

LYR Youth and Sponsor Expectations

Applicants and their sponsors must be committed to and believe the teachings and doctrines of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and be active in their own church. Each LYR representative will be assigned to a different LCMS Kansas District youth ministry team to be the youth representative for that team. Examples of these youth ministry teams include Lutheran Valley Retreat (LVR), National Youth Gathering (NYG), Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG), Jr. High Rally, Higher Things, Confirmation Retreat, and Lutheran Youth Representatives (LYR).

The LYR representative is expected to:

- Have leadership qualities.
- Be an active leader in their church.
- Participate in any planning and executing of events that their youth ministry team is part of.
- Attend the 4-day Teen Leadership Initiative (TLI) Training held every March in St. Louis (paid by the Kansas District) as a newly selected member (at least a high school sophomore). Youth are welcome to attend TLI at their own expense after their first training.
- Have a positive attitude and be a representative for the youth of the Kansas District.
- Participate actively in the District youth events.
- Plan and execute a minimum of one church visit quarterly. Youth are to visit churches within a 60-mile radius of their home church.
- In your time as an LYR representative, attend at least one District Youth Ministry Team meeting. Meetings are held twice a year in January or February (Friday night and Saturday) and August or September (Saturday).

The LYR sponsor is expected to:

- Be the line of communication between the LYR representative and LYR coordinator.
- Help LYR representatives plan and execute a minimum of one church visit quarterly.
- Attend church visits with the LYR representative and provide feedback to the LYR representative and LYR coordinator.
- Attend any event, meeting, or activity the LYR representative attends in an official capacity.
- Mentor the LYR representative in leadership and service.
- Be an encourager, not an enabler, for the LYR representative.
- In keeping with the District's Youth Protection Policy, sponsors and representatives need to be the same gender.

Spiritual goals for Lutheran Youth Representatives:

- Foster leadership development in teenagers, so that they might grow and model their own faith in Christ Jesus and in doing so may foster faith development of their peers.
- Equip youth for leadership in the church setting by mentoring them in developing devotions, Bible studies and group dynamics for the purpose of growing a community around Christ.
- Provide them with training and opportunities to practice leadership in the church setting for the purpose of a life of leadership in the church. To foster future church leaders by providing them with training and opportunities to lead in a church setting.
- Be the voice of the youth of the LCMS Kansas District by gathering and providing feedback and input that helps the District best serve its youth.
- Develop future leaders of the church who are inspirational to their peers while growing in their own journey with Christ.

We accept applications all year. However, applications are only reviewed prior to our District Youth Ministry Team meeting held twice a year in January or February and August or September.