



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

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Why Should You Attend “Scouting in the Lutheran Church” at the Philmont Training Center?

Consider our top seven reasons:

- 7. The Setting:** The Philmont Training Center is nestled in the foothills of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northeastern New Mexico near Cimarron. You can enjoy sunrise over the plains and mountain sunsets.
- 6. Family Program:** The Philmont Training Center offers a full, organized program for every member of the family—from infants to spouses. Family members will be joined by others in their age group and will participate in a carefully designed, age and ability specific program under the leadership of trained, experienced staff. Groups will get to enjoy hiking, tours, handicrafts, games, campfires, and outdoor activities.
- 5. Evening Activities:** Every evening there are fun activities for you and your family. The PTC hosts: Western Night, Evening Craft Center opportunities, Cobbler Night, Movie Night, and Ice Cream Night, not to mention Opening and Closing Campfire each week. There is also the nightly opening campfire at Camping Headquarters, which tells some of the history of Cimarron, New Mexico. And don't forget your Western clothes and hat for Tuesday night's Buffalo Barbecue and Western Night games and dance.
- 4. The Fellowship:** One of the best features of PTC conferences is the opportunity to interact with Scouters from across the country – both in our own conference and also the various other conferences. Lots of terrific ideas are shared over meals in the dining hall and evening program time as well as in the classroom.
- 3. The NLAS National Annual Meeting:** Our association's annual meeting will be held on Monday evening during our conference. This will feature the annual update and reports in addition to the installation of our new national board and officers.
- 2. BSA's National Commissioner:** You can read his comments in *Scouting Magazine*, but the opportunity to hear him “live” is pretty limited. **Charles Dahlquist** will be with us on Monday speak to attendees in person. He has also agreed to visit our conference session if his schedule will allow.
- 1. Our topics include:** *The National Picture - Duty to God and Scouting, The Local Picture – Your Congregation and Scouting; Organizing Scouting Units, P.R.A.Y. and the Religious Emblems Program; Unit and Adult Recognitions; Duty to God in Your Council; The FBI and Scouting; Selecting Quality Leaders; Sharing Our Faith With Scouts; Unit, Council and Event Chaplaincy; Scout Sunday.*

Our aim is to better equip our conference participants with a better understanding of Scouting as a resource for your congregation. You'll find attending training at Philmont is a true “mountain top” event for both you and your family. Come and share the peace!

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



RIPPED OFF

Well, it's time again for another epistle from the NLAS Chaplain.

I just finished doing my taxes so I'm not in a very evangelical mood and should probably not commit anything to paper until I've gotten over the shock of "tax time!" But, that's life – death and taxes.

I guess I should be thankful that I make enough money to even pay taxes. Yet I still can't help that sinking feeling when I have to write a check to the IRS. I know the Scripture: what St. Matthew, St. Mark and St. Luke record about rendering unto Caesar and I get it, but it still bites and when you look at how our Government wastes tax money it's easy to feel "ripped off."

But then it seems our whole society is in the "rip off" mode. I just bought Microsoft Office 2016. Got it home and went on line to download it. When I put in the pin number a screen popped up telling me there was a corruption and I should call this number. I called the number and got a man with a very heavy Eastern Indian accent. Right away my "rip off" antenna went up. I don't care if you call it profiling or not I've gotten too many phone calls from these guys telling me something was wrong with my computer. I hung up and did some research and sure enough it was a "rip off." I got the real web site and am using the program writing this article. Point being you've got to be super suspicious and careful these days about everything.

Religion is the same. There are cults out there trying to "rip you off," with the promise that if you join their group you have the best chance for paradise. There are only two basic theories about obtaining paradise; all theology is a variation on these two. The first is through your own good works (synergism) and the second is through the works and merit of another person (vicarious atonement).

Of course, we Lutherans feel we have the best hold on all this theology (at least that's what they told me in Seminary), so we go with the Biblical doctrine of the vicarious atonement – God making us "at-one" with Him through the works and merits of Jesus Christ. Salvation by Grace through Faith not of our own Works, so we can't brag about saving ourselves.

So, what's that have to do with the NLAS? Well, what's the mission of the NLAS? What do we preach, teach and confess every Sunday in Church... right!

Our program continues the mission of our Lutheran Church to expose our children and any who will listen to the saving message of Jesus. In cooperation with P.R.A.Y. our religious emblems program even gives our youth tangible evidence that they can wear on their uniforms that tells the world that they have been instructed in the salvific doctrine of the vicarious atonement – and besides the medals are cool!

Hope everyone had a blessed Easter!
Rev. Dr. James Hoke, NLAS Chaplain



RECOGNITION OF SERVICE BY TRENT and TERRI CHRISTIAN by Wayne Stuckey, Mary Wangerin, Cole Petersen, Jim Whitehead



The National Lutheran Association on Scouting honors and thanks Trent Christian and Teresa (Terri) Christian as they retire from their official duties in the NLAS. Trent and Terri have been a tremendous help to NLAS over many years.

In 2001, Trent and Terri became members of the NLAS, and attended the Scouting in the Lutheran Church conference at Philmont Training Center (PTC) in 2002. They returned in 2008, when Trent not only served as a member of the teaching staff but also was installed as the new President of NLAS. Former NLAS President Cole Petersen says, "When I became president in 2010, Trent was a huge asset to me. Always available to help with my newcomer questions, he was a great mentor, and continued to be so for the four presidents who followed him. We would have been totally lost without his leadership for the Jamborees."

Trent and Terri's impact on NLAS presence at the Boy Scouts of America's National Jamborees began in 2005 when Trent attended as a staffer. For the 2010 BSA Centennial Jamboree, Trent served as the NLAS Booth Coordinator while Terri became a staffer. Trent was responsible for recruiting, training and scheduling the staff. Trent designed and constructed the booth while Terri designed the 100 Years of Scouting backdrop display. Trent also served as the NLAS exhibit chair for the 2013 BSA National Jamboree. In celebration of the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation, Terri designed the NLAS backdrop display for the 2013 and 2017 BSA National Jamborees.

In addition to being NLAS Past President, Trent is a former Executive Board Member-at-Large, past Southern Region Vice-Chair (Georgia), and Youth Gatherings Chair. As YGC Trent coordinated NLAS booths at the 2006 and 2007 LCMS and ELCA Youth Gatherings. Besides the backdrops used for the last three BSA National Jamborees, Terri lent her creative expertise to NLAS in many other ways. She designed the

layout and served as publisher for the NLAS newsletter, *Lutheran Scouting*. She designed the artwork and layout used on banners, printed materials, application and recognition forms, patches, pins as well as Jamboree and Philmont polo shirts. She rendered the artwork for our new NLAS logo and for the new NLAS Life membership belt buckle. Trent and Terri became co-chairs of the NLAS membership committee in 2007: sending renewal notices, welcoming new members, conducting votes of the membership for officers of the NLAS and keeping the records updated for contact information and accomplishments of the members. They managed the inventory of NLAS life member belt buckles. In 2017, an updated buckle was designed and obtained.

Trent and Terri are members of Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Griffin, GA. For dedicated service to youth in Scouting and in his church, Trent was awarded the Servant of Youth in 2004, and the Lutheran Lamb in 2011. Terri was awarded the Lutheran Lamb in 2012.

On February 11, 2018, the Rev Joe Warnke read and presented to Trent and Terri NLAS Life membership certificates at a special service at Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church. Mr. Rod Love, a Scout leader from the congregation, presented NLAS Life member belt buckles. Trent and Terri, thank you for your service!



Pastor Joe Warnke and Mr. Rod Love congratulate Trent and Terri Christian on receiving honorary Life membership certificates and Life member belt buckles for long and faithful service.

In the Winter edition of Lutheran Scouting, NLAS was pleased to report attending a meeting of the Girl Scout National Interfaith Committee, facilitated by P.R.A.Y. and Jennifer Allebach, Vice President of Girl Experience at the G.I.R.L. 2017 conference in Columbus, OH. There was substantial discussion on how to better integrate faith-based programs into Girl Scouting. Troop 50934, which meets at Peace Lutheran School in Saginaw, MI, take seriously their Girl Scout Promise to serve God and provide an excellent example of incorporating their faith into the Girl Scout program.

Girl Scout Leaders Haley Cottrell and Keri Radde love the rich history of Girl Scouting and are strong proponents of faith-based Scouting. Now in their third year, Troop 50934 was founded with a desire to grow Christian girls of Courage, Confidence and Character at Peace Lutheran School. Their Troop Leader Haley Cottrell says, "Girl Scouting calling to use Girl for bringing Christ to Scout Promise. Bible it is a great de- feel it's the only way Girl Scouts meet meetings and 1-3 tian service projects trips. Each member of the cross on her Brownie vest to show the world that Christ is at the center of their sisterhood. One of the reasons their Girl Scouts wear "troop uniforms" of navy and tartan with their Brownie vests is to stand out and draw questions from people. "We want others to know that Christ-Centered Girl Scouting is possible and incredibly beautiful."



According to Haley and Keri, “The girls loved earning the beautiful religious award, God and Me.” Instead of a traditional 4-session program, the leaders chose to run a mini-camp and hosted their very first over-night at the church. The girls are also participating in P.R.A.Y.’s Bible Basics RP3 program, which is designed to encourage getting into the Word. The Bible Basics RP3 program encourages families and groups to **Read** the Bible, **Picture** the passage, **Ponder** its meaning, and **Put** it into action - **"RP3."** The girls enjoyed earning “The Good Book” patch as well as the “Out of the Water” patch and plan to earn additional RP3 badges because they fit so perfectly into their Christ Centered Scouting model. Haley and Keri say, “We tell everyone we know that the P.R.A.Y. Program is a wonderful way to insert faith into the Girl Scout curriculum. We are grateful to have these merit-earning opportunities that encourage us to grow as Christians.”



For one of their service projects, Troop 50934 delivers over 150 premie outfits to a local NICU.

Girls of Troop 50934 pray for Peace Lutheran School



Girl Scout Troop 50934 celebrated Girl Scouts Sunday March 11 at Peace Lutheran Church. The Brownie girls served as church greeters, ushers and sang “Down in My Heart” for the congregation.

Cody (BSA), Tessa and Jenna (AHG) celebrating Scout Sunday for the first time at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Claremore, OK.



Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts from multiple units worshiped together at Redeemer Lutheran-Claremore, OK Scout Sunday 2018.



AROUND THE NLAS SCOUT SUNDAY AND GIRL SCOUTS

Girl Scout Troops 50934, 50707, and 50856 celebrate Girl Scouts Sunday at Peace Lutheran Church, Saginaw, MI



Luke Graber, of Troop 349 (chartered to St. Peter Lutheran, Macomb, MI) celebrates Scout Sunday at his home church, Trinity Lutheran, Clinton Twp., MI. Luke received his God and Church medal in 2017. A scout is reverent!



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Troop 1795 & Pack 1783 celebrate Scout Sunday at Christ the King Lutheran Church in Southgate, MI.

Unofficial! Until now...
Helping with Communion
at Our Savior Lutheran
Church in Newton, IA.



Venturing Crew 524 celebrated Scout Sunday at Faith Lutheran Church in Coon Rapids, MN, along with Boy Scout and Cub Scout members. They helped with ushering, providing alter flowers and assisting the youth group with their cinnamon rolls after the service.

UTS SUNDAY



Our Savior's Lutheran Church - Everett, WA celebrated Scout Sunday on 2/4/18. Congratulations to Tom Hutchinson, Janice Rucker and Mike Sirkis; awards for leadership and advocacy for Campfire and Boy Scouts. Tom Hutchinson was awarded the Lutheran Lamb for his service to Scouting. Janice Rucker and Mike Sirkis were awarded the Servant of Youth for service with Camp Fire and BSA. God bless all those who champion the cause of youth in our community.





PRESIDENTS'S PERSPECTIVE

RELATIONSHIPS

As President of the NLAS, I am afforded a seat on the National Religious Relationships Support Committee (NRRC) of the BSA National Committee. Along with three other NLAS members and the NLAS Lead Chaplain, we provide Lutheran representation on the Committee. The NRRC is an interfaith committee comprising representatives of the approximately 30 faith groups that charter BSA units. Membership on an internal committee of the BSA is unique among our youth serving partner organizations and demonstrates the BSA's commitment to Duty to God.

The NRRC is composed of 9 working groups that interact and work cooperatively to ensure that Duty to God remains a meaningful and active core value in the Scouting program:

- Awards and Emblems
- Chaplaincy
- Duty to God
- Literature Development and Review
- Membership
- National Training, Meetings and Events
- Religious Relations
- Religious Rights and Liberties
- Social Media

Here are a few examples of recent NRRC activities:

The NRRC maintains a social media presence via a Duty to God Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/dutytogodbsa/>, a Duty to God YouTube channel, an Instagram page, and an electronic newsletter <https://goo.gl/forms/0IS5NJQ1TuLk6qk1>.

The Chaplaincy committee coordinated chaplains for the 2017 National Scout Jam-

boree and is currently recruiting chaplains for the 2019 World Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve. Chaplains sign up as staff in the Faith and Beliefs area under the adult leader application at <http://wsj2019.us/apply/>. A complement of 125 chaplains is needed.

Several initiatives are underway to promote Duty to God at the Council level. The NRRC announced in October that bonus points are available for the council level Journey to Excellence (JTE) award for conducting interfaith council-wide activities, such as a Faith Walk or Ten Commandments hike or a Duty to God interfaith retreat. Neckerchiefs and patches have been developed for members of Council-level Religious Relationships Committees, with distribution details to be announced soon. Standing banners promoting the Religious Emblems program and Council Religious Relationships Committee (or charter partner committees, such as local Lutheran Scouting Associations) are available for purchase through Gene Butler the BSA staff advisor to the NRRC (gene.butler@scouting.org). Other initiatives are expected to be ready for announcement at the Duty to God Breakfast at the BSA National Annual Meeting in May. The 2018 National Duty to God award recipients will also be introduced at the Duty to God Breakfast. The National Duty to God award recognizes adult leaders who have demonstrated exemplary service at the national level in the advancement and promotion of a Scout's Duty to God.

The National Training group has introduced within the past year online position specific training for Chaplains at the unit, district, and council level. Chaplain training consists of modules on [1] Chaplain Roles and Responsibilities, [2] Religious Emblems and Awards, and [3] Interfaith Considerations. The training can be accessed by logging into <http://my.scouting.org> with your login name and password, clicking on the BSA Learn

Center logo to access position specific training, and selecting Chaplain Training. A Fast Start syllabus is under development for Chaplain and Chaplain Aide training, with tentative release planned for the National Annual Meeting.

The Duty to God group developed by request an interfaith religious service for the Order of the Arrow National Leadership Seminars (NLS). The interfaith religious service was well received and resulted in the request for development of a Duty to God training module for the NLS (to be developed).

In January, the NRRC solicited leader inputs on the development of a merit badge to promote Duty to God. With strong positive response, merit badge proposals were developed to emphasize the development of one's own faith, fellowship in Scouting, acceptance and respect for each other, and working together in diverse groups. The proposals have been forwarded for review. Pending approval, the development of one or two new merit badges would commence.

Not all efforts and initiatives come to fruition, but the NRRC continues to search for and address those areas of program application and training that promote Duty to God as essential to the mission and goals of Scouting. While searching for these areas we keep in mind that BSA is non-sectarian in emphasizing a Scout's Duty to God; that is, BSA does not teach (or endorse a) religion. One of the contributions we, as Lutherans, make is a constant reminder that the Scout's clergy and family are responsible for religious training and assisting his or her growth in faith. Scouting creates the emphasis and opportunity.

While the relationship with BSA through the NRRC is unique, NLAS continues to nurture and strengthen ties with our other

youth serving partners. In the last issue of Lutheran Scouting, we reported attending a meeting of the Girl Scout National Interfaith Committee that was arranged by the Program of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) and hosted by the GSUSA Vice President of Girl Experience. Recently NLAS announced that we will attend the AHGinspire Conference for adult leaders in the American Heritage Girls on June 7-9. We recognize adult leaders with the Lutheran Lamb and Servant of Youth awards in the aforementioned youth serving organizations, as well as 4-H and Campfire, while we advocate for them as part of the youth outreach ministry of our national church partners, The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



Send NLAS News Items

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is July 27, 2018. Send Association and other news for the Lutheran Scouting newsletter to Pam Ciccarello at eaglesnest0810@att.net.

Please include

- 'NLAS' in the subject line
 - be certain to spell out acronyms
 - provide city/state/council
- for events, be sure to include the date.

Photos are welcome.



The 2018 NLAS Annual Meeting will occur at 7:00 PM on July 16 at Philmont Training Center (17 Deer Run Road, Cimarron, New Mexico), after the day's session of the *Scouting in the Lutheran Church* conference. Plan to attend the meeting and the conference! Now is the time to register and schedule your physical! Bring your spouse and family and make it a vacation. <http://www.philmontscoutranch.org/filestore/>



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



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