David Michael Copeland and the Rev. Dr. Claudette Anderson Copeland are her pastors and where she was licensed to ministry in 2010. She is a graduate of Clark Atlanta University (2007, BA, Lambda Pi Eta) and Yale Divinity School (2010, M.Div.), where she was the 2010 recipient of the Walcott Prize for Clear and Effective Public and Pulpit

Speaking. Neichelle is a Doctor of Philosophy student in Liturgical Studies at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. Currently, she serves as the Liaison to Worship and Arts Ministries in the Office of the Senior Pastor at Trinity United Church of Christ on the South side of Chicago, where the Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, III is the Senior Pastor. She is the creator of shepreaches, a virtual community and professional development organization that aspires to uplift African-American millennial women in ministry through theological reflection, fellowship, and liturgical curation. She was recently listed as one of “12 New Faces of Black Leadership” in TIME Magazine (January 2015) and featured in the New York Times (April 3, 2015).



### Asé

Asé hails from Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, IL. Asé has received top reviews at previous Gatherings with their power packed worship leading, and we're excited to welcome Asé back in 2017! Most members of Asé are not only talented musicians that lead us in worship, but they are also participants in our event!



### Rachel Kurtz

Rachel Kurtz is a Minneapolis-based songwriter, performer and recording artist. Churches across the country have discovered Rachel's powerhouse voice and joyful presence thanks to her relentless touring schedule, and her featured appearances on the main stage of recent national youth gatherings. Her song “Make A Difference,” has become a widespread sensation from coast to coast.

## The Community of The Michigan Gathering

It is through the community we form in Christ at The Michigan Gathering that the opportunity for each individual's growth in faith is nurtured. As we worship together, dig deeper in small groups together, serve together, and grow together we need to agree on a few things that will create a safe space for all.

Every person in attendance at The Michigan Gathering is a participant. Please review the following highlights regarding expectations of each participant:

- High School participants are under the care & supervision of their adult leaders. Young Adult participants are accountable to the Young Adult Manager.  
**UPDATE: The Radisson is NOT a closed campus in 2017.**
- Each participant read, signed and submitted a covenant highlighting expectations and rules for The Michigan Gathering. You are accountable to this document.
- Each participant is expected to abide by “The Honor System”. This means that if you have knowledge about or witness behavior that violates the covenant we all share with one another, it is your responsibility as a member of this community to report this activity to a member of the Covenant Enforcement Team, the Gathering Planning Team, or an adult leader.
- Each participant is expected to also treat the staff of the facilities hosting us as members of our community. It is through their hard work that we experience a clean, welcoming place to grow in faith with one another. We owe them many thanks.
- Each participant is reminded to be respectful and attentive during appropriate times such as worship, small groups, and on the floors of the hotel when others are trying to rest.

## Room Keys & Wristbands

Each participant has been given a room assignment. Please do not move from your assigned room without speaking with your adult leader.

### I lost my room key, now what?

If you lose room key, your adult leader must accompany you to the front desk to obtain a replacement (Young Adult participants will not require an adult leader to obtain a new replacement key).

### I lost my wristband, now what?

If you lose your wristband please visit Gathering Central (high school participants should bring their adult leader) to discuss replacement options. Wristbands are not to be distributed to anybody other than officially registered or contracted individuals.

## Congregational Time & Young Adult Time

Each day during The Michigan Gathering concludes with your congregation (high school participants) or group (young adult participants) meeting to build community, process the day, and look forward to what is yet to come during the event. A strong sense of community is at the core of what makes The Michigan Gathering a powerful event for participants. This time together each night is essential to strengthening the community of faith we share at the event, and once we return home after its conclusion. Young adult participants must attend the young adult time in order to grow the young adult community.

## Peer Ministry

Peer ministers host participants at Gathering through prayer, personal invitations to engage in activities, friendship, active listening, accompanying people who may feel left out, and general joyfulness. The peer ministry team has been praying for you for weeks prior to Gathering and has traveled through the Gathering space praying that the Holy Spirit would be present to you during Gathering.

If you feel angry, alone, overwhelmed, sad, homesick, frustrated, depressed, worried, or even super excited and you would like someone with whom to share your feelings, peer ministers are here to be with you. If you have a question about God or the world and you want someone to take you seriously, peer ministers are here to be with you. If you want to pray to God and need help finding the words, peer ministers are here to be with you. You can take time to speak with a peer minister at almost any point during Gathering.

If you need a peer minister, watch for the youth and adults who will be wearing special black t-shirts and/or have red lanyards on them. You can also visit Michigan 1 (on the second floor in the Radisson) or visit them in The Lansing Center in the concourse during recreation times. Stop by Michigan 1 to post your prayer requests as well. Keep up with the peer ministry team following by #MiPeerMin.

Text @mipeer to 81010 to get notifications about peer ministry for now and for future events.

## Small Groups

High School and Young Adult participants are assigned to a Small Group that meets regularly throughout the event. Each session is a mix of icebreakers, games, thematic discussions, scripture, and story telling. Small Groups provides a time to emotionally and socially engage on a deeper level at the Michigan Gathering.

Participants are expected to stay in the small group they were assigned. Switching small groups adversely impacts the dynamics of community & trust each small group forms throughout the event.

## Adult Small Groups

***Adult Small Groups occur in Capitol III & IV in the Radisson during Small Groups time in the schedule.***

Living Water Ministries is called to equip and empower leaders for today's church and world. Because this is such a significant priority, we have contracted to provide Peer Ministry Training for our adult leaders at The Gathering during the adult small group time. Adults will engage this training over six small group sessions from December 27-30, 2017. This training will be facilitated by Lyle Griner from Peer Ministry Leadership in Minnesota.

This is a face-to-face, learn-by-doing, skill-by-skill experience. No lectures. No power points. No white boards. No smoke machines or laser lights. You learn Peer Ministry Leadership skills by entering into life and faith experiences with everyone in the room. We also work on facilitating skills, planning, practical uses, and next steps for your ministry.

Lyle Griner (with Peer Ministry Leadership) says, "I want every congregation's youth ministry to be known for producing faith leaders. Peer Ministry Leadership educates the heart with caring, welcoming and affirming skills turning those wonderfully quirky, sometimes overly silly, rambunctious kids into amazing student leaders."

## Service Projects

We believe that serving and accompanying others is a necessary component of sharing Christ's love with the world. We will be filling Lansing with people who are willing and eager to serve. New this year we will also be participating in conversation before service to frame our service experiences in a different light. Then we go out (or stay in!) and serve. We end with an activity that ties it all together. It will be important for each group to be on time for these different parts of service.

## In-Kind Offering

It's our goal to assemble approximately 500 hygiene kits for foster care campers, families suffering from homelessness and other ministries that Living Water Ministries supports. We're also collecting fleece to make hats. If you brought items with you please turn them in at Gathering Central at the top of the up escalator in the Radisson. If you did not bring items with you, feel free to go out on the 27th and pick up any of the following items and deliver them by congregational/young adult time on December 27th:

- Shampoo
- Soap
- Toothbrush
- Combs
- Conditioner
- Washcloths
- Toothpaste
- Fleece

## Spirit Days

Our 2017 Co-Conveners Anna Martin and Devonte Snodey have chosen this year's Spirit Days! This is a fun opportunity for you to dress in a theme appropriate manner and come together as a community. Make sure to pack appropriately for Spirit Days!

**Day 1 (December 27th) Crazy Sock Day**

**Day 2 (December 28th) Gathering Shirt (Service Day)**

**Day 3 (December 29th) Twin Day**

**Day 4 (December 30th) Tie Dye Day**

## Penny War Rules

Collection Method: Each represented class as a whole will compete against the other represented classes. Each represented class will have a designated collection bottle placed near the elevators on the 2nd floor of The Radisson. Individuals are encouraged to collect and deposit pennies into their represented class collection bottles from until the last night of the "Gathering".

Counting Measures: Individuals from rival represented classes may visit their "opponents" (any other represented class) and deposit coins (other than pennies) or bills. These count against the represented class and may only be overcome by increasing the total number of pennies collected there.

Pennies = Each Penny increases the score by 1 point  
Nickels = Each Nickel decreases the score by 5 points  
Dimes = Each Dime decreases the score by 10 points  
Quarters = Each Quarter decreases the score by 25 points  
Dollars = Each Dollar decreases the score by 100 points

Rolled coins in proper tubes count an additional 10 points.  
Tubes are available at any local Credit Union, Bank or from the penny offering committee.

Please note: Only U.S. currency will be counted!!!

The class that has the most positive points in its designated jar will win. All funds raised from this competition go towards the scholarship fund, which is used by youth to defray the cost of attending the Gathering.

## Co-Convenor Tryouts

Co-Convenors are two youth leaders selected to lead us in worship, serve on the planning team, and be up-front participant leaders. If you are interested to lead at next year's gathering, auditions will be held on December 29th during recreation time and are open to anyone in their junior year of high school or younger. Applications can be found and turned in at gathering central. Please complete them by midnight on December 28th. The first round will be chosen by application; you will get a text regarding an audition if you are selected.

## Discovery

Discovery is an opportunity to explore how God is speaking to us both individually and collectively. It is a series of experiential stations in the Radisson ballrooms and across the hall in Regency I during Skillshop times by assignment and during scheduled recreation and congregational times (self guided). Your youth group will be assigned a half hour time slot to experience Discovery during orientation. It's important to remember that this is a quiet, reflective experience so please limit group and individual discussions. We hope that Discovery will enhance your Gathering experience as well as your personal faith walk.

## Downtown Dining

**Asian/Middle Eastern**  
Sultan's Express  
305 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 484-2850

Thai Village Restaurant  
400 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 371-1000

**Bar & Grille**  
Capitol City Grille  
Located in the Radisson

Lansing Brewing Company 518  
E. Shiawassee St.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 371-2600

Midtown Brewing Company  
402 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 977-1349

Nuthouse Sports Grill  
420 E. Michigan Ave.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 484-6887

Tavern + Tap  
101 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 374-5555

The Waterfront Bar & Grille  
325 City Market Dr.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 267-3800

The Soup Spoon Café  
1419 E. Michigan Ave.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 316-2377

**Mexican/Southwestern**  
Aldacos Taco 911  
414 E. Michigan Ave.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 482-7911

Los Tres Amigos  
107 E. Allegan St.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 316-0066

**Quick Casual**  
Domino's (Delivery)  
820 W. Saginaw  
Lansing, MI | (517) 372-3030

Firehouse Subs  
200 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 316-0483

Good Truckin' Diner  
1107 S. Washington Ave.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 253-7961

Jersey Giant Subs!  
220 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 203-5348

Jimmy John's  
134 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 485-3300

Lansing City Market  
325 City Market Dr.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 483-7460

Saddleback BBQ  
1147 S. Washington Ave.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 235-7556

Wendy's  
413 S. Cedar St.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 484-5776

Zoup! Fresh Soup Company  
214 S. Washington Sq.  
Lansing, MI | (517) 367-7400

## Skillshop Options & Locations

Name of Skillshop	December 29th 1:00 - 2:00 pm	December 29th 2:15 - 3:15 pm	December 29th 3:30 - 4:30 pm
<b>Be a Part of Synod Day</b>			Capitol IV - R
<b>Be Bold! Use Talents!</b>			Michigan II - R
<b>Bible Journaling</b>	State II - R		State II - R
<b>Faith and Activism</b>	Banquet 1-6 - LC	Banquet 1-6 - LC	
<b>Friends Considering Suicide?</b>	Restaurant - R		Restaurant - R
<b>Getting in Touch with Elected Officials</b>	Regency II - R	Regency II - R	
<b>Housing Simulation</b>		Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
<b>How To Be An Ally</b>	North Point Café - LC	North Point Café - LC	
<b>Human Trafficking</b>	Banquet 8 - LC	Banquet 8 - LC	
<b>Knowing Your Rights</b>	Board Room - R		
<b>Lift Every Voice</b>	North Point Café - LC	North Point Café - LC	
<b>Peer Ministry</b>			Michigan I - R
<b>Privilege Walk</b>			Banquet 7 - LC
<b>Righteous Anger: When God Gets Mad</b>		Michigan III - R	Michigan I
<b>Spoken Worship: Poetry/Writing</b>		Concourse - LC (Xmas Tree)	Concourse - LC (Xmas Tree)
<b>Star Power</b>	Banquet 7 - LC (spans 2 skillshop times)		
<b>Transforming Power of Unconditional Love</b>		MI Ave Concourse - LC	MI Ave Concourse - LC
<b>Work at Camp</b>	Concourse - LC (pedway end)	Concourse - LC (pedway end)	
<b>Yo God, Are You Calling Me to Seminary?</b>	Concourse - LC (Trinity Seminary Booth)	Concourse - LC (Trinity Seminary Booth)	
<b>YOUNG ADULT ONLY</b>			
<b>Be Bold! Use Talents!</b>		Michigan II - R	
<b>Collaborative Worship Music &amp; Leadership</b>	Banquet 1-6 - LC	Banquet 1-6 - LC	
<b>Righteous Anger: When God Gets Mad</b>	Michigan III - R		Michigan III - R
<b>Where Do Young Adults Fit in the Church?</b>		River Street Pub - LC	River Street Pub - LC
<b>ADULT ONLY</b>			
<b>Branching Out</b>	Michigan II - R		
<b>Center/Borderlands</b>			Banquet 8 - LC
<b>Youth Min. Priorities</b>		Capitol IV - R	

R = Radisson LC=Lansing Center

## Skillshop Descriptions

### Be A Part of Synod Day at National Gathering

*Kellie Stasilowicz and Amy Cooley Higgs*

All are welcome! Join the synod coordinators for the youth gathering and be a part of deciding what happens at synod day! Have a gift for music, or art or ideas for worship? Come share them and they just might be used at Synod Day at the youth gathering in Houston.

### Be Bold! Use Your Talents!

*Rachel Kurtz*

*(Skillshops offered for High School and Young Adults Separately)*

Artists of all varieties have a special opportunity in the church. You can share your faith in a way that not everyone can. Come join in a discussion and sharing session about being bold and using your gifts to not only grow your faith, but to also impact the faith of others.

### Bible Journaling

*Megan Floyd*

In this skillshop, we will get creative as we dive into scripture and explore some ways to use visual art to meditate on biblical passages.

### Faith and Activism

*Alaina Dulecki*

In this skillshop we will be exploring how your faith and other identities can affirm and intersect with activism.

### Friends Considering Suicide?

*Lyle Griner - Executive Director of Peer Ministry Leadership*

Youth help other youth. I consider youth to be the front-lines of caring ministry. Most youth share they are having conversations with friends considering suicide! Come and join the conversation, share concerns, learn some tools, know how to respond.

### Getting in Touch with Elected Officials

*Steve Chisholm*

Have you ever wanted to bring a change to your community? Find out who and how to contact elected officials of your community and state.

### Housing Simulation

*Nicky Bates*

Put your feet in someone else's shoes with a hands-on Housing Simulation. Come explore and discuss the barriers that people in the United States (including your community) experience when trying to find housing.

### How To Be An Ally

*Pastor Mary Duerksen*

An open discussion of when and how youth can be supportive allies for friends and strangers who may be experiencing discrimination due to race, ethnic origin, ability, LGBTQI issues, etc. We'll discuss real strategies which anyone can learn to use to support and/or intervene in these situations.

## Skillshop Descriptions

### **Human Trafficking**

#### ***Pastor Chuck Campbell***

As human traffickers target younger and younger victims, American youth are engaged in a battle they never prepared for. We will watch a video that includes true stories of teens who faced real life encounters with trafficking, followed by discussion of how people can join together to spread awareness and take action.

### **Knowing Your Rights**

#### ***Officer Jessica Martin***

In this skillshop we will discuss traffic stop etiquette as well what to do if the police come to your dorm room or stop you on the street. In turn, we will discuss the typical police response and discretion. Also, we will go over respect for authority, honesty and cooperation - which often lead to more desirable results for everyone involved. Bring any questions that you may have.

### **Life Every Voice**

#### ***Southeast Michigan Synod Diversity Team***

As human traffickers target younger and younger victims, American youth are engaged in a battle they never prepared for. We will watch a video that includes true stories of teens who faced real life encounters with trafficking, followed by discussion of how people can join together to spread awareness and take action.

### **Peer Ministry Involvement**

#### ***Josie Smith***

Ever wonder why there are so many peer ministers, and what exactly they do? Come see what being a peer minister is all about and how to be one next year!

### **Privilege Walk**

#### ***Chloe Smith, Leah Bredwell, Mady Grant, Mikey Lopez***

Learn about how different people from different backgrounds have extremely different life experiences through this interactive experience. Much like the Power Shuffle activity, the Privilege Walk requires vulnerability, and a desire to see our neighbors more clearly. This skillshop is facilitated by participants who have attended Bridge Builders at Stony Lake.

### **Righteous Anger: When God Gets Mad**

#### ***Pastor Elizabeth Bakalyar Friedman***

*(Skillshops offered for High School and Young Adults Separately)*

Popular culture has its own ideas about what gets God riled up, but we're going to get back to Biblical basics - both in the Old Testament and in the New. Bring your questions and an open mind; what we discover may surprise you.

### **Spoken Worship: A Poetry/Writing Workshop**

#### ***Blake Miller***

Happen to have a way with words? Are you looking to enhance your skills? Do you maybe want to hear your peers perform? In this workshop we will be exploring the spiritual gift of poetry. You will have the opportunity to learn some writing techniques, ways to use your gift for the Lord, and a chance to present to the audience if willing. CAUTION: Those who attend may discover that they were a poet and didn't know it. Please bring a writing utensil.

## Skillshop Descriptions

### **Star Power**

#### ***Bridge Builders Planning Team***

Play this competitive, interactive game of trading to gain a deeper understanding about the allocation of resources and power in today's world. Do you have what it takes to score the most points? This is a 2-part skillshop spanning two time slots to allow time for the game to be completed and the debriefing that follows.

### **The Transforming Power of Unconditional Love**

#### ***Coleman Yoakum***

Can you love someone out of homelessness? Can you love someone into recovery? Micah 6 Community is working on these questions and more in their neighborhood-- Pontiac, Michigan. They come in with six years of experience working in the addict community and seeing real results through love.

### **Work at Camp**

#### ***Nicole McCarthy***

Want to work at camp this summer? Come and find out what it takes and how to apply. Hear some of the great ways God can use you to impact the faith of others and be a world changer by working for Living Water Ministries.

### **Yo God, Are You Calling Me To Seminary?**

#### ***Kristin Boris***

Come hang out with seminarian, Kristin Boris and talk about being a leader in the church! If you've ever thought about being a pastor, a youth group leader, a church musician, or you just want to hear more about seminary and get some cool information, this skillshop is perfect for you!

### **Be Bold! Use Your Talents! (Young Adults Only)**

#### ***Rachel Kurtz***

*(Skillshops offered for High School and Young Adults Separately)*

See description in previous section

### **Collaborative Music and Leadership Worship Planning (Young Adults Only)**

#### ***Pastor Greer Johnson and Noah Miller***

Worship is fun and always a team effort! Come enjoy some time with a Pastor & Young Adult Worship Music Leader as they share how collaborative worship planning comes together to make GOD the center of worship! In a world that needs time for worship and Sabbath, this team creates new and fun ways to make worship fun for all ages. With music as core to the worship experience, this duo will share how to shape worship in creative, fun, theologically sound ways to make it meaningful for everyone. Worship music matters and just because it's "Christian" music doesn't mean it works. So, this skillshop will share some ways to find meaning in music and help you experience all the 'feels' as you dwell in God's grace!

### **Righteous Anger: When God Gets Mad (Young Adults Only)**

#### ***Pastor Elizabeth Bakalyar Friedman***

*(Skillshops offered for High School and Young Adults Separately)*

see description in previous section

## Skillshop Descriptions

### **Where Do Young Adults Fit in the Work of the Church?** (Young Adults Only)

**Adam Delezenne**

I want to know how young adults understand their communities. What does putting faith into action mean for Millennials? What does generational difference mean for how the Church needs to change? How can multiple generations share leadership in ministry? Come explore these issues with me. Your responses will help us both understand how people of your generation fit into the church today and in the future. You'll also be shaping the work of the Presbytery of Detroit as we seek to connect more deeply with the young adults in our communities.

### **Branching Out to Others** (Adults Only)

**Rachel Kurtz**

As adults we tend to get comfortable with who we know at church and in other situations and don't always reach out to make new friends, and welcome others. Come be a part of a discussion about this, and share ideas about making new friends as adults!

### **Center/Borderlands** (Adults Only)

**C.J. Clark**

As we seek to be a church that reaches out into the world, what are the things from within that prevent us from doing so? Engage in a facilitated activity & discussion that is sure to reframe your perspective on how we do the work of the church in today's world. Participants will be asked to share their congregation's mission statement, or their best approximation of their congregation's mission statement as part of this activity.

### **Youth Ministry Priorities** (Adults Only)

**Pastor Yehiel Curry**

This workshop will allow you to dream! Participants will consider practical and innovative ways of funding and celebrating youth ministry. Pastor Yehiel serves Shekinah Chapel in Riverdale, IL. Shekinah Chapel allocates 60% of its resources to youth ministry.

## **"Do It Anyway"** *by Mother Theresa*

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered.

**Forgive them anyway.**

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.

**Be kind anyway.**

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies.

**Succeed anyway.**

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you.

**Be honest and sincere anyway.**

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight.

**Create anyway.**

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous.

**Be happy anyway.**

The good you do today, will often be forgotten.

**Do good anyway.**

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough.

**Give your best anyway.**

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.

**It was never between you and them anyway.**

**THE GATHERING  
PLANNING TEAM  
NEEDS YOU!**

**We're looking for dedicated youth, young adults,  
and adults to serve on the The Gathering Planning  
team for our 2018 event! Applications are  
available at Gathering Central.**

## Recreation Options & Locations

Name	Dec. 27th 10:00-11:30 pm	Dec. 28th 9:45-11:30 pm	Dec. 29th 10:15-11:30 pm
Inflatable	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Soccer	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Gaga Ball	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Ping Pong	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Pool Table	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Foosball	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Air Hockey	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Basketball	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Rock Band	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC	Exhibit Hall A - LC
Community Room	North Pointe Café - LC	North Pointe Café - LC	North Pointe Café - LC
Swimming	Pool - R	Pool - R	Pool - R
Capture the Flag	Ballroom Lobby - R		
Basketball Tournament		Exhibit Hall A - LC	
Rachel Kurtz Concert			Banquet 1-6 - LC

Text @migath17 to 81010 to get updates about gathering community events!

R = Radisson LC=Lansing Center

## Recreation Information

The Gathering is always looking for ways to keep everyone active and involved. This year we have many activities offered during our recreation times. Please see the recreation options chart for times activities are offered.

### Recreation Options Every Night:

- **Exhibit Hall** – Inflatables, ping pong, pool, air hockey, foosball, basketball hoops, soccer, Gaga ball, and Rock Band.
- **Community Room** - Enjoy your free time at Gathering in the Community Space. We provide the space and board games. We will also have large coloring pages that everyone can contribute to and relax while coloring. You can hang out with the new people you have met at the Gathering or have some time to yourself. The space and time is yours, all are welcome.
- **Selfie Scavenger Hunt** - Did you bring your selfie stick? Every day, we will be announcing the selfie challenge list! Extra copies of the challenge list can be found daily at Gathering Central! Find the item/place to take a selfie! Winners will be announced at closing worship! Be sure to Tweet or Instagram the selfie with #MIGathSSH

### Special Events

- **Dec. 27th: Capture The Flag** - Come play a giant game of capture the flag throughout the Radisson. Meet us at 10pm in the Ballroom Lobby of The Radisson (near Gathering Central) to divide teams and explain rules.
- **December 28: 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament** - Teams of 3 will compete to see who is the Basketball Tournament Champions. Report with your team to the Lansing Center Concourse outside of Exhibit Hall A at 10:00 pm. Teams will be signed up at the time and a bracket will be created. Can't find a team of 3? Come ready to play and we can create a team for you. All are welcome to come and watch the wild competition.
- **December 29: Rachel Kurtz Concert** - Come listen as Rachel Kurtz puts on a special concert for all!

# Schedule

(Events in **bold & underlined** type are mandatory)

LC=Lansing Center  
R=Radisson

## Wednesday, December 27

1:00 - 3:30 pm	<b><u>Adult Check-In</u></b>	R-Capitol I
1:00 - 3:30 pm	<b><u>Youth &amp; Young Adult Check-In</u></b>	R-Capitol II
4:00 - 4:45 pm	<b><u>Adult Welcome &amp; Orientation (All Adults)</u></b>	R-Capitol III & IV
4:00 - 4:45 pm	<b><u>Youth &amp; Young Adult Welcome &amp; Orientation (All Youth &amp; Young Adults)</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
5:00 - 6:30 pm	Small Group Leaders Check-in (dinner included)	R-Michigan II & III
5:00 - 6:45 pm	Dinner on own	
6:45 pm	Doors Open for Worship - Warm Up Music	
7:00 - 8:30 pm	<b><u>Opening Worship</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
8:45 - 9:45 pm	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
10:00 pm	Late Arrival Orientation	R-Boardroom
10:00 pm - 11:30 pm	Recreation Options	See Pg. 15-16
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Congregational Time</u></b>	In Hotel Rooms
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Young Adult Time</u></b>	R-Capitol III & IV
12:30 - 7:00 am	<b><u>All participants must be in their rooms - lights out!</u></b>	

## Thursday, December 28

8:30 - 9:00 am	Gathering Planning Team Meeting	R-Michigan II, III
9:00 - 9:30 am	Small Group Leaders Check-in	R-Michigan II, III
9:30 - 10:15 am	<b><u>Jump Start/Service Sending</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
10:30 - 11:30 am	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
11:45 - 12:30 pm	<b><u>Service Conference Discussion</u></b>	Various
12:30 - 2:00 pm	Lunch on own	
2:15 - 4:15 pm	<b><u>Service Projects</u></b>	Various
4:30 - 5:15 pm	<b><u>Service Organizing</u></b>	Various
5:30 - 6:45 pm	Dinner on own	
6:45 pm	Doors Open for Worship - Warm Up Music	
7:00 - 8:30 pm	<b><u>Worship</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
8:45 - 9:45 pm	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
9:45 - 11:30 pm	Recreation Options	See Pg. 15-16
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Congregational Time</u></b>	In Rooms
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Young Adult Time</u></b>	R-Capitol III & IV
12:30 - 7:00 am	<b><u>All participants must be in their rooms - lights out!</u></b>	

# Schedule

(Events in **bold & underlined** type are mandatory)

LC=Lansing Center  
R=Radisson

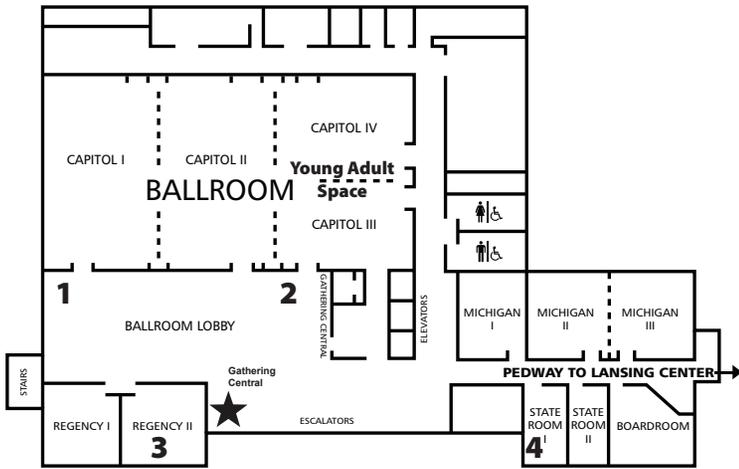
## Friday, December 29

8:30 - 9:00 am	Gathering Planning Team Meeting	R-Michigan II, III
9:00 - 9:30 am	Small Group Leaders Check-in	R-Michigan II, III
9:30 - 10:00 am	<b><u>Jump Start</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
10:15 - 11:15 am	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
11:30 - 1:00 pm	Lunch on own	
1:00 - 2:00 pm	<b><u>Skillshop Session 1</u></b>	See Pg. 9-13
1:00 - 1:30 pm	<u>Discovery 1a</u>	R-Capitol I & II
1:30 - 2:00 pm	<u>Discovery 1b</u>	R-Capitol I & II
2:15 - 3:15 pm	<b><u>Skillshop Session 2</u></b>	See Pg. 9-13
2:15 - 2:45 pm	<u>Discovery 2a</u>	R-Capitol I & II
2:45 - 3:15 pm	<u>Discovery 2b</u>	R-Capitol I & II
3:30 - 4:30 pm	<b><u>Skillshop Session 3</u></b>	See Pg. 9-13
3:30 - 4:00 pm	<u>Discovery 3a</u>	R-Capitol I & II
4:00 - 4:30 pm	<u>Discovery 3b</u>	R-Capitol I & II
4:30 - 6:30 pm	Dinner on own	
6:45 pm	Doors Open for Worship - Warm Up Music	
7:00 - 9:00 pm	<b><u>Worship</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
9:15 - 10:15 pm	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
10:15 - 11:30 pm	Recreation Options	See Pg. 15-16
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Congregational Time</u></b>	In Hotel Rooms
11:30 pm - 12:30 am	<b><u>Young Adult Time</u></b>	R-Capitol III & IV
12:30-7:00 am	<b><u>All participants must be in their rooms - lights out!</u></b>	

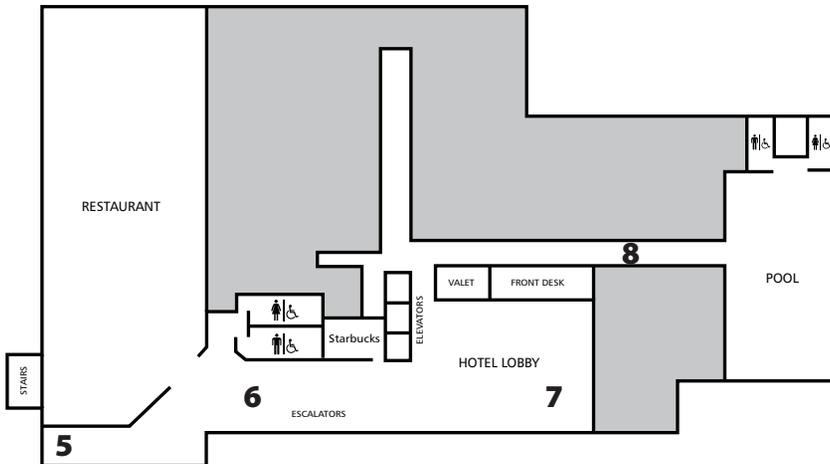
## Saturday, December 30

8:30-9:00 am	Gathering Planning Team Meeting	R-Michigan II, III
9:00-10:00 am	<b><u>Small Groups</u></b>	Various
10:15 am	Doors Open for Worship - Warm Up Music	
10:30-12:00 pm	<b><u>Worship</u></b>	LC-Banquet 1-6
12:00 pm	Depart	Radisson

# The Radisson



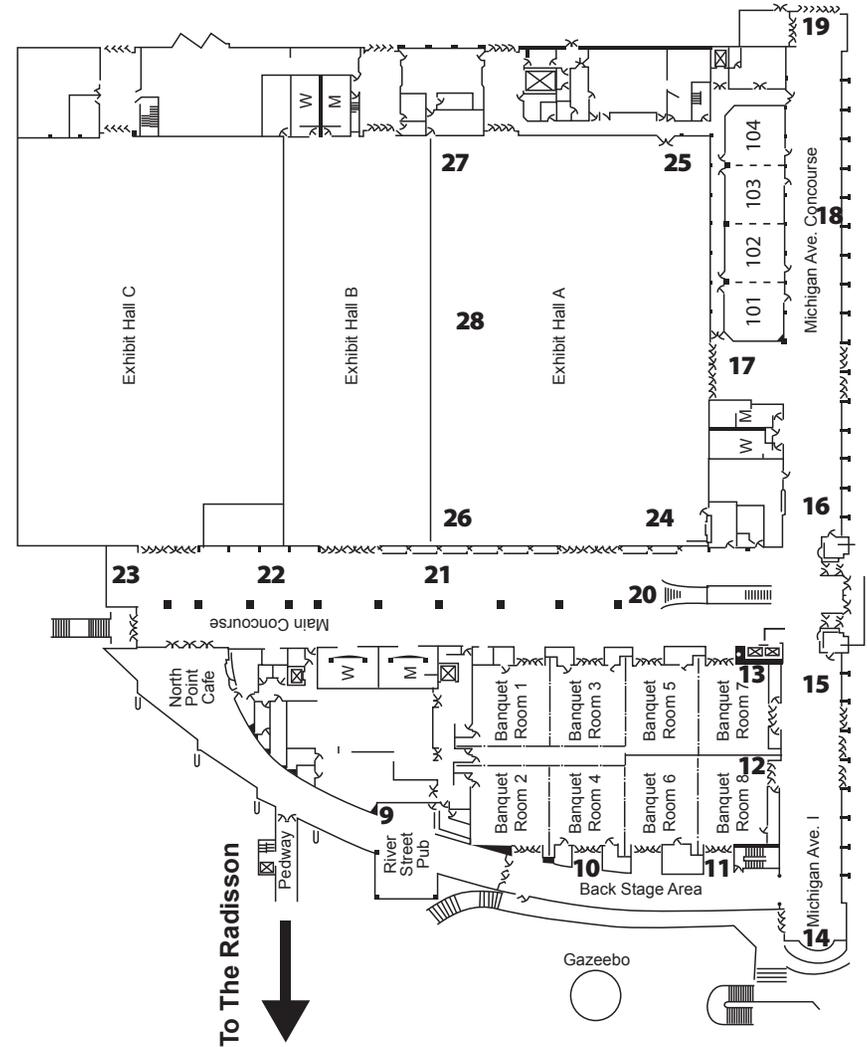
## CONFERENCE FLOOR



## GROUND FLOOR

Numbers indicate Small Group meeting locations.

# The Lansing Center



Numbers indicate Small Group meeting locations.



# JUNIOR HIGH CHARGE

Great Wolf Lodge, Traverse City

March 16-18, 2018



## GET CHARGED!

The Junior High Charge brings groups of middle school youth (grades 6-8) together to form faith through worship, small groups, and congregational time. It is also our goal that through skillshops (workshops) emphasizing service opportunities, leadership development, and community (through team building) we can energize youth to return home ready to make change in the world in the name of Christ.

Participants will also have the opportunity to enjoy the amenities of Great Wolf Lodge, including the waterpark and an outdoor campfire camp style.



**Pastor Yehiel Curry**  
will be our speaker in 2018!

**\$90** per person program fee if registered  
by **January 16th** (includes access to waterpark)

**\$115** per person program fee if registered  
after **January 16th** (includes access to waterpark)

 **\$129**

per room per night fee  
booked directly with hotel  
(each room houses up to 6 people)

[www.elcalivingwater.com/charge](http://www.elcalivingwater.com/charge)