



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

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WWW.NLAS.ORG

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C'mon, we'd "deer-ly" love for you to join us for the "Scouting in the Lutheran Church" conference, July 6-12 at the Philmont Training Center!

Check out these six reasons why you should attend:

#6 The Setting:

The **Philmont Training Center**, nestled at the edge of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains of northeastern New Mexico is the national volunteer training center for the Boy Scouts of America. You can enjoy sunrise over the plains and mountain sunsets. Celebrating its 75th Anniversary in 2025, PTC provides a unique environment for training volunteers, creating leaders, and hosting family-friendly experiences and adventures.



#3 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.



#2 The NLAS National Annual Meeting: Our association's annual meeting will be held on Monday evening during our conference. This will feature updates and reports on association activities, committees and plans.

#1 Our topics include: *The National Picture - Duty to God and Scouting; Duty to God in Your Council; Scouting as a Resource for Your Congregation; P.R.A.Y. and the Religious Emblems Program; Unit and Adult Recognitions; Making Scout Sunday Meaningful; Organizing Scouting Units; Selecting Quality Leaders; Sharing Our Faith with Scouts; Unit, Council and Event Chaplaincy; Staffing the 2026 National Jamboree.*

#5 Family Program: PTC 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.



#4 Evening Activities:

Every evening there are fun activities for you and your family: Western Night, Evening Craft Center opportunities, Cobbler Night, Movie Night, and Ice Cream Night, not to mention Opening and Closing Campfire each week. Don't forget your Western clothes and hat for Tuesday night's Buffalo Barbecue and Western Night games and dance.



Our aim is to help participants better understand how to use Scouting as a resource for their congregations.



For full registration information, log on to:

www.philmontscoutranch.org/ptc/

Come . . .

Join the party and share the peace

Upcoming Events

MAKE YOUR PLANS FOR SCOUT SUNDAY

This year, Scout Sunday is on February 2 (always the Sunday before Scouting America's birthday on the 8th). If February 2 does not work for your unit or church, Scouting America encourages you to choose a different Sunday.

Girl Scout Sunday is March 9. The GSUSA website has some suggestions for prayers and ways to observe this day with you units and families.

Whether Scouting America or Girl Scouts, try to find ways your unit can celebrate this special day and help your Scouts meet their Duty to God requirements. This can be as simple as worshipping

together as a unit or as involved as you would like to get. At a minimum, try not to schedule campouts on this weekend so that Scouts and Scouters and leaders have the opportunity to worship in uniform. Units that are chartered to churches should make an extra effort to be a visible presence in church on Scout Sunday and make sure that it is mentioned in the bulletin or newsletter.

After the event, please send an article and/or pictures to mjscouter@aol.com for inclusion in an upcoming issue of *Lutheran Scouting*.

RELIGIOUS EMBLEMS PROMOTION NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 27, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. CST. For Religious Emblems Promotion Night. Be sure to spread the word to other leaders, parents and Scouts.

The Promotion Night is a Zoom event intended to showcase how to start earning a religious emblem. Adult leaders, kids and parents around the country can join to learn how to begin earning the emblem for their faith. There will be an opening session with Jason Noland of P.R.A.Y. who will explain common faith group things for religious emblems such as the national brochure and uniform knots. There will be door prizes.

After the opening session everyone will move into a breakout room by the faith they want to learn about—it need not be their own faith. For example, a Christian Scoutmaster might want to find out how to guide a Jewish Scout to begin earning his/her *Nir Tamid*. Once the session is over, that concludes the event.

Registration is open at dutytogodbsa.org/ For more information, contact your Religious Relations Committee or the National Religious Relations Committee of Scouting America.



HERE'S A WAY TO MAKE DUTY TO GOD COME ALIVE FOR YOUR SCOUTS!

We all know the **Scout Oath** begins with "I will do my best to do my Duty to God"...and the 12th Point of the **Scout Law** is "A Scout is Reverent."



But what other emphasis do we give **Duty to God** in our units?

Sponsored by BSA's National Religious Relationships Committee, the first **Scouts Read Sacred Texts** worldwide event

greatly exceeded everyone's expectations. On May 2, 2024, nearly 3700 youth from 177 councils participated, combining to read sacred texts of their faiths for a total of 855 hours. While

most Scouts read at home with their families, some Councils or units had events that included Scouts of different faiths reading the sacred texts. Some of these were broadcast on YouTube. In addition to the United States, we had Scouts from nine foreign countries participate. **Scouts had never done this before. We made history!**

This event will be repeated on May 1, 2025. We are inviting youth from all faiths to join us.

- All youth are encouraged to read on the evening of **May 1** (or any convenient time that week).

continued on p. 6



We want **YOU**

To join our 2026

National Jamboree



The countdown has begun!

Our booth commitment is signed!

You're invited to join us!

In just 18 short months, Scouting America's 2026 National Jamboree will kick off at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia! Once again, the National Lutheran Association on Scouting will represent the Lutheran faith with a booth in the Duty to God and Country area. Now we need to secure a staff to share our story with Jamboree participants, fellow staff and visitors . . . that's where **YOU** come in!

- In our booth, we talk about the Lutheran faith, religious emblems, adult awards and other topics. We also have a hands-on activity to help convey our message.
 
- This year, we especially want to have a few youth staff (16 - 20) - older Scouts, Venturers, Sea Scouts. (reduced fee!).
- For more info, contact NLAS President Kristen Rogahn (nlas.kristin@gmail.com) or Past Presidents Tom Miller (occnslt@gmail.com) or Jim Whitehead (jcwscouter@sbcglobal.net).
- To have adequate coverage, we need 8 to 10 booth staff. This will let us make sure everyone has ample time off to see the Jamboree.
- Staff can register for the full Jamboree (7/19-31), or for half-sessions (7/19-25 or 7/25-31).
- Adult staff (21+) must be registered Scouting volunteers.



For full staff registration info, log onto: <https://jamboree.scouting.org/staff/>



NLAS 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 Scouting 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:

1. Applications may be submitted to NLAS from January 1 to May 1, 2025.
2. Review by NLAS will be completed by May 15, 2025.
3. Recommended recipients will be approved by NLAS Board by June 1, 2025.
4. Recipients will be notified by June 15, 2025.



Council-level Duty to God Award.

Similar to the National *Duty to God Award*, the Council *Duty to God Award* was created by the BSA National Religious Relationships Committee 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. Information and nomination applications are available at the Duty to God BSA web site <http://bit.ly/3LqUtbj>

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



imum 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.

Build-it-Yourself Religious Emblems Tabletop Display Kits

Have you ever wanted to explain the Religious Emblems at an event, or talk about your Lutheran faith to youth? Is making a nice Religious Emblems display too hard? NLAS is pleased to present two build-it-yourself tabletop displays. The free downloadable kit includes two images that are sized perfectly for a 36" x 48" tri-fold project board, and a list of links to downloadable documents for display or handouts. A third display is also available that explains Scouting as a Congregational Ministry.

Download one of the displays and send the image to your vendor of choice for printing on adhesive backed vinyl (costs about \$30). Place the vinyl image on your own display board (~\$10 at your office supply store), and you're ready to go! You can also select and print the documents you wish to hand out (or hand out the list of links).

The kits are downloadable from <https://bit.ly/3ZkLZQF> or the NLAS website Resources page <https://nlas.org/program-resources/>.

National Lutheran Association on Scouting

Religious Emblems

Grades K-1

Grades 2-3

Grades 4-6

Grades 6-8

Grades 9-12

National Lutheran Association on Scouting

For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey him
— Martin Luther

Working with the Offices of Youth Ministry of

- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

...to encourage growth of faith in youth through the Religious Emblems and chaplaincy programs

...to encourage Lutheran congregations and schools to extend their ministry to children, youth, and families using the programs of our partner youth serving agencies

Boy Scouts of America

Girl Scouts of the USA

American Heritage Girls

...to encourage the partner agencies to emphasize growth in faith in their youth programs

National Lutheran Association on Scouting

Scholarship

NLAS 4-Star Scholarship

Unit Recognition

Lutheran Recognition of Excellence

Adult Leader Recognition

Servant of Youth (3 years service+)

Lutheran Lamb (10 years service+)

NLAS tri-fold poster A.png is an image such as NLAS might use to witness to the Christian faith in Lutheran terms, such as at the BSA National Jamboree Duty to God and Country exhibits.

President's Perspective



My friends in Christ,

What a glorious time we have shared with family and friends. Advent has come, Christ was born, and we have celebrated each moment together as Christians. We share the news of Christ's birth at Christmas, but it usually stops at the new year. I feel like we, as Christians, do that with Lent as well. We are so excited about Christ's resurrection, but it only lasts for a short while, and we move on to the next spiritual high.

That is life, we have highs and lows throughout the year, and we celebrate the spiritual highs, but lament the lows. It is during this time we start praying for God to take this from me, help me to move forward, please Lord get me out of this situation? We praise God through the wonderful times but beg for him to get us out of the struggle. Those lows, or struggles are there for a reason. If we did not have them, would we appreciate the good, would we praise him during the blessings? Probably not.

Joshua 24:15, "But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living, but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Joshua chose to serve God, and we all know the story of Job. Job had everything taken from him and was tested by Satan himself, but he still chose to fear and love God. How would each of us do for that type of test?

I want to make God a priority in my family. Not just a "Christmas, Easter, Sunday" type of faith. More like a "through thick and thin," "come hell or high water," as long as we all shall live type of faith. We will praise him through the struggles that life has to offer and praise him when all is grand with the world. Until we are truly able to say, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." God stands for us each day, and it is high time we did the same.

May God's blessings abound in the New Year,

God be with you,
Kristin Rogahn
NLAS President

SCOUTS READ SACRED TEXTS (FROM P. 2)

- Youth, families and/or faith leaders decide the specific texts to read.
- Youth are asked to read for **at least 15 minutes** but that is up to each individual.
- All youth serving organizations and faith youth groups are invited to participate.
- Volunteer to organize and promote this event in your council and other youth organizations.
- Add this event on your council, youth or faith organization calendars as soon as possible.
- Contact and promote this event to other youth serving organizations and faith groups.
- Post the event on social media.

How can you help make this happen?

We've posted the registration link on the N.L.A.S. website. Meanwhile:

Like last year, a commemorative patch will be available to purchase. Questions? contact: scoutsreadsacredtexts@gmail.com

NLAS Board

NLAS Officers

President:	Kristin Rogahn	nlas.kristin@gmail.com
President-Elect:	Ben Wheeler	benjmin.wheeler@scouting.org
Secretary:	Wayne Stuckey	wstuckey.nlas@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Tom Miller	occnslt@gmail.com
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ELCA Representative:	Reid Christopherson	reidchris@alliancecom.net
LCMS Representative:	Rev. Mark Kiessling	mark.kiesling@lcms.org

Ex-Officio

Pastoral Advisor:	Rev. Dana Narring	faithlutheranpg@gmail.com
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Standing Chairs

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Chaplaincy:	Rev. Richard Egtvedt	2kingsrick@gmail.com

Special Committees

NLAS Lead Chaplain:	Rev. Richard Egtvedt	2kingsrick@gmail.com
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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.



From the Editor

Here are the submission deadlines for upcoming issues of *Lutheran Scouting*:

- Winter - January 1
- Spring - April 1
- Summer - July 1
- Fall - October 1

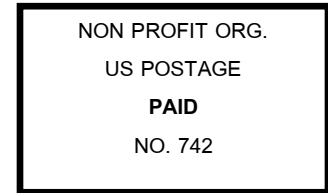
Please submit articles and/or photos for upcoming issues by the dates listed. These are intended to be hard deadlines, however, if there is a reason for you to delay an article, please contact me either by email (mjscouter@aol.com) or phone (847-337-0903). Of course, you can submit articles or pictures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

I would like to see submissions for "Eagles in Action" or "Scout Sunday Activities" columns.



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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

IN THIS ISSUE

Scouting in the Lutheran Church Conference, Scout Sunday, Religious Emblems Promo Night, Scouts Read Sacred Texts, Jamboree Recruitment, NLAS 4-Star Scholarship, Duty to God Award, Build-it Yourself Display, President's Perspective: Kristin Rogahn, Board Members & Council, NLAS Certificates,

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTICLES FOR SPRING ISSUE: MARCH 1, 2025



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