



LYO Board Elections

A new LYO Board will be elected at the Sr. High Youth Gathering. This is an amazing opportunity for youth to serve their church, synod and community while growing in faith and leadership skills. Please encourage youth from your congregation to run for this board. It is a rewarding learning and faith building experience.

The LYO Board is responsible for planning and leading the Jr. and Sr. High Youth Gatherings and representing the voice of youth on a synod level. The LYO is a leadership team that requires leadership skills, maturity, a significant investment of time, and a desire to grow in and share one's faith. Board members receive training to grow in their skills and accomplish their assigned tasks.

Youth from your congregations in grades 9-11 are eligible to run for thirteen one-year LYO board terms. The 13 elected youth will choose their own officers during LYO training.

Serving on the LYO board involves a time commitment of attending LYO training/Synod Assembly, 2 weekend meeting/retreats, and leading the Jr. and Sr. High Gathering. Dates for these commitments are printed on the LYO application form.

On this sheet you will find an LYO application form. Forms received by **March 1** will be printed and distributed to gathering participants to aid in the election process. All youth who run for the LYO board will need to fill out a form, but **only those received by March 1 will be printed.**

If you have any questions please contact Sarah Hausken, 507-430-2273 or sarah.hausken@swmnelca.org.

What has it meant to you to serve on the SW MN Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) Board?

Thoughts from current board members . . .

"There were times when I had doubts of what my faith was about. But my eyes have opened and I no longer believe because I've been told to believe. I've felt God with me. I've noticed everything that God does for me. I understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit will help me build up the church, and I wish to share in building up the Holy church by helping the younger youth come closer to God. Being on the LYO Board this year has been an amazing opportunity for me. We are called to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ through various activities. Being on this board is not only an honor, but a valuable learning experience for me as well! This board is helping me and others grow in faith."

Janelle Curry, New Ulm, MN

"It's such a joy to put on these events for the youth in our synod. I love seeing the looks on the kid's faces as they play games and learn together about the gifts God has given them. Not only that, but I also see myself getting caught up in the same excitement when things start getting crazy. I have a whole new reason to look forward to these great events."

Reed Schwarting, Becker, MN

"Serving on the LYO board has meant the world to me. I have met some of the most amazing people and made tons of new friends. I have made connections that will last a lifetime. My faith life has also been deeply strengthened. I feel much closer to God and I am a lot more comfortable spreading his word and having a great time while doing it! LYO is a great experience. I've recommended it to lots of friends. I just love having the opportunity to serve God and others and to do so with others who share the same excitement about it as I do!"

Brittani Lamb, St. Peter, MN



Application Form Candidates for Southwestern Minnesota Lutheran Youth Organization

The LYO Board is responsible for planning and leading the Jr. and Sr. High Youth Gatherings and representing the voice of youth on a synod level. The LYO is a leadership team that requires leadership skills, a significant investment of time, and a desire to grow in and share one's faith. Board members receive training to grow in their skills and serve in this ministry.

Following are the meeting dates the 2001-2011 LYO board is committed to attending and serving. If you know you will be unable to attend more than one meeting or will not make your participation in the LYO board a priority, please consider letting someone who is able to make the commitment and be present for more meetings have the chance to serve on the LYO Board. Thank you.

LYO Training in June (date to be decided); September 11, 2010; November 18-21, 2010; January 14-15, 2011; March 10-12, 2011

Name _____ Gender _____ Birth date _____ Grade _____

Mailing Address _____

Email Address _____ Home Phone Number _____

Cell Phone Number _____ Do you text? _____ Parent's Name(s) _____

Home Congregation and Town/Location _____

1. In 30 words or less, please state why you are interested in serving on the LYO Board. (What motivated you to apply? What do you hope to accomplish for youth in the Southwestern Minnesota Synod by serving on the LYO Board?)

2. In 30 words or less, please state some strengths, gifts, abilities or perspectives you would bring to the LYO Board.

3. In 30 words or less, please state any activities have you been involved with at school, church and in your community that may give you experience that would help you serve on the LYO Board.

Written applications to be printed for the gathering will only be received until **March 1, 2009**.

All candidates must fill out an application before voting takes place on March 13, 2009 **Please send to:**
LYO Secretary Jessica Epple, 1689 340th St. Canby, MN 56220, epple_2011@live.com 507-694-1340, cell – 1 507 530 2763

Jessica will contact you via email or text to let you know she's received your application.

If you do not hear from her, please contact her to make sure she received it.