

## FLY Statement of Faith

The purpose of the Free Lutheran Youth (FLY) Convention is to provide congregations with a tool for winning the lost, building the believer, and encouraging student discipling in the local congregation. It seems good to us as we join together for common work and fellowship to state our beliefs in regard to the following matters.<sup>1</sup>

### I. Doctrine

- We accept and believe in the Holy Bible as the complete written Word of God, preserved to us by the Holy Spirit for our salvation and instruction.
- We endorse the statement on the Word as found in the United Testimony on Faith and Life and would quote here the following: "We bear witness that the Bible is our only authentic and infallible source of God's revelation to us and all men, and that it is the only inerrant and completely adequate source and norm of Christian doctrine and life. We hold that the Bible, as a whole and in all its parts, is the Word of God under all circumstances regardless of man's attitude toward it."
- We accept the ancient ecumenical symbols, namely, the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds; Luther's Small Catechism and the unaltered Augsburg Confession as the true expression of the Christian faith and life.
- We reject any affiliations or associations which do not accept the Bible alone as definitive for the life and practice of man and the church.
- We submit all religious teaching to the test of II John 7-11.
- We endorse no one version or revision of the Bible to the exclusion of others. We recommend all which are reverent and true translations.

### II. Christian Unity

- He who believes in and accepts the sufficient work of Jesus for his salvation and is baptized, is a child of God.
- The Christian is united by the strongest bonds to those who share this faith with him whether they come from his own denomination or another.
- We envision opportunities for our congregations to cooperate with the Protestant churches in the areas of evangelism and witness to their communities including the national effort of the FLY Convention. However, care must be taken not to compromise the Lutheran understanding of the Scriptures.

### III. Church Polity

- We believe that final human authority in the churches is vested in the local congregations, subject to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Christian Church consists of those who in their hearts truly believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

### IV. Practical Life

- The Christian seeks to refrain from those acts, thoughts, and words which are against a stated law of God.
- Where actions and practices are neither forbidden nor encouraged in Scripture by name, the earnest believer will search in the Scriptures for principles to guide his decisions and conduct.
- Ultimately every Christian makes his own decisions as to life and practice in the presence of his God. But he welcomes the sincere counsel of fellow believers.

### V. Church Life

- We encourage simplicity in worship; we make no recommendation as to the use of liturgy & vestments.
- The preaching of the Word of God must be the central part of the service.
- True Gospel preaching endeavors to meet the needs of all who hear: the believer who desires to grow in his life with God, the seeking and uncertain souls who want to see Him, the hypocrite who must be awakened from his self-righteousness, and the hardened sinner who must still be called to saving faith.
- The worship at F.L.Y. should be such as will give honor to the Word of God and the Sacraments.
- F.L.Y. encourages attendees to cherish opportunities for Bible study and prayer fellowship in their local church.

---

<sup>1</sup> The language of this document is taken from the AFLC Declaration of Faith, the language of the FLY Federation Constitution, and the FLY Convention purpose statement.