

Thank you for agreeing to take this survey. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod values your thoughts and opinions.

This survey is intended for young adults in their twenties who grew up in or around an LCMS church. Included are questions about your background, family, experiences, and beliefs. Please answer honestly, to the best of your abilities. We are eager to know more about you and your peers.

We know that your time is important, so we have worked hard to make sure this survey will only take between 15-20 minutes.

Be assured that all your answers will be kept in the strictest of confidentiality. You will have an option at the end to provide your email if you are interested in helping us with further research on young adults and the LCMS.

How did you find out about this survey?

- ☐ Invited by a family member
☐ Invited by a friend
☐ Invited by a pastor or teacher
☐ Saw the post on social media
☐ Other (please explain:)

What is your...

age:

gender:

In what grade were you confirmed in the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod?

How long was your confirmation process?

- ☐ Couple weeks
☐ Couple months
☐ A full year
☐ Multiple years
☐ I don't recall

Indicate which types of schools you attended.

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

	Public School	Lutheran School	Other Christian School	Other Private School	Homeschool
Elementary School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Middle School	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
High school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
College/University	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Have you ever attended any of the following:**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Lutheran Camp
- ☐ LCMS Youth Gathering
- ☐ Mission Trip
- ☐ Servant Event with your church
- ☐ Other Christian retreats/conferences

Approximately how far do you currently live from the community where you graduated high school?

- ☐ I still live in the general area
- ☐ I live within an hour drive
- ☐ Between 1-2 hour drive
- ☐ Between 2-5 hour drive
- ☐ Between 5-10 hour drive
- ☐ Over 10 hours driving

	Community	State
Where did you grow up?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Where do you live now?	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

What is your current occupation status**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Full-time employed
- ☐ Part-time employed
- ☐ Full-time student
- ☐ Part-time student
- ☐ Serving Military
- ☐ Stay-at-home parent
- ☐ Unemployed

What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

- ☐ Less than high school diploma
- ☐ High school diploma or equivalent
- ☐ Some college, but no degree
- ☐ Associates Degree
- ☐ Bachelor's Degree
- ☐ Some post-graduate work
- ☐ Post-graduate degree

If you attended college, were you involved in a campus ministry?**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ I did not attend college
- ☐ I attended college but not a campus ministry
- ☐ LCMS Campus Ministry
- ☐ Other Lutheran Campus Ministry
- ☐ Campus Crusade for Christ (CRU)
- ☐ InterVarsity
- ☐ Other

If you attended college, what is/was your field of study?**How often do you read the Bible?**

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Few times a month
- ☐ Couple times a year
- ☐ Hardly ever
- ☐ Never

How often do you pray?

- ☐ Daily
- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Few times a month
- ☐ Couple times a year
- ☐ Hardly ever
- ☐ Never

How often did you attend church last year?

- ☐ Almost every week
- ☐ Once or twice a month
- ☐ Every couple of months
- ☐ Only once or twice
- ☐ Not at all

How often did you participate in a Bible Study or church small group last year?

- ☐ Weekly
- ☐ Once or twice a month
- ☐ Every couple of months
- ☐ Only once or twice
- ☐ Not at all

What is your current church or religious affiliation?

- ☐ ELCA Lutheran
- ☐ LCMS Lutheran
- ☐ Orthodox Christian
- ☐ Roman Catholic
- ☐ Other Lutheran
- ☐ Other Protestant
- ☐ Non-Denominational Christian
- ☐ I believe, just not affiliated with a church
- ☐ Non-Christian faith
- ☐ Agnostic
- ☐ Atheist

If you are connected with a local church, does it have a dedicated ministry for Young Adults?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ I am not at a church right now

If you are connected with a local church, are you active in a serving or leadership capacity?

- ☐ Yes, professional ministerial
- ☐ Yes, professional admin/support
- ☐ Yes, volunteer leadership
- ☐ Yes, volunteer service
- ☐ I do not have a leadership or service role
- ☐ I am not at a church right now

Is your significant other (spouse or partner) religious?

- ☐ I am single
- ☐ My significant other is not religious
- ☐ My significant other and I belong to the same faith and/or denomination
- ☐ My significant other belongs to a different faith or denomination:

Now we're going to ask you a few questions about your family life growing up.

During high school, who did you live with:

- ☐ Both my parents
- ☐ Mostly my mother
- ☐ Mostly my father
- ☐ Equally with both parents, but not together
- ☐ In an adoptive or foster family situation
- ☐ With a non-parent/guardian or alternative family setting

Were either of your parents/guardians in church leadership roles?**CHECK ALL THAT APPLY**

- ☐ Pastor
- ☐ Commissioned Worker
- ☐ Other church staff
- ☐ Lay Leader
- ☐ No

Did you regularly pray with a parent/guardian at home?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ At meal times or bedtimes only
- ☐ We prayed together regularly

Did you regularly read the Bible with a parent/guardian at home?

- ☐ Not at all
- ☐ Only on holidays or special occasions
- ☐ Not together, but I was supposed to read it on my own
- ☐ We regularly read the Bible together

When you were in high school, did your parents/guardians attend church?

- ☐ I only had one parent/guardian and they attended church
- ☐ My parents/guardians did not attend church
- ☐ Both parents/guardians attended church together
- ☐ Both parents/guardians attended church but different churches
- ☐ Mostly one parent/guardian attended church, the other occasionally
- ☐ Only one parent/guardian attended church, the other rarely/never did

For the following, indicate how you would have answered when you were in high school and how you would answer today.

	In high school	Today
I have a good relationship with my mother (or female guardian)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
I have a good relationship with my father (or male guardian)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
I am comfortable talking about life issues with my mother (or female guardian)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
I am comfortable talking about life issues with my father (or male guardian)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
I am comfortable talking to one or both of my parents/guardians about faith	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
My parents/guardians are open to my questions and doubts	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
My parents/guardians support me	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Does one or both of your parents/guardians currently attend church?

- ☐ Very involved in church
☐ Attend church regularly
☐ Attend church sometimes
☐ Do not attend church
☐ I don't know

Now we're going to ask you a few questions about your home church and spiritual journey.

How often did you attend church during each of the following stages of life?

	Weekly	At least once a month	Every couple of months	Once or twice a year	Not at all
As a child	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In high school	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Post-high school years (19-21)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Early twenties (22-24)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mid-twenties (25-28)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Late twenties/early thirties (if applicable)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

When you were in high school, did your church have a youth ministry program?

- ☐ Yes, and I was actively involved
☐ Yes, and I attended on and off
☐ Yes, but I was not involved
☐ We did not have a youth ministry

When you were in high school, did your church have a pastor/staff member dedicated to young people?

- ☐ Full-time staff member just for youth
☐ Part-time staff member just for youth
☐ Staff member that worked with youth but had other responsibilities too
☐ Volunteer youth worker(s)
☐ Not really

Did you ever experience a "pivotal moment" in your faith life? If so, briefly describe when it occurred and the impact it had on your faith.

For the following, indicate how you felt about the church where you were confirmed.

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The pastor of the church where I was confirmed cared about me personally	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church handled conflicts positively	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church handled mental health issues well	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church was supportive of my faith development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church prepared me well for defending my faith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church deliberately ministered to me during major life transitions (such as going to college, moving away, finding a job, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There was a minister or church leader with whom I felt safe discussing difficult topics or questions.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
My church looked out for my best interest	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I felt comfortable inviting friends to come to church with me	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Think about three to five people who have been influential in your spiritual journey. Indicate below who they were and whether their influence was positive (you want to be more like them) or negative (you want to be less like them).

	Who was this person?	Were they LCMS Lutheran?	Was their influence positive or negative?
Person 1	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Person 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Person 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Person 4	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Person 5	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Which of the following statements is closest to your view of salvation?

- ☐ You just need to be a good person to be saved
- ☐ Many paths (faiths) can lead to salvation
- ☐ In order to be saved you must believe in Jesus Christ
- ☐ I do not believe in any need to be "saved"
- ☐ I do not believe in any afterlife
- ☐ I believe something else

[illegible]

It is important to me to find a church that is involved in community service

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

It is important to me to find a church that is active in social justice issues

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

I would be more likely to go to church if the sermons helped me improve my life

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

I would be more likely to go to church if people there were more real

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

I would be more likely to go to church if there was less gossip

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

As a whole, Christian churches today...

...are trustworthy

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...are boring

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...are safe places to discuss differences of opinion

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...are a positive environment

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...do more harm than good

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...promote positive values

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...support the poorest and neediest in our communities

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...are too focused on money

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...talk too much about politics

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...are *supposed to be* counter-cultural

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

...actually *are* counter-cultural

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

Strongly Agree Agree Somewhat Agree Somewhat Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

LCMS Lutherans should only commune with other LCMS Lutherans

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

LCMS churches are too closed-minded

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

LCMS churches have too many rules

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

LCMS churches have strayed too far from tradition

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

LCMS churches are out of touch with the times

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Somewhat Agree	Somewhat Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
My time and/or money is put to better use in causes other than the church	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
There is no reason for the church to exclude women from ordination as pastors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
All species, including human beings, evolved over millions of years from common ancestors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
When it comes to abortion, a woman should always have the right to choose	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual activity before marriage is ok as long as both people consent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sexual activity between two persons of the same sex is ok as long as both people consent	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Legal marriage should only be reserved for heterosexual couples	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Generally, our country needs more strictly enforced laws regarding immigration	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Changing one's biological sex, or identifying as the opposite of one's biological sex, is always wrong	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Almost done! Here, we are going to ask about what issues you are passionate about.

How passionate are you about the following issues? (Regardless of your stance on the issues, please indicate how important each issue is to you).

	Most Important	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Somewhat Unimportant	Not Important
Abortion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Service	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Diversity / Prejudice / Racism	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Human Origins (Evolution / Creation)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
LGBTQ Issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mental Health Issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Poverty, Hunger, Homelessness	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Talking about my Faith/Beliefs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Women's Rights / Gender Equality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The Following Section was given to those who said they were something other than "LCMS Lutheran".

Last page!

Earlier you indicated that you are no longer affiliated with the Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod. Would you be willing to share some of the main reasons why you left the LCMS?

What, if anything, could the church do to make you consider coming back?

Would you be willing to talk more about your personal experiences with the Lutheran Church (an opportunity to be heard, not to be preached at)?

If so, please provide your email address or phone number below.

We respect your privacy.

This information will be used simply to follow up to this survey.

Your information will not be added to any lists or distributed anywhere else.

The Following Section was given to those who said they were "LCMS Lutheran" but marked that they attended worship "only once or twice" last year.

Last page!

Earlier you indicated that you still identify as an LCMS Lutheran but also that you have not attended church much in the past year. Would you be willing to share below if there is anything the church could do get you more involved?

Would you be willing to talk more about your personal experiences with the Lutheran Church (an opportunity to be heard, not to be preached at)?

If so, please provide your email address or phone number below.

We respect your privacy.

This information will be used simply to follow up to this survey.

Your information will not be added to any lists or distributed anywhere else.

The Following Section was given to those who said they were "LCMS Lutheran" and marked that they were attending worship at least every couple of months.

Last page!

Would you be willing to talk more about your personal experiences with the Lutheran Church (an opportunity to be heard, not to be preached at)?

If so, please provide your email address or phone number below.

We respect your privacy.

This information will be used simply to follow up to this survey.

Your information will not be added to any lists or distributed anywhere else.

Thank you for your time.