

**The North Carolina Chapter Of
African American Lutheran Association
of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
Constitution**



- I.01 The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Chapter of the African American Lutheran Association.
- I.02. For the purpose of the Constitution and accompanying Bylaws, the North Carolina Chapter of the African American Lutheran Association is hereafter designated as "this organization."
- I.03. This organization may be incorporated in the same state as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Article II - Statement of Purpose

II.01. God, our Creator, has richly endowed each individual with gifts. Ephesians 4:11-12 This organizations dedicates itself to the task of strengthening the Christian bonds of the African American community of believers, developing a full sense if partnership between the ELCA and the whole African American community through evangelism. education, stewardship, worship and social ministry. In recognition and adherence to these principles, this organization exists to:

II.01.a Help assure that each individual will be respected as a unique gift to the community made in the image of God (imago dei) (Genesis 1:31).

II.01.b Work towards a full realization of the unity that is to be found in Jesus Christ.

II.01.c. Proclaim Christ's message of material and spiritual liberation to all peoples;

II.01.d. Encourage members to become fully involved with the affairs of the church assemblies, synods, regions and congregations.

II.02 This organization is designed to be a vehicle for unifying and conveying the needs and concerns of African American members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) through all existing ELCA structures, especially through the Commission for Multicultural Ministries.

Article III - Organizational Affiliation (Association)

III.01. Association with this organization shall be by individual membership.

III.02. A member of this organization will normally be a member in good standing of a congregation of the ELCA and adhere to the provisions contained in the Bylaws.

III.03. This organization shall not exclude any person from membership who satisfies the requirement of Section III.02. of this Article.

III.04. This chapter is located within region 9 of the ELCA.

Article IV - Officers

IV.01 This organization shall have (4) officers elected at the general convention of the organization as provided for in the Bylaws. They shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, whose terms, duties and responsibilities shall be those provided in the Bylaws. The president may appoint a chaplain as ex-officio member. This position will serve of the executive committee.

Article V. Organizational Governance

V.01. Except as provided herein, the membership shall be the final authority of this organization in all matters.

V.02. The Executive Committee shall consist of all current officers, the appointed chaplain and the immediate past president.

V.03 The Executive Committee shall exercise all authority of the organization

between meetings of the organization.

ARTICLE VI. - MEETINGS

VI.01. This organization shall meet in general convention biennially, as provided in the Bylaws.

VI.02. The Executive Committee shall meet a minimum of twice each year in regular session, as the budget provides.

VI.03. Special and emergency meetings of the Executive Committee may be called, as provided in the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VII. - COMMITTEES

VII.01. There shall be the following standing committees whose duties and membership shall be as provided for the Bylaws:

- Hospitality Committee
- Membership Committee
- Financial Committee
- Program Committee

VII.02. The President and the Executive Committee shall have authority to appoint committees as necessary to the furtherance of the goals and purposes of this organization.

VII.03. All Committees shall operate with such authority and duties as set forth in the Bylaws, or as the Executive Committee may delegate to it for the purpose of achieving its objectives, so long as the delegate authority does not contravene the provisions of the Constitution or the Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII. - RECORDS

VIII.01. This organization shall maintain records, including but not limited to the following: minutes of board and committee meetings, financial transactions, resolutions and other records necessary to document the business and transactions of the organization.

VIII.02. Pursuant to Section VIII.01. of this Article, minutes and financial reports shall be adopted, and persons holding the position of Secretary or Treasurer shall maintain records in accordance with the adopted procedures and formats.

VIII.03. After the election and installation of new officers, all books, records, assets and other property in the custody or possession or under control of outgoing officers belonging to the organization, shall be turned over to the organization (new officers) within 30 days of such election and installation.

ARTICLE IX. - AMENDMENTS

IX.01. This constitution may be altered, amended or revised at any business meeting of this organization by a majority vote of the members present, provided that written notice of all proposed amendments has been distributed to each member not less than 30 days prior to such business meeting.

IX.02. An alteration, amendment or revision, if adopted, shall become effective immediately, unless by its terms it is to become effective at a later date. An alteration, amendment or revision is to have prospective application only.

ARTICLE X. - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

X.01. This Constitution is the parliamentary authority of this organization. Whenever there is a matter not covered by this Constitution or the Bylaws of this organization, the newest revised edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this organization.