

Oregon Lutheran Youth Organization Officers

General Qualifications: Officers work together as a team with the adult advisors to run the youth organization. Officers must be responsible, organized, and cooperative, and be eager to explore and share their faith. High School youth who are members of Oregon synod churches are eligible to run for office. Potential officers must be willing to commit to attendance at OLYO events and to planning meetings that are scheduled several times a year (meetings and events *generally* total about 9 weekends per year).

President: This officer leads the OLYO planning meetings, sits on the synod Youth and Family committee and attends the Council of Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Presidents (CSLYOPS- which usually meet in November. Oregon Synod and ELCA cover the cost of attendance.) The president is an important link between adults and youth and thus, should command the respect of peers and model leadership within the group.

Vice President: This officer assists the president, leading meetings if the president is unable to attend. The Vice-President sits on the Region One Youth Council, which meets twice a year.

Secretary: This officer takes minutes at meetings. Organizational skills and timely communication are essential in assisting the board to complete tasks.

Treasurer: This officer handles matters regarding finances, keeping accurate financial records and helping the organization create programming which reflects its goals while maintaining a budget.

Inclusive Ministry Advocate: This officer works to keep the organization from excluding anyone and encourages new ideas. Additional training may be offered by the synod, for this officer to share with OLYO for leadership development at youth events.

Communication Coordinator: This officer works with the synod communication staff person to maintain the synod youth webpage. Working closely with the OLYO advisor on publicity for events, their goal is to build interest in the organization and for upcoming events. This officer should be highly organized and attentive to details and deadlines.

Youth Representative to Synod Council: (2 year term-voted in by whole assembly, but put forth by OLYO at Convo.) This officer attends synod council meetings c. three times a year. A strong advocate for youth interests in the life of the larger church, this officer helps to keep communication between youth and the synod council open.

Youth Representative to the Commission for Congregational Ministries: (3 years) This officer represents the interests of OLYO and contributes to the discussions of the CCM regarding the programmatic ministries of the synod. Meeting with the commission approximately four times per year over a period of three years, partnership is created for developing programs that include the interests, needs, and gifts of youth.