

Appendix D: Frequencies of Youth Participants

2003 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING EVALUATION

Youth Participant Questionnaire

August, 2003

N=500

Thank you for helping us evaluate The Atlanta Gathering (TAG). This is an opportunity to help planners and organizers prepare for the next Gathering. Please answer the following questions based on your own personal experiences at the Gathering. If you need more space for comments, attach additional pages as needed.

PLANNING FOR THE GATHERING

We're interested in what you and your counselor unit did to prepare for the Gathering. Your own congregation might have used some of these activities and resources before the Gathering, or maybe none at all. If you don't know anything about a particular resource or activity, just mark the "don't know" response, and go on to the next question.

1. Did you see the Gathering promotional video before deciding to come to the Gathering?

35.8%	Yes (<i>Please go to letter b</i>) →	b. How helpful was the video in helping you decide to come to the Gathering?				
51.2	No (<i>Please skip to question 2</i>)					
13.0	I don't know or don't remember (<i>Please skip to question 2</i>)					
			Not Very Helpful	Somewhat Helpful	Very Helpful	
			1	2	3	4
			2.8	7.4	42.9	33.9
					5	13.0

2. Did you visit the Gathering website prior to attending TAG?

29.7	Yes (<i>Please go to letter b</i>) →	b. Approximately how many times did you visit the Gathering website? (<i>choose one answer</i>)	
68.2	No (<i>Please skip to question 3</i>)		
2.1	I don't know or don't remember (<i>Please skip to question 3</i>)		
		86.8	1-10 times
		11.9	11-30 times
		0.7	31-50 times
		0.6	51 or more times

c. Please list what parts of the Gathering website were interesting or most helpful to you:

3. Did you listen to the pre-Gathering CD? CD?

31.7	Yes (<i>Please go to letter b</i>) →	Not Very Well at All	It Was Ok	I Liked it A lot
61.8	No (<i>Please skip to number 4</i>)	1	2	3
6.5	I don't know or don't remember (<i>Please skip to number 4</i>)	4.5	7.1	39.4
				33.5
				15.5

b. How well did you like the pre-Gathering

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4. Did you participate in Bible studies focused on the daily themes of the Gathering in preparation for TAG?

52.3 Yes (Please go to letter b) →

38.9 No (Please skip to number 5)

8.8 I don't know or don't remember (Please skip to number 5)

b. How helpful were the Bible studies in preparing for the daily themes of the Gathering?

	Not Very Helpful		Somewhat Helpful		Very Helpful
	1	2	3	4	5
	3.1	8.6	35.0	40.1	13.2

5. Did your congregation bless you when you left for the Gathering or welcome you back from the Gathering? (choose one that best describes your situation)

78.3 Yes, we were blessed or welcomed back during worship.

11.2 Yes, we were welcomed back informally by some members of our congregation.

7.8 Yes, we were welcomed back during a presentation to the church council or some other group within our congregation.

2.7 No, we were neither blessed when we left for the Gathering nor welcomed back by our congregation formally or informally.

**AT THE GATHERING: HOTEL LIFE
AT THE GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER AND HOTELS**

6. Think back on the events and activities that occurred during hotel life at the Georgia World Congress Center and the hotels. First, mark those hotel life activities in which you personally attended and/or participated at least once. Next, please rate how valuable those experiences (only those in which you participated) were for you personally.

Hotel Life Event	I participated	Not Very Valuable		Somewhat Valuable		Very Valuable	
		1	2	3	4	5	
a. Breakfast Club	15.4	6.2	8.6	33.3	28.4	23.5	
b. Word in the Word	6.2	3.0	9.2	24.2	30.3	33.3	
c. Music and the meal	10.8	3.6	1.8	16.1	41.1	37.4	
d. Health club	6.0	13.5	2.7	16.2	43.2	24.2	
e. Club Live	26.2	2.9	8.6	24.5	36.7	27.3	
f. Dance clubs	67.2	10.1	11.5	24.3	22.8	31.4	
g. Fun clubs	31.0	4.4	6.9	25.8	32.7	30.2	
h. Open mic	15.4	9.7	7.2	24.2	37.3	21.7	
i. Campfires	16.0	3.6	8.4	34.9	20.5	32.6	
j. The Lounge	26.8	7.5	8.3	36.8	26.3	21.1	
k. The Final 15	50.3	2.8	4.8	15.1	27.1	50.2	

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AT THE GATHERING: EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

7. Please think back on the events and activities that occurred at the Gathering. First, mark those activities in which you personally attended and/or participated at least once. Next, please rate how valuable those experiences (*only* those in which you participated) were for you personally. A “Very Valuable” experience would be one that had a lasting impact on you.

Event	I participated	Not Very Valuable		Somewhat Valuable		Very Valuable
		1	2	3	4	5
a. Servant Events	36.8	6.6	8.8	18.8	23.8	42.0
b. Continuing Ed Opportunities (tourist trips)	30.0	2.0	4.7	25.5	33.6	34.2
c. Learning Villages	33.6	2.2	2.2	18.9	35.6	41.1
d. The Globe (interaction center)	91.8	1.7	3.5	17.6	29.4	47.8
e. Morning Bible Study	56.0	1.8	8.0	15.8	31.2	43.2
f. Evening Mass Events	83.1	1.2	1.7	7.4	20.8	69.0

8. What did you think of the Gathering theme “Do Life! Ubuntu: I am because we are. We are because Christ is.”

- 47.9 I *really* liked it; it was very meaningful to me.
- 35.8 I liked it; it was kind of meaningful to me.
- 11.5 I’m neutral about it; it was OK.
- 2.6 I didn’t like it; it didn’t really mean much to me.
- 2.2 I *really* didn’t like it; it wasn’t meaningful for me at all.

9. Was there a speaker, emcee, Bible study leader, presenter in the Learning Village, musician, or band that was particularly important to you, or that you felt made a connection with you? If so, who was that person/people or band(s)? (*If you can’t remember someone’s name, try to describe when/where you heard this person or what s/he talked about.*)

10. **Other than** spending time in the Globe (interaction center) or participating in servant events or CEO tourist trips, please briefly describe what else you did during the *afternoons* at the Gathering (*on Thursday, Friday and Saturday*).

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11. Ensuring participant safety and security is always a priority for Gathering organizers. Was there any time during the Gathering when you were especially concerned or worried about your individual or group safety?

88.6 No

11.4 Yes → *Please describe that particular experience(s):*

REFLECTIONS AFTER THE GATHERING

12. What have you done, or what will you do to share your Gathering experiences with your congregation?
(indicate all the responses that apply from both columns)

64.8	Informal conversations with congregation members	8.0	A report or presentation to the congregation council
51.6	A report or presentation during a worship service	13.6	A report or presentation at a youth group meeting
23.8	A meeting or dinner specifically intended for talking about the Gathering	62.4	A display of pictures, programs, and/or other souvenirs
26.2	A letter or article written for your congregation's newsletter or bulletin	3.8	Creating a webpage
11.2	A report or presentation at Sunday School or an Adult Forum	13.6	Other: _____

13. Will you do anything differently because of what you've learned through the Gathering theme?

49.4 Yes, I am doing some things differently or I intend to make some changes in my daily life
(Please answer question b)

12.4 No, I doubt I will do anything differently in my daily life because of the theme (Please skip to question 15)

34.1 I'm not sure how I would do anything differently (Please skip to question 15)

4.1 I'm not sure if I want to change anything in my daily life (Please skip to question 15)

b. Please write a sentence or more on how you've made changes in your daily life since the Gathering. In what ways have your behaviors prior to the Gathering changed or will they change?

c. Did the theme *Do Life! Ubuntu* resonate with you in regard to the current war in the world?

18.0 Yes– Please explain here:

37.6 No– the theme did not make me think of war in any different ways than prior to the Gathering.

44.4 Chose not to answer this question

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14. Please list five ways in which you plan to practice Ubuntu in your life? (*if you don't plan to practice Ubuntu, skip to the next question*)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

15. If your faith practices (such as prayer life, stewardship, worship attendance, Bible study, volunteer service, etc) have changed in any ways since the Gathering, please briefly describe in this space.

16. Please share with us a TAG experience or experiences that had a significant impact on you, either positively or negatively, such as an activity or speaker in the Learning Village, a Servant Event, a Hotel Life experience, a particular mass gathering, the Gathering's theme, a particular speaker, etc.

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF ...

17. On average, how many books do you read for fun per year? (this *does not* include assigned reading from school)

- 8.4 0 leisure books per year
- 46.2 1-5 leisure books per year
- 22.5 6-10 leisure books per year
- 9.5 11-15 leisure books per year
- 13.4 16 or more leisure books per year

18. How frequently do you attend worship on Sundays?

- 60.5 All or nearly all Sundays
- 29.3 2 or 3 Sundays per month
- 6.1 1 Sunday per month
- 2.9 Less than 1 Sunday per month
- 1.2 Rarely or never

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19. What was your grade-point average this past year?
- 66.8 Mostly A's (3.50 or better)
 - 27.7 Mostly B's (3.00)
 - 5.5 Mostly C's (2.75)
 - 0.0 Mostly D's (Less than 2.75)
20. How many hours per week do you spend on the internet?
- 7.6 0 hours per week
 - 47.7 1-5 hours per week
 - 26.1 6-10 hours per week
 - 12.1 11-20 hours per week
 - 3.9 21-30 hours per week
 - 2.6 31 or more hours per week
21. How often do you go to the movies?
- 5.3 Once or more per week
 - 27.9 Twice a month
 - 27.3 Once a month
 - 29.8 Less than once a month
 - 9.7 Rarely or never
22. How many hours per week do you talk on the telephone?
- 34.1 Less than 1 hour per week
 - 48.9 1-5 hours per week
 - 12.2 6-10 hours per week
 - 4.8 10 or more hours per week
23. Please indicate which of the following people **live with you in your home?** (*indicate all that apply*)
- 95.0 Mother
 - 86.4 Father
 - 8.0 Step-parent
 - 79.8 Sibling(s)
 - 2.8 Step-sibling(s)
 - 0.8 Grandparent(s)
 - 0.8 Aunt(s) or Uncle(s)
 - 0.0 cousin(s)
 - 4.4 Other: _____
24. What do you plan to do in the academic year after you finish high school? (*indicate all that apply*)
- 8.8 Get a permanent job
 - 1.8 Go to a vocational school
 - 9.0 Go to a community college
 - 90.2 Go to a 4-year college/university
 - 4.2 Join the military
 - 9.0 Travel abroad
 - 0.8 Join a full-time volunteer program
 - 5.0 Other: _____

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25. How frequently do you attend church youth group activities? (*choose one that best applies*)
- 28.3 At least once a week or more
 - 35.6 2 or 3 times per month
 - 21.7 1 time a month
 - 8.5 Less than 1 time per month
 - 5.9 Rarely or never
26. Are you a leader outside of your congregation or other church-related organizations?
- 51.6 Yes
 - 26.2 No
 - 22.2 I'm not sure
27. When using the web, please indicate which of the following you typically do: (*indicate all that apply*)
- 10.4 participate in chat rooms
 - 85.2 e-mail
 - 80.4 instant messenger
 - 56.6 down-load music, games, etc.
 - 33.0 participate in on-line games
 - 61.4 browse/surf
 - 24.0 purchase
 - 74.8 research for academic purposes
 - 14.4 research faith-based material
 - 35.4 research recreational/leisure activities
 - 16.6 other
 - 0.6 none of the above
28. What are your three top priorities *personally* for the upcoming five years of your life?
- 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

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29. What are your three top concerns for *the world* in the upcoming five years?

1.

2.

3.

Thank you for your time!

Please return this questionnaire in the envelope provided, or to:

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