Gathering
A day of stimulating activities for those experiencing memory loss &
Five hours of respite for their caregivers

The Gathering is coordinated by Lyngblomsten
www.lyngblomsten.org/thegathering

Funding is provided through grants and by the generosity of individuals who make financial gifts to the Lyngblomsten Foundation.

The Gathering is also funded in part by the Older Americans Act Title IIIE National Family Caregiver Support Program in partnership with the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging.

If you would like to make a donation to The Gathering, contact the Lyngblomsten Foundation at (651) 632-5324 or visit www.lyngblomsten.org/donate.

The Gathering provides services to all people who meet service eligibility criteria and does not discriminate based on race, color religion, age, gender, disability, marital status or sexual orientation.

The Gathering is part of Lyngblomsten’s continuum of services to older adults:
• Home- and Community-Based Services (including Care Team Ministry, 5-5-1 Club community center, The Gathering, Parish Nurse Ministry Resource Group, & Support Groups/Resources)
• Senior Housing with Assisted Living Services
• Rehabilitation & Transitional Care
• Long-term Nursing Care
• Specialized Care (Alzheimer’s/dementias, Parkinson’s, palliative care)
• Caregivers Support

Renew
The Gathering presents a day of RENEWAL for those experiencing early- to mid-stage memory loss—offering them a variety of stimulating activities with a specially trained group of volunteers to engage their minds and bodies.

Replenish
While their loved ones experiencing memory loss enjoy a safe and engaging time, caregivers can do errands, visit with a friend, and/or rest in order to REPLENISH their energy for their role of caregiving.

Rejuvenate
After a fun time with peers for the participants, and a restful break for their caregivers, both can return to their daily routines feeling refreshed and REJUVENATED.
A Day at The Gathering

- We are staffed by dedicated volunteers specially trained to understand the distinctive needs of people experiencing memory loss.

- Volunteers greet participants upon arrival at 10 AM and together enjoy interesting activities and socializing until 3 PM.

- Following a nutritious lunch, participants are involved in an afternoon of activities which helps them remain active and engaged.

- Typical activities include: music, games, light exercise, simple woodworking, painting, polymer clay projects, as well as discussion groups (reminiscing, sports, history, etc.), special guest speakers and more.

A fee is charged and billed monthly.

To maintain the integrity of the program’s structure, The Gathering does not accommodate drop-ins or visitors.

About Us

The Gathering is a program offered through Lyngblomsten’s Home- and Community-Based Services, and in collaborative partnership with more than 30 churches across the Twin Cities, nine of which provide the facilities and host The Gathering.

Each program site meets two to four times per month and accommodates a group of eight to ten participants (person experiencing memory loss). There is one volunteer for every participant.

The caregiver and their loved one will meet a Gathering staff professional for an assessment prior to enrollment.

Learn More

Phone: Betsy Hoffman at (651) 414-5291
Email: bhoffman@lyngblomsten.org
Web: www.lyngblomsten.org/thegathering

Visit our webpage for a list of our church partners and Gathering program sites, or to learn about becoming a volunteer.

Testimonials

Helen Z., Caregiver
“I treasure a day to let go of the caregiving role. The 24/7 responsibility is so exhausting and almost impossible.”

Bruce E., Participant
“My Gathering day is important to me—I hate to miss any of the fun, foods, and conversations with my new friends. We all know we have Alzheimer’s but that isn’t who we are; we are just a great bunch of friends having a good time.”

Volunteers
“Volunteering at The Gathering is another extension of God’s purpose for me.”

“The Gathering is the most rewarding and fulfilling volunteer experience I have ever had!”

Rev. Bryce Johnson, White Bear Lake United Methodist Church
“As a service to the community, The Gathering utilizes volunteers. I am impressed with the outstanding dedication of these volunteers. I see The Gathering as one of the best services we have been involved in.”