

# GLOSSARY OF LYO ACRONYMS AND TERMS

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**BLYO:** churchwide Board of the Lutheran Youth Organization

**CC:** churchwide Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**CSLYOPs:** Council of Synod Lutheran Youth Organization Presidents (properly referred to as “the Council,” but commonly pronounced as “Syklops.”)

**CWA:** Churchwide Assembly (highest legislative body of the ELCA)

**DAC:** Definitely-Abled Advisory Committee to the BLYO

**DAYLE:** Definitely-Abled Youth Leadership Event (pre-event to the ELCA Youth Gathering)

**ELCA:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**ELCIC:** Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

**LCMS:** Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod

**LPF:** Lutheran Peace Fellowship

**LMM:** Lutheran Men in Mission

**LSM:** Lutheran Student Movement

**LWF:** Lutheran World Federation (an international communion of churches in which the ELCA is one of 140 members)

**LYO:** Lutheran Youth Organization

**MAC:** Multicultural Advisory Committee to the BLYO

**MYLE:** Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (pre-event to the ELCA Youth Gathering)

**SYMBOL:** Synodical Youth Ministry Band Of Leaders

**VE:** Vocation and Education (the unit within the churchwide organization that houses the LYO)

**WO:** Women of the ELCA (also **WELCA**)

**YM:** Youth Ministries

## **Glossary of meeting terms**

**Adopt:** To choose or accept and put into effect (by vote or consensus).

**Agenda:** Items to be discussed or acted upon, often listed in order that facilitates the work of a group or committee.

**Approve:** To confirm or sanction formally; ratify.

**Biennial:** Occurring every two years.

**Biannual:** Occurring twice per year.

**Bylaw:** A standing rule governing the regulation of a corporation's or organization's internal affairs.

**Churchwide:** Designated term for the whole organization; an inclusive term that replaces "national" to acknowledge the church extends beyond any nation's borders.

**Cluster or Conference:** A group of congregations and inter-congregational units within the territory of a synodical organization.

**Consensus:** General agreement or unanimity; group solidarity in sentiment or belief; a non-formal approach to decision-making.

**Constitution:** A legal document that outlines the name, purpose, authority, relationships and financial structure of an organization.

**Core values:** Guiding principles that give people within an organization a basis on how they do their work, help articulate what they stand for and guide them in their decision-making.

**Delegate:** A person designated to act for or represent others.

**Goals:** General statements of desired results.

**Mission:** A big-picture statement that defines what a group of people is going to do in order to bring success to their organization

**Parliamentary Procedure:** The tool used to conduct legislative business, or a code of rules and ethics for working together in decision-making groups.

**Policy:** A statement of guidelines for action; a position which guides the decision-making and activities of the organization.

**Procedure:** A particular way or series of ways to accomplish something (procedures are flexible within and limited by the policies of an organization).

**Purpose:** A brief statement that describes why a group or function exists.

**Regions:** Nine geographical groupings of synods in the ELCA.

**Resolution:** A request for action brought by a delegate (or delegates) to the convention for action.

**Special committee:** A committee appointed by the president or board to bring recommendations on a particular issue, concern, or subject to the board or to carry out a particular project or task; may be called an ad-hoc committee.

**Standing committee:** A committee appointed by the president or board to carry on a continuing function; may be called a program committee.

**Synod:** A group of churches in a geographical area with legislative authority; there are 65 synods in the ELCA.

**Task force:** A temporary grouping of individuals or representatives of groups, usually with a specific deadline, that is established for the purpose of accomplishing a definitive objective and which reports its findings to a larger group or legislative body.

**Triennial:** Occurring every three years.

**Vision:** A brief statement that describes a preferred future and represents a group's potential, highest aspirations, values, and common dreams.

**Voting members:** Delegates and others defined by the constitution of the organization who may vote on legislative matters at a convention.

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