



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

VOLUME 34, NUMBER 1

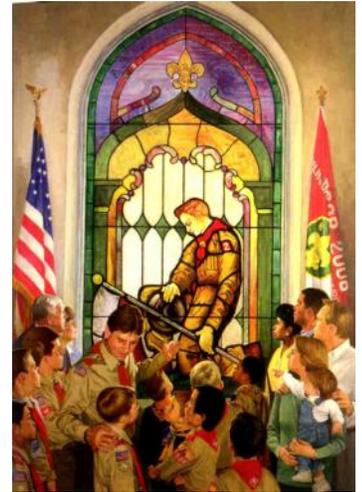
WWW.NLAS.ORG

SPRING 2024

Here's how you can participate in the National Day of Prayer

The National Day of Prayer is May 2, 2024. The BSA's National Religious Relationships Committee is inviting all Scouts and their families to participate by reading a portion of their own sacred text at 5:30 p.m. local time on that day.

"Our world needs the power of prayer and positive action more than ever," says Jim Marchbank, chair of the council support subcommittee of the National Religious Relationships Committee. "We are inviting every Scout to read their sacred texts on this important day. This Duty to God event allows Scouts to broaden their faith and deepen their spirituality with their family in their homes or at their faith institution."



Watch the video at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-DGwV6zc9U to learn more about how you can participate. This is an historic, first-of-its-kind, worldwide effort being organized by the National Religious Relationships Committee.

We are very pleased to have the Far East and the Transatlantic councils participate. That means Scouts will start reading at 5:30 p.m. in the Far East, seven hours later, Scouts read in Europe, we cross the Atlantic and six hours later, Scouts begin reading on the East Coast, then Midwest and finish in Hawaii. What a vision to have Sacred Texts being read starting in the Far East and sweeping west all around the world – all on the U.S. National Day of Prayer.

What is the National Day of Prayer?

The National Day of Prayer — held each year on the first Thursday of May — is a day of observance designated by Congress.

How can Scouts participate?

The BSA's National Religious Relationships Committee is encouraging Scouts to read their own sacred text at 5:30 p.m. local time on the National Day of Prayer.



Scouts can:

- Read their text at home with their family;
- Talk to their faith leader about reading at their faith location;
- Ask a Scout friend to join them either at home or at their faith location.

And yes, there will be a patch!

To learn more and to register, log on to: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1gQ2-106bsR9rV0DaJ5g93sa55gK7TgZTlvyZlr8fQhA/viewform?edit_requested=true

Scout Sunday 2024

Scout Sunday is a great time for units to show appreciation for the support of their Scouting activities received from their charter or hosting congregation. It's also a time for the congregation to thank THEIR units for the service and outreach they represent for the congregation in the surrounding community. Scout Sunday is an appropriate time to recognize youth who have grown in their faith by completing the religious emblems and to recognize adults who have served them and set a godly example of life.

Lamb Award

On March 17th, Redeemer Lutheran in Huntington Beach, California celebrated Scout Sunday as well as the presentation of the Lamb Award to the Pastor, Rev. Tom Miller.



Three Scouts from Troop 43 received Religious Emblems, including a P.R.A.Y. Four-Star award, on Scout Sunday 2024 at Zion Lutheran Church in Brainerd, MN. (above) Two leaders received the Servant of Youth award. (below left) and Pastor Steve Benson (below, right) received the council North Star award for his service to Scouting.

In the early 2000's, Tom began his journey into the pastorate. He started taking classes and was subsequently licensed as a Deacon by the Pacific Southwest District of the LCMS to serve in word and sacrament ministry at St. Paul's Lutheran in Garden Grove, CA.

Moving to Redeemer in 2015, he relinquished his role as a Deacon because the congregation believed that ordination was required for word and sacrament ministry. Tom applied for ordination through colloquy. He was accepted and ordained in December of 2022.



As you can read elsewhere, Tom is finishing his term as President of NLAS and plans to continue to serve as Treasurer and on the BSA's National Religious Relationships Committee

Though chartered by a local service group, Troop 558 meets at the church and has helped them with numerous service projects over the years.



◆

Celebrating 64 years of shared ministry on Scout Sunday at Providence Lutheran Church in Holland Ohio! Providence is proud to charter Cub Scout Pack 144, Scouts BSA Troop 210 and Venturing Crew 210.

Eagles in Action

Emily Augustine from BSA Troop 800 in Gardner, Kansas recently passed her Board of Review for Eagle Scout.

Emily has a passion for kiddos who are involved in the foster care system. For her Eagle Scout Project, Emily contacted a local social service agency that provides services for those involved in foster care. Emily learned that many foster kids are unable to have a proper birthday celebration due to often moving from one home to another and the families not having the supplies needed for a birthday present. Emily learned that "Birthdays in a Bag" would be a much sought after product to provide to the foster care agency.

Emily partnered with the Lutheran Laymen's League at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Gardner, Kansas. The LLL donated funds to her troop, designating the funds be used in her Eagle Project. A couple from King of Kings, whose adult son is an Eagle

Scout, partnered with Emily and Thrivent Financial Services and obtained an Action Team Grant of \$250 to further assist in funding the project. Emily, with the help of other troop members, was able to build over 100 Birthday Bags. Included in the birthday bags were "Easy Bake" cake mix, frosting in a can, candles, and party favors.

Congratulations to Emily on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, but more so for helping brighten the lives of young people in the foster care system.



Emily receiving a framed NLAS Eagle Scout Certificate from NLAS member Mark Trivilino.

Best Practices in Ministry 2024



In late February, a group of NLAS members staffed a booth at the Best Practices in Ministry Conference in Phoenix, hosted by Christ Lutheran Church and attended by over 2,400 people.

Rev. Tom Miller and his wife, Karen have been to prior conferences and saw it as an opportunity to encourage congregations and professional church workers to use the resources of the various youth serving programs to compliment their ministry in the areas of after school care (Cub Scouts), outdoor ministry (Scouts BSA), and High School and College ministry (Venturing).

They were joined at the booth by long-time NLAS members from the Phoenix area, Jeff and Cindy Knoll.

Besides teaching hundreds of people to tie the cross knot, we offered free NLAS membership to about 20 people who were willing to provide us with their e-mail address.

If you want to use the banner shown in the photo, let Tom know and he will ship it to you!





Have you ever . . .

-  heard of a "magical" place called Philmont?
-  wanted to go but aren't into backpacking?
-  wanted to find out more about Scouting and faith?... and perhaps other faith traditions?
-  thought about week-long Scout training but didn't want to leave your family for that long?

What if . . .

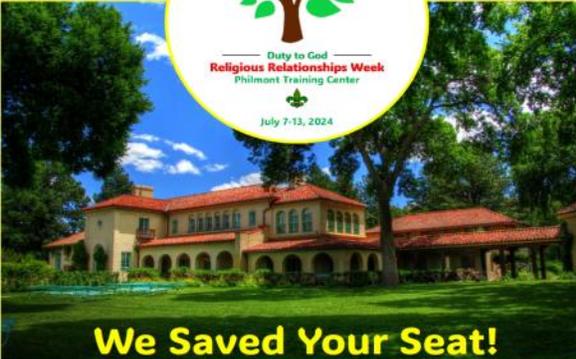
-  "Philmont Magic"? is something that's real?
-  you can experience it without backpacking?
-  there is a conference on the Scouting and its connection to faith?
-  that conference includes Scouters from all over the country and with different faith traditions?
-  you could combine this with a great South-west family vacation?

Well . . .

JOIN US IN



NEW MEXICO!



We Saved Your Seat!

NLAS is cooperating with the BSA's National Religious Relationships Committee to take over the entire Philmont Training Center the week of July 7-13 for a week of training, discussions, fellowship, service and family fun.

Here's an overview of the week:

-  **Monday- Position Breakout Classes:** Choose two positions you want to learn more about. (Example: learn about the resources available for BSA Unit Leaders in the morning and Religious Emblems Coordinators in the afternoon.)
-  **Tuesday- Faith Specific Classes:** You have the opportunity to learn in-depth resources that are specific to an individual faith group in three (3) sessions during the week. There is a whole list to choose from. Some faiths will be repeating the same session three times, others may have a different topic in each of their sessions, and some faiths may only have one session offered.
-  **Wednesday & Friday Morning- Free Choice Classes OR Service Projects OR Field Trips:** The choice is yours during these two half-days. We have a wide variety of University of Scouting classes from which to choose. OR you can participate in a half day field trip or service project.
-  **Wednesday Afternoon- Family Time:** You've got the afternoon off to explore PTC, Philmont's Camping Headquarters, or the surrounding areas of beautiful Northern New Mexico.
-  **Thursday Morning- All Faith Sessions:** We'll all be together for this half day answering the always important question..."I have a Scout in my unit that is ___ faith. What do I need to know to help them with Duty to God?"
-  **Friday Afternoon- Speed Networking:** The topics are your choice throughout the week. We'll hold up signs with a topic name and you choose which one to go to in our 20 -minute lightning networking sessions. PLUS Graduation, goal setting, and celebrating an awesome week.
-  **Kids and spouse programs** are offered each day by the PTC staff. Meals are served in the dining hall so you can eat with your family, faculty and new friends.

Registration is open NOW!

You must complete two steps to be registered:

Philmont Training Center Registration/Payment: <https://www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/ptc-conferences/>

Class Selection Forms: <https://dutytogodbsa.org/portfolio/2024-religious-relationships-week-ptc/>

President's Perspective



Where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that I began to serve as your President and soon, Kristin will carry on the tradition.

We had a great showing at the 2023 National Jamboree, with several staff members who had never before served on staff. We taught hundreds of scouts and scouters how to tie the sailor's cross and explained the three sola's of the reformation. We were also able to increase our membership by about 10% from complementary Jamboree membership; pray these new members would find the organization helpful and will become dues-paying members.

Now that Jamboree 2026 has been announced, let's borrow from our Baptist friends and see if we can scholarship a couple youth staff for next Jamboree's booth.

Thanks to all of the officers for their support during the past couple of years – you've made my job easy by each of you doing your jobs well.

Special thanks go our communication staff – Marti Jernberg and Ryan Emblem – for their outstanding work in reinvigorating our newsletter and bringing our website into the 21st century.

I hope that all of you can attend our National Meeting, to be held in conjunction with the Religious Relationships Week (July 7-13) at the Philmont Training Center this Summer. Even if you can't attend in person, please join us via Zoom, as so many of you done the past couple of years.

I look forward to continuing to serve NLAS as Treasurer in the upcoming two years.

Tom

NLAS President

From the Editor

by Marti Jernberg

Here is the publication schedule for the *Lutheran Scouter*:

Winter - January 1

Spring - April 1

Summer - July 1

Fall - October 1

If you would like anything included in an upcoming issue, please submit articles and/or photos by the dates listed. These are intended to be hard deadlines, however if there is a reason for you to delay an article, please contact me either by email or phone (847-337-0903). Of course, you can submit articles or pictures at any time in the month preceding the deadline.

I would like to see more articles like "Eagles in Action" or "Scout Sunday Activities".

Nominees for National Officers of the Executive Board

Every two years a **Nominating Committee** is formed to develop a slate of nominees for the national officers of the Executive Board of the National Lutheran Association on Scouting: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Members at Large. The officers are elected by the voting membership (dues-paid and honorary members) of NLAS and are installed at the annual meeting in even numbered years. Terms are for two years with the exception of President-Elect who succeeds to the office of President after two years.

Members should expect an email with the link for online voting to come out in May.

President-Elect—Ben Wheeler

Ben joins the NLAS Board from his current role as Scout Executive & Chief Executive Officer of the Chester County Council outside Philadelphia. Ben is an Eagle Scout with Gold, Silver and Bronze Palms who earned 125 merit badges. He earned his Lutheran God and Church Youth Religious Emblem Award. Ben is also an active Order of the Arrow member and is Wood Badge trained.

Ben has an outstanding history (five years running) being the #1 membership recruiter in the entire BSA. While as Scout Executive in 2023, he grew his council's year-end membership over 52% in one year in addition his council ranked 2nd in the nation for total percentage of the market share served.

He has also been a significant volunteer for the BSA. Ben held the titles of District Membership Chairman, District Committee Member, Unit Commissioner, Unit Committee Member, Merit Badge Counselor, and Cubmaster for a pack of 104 kids.

He earned his B.A. in Religion from Lake Forest College and his M.A. in Marriage & Family Therapy from Wheaton College.



Secretary —Wayne Stuckey

Wayne Stuckey has been an active Scouter since 1996. He was a founding leader in Pack 719 in 2003, and served as Scoutmaster of Troop 719 for 1998 – 2004. Wayne served as staff on four National Youth Leadership

Training (NYLT) and two Wood Badge courses, and he conducted troop youth leadership training for 2002-2016. He served as Advisor for 37 Eagle Scouts. Wayne strongly advocates the Religious Emblems program. He has been on the board of the NLAS since 2010, serving as NLAS President for 2016-2018 and as Secretary from 2018 to present. He served on NLAS exhibit staff at the BSA National Jamboree in 2010, 2013, and 2017, and the Girl Scouts Phenom P.R.A.Y. exhibit in 2023. He attended the "Scouting in the Lutheran Church" conference at PTC five times, serving on faculty three times. Wayne has served on the BSA National Religious Relationships Committee since 2015. He has been recognized with the Lutheran Lamb and the God & Service Award, and is a 2023 recipient of the BSA National Duty to God Award. He has also received the Silver Beaver, Scoutmaster Award of Merit, District Award of Merit, the James E. West Award and the PTC Master's Track. Wayne is a Vigil Honor member of the Order of the Arrow. He is the father of two Eagle Scouts and a Girl Scout Gold Award recipient.



Treasurer - Tom Miller.

Tom currently resides in Westminster, CA and is an Associate Pastor of Redeemer Lutheran Church, Huntington Beach, CA (LCMS). He has completed an unexpired term for President elect and has been President the past two years. The father of three Eagle Scouts (David, Jon, and Sam), continued p.7

Treasurer – Tom Miller (from p. 6)

Tom has been active in BSA since 1968. An Eagle Scout, and Vigil Honor member of the Wiatava Lodge, he is currently a member at Large of the Golden West District Committee, having previously served numerous leadership positions in the Cub Scout, Scouts BSA, and Sea Scout programs. He served as Scoutmaster for the Orange County Council Spring Wood Badge course in 2015. He was co-creator of the Game Design Merit Badge and coordinated that booth at the 2013 and 2017 National Jamborees. He staffed the Faith and Beliefs area at the 2019 World Jamboree and the 2023 National Jamboree. He has been recognized with the Silver Beaver award, the God and Service Award, and the Lamb Award. His wife, Karen, is a rostered teacher (emeritus) and has staffed numerous Wood Badge courses. He currently splits his time between his roles as Pastor, Adjunct Professor of Entrepreneurship at CSUF, and his own consulting practice (Persuasive Business Plans). He looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve as an Executive Board member for NLAS.



Member-at-Large - Aaron Rogahn

Aaron lives in Davisburg, Michigan and is an engineer for GM, specializing in Hydrogen Fuel Cell engine development. He is also a lifelong scout. Aaron began his scouting career in 1982 as a Tiger Cub and worked to the rank of Eagle Scout. During that time, he also earned the God and Me, God and Family and Lutheran Living Faith religious emblems.

Aside from work, Aaron spends his spare time as an assistant scout master for Troop 192 in Davisburg and an antique preservation volunteer at the R.E. Olds Transportation Museum in Lansing, MI. Before moving

to the troop, Aaron was a den leader for 8 scouts, starting at Tiger rank to Arrow of Light. During that time, five of them earned the God and Family religious emblem. Not only did the children grow in their faith, so to did their parents.



Member-at-Large - James C. Whitehead

As a past president of the NLAS, Jim views Scouting as one of the tools his church uses to accomplish its mission in the community. Jim and his wife Sonya are members of Providence Lutheran Church in Holland, Ohio where he serves as Chartered Organization Representative. He also chairs the Advisory Board of the Erie Shores Council.

A current member of the BSA National Religious Relationships Committee, Jim's background includes eighteen years as a professional Scouter, as well as unit positions in Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting and Exploring/Venturing, district and council committees. Jim has been an adviser for 15 Philmont treks, 2 Seabase adventures and 2 Summit experiences. He has served on staff for Wood Badge, nine National Jamborees, BSA National Camping School and 4 Scouting in the Lutheran Church conferences at the Philmont Training Center. He earned the God and Country Award as a Scout and received the Lamb Award in 2012 and the National Duty to God Award in 2021.

Through the years Jim has held several volunteer positions in his church congregations including Religious Emblems Mentor, Congregation Council and President. Other community organizations for which he has volunteered include Alpha Phi Omega; the Jaycees; the Rotary Club; the National Exchange Club; Habitat for Humanity and as a 9-gallon Red Cross Blood Donor.

Jim and Sonya are the parents of three sons, all Eagle Scouts.

NLAS Board

NLAS Officers

President:	Tom Miller	ocnslt@gmail.com
President-Elect, Nominations and Bylaws:	Kristin Rogahn	Kristin.rogahn@gmail.com
Secretary:	Wayne Stuckey	wstuckey.nlas@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Phill Lawonn	plawonn33@outlook.com
Member at Large:	Aaro Froese	
Member at Large:	Mark Trivilino	TMA41@yahoo.com
ELCA Representative:	Reid Christopherson	reidchris@alliancecom.net
LCMS Representative:	Rev. Mark Kiessling	mark.kiesling@lcms.org

Ex-Officio

Pastoral Advisor:	Rev. Dana Narring	
Past President:	Phill Lawonn	plawonn33@outlook.com
Parliamentarian:	Ronald Adolphi, PhD.	

Standing Chairs

Publications:	Marti Jernberg	mjscouter@aol.com
Membership:	Robert Moreno	membership.nlas@gmail.com
	Ben Wheeler	benjamin.wheeler@scouting.org
Webmaster:	Ryan Emblem	ryanemblem@gmail.com
Associations:	Open	
Recognition:	Judi Miller	millerj1959@comcast.net
Chaplaincy:	Rev. Richard Egtvedt	chaplain@nlas.org

Special Committees

NLAS Lead Chaplain:	Rev. Richard Egtvedt	chaplain@nlas.org
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Certificates Available

Upon request, the NLAS Recognition Committee offers a recognition certificate to youth and adults who have achieved Lutheran or Scouting awards. Complete the form on the NLAS website (one submission per award) and NLAS will recognize you or your scout with an NLAS Certificate of Commendation.



All current registered members should watch for your ballot—via email—in May 2024

NLA Four Star Scholarship

Amount: Two (2) \$500.00 scholarships will be awarded annually by NLAS

Eligibility: Open to all youth registered with American Heritage Girls, Girl Scouts of the USA, or Boy Scouts of America who have successfully earned four (4) P.R.A.Y. Program Awards and are seniors in High School. Scholarships are for post-secondary education and will be paid directly to the designated institution.

Criteria for consideration:

1. P.R.A.Y Awards: Earning the following: 1) either Jesus & Me or God & Me, 2) God & Family, 3) God & Church, and 4) God & Life.
2. Congregational activities: Summary of participation in home congregation such as confirmation education, youth group activities, or church sponsored programs. In addition:
 - A 500-1000 word faith statement from applicant.
 - Letter of Recommendation from Pastor of home congregation.
3. Academics: High School transcript reflecting a minimum of six (6) semesters of academic achievement that states unweighted and weighted GPA.
4. Summary of Extra-Curricular activities/awards:

Summary of activities (such as athletics, drama, robotics, band, or choir) and awards (such as varsity letter(s), NHS, or John Philip Sousa award).

5. Scouting program: Summary of participation years and highest rank achieved (such as Gold Award, Stars & Stripes Award, Eagle Scout rank).

Qualifying Institutions: Accredited Junior Colleges, Colleges, Universities, or Vocational Schools. Awarded scholarship funds will be paid directly to the institution in the name of the recipient for tuition costs only. Funds cannot be applied to books, room & board, or travel expenses.

Application Process:

- Applications may be submitted to NLAS from January 1 to May 1, 2024.
- Review by NLAS will be completed by May 15, 2024.
- Recommended recipients will be approved by NLAS Board by June 1, 2024.
- Recipients will be notified by June 15, 2024.



Council-level Duty to God Award.

Shortly after the National Duty to God Award was established in 2016 to recognize transformational leadership in promoting Duty to God at the national level, applications began arriving for Scouters who were doing exceptional work at the council level. The need for a council-level award similar to the National award was recognized.

The BSA National Religious Relationships Committee announced at the Duty to God Breakfast of the National Annual Meeting on 31 May the establishment of a *Council Duty to God Award*. The Council Duty to God Award was created to recognize those registered Scouters who have demonstrated an exemplary history of transformational leadership in supporting and promoting the spiritual foundation of Scouting at the local Council level. The award is ready to kick off for the 2024 year,



with information and nomination application available at the Duty to God BSA web site <http://bit.ly/3LqUtjB>

An unlimited number of nominations can be submitted to any Council each year, but a maximum of two

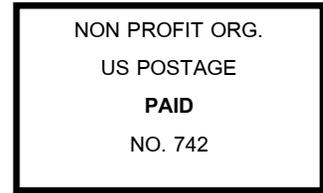
Council Duty to God Awards per year may be awarded by 100 and 200 level councils and a maximum of one Council Duty to God Award per year may be awarded by 300, 400, and 500 level councils.

The NRRC suggests that the Council Duty to God Award presentation should be conducted with the highest level of honor at a council event (such as the council's Silver Beaver recognition) or a religious emblem ceremony of the recipient's faith. Each recipient should receive recognition worthy of the service rendered on Scouting's behalf.



A Publication of National Lutheran Association on Scouting

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUEST-

IN THIS ISSUE

Of Interest: National Day of Prayer, Scout Sunday, Lamb Award, Best Practices in Ministry, Eagles in Action, Board Candidate Bios. **Spread the Word:** Philmont Conference, Council Duty to God Award, NLAS 4-Star Scholarship, NLAS Certificates. **President's Perspective:** Tom Miller. **NLAS Board Meeting Notes**

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR SUMMER ISSUE: JULY 1, 2024



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