



# LUTHERAN SCOUTING

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## Pro Deo Et Patria

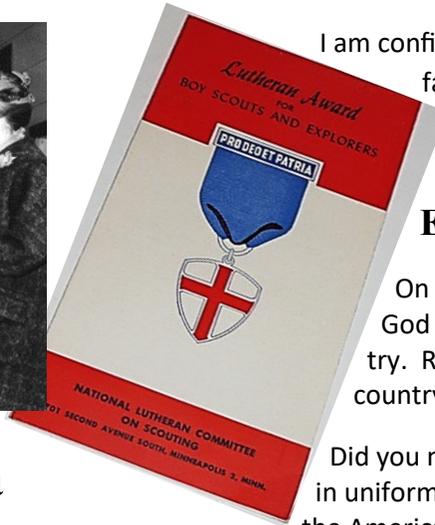
By Rev. Gregory C. Rogahn

### Pro Deo...For God

Scout Sunday 1964, I was privileged to receive the Lutheran Pro Deo Et Patria emblem during a worship service at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Sumner, Iowa. It was the culmination of study, service, and spiritual growth and spanned well over a year. At times, those weekly study sessions and service projects were more challenging than Confirmation instruction!

Rev. Eugene Kramer, my pastor with a Scouting background from Canada, presided. My Mom, Marion, pinned the metal to my uniform as my Dad, Carl, Scoutmaster of Troop 45 looked on. I remember the occasion vividly. It would influence career choices just a few years later.

Today there are four religious growth programs for all Scouting ages: Jesus and Me, God and Me, God and Family, God and Church and God and Life.

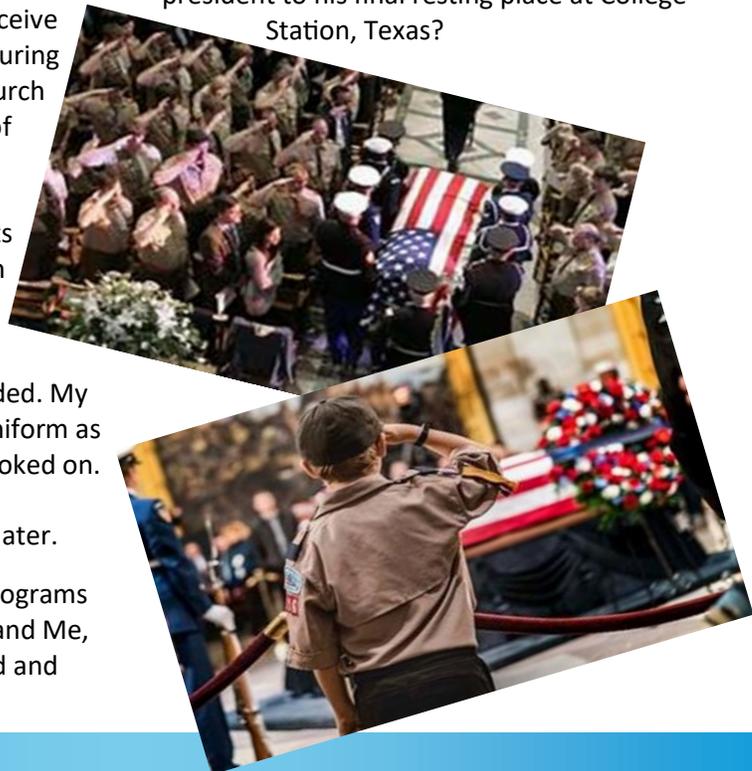


I am confident that these programs are faith strengthening and in many cases influence service and careers.

### Et Patria...And Country.

On my honor, I will do my best to God and my country. Duty to country. Respect of country. Service for country.

Did you notice, as I did, how many scouts in uniform were photographed saluting the American flag draped casket holding President George H.W. Bush? Or, for that matter, the train that carried both flag and president to his final resting place at College Station, Texas?



I have yet to attend a troop meeting, a pack meeting, a court of honor, or a Scout Sunday service in which the Pledge of Allegiance was not spoken with conviction and respect.



And in service to country, countless troop projects have benefitted the community. Eagle Scout service projects that involve significant funds, involve many volunteers, and lift the quality of the community and its residents. Civic leaders know full well that if a community project is needed there will be Scouts and Scouters at the forefront in cheerful service.

**Pro Deo Et Patria....**  
**For God And Country**

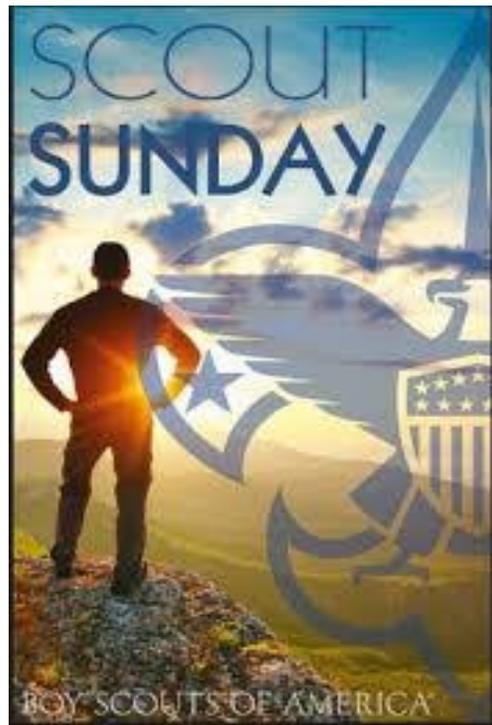


In the Scout Promise which Scouts and Scouters know so well; it is not just one or the other. It is both. For God and Country.

Generally, you will see the American Flag and the Christian or Luther's Seal Flag flown at the Rogahn house. It is a visual reminder that those in our home serve the Lord and serve our country as a reflection and response to our Christian faith in the Jesus.

Scout Sundays may include the Scouts presenting both the American flag and the Christian flag.

Scouts and Scouters of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting should continually appreciate our loyalty to both God and Country, as stated within the Scout Oath.



**What did your Church and/or your unit do for Scout Sunday?**

**Please Share with us!**





## **Scouts continue tradition of building a strong relationship with Lutheran sponsored Food Pantry**

On November 15, Cub Scouts from Wanamassa PTA Pack 143 completed their annual Good Turn For America by joining their Scouting For Food initiatives with the annual Thanksgiving preparations of the Lutheran Church of the Reformation's Community Food Pantry. Reformation is located in West Long Branch, NJ. Together, Pack 143 and the Food Pantry gathered, sorted, and prepared food items for more than 800 people in need for Thanksgiving.

The Thanksgiving partnership between the Lutheran Church of the Reformation and Wanamassa Pack 143 is now an annual tradition and one that both groups depend upon. The congregation is led by Rev. Matthew Cimorelli, the Community Food Pantry is led by Reformation's Parish Administrator Deb Kessler, Pack 143 is led by Cubmaster Frank McCann and by Committee Chairman Brian Valentino. *Mr. Valentino is also the Council Commissioner of Monmouth Council and a Lector and Endowment Committeeman at Reformation.*



Newly formed ScoutsBSA Troop 43 chartered by Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) in Brainerd, MN took advantage of the snow and participated in Pine Tree District's Klondike Derby. Having no sled, they lashed one together, and were able to take home two-first place ribbons for all their efforts! With winter in MN comes frozen lakes, and these new Scouts also had a blast ice fishing for the first time.



# President's Perspective

A few thoughts:

Past, Present, Future

Matthew Rogahn, NLAS President

## Scout Sunday

Duty to God is very prominent in a Scout's life; as part of the Scout Oath and the twelfth point of the Scout Law, "a Scout is Reverent." A Scout has many opportunities to show their Duty to God, but one such opportunity is participating in Scout Sunday.

The Boy Scouts of America annually celebrates its founding, February 8, 1910, based on the program started by Lord Baden Powell in England. Scout Sunday is usually the Sunday preceding February 8<sup>th</sup>, but a congregation may choose any Sunday that fits its worship schedule. The first Scout Sunday was celebrated in 1914. This tradition was created to make people in houses of worship aware of Scouting, and to allow Scouts to live out their "Duty to God."

### **What do we do to celebrate Scout Sunday?**

Scouts can participate during the service in a variety of ways, including reading scripture, prayer, helping as greeters, ushers, acolyte, or collecting the offering. Maybe Scouts can present the children's message or with the pastor, help deliver the message. A Scout Sunday worship service can be as simple or elaborate as the congregation chooses it to be. Scout Sunday service can also be an excellent opportunity to recognize those who have completed their youth religious growth emblems, recognizing leaders with the Servant of Youth or Lamb Awards, and recognizing those from the congregation or community with a Scouting background.

There are many youth and adults in our units, districts and councils that do not have a home church. What an amazing opportunity to share Jesus Christ's love to them by inviting them to Scout Sunday. That is what Christian mission and ministry is all about. Jesus said, "Make disciples of all nations."

Scout Sunday is for EVERY Scout, young and old, and for all youth-serving organizations. Be sure to invite all to attend and participate in worship.

And as always, please take a moment and dive into some scripture .

Romans 10:14 Mark 16:15



## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Well, Christmas is over now. Presents have been exchanged, and soon many will be returned to the store for various reasons, but it's the thought that counts – right?

As we look forward to the new year, we reflect on the many blessings we have received, both as Christians and as citizens of the United States of America.

While spending time with my son and daughter and their families this Christmas, I realized how blessed my wife, Linda, and I have been, i.e., we have 5 healthy and active (very active) grandchildren.

When you watch your grandchildren running around screaming and then watch the Shriner's Hospital commercials that come on during the football game, you start to really appreciate the blessings of good health. To see all those poor little children fighting horrible diseases tears at your heart strings and makes you want to hug your own grandchildren (if you can catch them!).

During my ministry I've had to bury 4 infants and minister to the parents as they coped with the piercing, unbearable pain of losing a child. The pain is the same no matter what age the child. And it is at these times that one wonders where God is in all this?

Pain and suffering are the results of our fallen nature and will plague us until the day we die or Jesus returns, whichever comes first. The key to persevering in the face of tragedy is to keep your eyes focused on the words and promises of Jesus, the author of our faith.

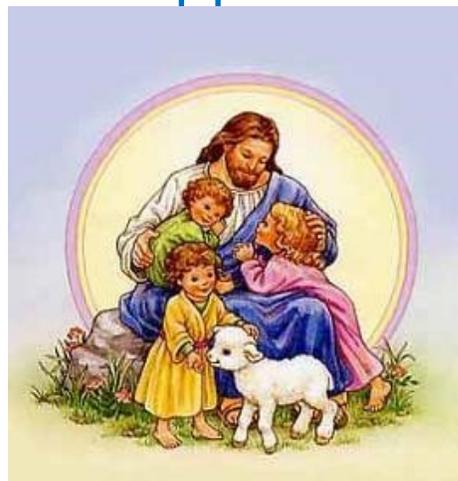
God, too, lost a Son and knows our pain, but He also knows what indescribable joy we will have in the resurrection. That is what keeps us going. Even though our society seems to be in upheaval and the world coming apart, we will fear no evil for He is with us. His Word and Sacraments keeps us in the true faith unto life everlasting.

Time is both our greatest enemy and our greatest friend. That's why it's important to get the Word out about the grace and healing that God affords those in pain through His Son Jesus before time runs out.

The mission of the NLAS is to project that urgency to youth through the teachings of our Lutheran Church. Our religious emblems program helps us fulfill that mission. May God enable us all to continue that mission until we are called home.

Have a blessed New Year – 2019!

Rev. James Hoke  
NLAS Member since 1982



# Let's Share the GREAT NEWS!!

NLAS has a tabletop Religious Emblems Display for Loan. What a wonderful way to promote Religious Emblems.

The display is shipped to you by NLAS, and we ask that the borrowing organization return it back to us.

For information: Contact the display custodian, Mr. Bill Banta @ [w1939banta@comcast.net](mailto:w1939banta@comcast.net)



## Adult Religious Recognition



Congratulations NLAS President– Elect Wendy (Hoke) Cibils upon receiving the Servant of Youth award. Presented by her father, Rev. James Hoke, last year at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Claremore, OK

To learn more  
about Adult  
Religious  
Awards



Congratulations Robert Moreno for receiving the Servant of Youth Award. Presented by NLAS Treasurer, Phill Lawonn, and Pastor Peter Hanson, Christ the King Lutheran Church in New Brighton, MN.



## **Jesus and Me (Grades K-1)**

Introduces Jesus as the Son of God in familiar terms so that young children can see Jesus in their own day-to-day experiences as a storyteller, teacher, friend, and healer. It is very interactive and experiential, using music, art, and movement, as well as individual and group activities. Recognizing that parents and guardians are responsible for the faith development of their

children, the *Jesus and Me* program requires their participation and encourages parent-child interaction.

Stories are an important part of learning, and this program utilizes the "Jesus Scroll Craft," a hands-on component that builds from lesson to lesson and helps children tell their story of Jesus and Me together. For more information on this or any PRAY curriculum go to [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org).



## **NLAS National Meeting**

Join us for the NLAS Annual Meeting August 10 2019 in Milwaukee, WI. Watch Facebook and the next Newsletter for additional information. All are welcome.

## **We LOVE including you with NLAS News Items**

**Please Send your Ideas!**

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The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is **April 19, 2019**. Send Association and other news for the Lutheran Scouting newsletter to Mary Wangerin at [mwang@nuveramailnet](mailto:mwang@nuveramailnet)

Please include

- 'NLAS' in the subject line
- Spell out all acronyms
- List your city/state/council/unit/charter organization.
- Include the date
- PHOTOS always welcome!



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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**  
[www.nlas.org](http://www.nlas.org)



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