

Current By-Laws {2006}	Proposed By-Law Changes
<p><b>II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p><b>A. Relationship to International Lutheran Marriage Encounter (ILME)...</b></p> <p><b>B. International Charter and Council...</b></p> <p><b>C. North American Region</b> – The North American Region consists of North America including Canada, United States and Central America, plus islands and possessions usually associated with these areas. The North American Region will be divided into Districts, and Districts divided into Areas. Although Districts and Areas are defined as geographical entities, the concept of "family" as described in the ILME Charter shall prevail in the activities and attitudes within the organization.</p>	<p><b>II. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE</b></p> <p><i>{no changes proposed to Section 11}</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>V. AREAS</u></b></p> <p><b>A. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To present Weekends.</li> <li>2. To provide community experiences.</li> <li>3. To structure itself to accomplish the tasks suggested in the Community Handbook.</li> <li>4. To provide financial accountability to the District.</li> <li>5. To communicate with couples in the Area and District.</li> <li>6. To carry needs and opportunities of the Area to the District Board.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>V. AREAS</u></b></p> <p><b>A. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 1. To present and/or promote Weekends.</li> <li>2. 2. To provide and/or promote community experiences.</li> <li>3. 3. To structure itself to accomplish the tasks suggested in the Community Handbook.</li> <li>4. 4. To provide financial accountability to the District.</li> <li>5. 5. To communicate with couples in the Area and District.</li> <li>6. 6. To carry needs and opportunities of the Area to the District Board.</li> <li>-</li> <li>7. To support and fulfill the needs of the ministry as established by the District and NAR Boards.</li> </ol>

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<p><b>B. MINIMUM CRITERIA FOR AREAS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="256 302 787 741">1. An Area has geographical boundaries with leadership, an administrative board and presenting couples to support local weekends. An Area must have at least three (3) presenting couples who have talks weekend-ready. It is highly desirable but not necessary that one of these couples be a Clergy Couple. Areas with fewer than three presenting couples shall be considered "Outreach Areas."</li> <li data-bbox="256 1115 787 1409">2. Each Area will establish an Area Lay Contact Couple in a manner to be determined within the Area. The Area Lay Contact Couple need not be a Presenting Couple, but must have attended a weekend within the prior five (5) years or during their term of office.</li> </ol>	<p><b>B. DEFINITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="889 302 1421 1066">1. An Area has <i>broad</i> geographical boundaries <i>agreed to by the District Leadership Team</i>. It is expected that adjacent Areas cooperate with each other with a sense of "family" to assist and support each other in away that is not territorial. An Area must have a commitment to actively promote weekend attendance in their own or other Areas as well as to actively pursue all aspects of the Vision and Mission of Lutheran Marriage Encounter. District Leadership may alter geographic boundaries or deactivate an Area after prayerful consideration and coordination with the Area community. All reasonable effort shall be made to keep an Area functioning and viable</li> <li data-bbox="889 1115 1421 1486">2. Each Area will establish an Area Contact Couple (<i>Lay and clergy if possible</i>) in a manner to be determined within the Area <i>and agreed to by the District Leadership Team</i>. The Area Lay Contact Couple need not be a Presenting Couple, but must have attended a weekend within the prior five (5) years or during their term of office.</li> </ol>

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<p>3. Each Area will establish an Area Clergy Contact Couple preferably <i>from</i> the weekend-ready Clergy Presenting Couple community within the Area. If there are no weekend-ready Clergy Presenting Couples within the Area who are able or willing to serve, the position may be filled by an encountered Clergy Couple, otherwise the position shall be declared vacant.</p>	<p>3. <i>The Area Presenting Couple Coordinator (APCC) is an Area co--leadership position. If there are three (3) or more presenting couples in an Area, the presenters will determine which among them will fulfill the responsibilities of the APCC. If there are fewer than three presenting couples in an Area, one of the presenters may be designated as the APCC or they may choose to have the DPCC serve as the Area APCC. If a presenting couple does not live within an established Area, the DPCC will serve as their APCC or the DPCC may designate the nearest APCC to serve in that capacity.</i></p>
<p>4. The Area Lay and Clergy Contact Couples provide leadership in the Area and will represent the Area on the District Board. If there is no Clergy Contact Couple, only the Area Lay Contact Couple will represent the Area on the District Board.</p>	<p>4. <b>The Area Contact Couple (s)</b> <i>(Lay and Clergy if possible)</i> provide leadership in the Area and will represent the Area on the District Board. <i>At the option of the District Leadership Team, APCCs may be invited to attend the District Board meeting after due consideration to the needs of the District and financial stewardship.</i></p>
<p>5. The District Executive Team may decide how or whether an Outreach Area is represented on the District Board.</p>	<p>5. The District Executive Team may decide how or whether an Outreach Area is represented on the District Board.</p>

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<p>6. An Area that has at least four (4) presenting couples (including Clergy) with weekend-ready talks covering all weekend talks may schedule weekends as they are able to support them from within their Area Presenting Couples. Otherwise, weekends must be coordinated with the District Executive Team or their designees (e.g., District Presenting Couple Coordinator).</p> <p>7. In all cases, the District Executive Team shall have final say as to whether a scheduled weekend may proceed.</p>	<p>6. <i>{no changes to paragraph 6}</i></p> <p>7. In all cases, the District Executive Team shall have final say as to whether a scheduled weekend may proceed. <i>The District Executive Team will prayerfully consult with Area Leadership to consider compelling reasons to proceed or cancel before making a final decision.</i></p>