



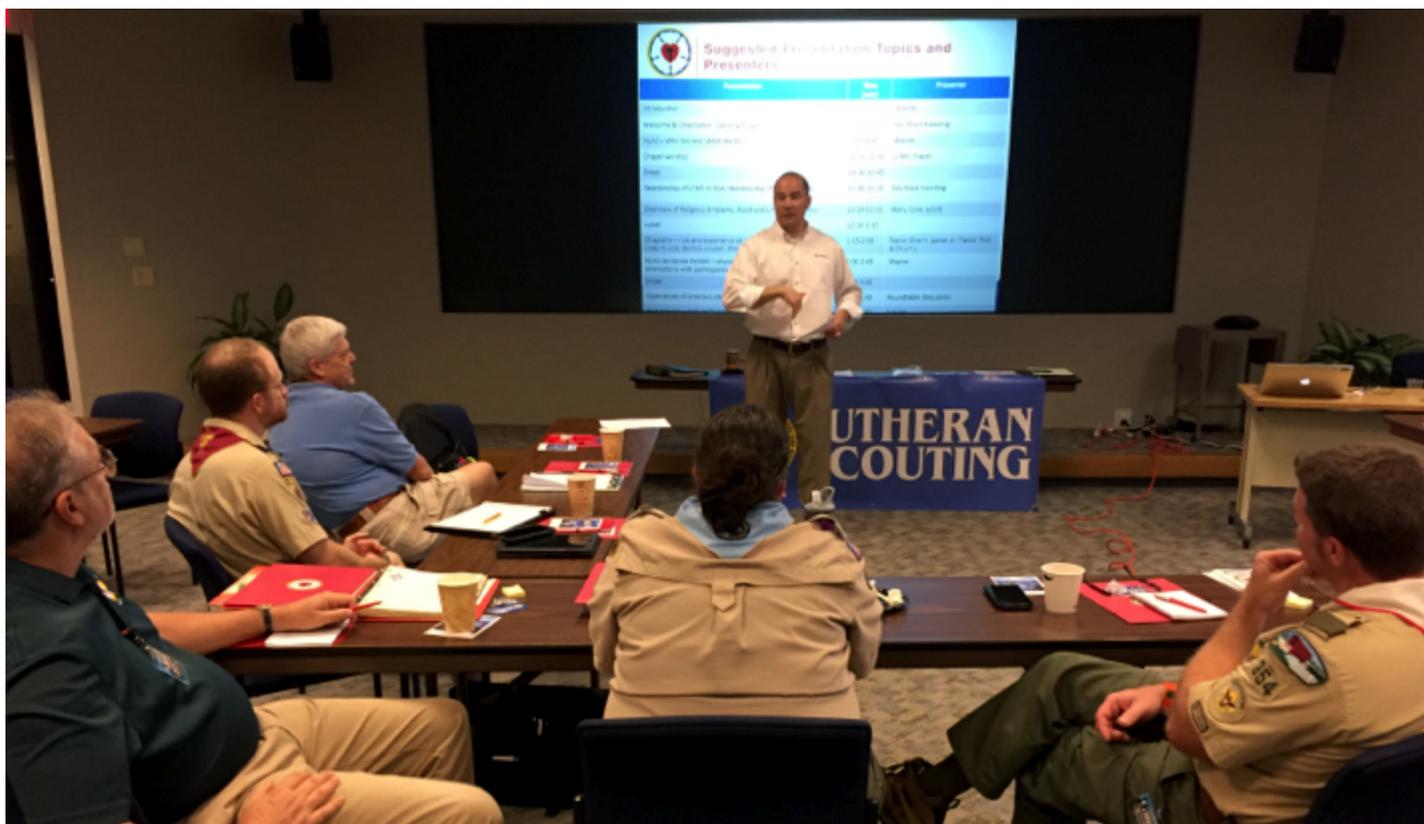
# LUTHERAN SCOUTING

VOLUME 25, NUMBER 3

[www.nlas.org](http://www.nlas.org)

FALL 2016

## NLAS Jamboree Exhibit Staff Workshop



In the photo – Rev Mark Kiessling, Director of LCMS Youth Ministry, addresses the NLAS Jamboree Staff Workshop.

NLAS will have an exhibit in the Duty to God and Country area at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. The NLAS exhibit provides an affirming presence for Lutheran participants at the Jamboree and a witness to the Gospel for those who ask what Lutherans believe or what Christians believe. It encourages youth to do their “Duty to God” by earning the religious emblems of their faith. In 2017, the NLAS exhibit will celebrate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Lutheran Reformation.

On August 5, NLAS conducted a training workshop for the 2017 Jamboree NLAS Exhibit Staff, hosted at the headquarters of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in

St. Louis. The workshop was held on the day before the NLAS annual membership meeting. Sessions were held on NLAS – who we are and what we do, the relationship of LCMS to BSA and relationship of LCMS to NLAS, an overview of the religious emblems program and adult and unit recognitions, a panel discussion on the Chaplains’ role and experience at the Jamboree, orientation to the NLAS Jamboree exhibit – what we do, interactions with participants, the staff day, and role playing interactions with participants. The staff took a break to participate in an inspiring morning chapel service at the LCMS International Center Chapel.



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

# Hot as Hell!

The temperature as I sit and write this missive is about 100°F outside with probably 90% humidity – just another day in Nebraska where you can actually see the corn grow!

I could be in my nice air-conditioned house but I prefer to be outside where it is hot as Hell - puts me in the mood to write hell fire sermons! Speaking of hell fire – we just concluded our NLAS annual meeting at the LC-MS International Center in St. Louis.

Rev Mark Kiessling of the LC-MS went above and beyond to provide a great setting and all the amenities that make a conference successful – thank you Rev. Mark.

So enough about the Annual meeting - let's get back to the heat of Hell.

Our early missionaries had a spot of bother trying to convince the Eskimos who live in constant cold that Hell was a hot place that they should hope to avoid – Duh. So they adjusted their approach to Hell being a cold and desolate place.

Our youth would also be in a cold and desolate place without the Gospel of Christ and a Church that proclaims it. The mission of the NLAS is to equip and assist our people to minister to the next generation through our partner youth serving agencies - the prime one being P.R.A.Y.

That is why we as an organization must increase our use of our religious emblems program in our Churches. Many will give the excuse that we already have a good youth program and “we don't need any stinking



badges.” But the religious emblems program of our Lutheran Church is more than just a “stinking badge”; it's parental involvement – it's one-on-one time with the child and adult exploring and talking about Christ and how it affects their lives. It is pastors getting involved as counselors, grandparents as mentors and if anyone cannot see the evangelism possibilities in this program as well as scouting programs for the Church, then they either blind or delusional!

After over 30 years in the parish ministry I've heard all the excuses for not doing something as simple as having a Scout or American Heritage Girls (AHG) Troop in a Church and it usually revolved around the fact that we already have a youth program. I've not run across many church youth programs that openly focus on patriotism, leadership and service as well as religion. I've not seen many

church youth programs that mandate parental involvement in religious education instruction that is more than dropping off and picking up by the way.

Our Lutheran Church's religious emblems program does all that our youth groups do, plus if your youth are lucky enough, it is coupled with a Scouting program that adds another dimension to serving our youth.

Do you believe in global warming? Some say it's going to get hot as Hell soon – beat the heat support the NLAS!

Oh by the way, I'm sure Wayne will have a more complete analysis of our national meeting in his report.

*Dr. James Hoke  
NLAS Member since 1982*

# Looking for Local Lutheran Scouters Associations

The National Lutheran Association on Scouting (NLAS) is trying to reconnect with local LAS's or Lutheran Scouting Associations (LSA's).

**Why?**

Although we are separate organizations, we each can strengthen and accomplish our missions better if we work together. While NLAS promotes youth's growth in faith through the Religious Emblems program through exhibits at the National Scout Jamboree and church partner national youth gatherings, local LAS's can promote the Religious Emblems in their troops, in their congregation, and at their scouting training sessions and roundtables.

While NLAS recognizes youth being awarded the Religious Emblems with letters and certificates, local LAS's can recognize these accomplishments with a handshake, an honor dinner or an activity. While many NLAS members are counselors for Religious Emblems near their homes, local LAS members can offer Religious Emblems classes to their troop, congregation, and other youth in more local areas.

While NLAS recruits and supplies chaplains to the National Jamboree and Philmont Scout Ranch, local LAS members can recruit camp chaplains from local congregations, youth ministers, and seminarians near their homes.

While NLAS offers training

and resources such as Scouting in the Lutheran Church at Philmont Training Center and resources such as *Scouts Worship*, local LAS members can train Chaplain Aides and help them prepare troop scouts' worship.

Our goals and methods fit together well. Local LAS members are invited to also join NLAS. NLAS members are invited to join and strengthen your local LAS. You are invited to identify your local LAS and to affiliate the organization annually with NLAS.

For more information and to affiliate, contact Trent Christian [tmchristiannlas@gmail.com](mailto:tmchristiannlas@gmail.com). To join NLAS, see <http://nlas.org/join-us/>

## Local Association Renews with NLAS: Suffolk County Lutheran Committee on Scouting

NLAS is please to recognize Suffolk County LCS as the latest local association to renew their working relationship with NLAS this year! Their volunteering occurs in the Lake Grove, New York area. Secretary Rose Sandhop submitted their application.

Local associations and committees are recognized by NLAS to provide support and contacts for the widely scattered membership. By working together, we can accomplish much more. Associations that renew receive a certificate of Recognition and

the Lutheran Scouting newsletter. Please go to <http://www.nlas.org> and download the LAS Request for Recognition application and send to the national mailing address in St Louis. It is respectfully requested that the required five dollar postage fee is included.



## In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that I tell you that John Fosland of Crosby, North Dakota passed away in December, 2015. John was a strong man who believed deeply in his faith and in Scouting. He spent many

hours working with local youth. Thank you for being part of his life.

Sincerely, Sherill Fosland

John was a member of Concordia Lutheran Church and

volunteered with Northern Lights Council in the BSA. The NLAS is grateful for and celebrates the life, faith and dedication of John Fosland and extends condolences to all who grieve his loss.

# Farewell Letter From Past President, Mary Wangerin

As you all know, my term as President has ended. Thank you to everyone for the opportunity to serve. This experience is one I will never forget! This journey in leading the NLAS was NEVER done alone, and I was so fortunate to serve with such a patient and supportive Executive Committee, all of whom share in the progress of the past two years.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people for their support and dedication to this association. Thank you to Wayne Stuckey, who served as the President-Elect and my right-hand. He represented the NLAS when I was not able to, and his contributions will continue as he serves as President. To Dr. Ron Adolphi, who served as the NLAS Treasurer, my confidant over the years, and when his many years as Treasurer ended, continued to serve as a Member-at-Large. To Rev. Dr. James Hoke, who was always there with a prayer, open thoughts, and light-hearted wisdom. To Cole Petersen, our Secretary, who kept me on track during our meetings, who proofed

EVERYTHING I ever wrote, and worked over a year to create the Lutheran Medallion. To Phil Lawonn for serving as a Member-at-Large, and then taking over as our new Treasurer. To Trent Christian for keeping up with the membership renewals and working to find all the local LAS groups that are still out there. To Terri Christian for putting up with my last-minute needs for designs and artwork, for creating the new logo, and for all she does for the newsletter. Trent and Terri invisibly carry all of us, for which we are grateful. To Pam Ciccarello for coming forward and volunteering to be our newsletter Editor. To Rev. Mark Kiessling for being our connection to the LCMS Church body and for the many conversations of support. To Rev. Sherman Martel for chairing the new Chaplaincy Committee, and for his dedication in representing the ELCA. To Ron Jensen, who is committed to working our Website and Facebook page, and whose conference call connections made our monthly meetings possible. To George Miller for sending Congratulatory Letters and



Certificates, on behalf of the NLAS, to Lutheran youth and adults recipients of the Religious Emblems. And to Gene Butler for serving on the NLAS Board as the Representative from the Boy Scouts of America.

Best wishes to the new Executive Board. Thank you for all you continue to do, and remember to <Be Loud and Proud> as Lutherans.

*Blessings to All!  
Mary Wangerin*

## UPDATE ON THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS AND NLAS



*Connecting faith & finances for good.™*

Several months ago, NLAS changed bank accounts. Because of this, Thrivent members were unable to select the NLAS as a recipient for Choice Dollars. That situation has now been cleared up and members

can once again a designee.

If you are a Thrivent member and are eligible to donate Choice Dollars, please consider the **NLAS** for your designated contribution. It's a painless way to help continue the

NLAS ministry to youth, and is very much appreciated.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Cole Peterson, NLAS secretary at 952-882-1781

# President's Perspective

My name is Wayne Stuckey, writing for the first time as president of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting. The start of a new term serves as a great time to establish goals, to look back and to look forward. Under the enthusiastic leadership of Mary Wangerin, our recent Past-President, the board worked hard to establish good communication with our members, partner churches, and partner youth-serving organizations. We introduced an updated and modernized web site [www.nlas.org](http://www.nlas.org), a frequently updated Facebook page, and expanded and timely articles in our newsletter, *Lutheran Scouting*, which is available by mail and electronically. We established a Chaplaincy Committee to actively select and recommend Lutheran chaplains for the BSA Jamboree and Philmont Scout Ranch. We recruited, selected and held training for the Lutheran exhibit staff for the 2017 Jamboree. We worked on the NLAS "brand" with an update to the logo. We attended the BSA annual meetings and quarterly meetings of the Religious Relationships Committee (of the National Committee), where we have several members working on subcommittees, enabling us to provide input at the national level on behalf of Lutheran charter organizations and Lutheran youth. Perhaps most in line with our vision, we sent congratulatory letters and certificates to hundreds of youth who received their religious emblems and provided recognitions to adult leaders and units for excellence in service.

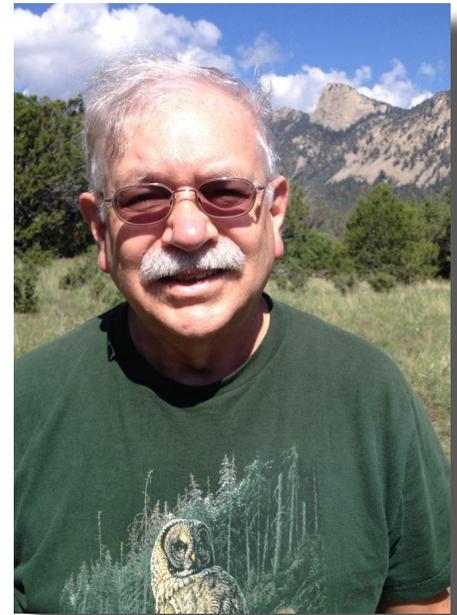
As incoming president, I want to continue all these things! As those who have participated in National Youth Leadership Training know, the elephant is eaten a bite at a time. So here are some bite size goals:

[1] Focus on continuing the communication initiative and expanding and improving our communication with members, partner churches, and partner youth-serving organizations. I want to especially reach out to our youth serving partners for a named representative to represent them on the NLAS board.

[2] Have an excellent exhibit at the 2017 National Jamboree occurring in the year of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Lutheran Reformation. Specifically, I want to continue discussion with Jamboree officials to obtain appropriate exhibit space, keep communication open between Jamboree officials and the exhibit staff, define and prepare exhibit activities for participants, have exhibit materials made and shipped to the Jamboree quartermaster, set up and run the exhibit, and enjoy fellowship with Jamboree participants and fellow staff.

[3] Establish and conduct the next *Scouting in the Lutheran Church* course in 2018. We need to decide a location (Philmont Training Center vs. The Summit) and coordinate with the training center organizers, recruit instructors, and define the curriculum.

[4] Participate in more national activities with our Charter partners and youth serving partners. For example, the board explored the possibility of attending the 2015 American Heritage Girls conference, and the 2016 LCMS National Youth Gathering. In the end, we could not find members available to staff these events. I want to increase our membership representation from the American Heritage Girls and the Girl Scouts of the USA so that we have members vested in these organizations who can help to repre-



**Wayne Stuckey**  
President, NLAS

sent the Religious Emblems Program and service to God to youth members of these organizations. I want to expand NLAS membership so we can reach more youth and participate in more activities.

[5] Re-establish connections with and improve communications with local Lutheran Scouters Associations, so that we can partner for success in our respective missions. (See related article on LSAs.)

If you are not a member and feel that these goals and what NLAS does are worthy of your participation, please see the application at <http://nlas.org/join-us/>



# Information on the new Lutheran medallion from Secretary Cole Peterson

At last year's NLAS annual meeting, it was decided as part of the organization's attempt to be more 'loud and proud' as Lutherans that a medallion would be made available for uniform wear. This has been accomplished and the medallions are available in time for the 2017 500th anniversary celebration of the Reformation. Details on acquiring one will be made available on our website (nlas.org) and will be posted soon. Members will receive one by mail at the time of their next renewal (as part of the renewal fee). Anyone who prefers to receive one before that time may do so. The medallions will be available for \$8.00 which includes postage. Medallions will be sent for no charge to lifetime members.

Although the medallion declares loudly and proudly that the wearer is a Lutheran, that's not specifically what it means. More precisely, it means that the wearer is a member of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting. The medallion displays the new logo and the hope is that those who see it will ask what

MEDALLION FRONT



MEDALLION BACK



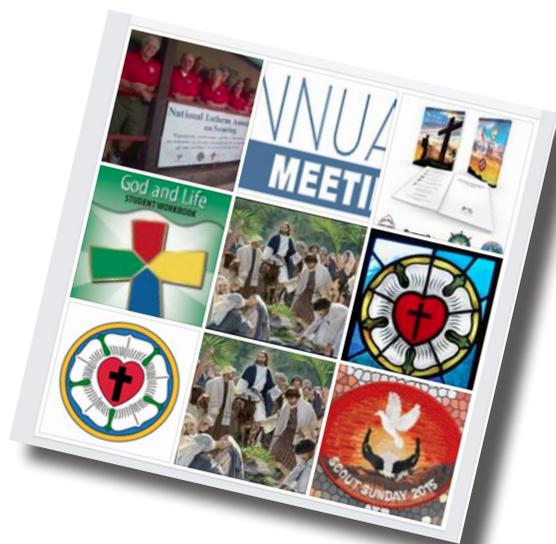
it is for or what it means. It is not an award nor does it represent one, and the red ribbon is intended to remain empty of any embellishments (Vigil pin or Lamb lapel pin, etc.). The only appropriate and specific answer to the question is: "It means that I am a member of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting." It's intended to be a conversation starter which

will hopefully attract new members who've not heard of NLAS and who would also desire to be more loud and proud as a Lutheran Scouter. More complete details will be posted in the next newsletter in addition to pending information on the website [www.nlas.org](http://www.nlas.org) and Facebook page.



Visit our website:  
[www.nlas.org](http://www.nlas.org)

and



# THE JAMBOREE NEEDS YOU!

Lutheran Chaplains are needed for the BSA National Jamboree, July 19-28, 2017 at the Summit Bechtel Reserve nearly Glen Jean, West Virginia. The National Lutheran Association is seeking ordained clergy (and certified youth workers) to serve as sub-camp chaplains for the 2017 BSA National Jamboree. Three to four chaplains of various faith based groups make up the sub camp chaplaincy team, who minister to the 2500 plus Scouts, Scouters and Staff at the 18 sub-camps.

Individuals who desire to be chaplains must be in good physical shape for they are participating in a BSA high adventure base,\* being willing

to work within a team structure, be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America, and received the approval of the local Boy Scout Council Executive.

Upon receiving the application, it is forwarded to the National Jamboree Headquarters Chaplain. The National Jamboree Headquarters Chaplain then contacts Pastor Sherman Martell, 2017 Lutheran Headquarters Chaplain who contacts the LCMS National Youth Office to approve there serving at the Jamboree, as the chaplain is representing the national church at these events.



Each chaplain selected will receive a stipend to assist with the registration fee.

The contact for participation, question or further information is Pastor Sherman Martell who can be reached at [shermanmartell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shermanmartell@sbcglobal.net).

**Summit**  
BECHTEL RESERVE™ 

## Send NLAS News Items

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is December 10, 2016. Send Association and other news for the *Lutheran Scouting* newsletter to Pam Ciccarello at [eaglesnest0810@att.net](mailto:eaglesnest0810@att.net). Please spell out acronyms and give state and area or city locations so complete information is included in the publication. For events, be sure to include the date. For photos, either e-mail or send a glossy print.



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We are a resource for youth and adults who wish to know more about the religious emblems program, endorsed by the Lutheran Churches for members of Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA, American Heritage Girls, 4H and Camp Fire USA.

### **NLAS Mission**

To equip Lutherans and other Christians to minister to young people,  
using the programs of our partner youth serving agencies.

### **NLAS Vision**

That all young people and their families are exposed to Jesus Christ and  
have an opportunity to know him as Lord and Savior

The mission and visions statements were accepted by the NLAS Executive Board on October 12th, 2002