

2016 Northwestern Minnesota Synod Conference Youth Representative/At Large

About the NWMN Synod Conference Youth Representative position:

- ⇒ Allows for voice and vote on the Northwestern Minnesota Synod Lutheran Youth Organization board.
- ⇒ Eligible applicants must be members of an ELCA congregation and be in grades 9 – 11 at the time of election.
- ⇒ Active in publicizing and advocating for Middle School and Senior High Gatherings, Synod Assembly, ELCA Youth Gathering and other opportunities/events as they arise.

About the Lutheran Youth Organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America:

- ⇒ **Mission Statement:**
To empower the youth of the ELCA to grow in faith, act as disciples, and lift their voice(s) in service to the world.
- ⇒ **Vision Statement:**
The youth of the ELCA develop strong, personal relationships with Christ, promote Christian values and communities, and serve as an integral part of the church
- ⇒ **Goal 1: Growing in Faith**
- ⇒ Bible studies, resources, synod gatherings, education, faith formation.
- ⇒ **Goal 2: Act as Disciples**
Leadership development, communication, respect.
- ⇒ **Goal 3: Lift Voices**
Synod LYO/gathering, advocacy, higher number on boards/congregations, unify voice on issues, diversity, respect voices/organization be respected, support MAC and DAC*
- ⇒ **Goal 4: Service to the World**
ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Response, Lutheran World Relief, Young Adults in Global Mission, and other church and para-church organizations.

Expectations:

- ⇒ LYO Board Members serve on the Board through their senior year in High School
- ⇒ LYO Board Members must be willing to miss school, work, and activities to attend four meetings per year; the Middle School Gathering and its pre-planning meeting, the winter planning meeting (usually President's Day), the Senior High Gathering and its pre-planning meeting, and the June meeting.
- ⇒ LYO Board Members are required to attend the summer planning retreat, the end of August. Youth who cannot attend, cannot be part of the LYO Board.
- ⇒ LYO Board Members are expected to carpool/ride share with Adult Representatives when possible, if they choose not to, then they will be traveling at their own expense.
- ⇒ LYO Board Members are expected to be committed to the LYO Board and its mission as they represent the voice of you in this Synod.

Please turn completed application into your Pastor/Youth Leader by April 13th.



1. Information about applicant:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Current Grade in School: _____ Graduation Year: _____

Email address (that you check regularly): _____

Parents/Guardians Name(s): _____

Parents/Guardians Cell Phone number(s): _____

Parents/Guardians email address(es) (that you check regularly): _____

2. Information about applicant's congregation:

Congregation Name: _____

Congregation City, State, Zip: _____

Conference # (new as of 02.01.16): _____

Pastor(s) of Congregation: _____

Congregational Youth Director/Adult Leader: _____

3. Please answer the following questions as thoroughly as possible. Your answers will help determine a the best fit for the Conference Representative Position.

Why are you interested in serving on the LYO Board? (What motivated you to apply? What do you hope to accomplish for the youth in Northwestern Minnesota Synod by serving on the LYO Board? What are your expectations?)

Pertaining to this position, what skills, talents, and experience do you have that would benefit the Northwestern Minnesota LYO board?

What is the role of youth in today's church?

What is your active role in your church at this time? (council, youth group, readings)

What activities are you involved in outside of church? Which of these is most important, why?

If selected to the board and a meeting falls on the same day as your most important activity from above, what actions will you take?

Are you willing to make the necessary time commitment required in order to fulfill the ministry of this position?

How do you take care of yourself mentally/ physically/ emotionally during stressful/ busy times in your life?
How do you handle stress?

Briefly describe your faith (what you believe) and how it is important to your life.

I, (print name) _____, have completed this application correctly to my knowledge, understand the responsibilities of this position, and am willing to serve the NWMN LYO in this capacity if elected.

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents/Guardians:

By signing this, you have acknowledged your young person's desire to serve God, their church, and their Synod in this important capacity, and you commit yourself to being supportive of your young person in this position if elected, help them meet the commitments and commit to praying for the Synod and the LYO Board.

Parents/Guardians signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents/Guardians signature: _____ Date: _____

Please turn completed application into your Pastor/Youth Leader by April 13th

Pastor/Adult Leader recommendation form *please turn in with Youth's application*

Your name: _____

Your position/title: _____ Years served in current position: _____

Applicant name: _____

How long have you known applicant/what capacity: _____

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this recommendation form. The youth who gave you this form desires to be a member of the LYO Board. The LYO Board of NWMN Synod is a select group of young people with responsibilities. Members of the LYO Board must be mature, committed, responsible, faith-filled, and enthusiastic leaders with the mental/emotional/spiritual capacity to fulfill their roles with the training they will receive. Your honest and thoughtful comments/reflections will help shape our future board.

Do you believe this person is a qualified candidate for the LYO Board? Y/N What, if anything would concern you about having this applicant serve in this leadership position?

Please comment on the applicant's commitment level. Share an example if possible.

Please comment on the applicant's depth, understanding, and application of their faith. Share an example if possible.

Please rank the applicant on the following:

5 is outstanding, 3 is average, 1 is poor, NO is no opportunity to observe

Ability to work as a team member:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Ability to work independently (self-starter):

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Ability to follow through on tasks without being asked:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Ability to communicate well with peers:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Ability to communicate well with adults:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Respectful of peers:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

Respectful of adults:

5 4 3 2 1 NO

I have read their complete application, and I believe that they have been honest in their application Y/N

Signature: _____

Date: _____