

GREAT LAKES REGION YOUTH OF UNITY (Y.O.U.) BY LAWS
Revised June 25, 2005

ARTICLE I - NAME

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Great Lakes Region Youth of Unity or Great Lakes Region Y.O.U., hereinafter referred to as YOU.

ARTICLE II - PURPOSE AND/OR GOAL

- Section 1. The purpose of the YOU is twofold:
- Clause 1. To unify all young people who are seeking to express the indwelling Christ in accordance with the principles of Practical Christianity as taught and interpreted by the Unity School of Christianity and the Association of Unity churches.
- Clause 2. To unify the YOU. Chapters of this region by the coordination of their activities and aiding in their success and growth.
- Section 2. The goal of YOU is defined on two levels:
- Clause 1. Local
- (a) Teaches the individual the Unity way of life by practicing Unity principles.
 - (b) Involves the individual in actual prayer and meditation experiences.
 - (c) Promotes the ideal of individuals working together and enjoying the fellowship of friendship.
- Clause 2. Regional
- (a) Coordinates chapters by sharing a mutual interest in varied activities such as regional rallies, service projects, prayer Panel, etc.
 - (b) Gathers suggestions and ideas to help various chapters in their areas of need.
 - (c) Is represented by two Co-Regional Representatives, who are elected by the Region and a Regional Consultant selected by the Region's Ministers.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Any YOU chapter in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario and Manitoba, Canada, Eastern Iowa holding a charter issued by the International YOU is automatically a member of this organization. The YOU shall be the Region designated by the International YOU.
- Section 2. In order to form a YOU chapter there must be two or more young people who are in high school and/or ranging from 14 through 18 years of age. This is not to imply that if membership dips below two that the chapter is revoked.
- Section 3. Each YOU chapter may prescribe its own rules of membership which are guided by local conditions and subject to the approval of the ministry sponsoring the chapter.

ARTICLE IV - RALLIES

- Section 1. PURPOSE
- Clause 1. The purpose of regional rallies and functions is to help each individual to have a greater awareness of his/her divine nature, and to grow in spiritual stature. Rally programs are to be spiritually oriented, and provide for an educational experience as well as meaningful and creative expressions and fellowship. Regional rallies and functions are also designed to develop a closer contact among the chapters, and to discuss and evolve plans and methods for furthering the growth of local chapters.
- Section 2. PLANNING, GUIDELINES, SCHEDULING, APPROVAL, ETC.
- Clause 1. There are three types of rallies:
- (a) Regional: All of the chapters in the Region get together for the activity.
 - (b) Sub-Regional: Three or more chapters in the Region get together for the activity
 - (c) "Official": A majority of the chapters in the Region are to be present in order to conduct an official business meeting. The Co-Regional Representatives, both of whom are to be no older than eighteen (18) years of age at the last date of the International Conference for that year are elected at this time.

- Clause 2. The Official Regional Rally shall be held in the Region each year at a time and a place designated by the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 3. The Official Regional Rally shall consist of an invitation extended to all chapters in the Region. The Official business meeting will be conducted during the Official Regional Rally, at which time the co-Regional Representatives of Spirituality and Communication shall be elected.
- Clause 4. The approval of the Regional consultant must be obtained before definite plans are made for any other regional rally, event or function. Plans are to be submitted to the Regional Consultant no less than three months before the Rally takes place. An approval form may be obtained from the Regional Consultant which requires the signatures of the respective minister, chapter president, chapter sponsor and to be entered into the Regional Calendar.
- Clause 5. Three or more YOU chapters may combine to hold a sub-regional rally where deemed advisable and practical. Permission is to be obtained from the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 6. All regional rallies or functions must adhere to the basic rally policies and information.
- Clause 7. In order for a YOU chapter to participate in any regional rally, function or event, they must comply and prescribe to the eligibility requirements as set by the basic rally policies and information.
- Clause 8. In order for any individual to attend any regional rally or function, they must submit all necessary rally forms fully completed to the YOU Regional consultant in accordance with the basic rally policies and information.
- Clause 9. In the event of a controversy between local chapter policies and Regional policies, Regional policy shall supersede the local chapter policy when regional activities are involved.
- Clause 10. Any YOUer or sponsor who contributes to altering, forging (documents, records, regional forms, etc.) deceiving, lying, etc, regarding age in order to attend and participate in any regional rally or to be considered as a candidate for a regional office shall be excluded from participating in any regional activities for a period not to exceed one year or for a period of time determined by the Regional Consultant.

Section 3. VOTING

- Clause 1. When the Y.O.U. body is deciding on proposed amendments they shall follow the following process. One voting delegate shall represent each chapter at the Official Regional Rally business meeting. The voting delegate must poll the chapter delegation before submitting the vote and is bound to the will of the majority. An amendment will need an affirmative vote from 2/3 of the chapters present.
- Clause 2. Regional Officers shall be elected by a majority vote (51%) of all YOU members present who are members of the region. Voting shall be by secret ballot.

Section 4. BUSINESS MEETINGS

- Clause 1. Official regional business can only be discussed and conducted at the Official Regional Rally.
- Clause 2. An agenda for discussion of all business shall be prepared by the Co-Regional Representative of Communication and shall be submitted to and discussed with the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 3. New business may be brought to the floor during the Official Regional Rally business meeting.
- Clause 4. The Christ Spirit within and Robert's Rules of Order (revised) shall be the guides for conducting the meeting, except when otherwise provided for by these bylaws.
- Clause 5. Records shall be made of the main points of all discussions and suggestions offered at meetings, and all activities participated in, and a complete report sent to the Regional Consultant following the Rally. The Co-Regional Representative of Communication shall make this report.
- Clause 6. Any official business pertaining to the International YOU which may come before the Official Regional Rally shall be recommended to the YOU International Consultant by the Regional Consultant.

Section 5. ELECTIONS

- Clause 1. At the Official Regional Rally the YOU shall select a Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality and a Co-Regional Representative of Communication to serve one year. These two officers shall be officially recognized and installed at the International Conference after which they will assume their responsibilities.
- Clause 2. Applications for the above two officers are to be sent to the Regional Consultant using the Regional Officer Candidate Form.
- Clause 3. There will be two separate elections to determine the Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality and the Co-Regional Representative of Communication. Regional Officers shall be elected by a majority vote (51%) of all YOU members present and voting. In case of a tie or less than 51% majority vote, there will be a run off election. Those who are not elected to the office of Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality have the choice of running for Co-Regional Representative of Communication, according to their Regional Officer Candidate Form.
- Clause 4. In the event that no Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality or Co-Regional Representative of Communication is elected at the Official Regional Rally, opportunity for that election will be given at the International Conference. Candidates for office must be Conference delegates.

ARTICLE V - REGIONAL OFFICERS

Section 1. QUALIFICATIONS

- Clause 1. The officers of the YOU shall consist of the Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality and the Co-Regional Representative of Communication. The term of office shall be one year.
- Clause 2. Regional Officers shall be active members of a YOU chapter within the region. Regional Officer candidates must hold a chapter quota slot for the International YOU conference upon election.
- Clause 3. The names of the candidates for regional office shall be submitted to the Official Regional Rally business meeting in writing. The Regional Consultant will provide an Officer Candidate Form upon request, which is to be completed and submitted to the Regional Consultant six weeks prior to the Regional Rally.
- Clause 4. The candidate for regional office must be present at the time of nomination at the Official Regional Rally business meeting unless circumstances beyond his/her control prevent such an appearance. In such a case, the Regional Consultant shall give approval or disapproval of the candidate's name being placed in nomination.
- Clause 5. No International Officer shall hold a regional office simultaneously.
- Clause 6. A YOUer will be allowed to hold candidacy or turn in papers for both a regional and international position. Although, they will have to acknowledge that if they are elected to a regional position they will be required to drop their international candidacy.
- Clause 7. Should the office of Co-Regional Representative of Communication or Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality become vacated, the Regional Consultant may appoint a new Co-Regional Representative of Communication or Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality if deemed necessary. Priority should be given to previous candidates, in voting order from the Official Regional Rally.
- Clause 8. Upon being elected to a regional office, the person elected shall resign from any local chapter offices held. No one may serve in the same regional office for more than one year.
- Clause 9. Upon successful completed of a term in a regional office, the YOU treasury will pay the following:
 - (a) The registration fees for the Official Regional Rally and the International Conference.
 - (b) Partial compensation for travel to the International Conference.

Section 2. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE CO-REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF COMMUNICATION

- Clause 1. Shall be fully committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of the office of Co-Regional Representative of Communication.
- Clause 2. Shall submit a written report to the Regional Consultant of any regional activities after their occurrence following an outline suggested by the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 3. Shall preside over the Official Regional Rally business meeting.
- Clause 4. Shall cooperate with the adult leaders in his/her church and the region to help further the growth of the YOU and the entire Unity movement.
- Clause 5. Shall assist in the planning and execution of the Official Regional Rally.
- Clause 6. Shall have the power after consulting with and getting approval from the Regional consultant to call special meetings when deemed necessary.
- Clause 7. Shall help establish committees when deemed necessary and approved by the Regional Consultant and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.
- Clause 8. Shall organize, publish, and mail a newsletter on a schedule agree to by the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 9. Maintain close contact with the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 10. Assume other responsibilities as assigned by the Regional Consultant.

Section 3. GENERAL DUTIES OF THE CO-REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF SPIRITUALITY

- Clause 1. Shall serve at the Co-Regional Representative of Communication in the event that the duly elected Co-Regional Representative of Communication cannot fulfill his/her term in office.
- Clause 2. Shall serve as the regional prayer panel coordinator.
- Clause 3. Shall organize, publish, and mail the regional prayer panel on a schedule agreed to by the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 4. Shall assist the Co-Regional Representative of Communications with their duties.
- Clause 5. Shall assist with the planning and execution of the Official Regional Rally.
- Clause 6. Shall be prepared to lead meditations or prayers at any regional activity.
- Clause 7. Shall be fully committed to fulfilling the responsibilities of the office of the Co-Regional Representative of Spirituality.
- Clause 8. Maintain close contact with the Regional Consultant.
- Clause 9. Assume other responsibilities as assigned by the Regional Consultant.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

- Section 1. The Co-Regional Representative of Communication in cooperation with the Regional Consultant shall, as necessary, appoint any committee or advisors, which will assist the region in accomplishing its purposes. The Co-Regional Representative of Communication shall be ex-officio of all committees.

ARTICLE VII - FINANCES

- Section 1. This organization shall follow the love offering plan. Love offerings may come from chapters, churches, individuals or other interested parties.
- Section 2. This organization, bearing in mind its responsibilities for employing the prosperity law of giving and receiving, will through the regional treasury, seek ways in which to attract and wisely use all substance.
- Section 3. The Regional Consultant shall be the trustee of the YOU treasury.

ARTICLE VIII - REGIONAL CONSULTANT

- Section 1. RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY
- Clause 1. The Regional Consultant has the authority to establish, change, prescribe policy; coordinate all YOU activities; and oversee all matters which concern YOU officers, rallies, functions, events and finances in the YOU.
- Clause 2. Shall meet with other Regional Consultants during the annual meeting to exchange ideas, experiences, policies and plans.
- Clause 3. Shall provide workshops and support for regional sponsors and officers.
- Clause 4. Shall be the trustee for the YOU treasury and shall submit quarterly financial statements to the designated ministerial advisor and committee.
- Clause 5. Shall provide written monthly reports of all activities to the designated ministerial advisor and committee; as well as an annual written report to the regional ministries or their representatives during the month of September.
- Clause 6. Is an employee of the region and works in cooperation with a designated ministerial advisor and committee.
- Clause 7. Shall oversee the publication of the Regional Newsletter and/or Prayer Panel.
- Clause 8. Shall handle disciplinary situations or may delegate this responsibility to a Head Sponsor for regional activities.
- Clause 9. Should either Regional Officer unsuccessfully complete their term of office, the Regional Consultant shall determine the amount of partial compensation that should be paid for their Regional Rally or International Conference registration expense should they be allowed to attend.
- Clause 10. In the event that a Regional Officer does not fulfill their responsibilities due to not meeting deadlines, irresponsibility, inappropriate behavior, poor attendance, poor leadership, personal illness, or personal problems, as outlined in these by laws; the Regional Consultant with the consent of GLURC Board has the authority to dismiss them from their respective office.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. These by laws may be amended at the Official Regional Rally business meeting by a two-third majority vote of the chapters present and voting.
- Section 2. Any proposed amendment must be submitted to the YOU Regional Consultant postmarked three months prior to the Official Regional Rally, for its consideration and recommendation to the regional body.