



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 3

www.nlas.org

FALL 2017

President's Report

NLAS Annual Meeting

14 July 2017

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Charleston, WV

The NLAS Annual Meeting was held on July 14 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Charleston, WV. Nine persons attended in person, and four attended by phone.

Treasurer Phill Lawonn presented the financial report. As of July 1, investment income from the Thrivent portfolio is running about 9.2% ahead of last year. The endowment fund for Jamboree support should cover anticipated Jamboree expenses. 2017-18 membership dues are still coming in and are being deposited. Guerrino Financial Services has been selected to perform the 2016 audit.

NLAS executive board members met with Jason Noland, the new CEO of P.R.A.Y. at both the February and May national meetings (and subsequently worked closely with him at the Jamboree). We jointly anticipate continuing the relationship whereby P.R.A.Y. receives NLAS membership applications, provides a permanent mailing address, receives and forwards messages, and receives and processes Lamb and Servant of Youth awards.

Jason called in to the executive board session that preceded the annual meeting and reported several items:

[a] NLAS and P.R.A.Y. have been jointly developing an updated Lutheran crest to provide more distinctive Lutheran identity to the God and Church religious emblem medal. Artwork for the design

was endorsed by NLAS. The next step is to produce a trial realization of the crest. P.R.A.Y. will absorb the cost of artwork development, required lead testing, and stocking the new crest. NLAS desires to make the crest available for purchase for both God and Church and God and Life awards.

[b] 1390 Lutheran religious emblems have been awarded year to date. While this is commendable, 1726 were awarded by a similar date in 2016. How can NLAS better encourage use of the religious emblems?

[c] P.R.A.Y. anticipates nationwide adoption of the Lion (Cub Scout kindergarten aged) program in 2018. They are developing a curriculum for kindergarten aged youth, which will include Lions and (GS-USA) Daisies. It will include an age appropriate introduction to their faith, and is called "God and Jesus". P.R.A.Y. wants feedback from the Protestant denominations as they develop it. They hope for a review by the Lutheran church bodies (ELCA and LCMS) in the Oct – Nov. time frame, and approval in time for roll out in the 2018 back to school program. A form of recognition, perhaps a patch or iron-on, is planned.

Membership report: From Trent Christian – As of 10 June we have 188 current members for the 2017-2018 year. They break down in the following classes:

72 Life
22 Life (couples)

2 Partial Life (new class)
1 Youth (new class)
66 Basic
16 Couples
8 complimentary

For the 2017-2018 year we have three new members. Four basic members chose to upgrade to Life. There was one resignation - a longtime member explained he is 89 years old and no longer able to stay active in scouting or NLAS.

For local Lutheran Scouting associations, we received a renewal from Southern California Lutheran Scouters group, and we hope to receive more throughout the summer.

[a] The new NLAS medallions have been distributed with 2017 paid memberships and to Life members. Some still are to be mailed out pending delivery of additional medallions. They are very handsome and of high quality; thanks to Cole and Mary for developing the NLAS member medallions.

[b] New belt buckles for Life member recognition have been developed and are being distributed to new Life members. Existing Life members can order the new buckle for \$20. Thanks to Trent for developing and procuring the new belt buckles.

[c] The new membership categories and rates determined by the 2016 annual meeting are in use. The membership application has been updated, thanks to Terri Christian. P.R.A.Y. printed the new



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Oh Yea! Scout Summer Camp!

As I have done for the last several years I volunteered to spend 5 weeks at our Council's Scout Summer Camp – Camp Lost-in-the-Woods - as both Chaplain and Ecology/Conservation Director.

As I steel myself for this great adventure I prepare 5 sermons, all different because the Staff grumbles if they hear the same one 5 times in a row, and try to figure out how to preach the Law and Gospel peppered (and salted) with the Scout Oath and Law.

Luther wrote a tract called "Soldiers Too Can Be Saved," which sort of sets the tone for a tract entitled, "Boy Scouts Too Can Be Taught To Clean-Up After Themselves."

Regardless, I preach to the Staff, especially the teenagers, as much as to the Campers and this year I focused on not letting anyone define who and what you are. For if you know how much God loves you and what Jesus has done for you, you already have a good grasp on your personal value and self-worth.

That being said the defining factor in the personal assessment of your value and worth is not what some goofy kid says or writes about you on face book but how God feels about you.

The tricky part here is properly dividing Law and Gospel. Law: We're all sinners – that is easy to preach to a bunch of Scouts. Then the Gospel: Jesus loves us anyway, forgives our sins and died for us.

So with this in mind, and mindful to practice what I preach, I get my first class of Scouts for our Master Naturalist merit badge program - twelve Scouts ranging from Eagle to the kid who up until yesterday was a WEBLOS.



Of these twelve, three will be disruptive little dudes who can't keep their mouths shut or hands to themselves. They will claim some type of attention disorder, and their parents thought it best to take them off their meds for Camp! Two will struggle to read and write let alone print so that anyone except maybe a Klingon can read it. This class was a hand full, to say the least, but jumping in the lake to catch frogs seemed to be a common exercise that even the ADH kids could concentrate on.

However one young Scout got my attention – we'll call him Elmer (not his real name). Little Elmer seemed to lack any confidence in himself for any task and by Wednesday I knew little Elmer wasn't going to complete the requirements for plant identification.

I talked to his Scoutmaster and found out that little Elmer's mother was a drug addict, his father was in jail and he was living with his grandmother who, the Scoutmaster relayed to me, was a very strange woman.

Little Elmer was convinced that he

was stupid, as his grandmother reminded him on a daily basis, and Elmer used this as the excuse that he just couldn't remember the name of 15 plants, "I'm just too stupid," he'd mutter.

His Scoutmaster and I worked with him and I relayed to him that God didn't create stupid people (they get that way on their own!) and that no matter what anyone said Jesus loves him just like he is and really wants him to pass this merit badge test (well, Jesus would wouldn't He?). Well anyway, little Elmer, who would never even said "hi" to me during

Camp not only passed the test with flying colors but greeted me every time he saw me and would excitedly run to a plant and call out, "Hey Dr. Hoke I know what this is!"

That night as I laid in my 120° sauna, commonly called a cabin, and pretended that it was sweat not tears running down my face as I thought of Little Elmer and his home life, I wondered if Little Elmer had found a modicum of confidence? Did he still think he was stupid? Would this flash of confidence be enough to carry him through the horrible home situation he was to return to? Only time will tell.

Maybe next year he'll be back, maybe he won't, but I hope he always remembers that Jesus loves him and is on his side and will never leave him.

Like Baden-Powell said, Scouting is all about religion!

Finally Clean and Recovering,
Chaplain James Hoke

President's Report

continued from page 1

applications and has begun using them. We have a supply for Jamboree. In accordance with past practice, new members who sign up at the Jamboree will receive their first year's membership free.

NLAS Executive Board changes: In accordance with Dr. Jim Hoke's request, he assumed the At-Large Executive Board position of Matthew Rogahn, and Matthew took the President-Elect position. In accordance with NLAS By-laws, we reconstituted the Executive Board, based on individuals who were elected by the membership in 2016. We have a new appointed representative from the ELCA – Reid Christopherson. Thanks to Matthew and Reid, and to Dr. Hoke for remaining on the Board.

Jamboree preparations: We are ready to go for the Lutheran exhibit at the 2017 BSA National Jamboree. We recruited staff and conducted staff training at the 2016 annual meeting. We have staff, display, booth assignment, and materials. We had to make several revisions to get our logo approved. Terri Christian designed our logo and helped us get through the revisions; thanks to Terri. The theme of our Jamboree exhibit is recognition of the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation. The theme was recognized at the Duty to God Breakfast at the BSA National Annual Meeting (May 2017), and we will have an 8-minute feature during Protestant worship at the Jamboree. We have selected the short video called "Reformation Rock" featuring the Christian duo "Lost and Found". This was developed by LCMS for the 2016 national youth gathering. Pastor Sherman Martell and Eagle Scout Zachary Rogahn will deliver the introduction/ explanation of the significance of the Reformation.

Application has been submitted for the "Scouting in the Lutheran Church" Conference at Philmont Training Center in 2018. We have been confirmed for Week 6 (15-21 July), during "Relationships Week," with similar orga-

nizations representing religious based charter partners. The conference is for Lutheran chartered organization representatives, Lutheran clergy, and all Lutheran Scouters who want to learn more about using Scouting as an outreach ministry from Lutheran congregations to young people and their families.

We continue to make frequent use of the Facebook page, and receive positive feedback on it. It allows us to get news items out timely and sometimes less formally than by newsletter; it also supports emphasizing articles from the newsletter (e.g., Scout Sunday feature). Ron J. developed a new layout for the NLAS website (nlas.org), and we have worked with Ron to keep the information up to date.

We continue to produce the quarterly newsletter, "Lutheran Scouting." It is a high-quality work. Many thanks to Pam Ciccarello, editor and Terri Christian for outstanding layout work, and of course to our article contributors.

We continue to have mixed results in developing ties with local Lutheran Scouting Associations (LSAs). We could use suggestions on how to connect with them. We would like to highlight what local chapters do. We continue to feature articles on the benefit of membership and LSA local activities in Lutheran Scouting and on the Facebook page. What more can NLAS do for the local LSAs? (newsletter, medallion, national identity, contact with other Lutherans)?

The Executive Board passed a resolution that was endorsed by the membership that we desire a distinct Lutheran worship opportunity at the 2021 Jamboree, such as we had at 2010 and prior. It was noted that numerous faith groups are already having separate worship. Separate worship opportunities were limited at the 2013 Jamboree due to limited availability of venues. However, this seems to have been remedied by subsequent development of the Summit facility. NLAS desires to have a separate, liturgical Lutheran worship service that emphasizes the centrality of Lutheran doctrine and is inspiring to Lutheran youth and leaders at the 2021 Jamboree and beyond. Consideration

may be given to providing multiple base camp venues if that is determined to be desirable. This resolution is not in response to the 2017 Jamboree combined Protestant worship event, the elements of which - praise hymns and sermon - were highly enjoyable. It is in response to the observation that combined Protestant worship tends to reduce the number of liturgical elements celebrated rather than building on them. NLAS will present the resolution to the BSA National Religious Relationships Committee.

The President charged the President-Elect to establish a Nominating Committee to develop a slate of nominees for the National Officers, and corollary biographical sketches, for submission to the Secretary by December 1. The Nominating Committee is to develop a slate for the offices of

President-Elect
Secretary
Treasurer
Member at Large #1
Member at Large #2

Elections will occur in Spring of 2018. New officers will assume their positions at end of the 2018 annual meeting, which will occur at the Philmont Training Center during the Scouting in the Lutheran Church conference (15-21 July).



Visit our website:
www.nlas.org

and



Eagle Scout and P.R.A.Y. Four-Star Recipient



Brandon Johnson has just received his Eagle Badge. He is a four-star recipient from P.R.A.Y. An outstanding member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church – Everett, Washington, he has also been involved with the Boy Scout camp staff at Fire Mountain, Mount Baker Council.



After completing high school, Brandon received a job offer to work in HVAC, Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning, for a private company owned by an Eagle Scout.

Congratulations and best wishes!

Eagle Scout News from Everett, Washington



David Allen Salzer is a member of Mount Baker Council Troop 20 in Everett, Washington. He has earned his God and Me, God and Family and God and Church and his Order of the Arrow Brotherhood along his Scouting journey. David is actively involved in his school, Scout, and church communities. In high school, he sang in 5 choirs, was a lead in several school plays, was on the swimming team, won academic honors, and earned letters in choir, drama, and swimming. While in high school, David was also enrolled in the Running Start program at his local community college.

He is a member of Our Savior's Lutheran Church, and sits on the Family and Youth Council, as well as on the Synod Council. He regularly helps with church services and with the younger kids. He has participated in many volunteer service projects for his local community.

David recently completed his Eagle project, putting together a history timeline video for the Church's 125th Quasiquicentennial celebration. As a way to give back to Scouting and his church, he will be creating a follow-up video including the celebrations and more interviews. He passed his Eagle Scout Board of Review on August 3, 2017.

Congratulations, David, on your many accomplishments!

Christian Turnkuist of Baltimore, Maryland Receives Honor Medal for Heroic Actions

Thanks to Life member David Bastien for sharing that Christian Turnkuist an Assistant Scoutmaster at Troop 121 chartered to St John Lutheran Church in Baltimore was featured in the April, 2017 issue of *Boys Life* feature 'Scouts In Action'. Christian is also an Eagle Scout and God & Life recipient. Your fast action, concern for others and compassion is admirable. Congratulations on the Honor Medal and thank you for living the Scout Oath.

A TRUE STORY OF
SCOUTS IN ACTION

He Saved A Woman From A Dog Attack!

Chris Turnkuist, 16, was riding in a car with his grandmother when they saw a woman being attacked by three ferocious dogs.

When his grandmother pulled over, Chris jumped from the car and got himself between the woman and the attacking dogs.

Chris scooped the woman into his arms and placed her in the car...

Then slammed the door shut to stop the dogs from continuing their attack.

The dogs immediately sensed on Chris, he kept moving to avoid their vicious bites and scratched his arms and face. The dogs ran away when their owner arrived and called them.

Chris then returned to the car and applied pressure to stop the bleeding from the woman's badly mangled leg.

Chris' grandmother called 911, and paramedics took the woman to a hospital, where she underwent surgery to repair the damage to her leg.

Life Scout Christian S. Turnkuist, a member of Troop 121 in Baltimore, Maryland, received an Honor Medal for his actions.

SIA WEB
by Scouts.org

Audio, Photos & More!



**Wayne Stuckey
President, NLAS**

President's Perspective

Busy and Thankful

It has been a very busy, but also very rewarding, summer for some of us around the NLAS. Much of this revolves around the ministry performed at the NLAS exhibit in the Duty to God and Country area of the BSA National Scout Jamboree. Never before have so many youth stopped by and directly asked "What do Lutherans believe?" We

neglected it unravels and comes apart. Quick reference to the NLAS mission statement shows that this is our mission field, and this is our ministry.

This is the mission and ministry of all of us in the NLAS – reaching out to youth and their families. Thank you for supporting this ministry. Your membership enabled us to be at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree. Also thanks to Eric, Gary, Matthew, Kristin, Gene, Jim and Wayne, our enthusiastic and dedicated exhibit staff, for carrying the ministry to the mission field.

A lot of special assistance is needed in the background to put together a successful exhibit.

NLAS is pleased to have had two sub-camp chaplains serving at the Jamboree – Pastor Sherman Martell of New Berlin, WI and Pastor Richard Egtvedt of Deep Creek Lake (Oakland), MD. They attended to the spiritual welfare and provided pastoral ministry to approximately 2000 scouts, adult leaders and staff in each of their sub-camp communities, including offering daily worship and counseling opportunities.

Before reporting to the Jamboree, NLAS held its annual meeting at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Charleston, WV. Trinity has a beautiful location, directly viewing the Kanawha River. NLAS sincerely thanks Pastor Randy Richardson and staff for their hospital-



Week One staff – Jim Whitehead, Rev Gene Stuckey, Kristin Rogahn, Gary Nordahl, Wayne Stuckey, and Matthew Rogahn



Week Two staff – Jim Whitehead, Eric Hipple, Wayne Stuckey, Kristin Rogahn, Rev Gene Stuckey, and Matthew Rogahn

were able to tell them, through the story of the Reformation, through telling the meaning of the "sola's" surrounding Luther's rose, through teaching, tying and giving the knot crosses, and through talking about and encouraging them to take the religious emblems. We told of Luther standing on Scripture as the only authoritative Word of God. We told how we were separated from God, how He reconciled us to himself by His own act of grace through Jesus Christ, and how we could not earn this reconciliation by works, but receive it freely through faith. We explained how the knot cross (sailor's knot) is a lot like our faith; it needs to be worn and occasionally tightened up to last, but if put away in a pocket and

Our thanks to Terri Christian for the design of the exhibit backdrop, the NLAS Jamboree logo, and the literature design. Thanks to Trent Christian for procuring the backdrop canvases. Thanks to Gary Nordahl for making the handsome exhibit stools bearing the NLAS Jamboree logo, making the life-size standup of Luther, and having the literature printed. Thanks to Thrivent for underwriting the cost of printing and the Luther standup. Thanks to Kristin and Matthew Rogahn and Kristin's friends for preparing 5000 para-cord crosses and pre-tying hundreds. Thanks to Gail of the Duty to God and Country Welcome Center for preparing 1000 Luther's Rose laser etched coins.

ity and for hosting the 2017 National Annual Meeting and executive session.

We are thankful for the ministry we were able to carry to youth, adult leaders and staff at the BSA National Scout Jamboree. We would like to extend direct contact ministry such as this to other youth partner national events, such as Girl Scout Jamboree or AHG Convention, and to our charter partner (LCMS and ELCA) national youth gatherings. To extend our direct engagement, we need volunteer members from these youth-serving partners to participate actively. If you support this type of ministry, we invite your participation, and also inviting your fellow Lutheran Scouters to join in.



The National Lutheran Association on Scouting
Invites You to



Join us at Philmont!

July 15-21, 2018

Bring your family and be part of the fellowship unique to Philmont

Relax as we grow in faith and renewal with like-minded, dedicated and experienced Scouters.

To register, log on at: www.philmontscoutranch.org/PTC.aspx



“Scouting in the Lutheran Church”

This course is for Lutheran adults who want to learn more about using Scouting as an outreach ministry for young people and their families. Lutherans from across the country will share ideas, best practices regarding religious emblems, relationships with chartering partners, membership, and how to best serve our youth and our churches.

This course will be hosted by the
National Lutheran Association on Scouting.

Come and share the peace!

Bible Basics RP3 new from

What is Bible Basics RP3?

“Bible Basics RP3” is a patch series from P.R.A.Y. It is designed to help families, Sunday school classes, and scouting groups get into the Bible. We firmly believe that time spent in the Bible can be precious time with God.

The Bible is basic to the Christian life, which is why the Bible is the emphasis of this new patch series. We’re encouraging you to not only Read the Bible, but also to take the time to Picture the passage, Ponder its meaning, and Put it into action. That’s what “RP3” is all about. Families and groups taking part in the program will get to enjoy reading the Bible together, and become familiar with the RP3 outline and be equipped with a simple tool for personal Bible reading and study at the same time.



How does it work?

Each patch in this series focuses on a simple object (i.e. water, birds, books, etc.) and includes 3 Bible stories that feature that object. Each patch will require 3 separate sessions (one session for each Bible story). Each Bible story will utilize the RP3 outline: participants will Read the passage, answer questions to Picture the story, discuss issues to Ponder its meaning, and choose an activity to Put into action.

Patches are independent study units. The Good Book patch is considered the anchor patch and the first patch that should be earned. After that, the patches may be earned in any order. Need help choosing a patch? This chart shows the stories and lessons for each patch.

Requirements are shared through the P.R.A.Y. Website and you can acquire them by completing the curriculum request form at the top of this page. The files will be sent to you via email when your request is approved. Ordering the patches is easy: patches are available through the P.R.A.Y. Online Store and may be ordered at any time. Each patch is designed to be a visual reminder of the Bible stories and can be used as a prompt for reviewing past lessons.

Eligibility

Bible Basics RP3 is a series for people of all ages (school age and up). The curriculum for each patch includes questions for younger children, older youth, and adults, and is designed to be done in a family or group setting with all participants (including parents and leaders) earning the patch. Print a one-page flyer for quick reference and summary.

Are these P.R.A.Y. Awards?

These patches are separate from the

P.R.A.Y. awards and do not have the same strict guidelines as God and Me, God and Family, God and Church and God and Life. The patches are shorter programs, can be earned by all ages, and do not require workbooks or an application/review process by clergy. These guidelines make the new patch series ideal for weekend campouts and retreats.

Although the patches are separate from the P.R.A.Y. awards, the patches can be used in conjunction with them and fill the gaps that exist between the different age levels. The patch series can also be used with unchurched kids who may not be ready to tackle the more demanding award curriculum; it can provide some hands-on Bible experience and generate success and excitement for advancing to the P.R.A.Y. Awards.

Visit praypub.org for a side-by-side comparison of the P.R.A.Y. awards and RP3 patches.

Will there be more Patches?

Plans are already in the works for future patches featuring trees, fish, rocks, and storms. Be sure to get on the P.R.A.Y. email list to be notified when new patches are posted.

Martin Luther said “The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.” It is our dream that “Bible Basics RP3” will be a catalyst in bringing children, youth and families to Christ and nurturing in them a lifelong love of Holy Scripture.



Send NLAS News Items

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is January 5, 2018. Send Association and other news for the *Lutheran Scouting* newsletter to Pam Ciccarello at eaglesnest0810@att.net, and include NLAS in the subject line. 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.



A Publication of
**National Lutheran
Association on Scouting**
11123 South Towne Square, Suite B
St. Louis, MO 63123-7816

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
NO. 742
ST. LOUIS, MO

Address Service Requested



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