

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of stylized fish and crosses. The fish are white with a black outline and a small black dot for an eye. The crosses are also white with a black outline. The background color transitions from a bright yellow at the top to a deep orange at the bottom.

edlya

East District Lutheran Young Adults

Constitution

MISSION OBJECTIVE

“By the grace of God and with the help of the Holy Spirit EDLYA is committed to encouraging each young adult in our church in a growing relationship with God, each other, and all people.”

CONSTITUTION

I. Name

The Name of this organization shall be “East District Lutheran Young Adults”, referred to herein as “EDLYA”.

II. Authority

In its work and activity, EDLYA shall always be governed by the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions which are the true and genuine exposition of the doctrine in the Scriptures. The EDLYA shall do nothing contrary to these Scriptures and Confessions.

This organization is responsible to, and shall report annually (or upon request) to the Department of Parish Education of the East District, Lutheran Church-Canada.

III. Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

1. *To offer fellowship for Lutheran young adult members of Lutheran Church-Canada congregations in Eastern Canada and congregations in altar-pulpit relationship with the same, and to provide opportunities for Christian Growth (Ephesians 4:11-12);*
2. *To provide an ongoing ministry to the youth of these congregations;*
3. *To encourage the establishment of Young Adult programs on the circuit and congregational levels;*
4. *To develop leadership potential in Young Adult members (I Timothy 4:12, 16; II Timothy 4:5);*
5. *To provide a forum to share ideas and abilities, that is, to provide greater ease, confidence, and competence in communicating God's Word to all young adults, Lutheran and non-Lutheran.*

This organization shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members and any profits or other accretions to the organization shall be used in promoting its objective.

IV. Membership

1. **Eligibility:** *Any communicant member in good standing of a Lutheran Church-Canada congregation (East District), or congregation in altar-pulpit fellowship with the same, who is 18 years of age or over, is a member of EDLYA.*
2. **Responsibility:** *Each member is expected to attend local meetings, Bible studies, and other activities of the EDLYA and its circuits, and when possible to attend the district retreats.*
3. **Privileges:** *All members shall be full members with full voting rights at meetings.*

V. Representatives

A representative shall be selected for each circuit of the Lutheran Church-Canada, East District. Congregations in altar-pulpit fellowship with the same shall be considered to belong to the geographically closest circuit.

1. **Eligibility:** *Any member is eligible for selection as a circuit representative. A representative may not hold any other position on the Executive Board.*
2. **Selection:** *Representatives shall be selected during the Fall Retreat. Representatives shall be elected by the members of the circuit which they are to represent. The first nominee to receive a majority of votes cast shall be declared elected. Vacancies may be filled by appointment at the discretion of the Executive Board.*
3. **Term of Office:** *The term of office of representatives shall be two terms commencing upon election.*
4. **Function:** *The function of the circuit representatives shall be to:*
 - a) *organize activities within the circuit;*
 - b) *transfer information from the Executive Board to each church in the circuit;*
 - c) *present views of circuit members to the Executive Board;*
 - d) *obtain needed materials for circuit churches;*
 - e) *help and encourage all members in the circuit; and*
 - f) *attend meetings of the Executive Board.*

VI Officers

The officers of the EDLYA shall be the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

1. **Eligibility:** Any member, male or female, is eligible for election as an officer. An officer may not hold any other position on the Executive Board. No officer may serve more than two consecutive terms in ANY office, after which he/she shall be ineligible for a period of one year.
2. **Election:** All officers shall be elected at the Fall Retreat, with the President and Treasurer elected in alternate years to the Vice-President and Secretary.
3. **Term of Office:** The term of office shall be for two years, and officers shall begin serving their term upon election. Should any officer be unable to complete his/her term, an eligible member will be appointed by the Executive Board to complete the balance of the two-year term.
4. **Responsibilities:** the function of the officers, beyond the duties incumbent upon the offices, shall be to ensure that this Constitution is upheld, particularly that the EDLYA adheres to the purposes described in Article III.

VII. Seminary Representative

The Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary Representative shall be appointed by the Executive Board for a two-year term. The seminary representative shall not hold any other position on the Executive Board.

VIII. Pastoral Counselor

The pastoral counselor shall be appointed by the Executive Board from among the clergy of the Lutheran Church-Canada, East District. The appointment shall be for two years; however, reappointments may be made indefinitely. This appointment shall be approved by the President of the Lutheran Church-Canada, East District.

The pastoral counselor shall act as an advisor to the Executive Board and to the members at all meetings at which he is present.

IX. Meetings

Regular meetings may be held during the spring and fall retreats, with the annual meeting taking place during the fall meeting.

Quorum shall consist of a majority of those members in attendance at the retreat during which the meeting is being held.

X. Executive Board

The Executive Board of the EDLYA shall consist of the following:

- **President**
- **Vice-President**
- **Treasurer**
- **Secretary**
- **The circuit representatives**
- **The seminary representatives**
- **The pastoral counselor**

The planning and execution of the EDLYA's program shall be entrusted to the Executive Board. They shall meet as often as deemed necessary for the compiling of information and the preparation of recommendations, retreats, and agendas. The minutes of these meetings shall be made available for reading at the next regular retreat.

XI. Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised" shall govern the meetings of the EDLYA in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules of order the EDLYA may adopt.

XII. Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the EDLYA by a two-thirds vote, provided that the intent to amend has been announced at the immediately previous regular meetings of the EDLYA, and that the text of the proposed amendments is available upon request at least two months prior to the meeting at which the Constitution is to be amended.

Any amendments must be approved by the Department of Parish Education of the East District, Lutheran Church-Canada.

Established in this year, the year of our Lord, 1985

(3rd revision March 1987)

(4th revision November 1987)

(5th revision February 1988)

(6th revision)

(7th revision March 1991)

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. President

- a) *Chair all meetings;*
- b) *Inform executive of meetings and prepare meeting agendas;*
- c) *Delegate work as needed;*
- d) *Member of all committees;*
- e) *Coordinate all retreat planning activities;*
- f) *Contact all people on behalf of EDLYA for fulfilling the objective of EDLYA;*
- g) *Keep scheduled activities at retreats on time;*
- h) *Prepare report on all activities and correspondence*

2. Vice-President

- a) *Execute the position President when President is incapacitated;*
- b) *Prepare advertising for upcoming retreats well in advance;*
- c) *Prepare report on all activities*

3. Treasurer

- a) *Keep detailed financial records;*
- b) *Prepare a report in print for presentation at all meetings;*
- c) *Take registration and money for retreats;*
- d) *Send list of names, addresses, and phone numbers to Secretary ASAP after retreats.*

4. Secretary

- a) *Keep minutes at meetings;*
- b) *Send minutes of all meetings to executive, Parish Ed. Chairman, and District Office ASAP after meeting;*
- c) *Maintain up-to-date and accurate mailing address list;*
- d) *Coordinate mailout information for upcoming retreats.*

5. Representative

- a) *Hold circuit events*
- b) *Report activities, i.e., article, pictures are to be sent to Secretary for district news*
- c) *Arrange car pooling for retreats after calling Treasurer for a list of people attending retreat from your circuit*
- d) *Report address and phone number changes to Secretary*
- e) *Review part 3 of constitution*

IDEAS FOR HOLDING CIRCUIT/YA GATHERINGS

The opening should include the following:

- *Welcome*
- *Personal Introduction of yourself*
- *Thank-you for coming*
- *Name Tags or Cards*
- *Each person introduce him/herself and where he/she is from*
- *Determine status of Young Adults group (throughout)*
- *Bible devotion*
- *Tables and chairs set so each person looks in at the group*
- *Coffee and juice for refreshments*

GOALS

1. *To learn – Increase in knowledge and wisdom through God's Word.*
2. *Fellowship – To encourage one another in the above.*
3. *Return – To take something back to our home congregations to work at: Bible studies, fellowship, encouraging one another.*
4. *Build – Solidify spiritual foundations.*
5. *Growth – Spreading of the gospel message through the Word by:fellowship, friendship, within home congregation*

AGENDA

1. *Bible studies*
2. *Retreats*
3. *Activities for my church*
4. *Potluck supper*
5. *Activities for our churches*
6. *Obstacles*
7. *Activities to encourage Mission Congregations*
8. *Other Business*
9. *Responsibilities*
10. *Priority and work emphasis*
11. *Closing*

BIBLE STUDIES

Present Methods: every second gathering, short devotions at each activity, Pastor led, Books available, videos available from district office.

Activities For My Church

Bowling, baseball, horseback riding, miniature golf, golfing, volleyball, beach outings, picnics, movies night, games night, music night, etc.

Potluck Suppers

Easter, beginning of summer, end of summer, Christmas.

Obstacles

- Information** – One contact per church EDLYA membership
- Adults** – Types: single, married, married w/children, single parent
– Common interests?
– Youth to baby sit during activity?
- Youth** – University
– YA retreat pictures
– Bridge the gap

ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE MISSION CONGREGATIONS

- Contemporary singing group for special occasions in a congregation year.
- Once every few months: go to a Mission congregation and help encourage and support them through song. Giving praise to God in this manner.
- Young Adults of the Zone can help by participating in Canvases for Mission congregations in the Area.

RESPONSIBILITIES

What I Will Do?

- Organize Leader Meetings-Once every four months
- Send EDLYA information to one representative from each church
- Obtain needed materials for churches
- Help encourage each group
- Present your views at EDLYA meetings
- Listen for new ideas
- Pray

What I Would Like You to Do as a Leader

- Begin or continue to organize YA activities
- Keep a record of YA activities and report to the circuit leaders at four month intervals
- Keep your Pastor informed
- Give me ideas, Ask me any questions, Seek help if needed
- Take EDLYA information and spread throughout your congregation
- Encourage each other
- Keep the Word at the focal point
- Pray

What I Would Like All YA to Do

- Grow in faith through the study of God's Word with other YA's
- Encourage each other by participating in Activities
- Use the talents God has given to each and everyone of you
- Participate in the EDLYA Activities
- Pray

POSSIBLE OR PREVIOUS RETREAT TOPICS

Spiritual Gifts, Worship with song, Evangelism, Situational Ethics, Christian Finances & Stewardship, Making time for God, Success as God defines it, Staying Warm in God's Love, Forgiveness, God's Will for my Life, What kind of world is this?, Changes: Keeping God first in your rapidly changing life, Christian vocations, New Age, the End Times, Euthanasia, Alcohol and Substance Abuse.

RETREAT CENTRES

Camp Shalom, Cambridge ON
Camp Koinonia, Parry Sound ON
Rocky Ridge Ranch, Rockwood
Gesstwood, Essex
Muskoka Woods
Ganarska Woods
Edgewood, Eden Mills
Christian Horizons, Paisley

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