



LUTHERAN SCOUTING

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www.nlas.org

SPRING 2017



2017 NLAS Annual Meeting

Plan on joining the 2017 NLAS Annual National Meeting which will be held on July 14th at 1:30 pm at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1600 Kanawha Blvd East on the Kanawha

River in Charleston, WV. The church is less than a half mile from the West Virginia state capitol building. Trinity is just over an hour from the Summit Bechtel Reserve via I-64 and is literally “on the way to the Jamboree” for staff

who report the next day. Our thanks to the congregation of Trinity and our friends from the West Virginia - Western Maryland Synod of the ELCA for hosting the annual meeting!

NLAS Annual Membership Renewals and Dues Increase

Starting in April it will be time to once again renew your annual NLAS membership. To help us better carry out our mission for the first time in many years, our Executive Board has voted an increase for 2017-2018. Basic memberships are being raised from twelve to twenty dollars and couples rates have increased to thirty.

After receiving a few suggestions from you, we're also excited to announce two new options. In addition to (\$20) Basic, (\$30) Couples, and (\$350) Life, we're also including one for Youth (\$10) and a “Partial” Life (five yearly payments at \$75 each year). The Contributor and Century options have been discontinued.

Renewal notices will be mailed in April reflecting our new dues structure. Every member that renews for another year will receive a Lutheran “Be Loud, Wear it Proud” medallion for adornment on their uniform pocket. What a deal!

New NLAS Commemorative Belt Buckle

In the early days of NLAS a commemorative belt buckle was designed and for many years presented to new Life Members as a gift of appreciation when they joined at that level of giving. These vintage pewter buckles, produced around 1983, were engraved with our former organizational name *National Lutheran Association of Scouters* and were numbered.

Recently we exhausted this supply and needed to re-order. The original manufacturer no longer produced these items so a new manufacturer had to be located, Thomas Bates- a BSA licensed vendor. In addition to updating the engraving, the

buckle was redesigned with our current logo and new stock ordered to continue the practice of presenting this token of appreciation to new Life members when they come on board.



“But wait a minute” you’re saying, “I am a current Life member with the old buckle design. How can I get one of

the new ones?”

The Executive Board has decided that existing Life members may purchase the new design for \$20. That covers the “at cost” price of the buckle and shipping. If you’re a current Life member and interested please contact Trent Christian tmchristiannlas@gmail.com for more details.



Life Members Too!

All current Life members will be mailed a record update request notice this spring along with their Lutheran Medallion. Please review your records and let us know if you’ve moved or changed contact information. While no dues are collected from Life members (that’s why it’s called a Life membership) voluntary gifts and donations are welcome.



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

FAKE NEWS! BEWARE!

Fake news. These days it seems to be the center of conversation for the TV talking heads. President Trump is upset about it, and everyone seems to have been offended or suffered micro-aggression by it at some time in their lives apparently causing untold psychological trauma. Heck, college students even need a "safe space" to combat this heinous outburst--at least that's what is being reported.

I remember when "Fake News" was the *National Inquirer* that you read while waiting at the checkout counter. But as you know, Christians, we've been subjected to Fake News since day one. Literally, read Genesis Chapter 1, and the downhill roll of fake news just keeps getting stronger and more abusive.

St. Peter in his 2nd letter talks about cleverly devised myths; Herod dealt with what he thought was unsavory news by killing innocent children. So what's new? The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us there's nothing new under the sun.

As Christians the REAL fake news we have to be on guard against is not some politician babbling on about some mundane pet peeve but the very existence and proclamation of the Holy Gospel--the REAL good news.

Elements are working overtime to try

and choke the Gospel proclamation from our society. Even so-called Christian Churches here in Lincoln, Nebraska, a very churchy city, which have their doctrinal formulations on their web pages, deny virtually every doctrine of historic Christianity. But boy do they ever play to the mighty social gospel! That's what people want to hear--how good and welcoming their Church is. They are loathe to be confronted with their sins and their need for a Savior. In reality they don't really want to deal with Jesus the Christ of the Eternal and Creator God; they want to hear the FAKE NEWS of universalism, which plays better to sensitive ears.

Jesus, His disciples, and the Church's Saints didn't cut people any slack when it came to the fake news gospel. Their maintaining that there is only one way to eternal life--through Jesus Christ--got most of them killed.

As a military Chaplain I had to work with other Chaplains regardless of their religious convictions. Once a Muslim Chaplain (a former Baptist minister if you can believe it) told me that Christians, especially Missouri Synod Lutherans, were narrow minded because we thought that only Christians would get to heaven, thereby discounting the wonderful

promises of the Muslim faith.

Since I was the highest placed Chaplain in theater, and a very, very senior Colonel, I didn't cut these fake news guys much slack, e.g. I wasn't overly attuned to the Muslim chaplain's personal needs for acceptance so I told him that he was dead wrong and that in MY CHRISTIAN HEAVEN only believers in Jesus Christ were welcome. If he had his own Muslim heaven he was welcome to it.

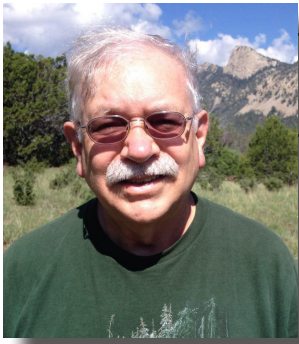
When we as Scouters participate in or lead "all faiths services" we are not proclaiming the REAL GOOD NEWS but abrogating it in favor of getting along. Especially as Lutherans walking for 500 years in the footsteps of Father Martin Luther we can never hold that the GOOD NEWS of the Christian Gospel is equal to or comparable with other non-Christian beliefs. You don't need to get nasty about it (like I do -- but I'm a curmudgeon), just don't be blind to FAKE NEWS! Be ready to testify to the REAL NEWS that is only found in Jesus Christ!

And all God's people said, "Amen."

*Chaplain (COLONEL) James Hoke
US Army (ret)
NLAS Chaplain*



WATCH FOR UPCOMING NEWS OF THE 2018 LUTHERAN CONFERENCE AT THE PHILMONT TRAINING CENTER.



Wayne Stuckey
President, NLAS

Let's see... sunscreen, rain jacket, 2 field uniform shirts, 5-6 Scout shorts, 15 pairs of Scout socks!

Oh, hi! I was just running through my packing list for the 2017 National Scout Jamboree. That's July 19-28 for participants at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia, and July 15-29 for staff. Speaking of staff – NLAS will have a Lutheran exhibit in the Duty to God and Country area in the Scott Summit Center. The knot crosses will be back. We'll be teaching visitors how to tie knot crosses that can be worn on the right pocket button on their field uniform. That always generates a lot of interest and causes folks to stop and talk for a while. We talk about the religious emblems and how they help a Scout grow in his faith and express his Duty to God. We always recognize the religious emblem square knot and ask what program the Scout did to receive it. It seems to give Scouts and Scouters alike both pride and comfort to have their Lutheran identity recognized at the Jamboree. This year we will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 topics for debate to the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenburg. There will be other activities as well, maybe even a chance for a "selfie" with Martin Luther!

Quite often, Lutheran Scouts will bring a friend, and other Scouts just wander through the area on their own, stopping at various exhibits. Often these Scouts have no real religious identity. Sometimes they ask what Lutherans believe. That's an opportunity to stand there in front of Luther's Rose in the midst of the hubbub of the Jamboree and share our faith with them. That's a real blessing to us, and I hope to the youth who ask.

President's Perspective

Happenings around NLAS

About staff again... As of this writing, there are still openings for NLAS exhibit staff and Lutheran chaplains. The BSA fee for the full staff session is \$850, or \$425 for half sessions. Special full session rate of \$425 for staff aged 18 – 25 as of July 18, 2017. If you are an NLAS member and BSA Scouter looking for an opportunity to experience the 2017 National Scout Jamboree through service at the NLAS exhibit, please reply wstuckey.nlas@gmail.com. If you are ordained clergy with experience in counseling youth and desire to serve as chaplain for the Jamboree, please contact the 2017 Lutheran Headquarters Chaplain, Pastor Sherman Martell, at shermanmartell@sbcglobal.net. A Jamboree chaplain must be in good physical shape, willing to work within a team structure, be a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America, and receive the approval of the local Boy Scout Council Executive. Each chaplain selected will receive a stipend to



assist with the registration fee.

To extend the trip by a day, we will hold the 2017 NLAS Annual National Meeting at 1:30 PM on July 14 at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Charleston, WV. Trinity is located at 1600 Kanawha Blvd East, less than ½ mile from the WV State Capitol. This is just over 1 hour from the Summit

Bechtel Reserve via I-64, making it the ideal place to overnight "on the way to the Jamboree" for staff who report the next day. Plan on joining us at the NLAS Annual Meeting.

Other exciting things are happening too. We will begin rolling out the new NLAS medallions to paid members during this spring membership renewal period. We will begin sending out our new NLAS belt buckle, based on the NLAS logo that was introduced last year, to new Life members, and we will make them available to existing Life members for cost and postage. Display your Lutheran identity!

In February, three members of the NLAS executive board attended the BSA National Committee Meetings in Irving, TX. Dr. Ron Adolphi, Cole Petersen, and I attended the Religious Relationships Committee meeting. Cole and I broke out to the Duty to God working session. Dr. Ron chairs the Literature Development and Review working committee. After the meetings, we shared dinner with Jason Noland, the new CEO of P.R.A.Y., where we had enjoyable conversation about the relationship and shared mission and work between NLAS and P.R.A.Y.

Next up is the 2017 BSA National Annual Meeting in Orlando in May. I guess that means I have to start another packing list. Umm... 2 field uniform shirts, Scout pants, Scout socks...



500 years and Counting - Lutheran Churches



Thanks to Kristin Rogahn for sharing these pictures of the Scout Sunday celebration by Troop 364 at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Newton, IA which show the active roles of these young men in the worship.



James Groce shared the tradition of Scout Sunday services as illustrated by these two photographs at Heavenly Host Lutheran Church, School and Early Childhood Center. They are the chartering partner for BSA Troop 20, Cookeville, Tennessee, Middle Tennessee Council. The left photo shows Pastor Andrew Smith and Scoutmaster Daniel Buckner on February 26, 2014 and the right photo is of the most recent celebration on February 26, 2017. Scouts assisted in readings to include Scout Law. Services were lead by Pastor Andrew Smith.



Scouts from Pack 102 and Troop 201 celebrated Scout Sunday on Sunday, February 26 at Ascension Lutheran Church in North Olmsted, Ohio. Both units are chartered by the Kiwanis Club of Olmsted Falls. Scouts participated in worship, read lessons and ushered.



Celebrate Scout Sunday Across the Country



American Heritage Girls KS1112 celebrated Scout Sunday at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Hutchinson KS and their Troop Coordinator, Wendy Ciblis, shared these pictures showing the girls in their many roles. You might recognize the blonde in the back row of the group picture who is the face of AHG on the NLAS website!

Town Line Lutheran Church's Scout Sunday Service was on February 5, 2017 and the photo was submitted by Jim Heinrich, Religious Emblem Coordinator, Red Jacket District, Scoutmaster Troop 160, Greater Niagara Frontier Council, Boy Scouts of America

Mr. Heinrich shared that Scout Sunday is run by the youth in the church and represents 6 different scouting units, a format used for over 30 years. The Scouts performed the duties of ushering, greeting, acolytes, lesson readers and communion assistants and received a Scout Sunday patch. Six of the scouts in the picture have earned at least 1 of the God and Country Awards.



Lutheran Church of the Reformation - RIC of West Long Branch, NJ (Monmouth Council, Boy Scouts of America). Brian J Valentino shared that while they are the only Scouting family, they were proud to celebrate with their Congregation.



Dave Mountney shared the Scout Sunday celebration at Zion Lutheran Church, Oldwick, NJ, the chartered organization of Pack 199 and Troop 199 (Washington Crossing Council, BSA). The SPL read the lessons, and all Scouts sang "This Little Light of Mine" to accompany the Gospel reading on February 5th.



Four-Star Recipients

Congratulations to Zachary, Miranda and Kristopher of Our Savior Lutheran in Newton, IA who received their God and Life emblems in September. Zachary and Kristopher were recognized as Four Star Recipients. Kristopher was unable to attend the ceremony as he Joined the Navy in August.



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Mary Wangerin to receive Silver Antelope

Mary, the NLAS's immediate past president, will be recognized in May at the BSA National Annual Meeting in Orlando. From Savage, MN in the Northern Star Council, Mary is a very active religious emblems counselor, having awarded more than 500 in a dozen councils. She is also very active in training parents and unit leaders of Scouts with special needs. You

can find a video she produced at the Northern Star Council's web site (northernstarbsa.org). When on the site, click on 'program levels' on the top banner. Then just scroll to 'scouts with special needs,' and you'll see the tab in the middle of the page. This video has been viewed from coast to coast, and it's real and unscripted. Worth your viewing time – you will not be disappointed!

Mary is also active with the American Heart Association, promoting heart health for women, and this photo can be seen on billboards all over the Twin Cities.

The Silver Antelope recognizes volunteer service, much as does the Silver Beaver, which is awarded by the local council. The difference is that the Silver Antelope recognizes service beyond the council level and is awarded by the region.

The good news for all of us is that wherever she goes, Mary is always promoting the NLAS. Thank you, Mary, and congratulations!



Wayne Stuckey To Receive Silver Beaver

Wayne, President of the NLAS, will be recognized in April at the Baltimore Area Council Annual Recognition Dinner.

From Oakland, MD, Wayne is a very active Scouter. He has served for six years as a Scoutmaster and is active in his council's youth leadership training & NYLT. He wears 3 Wood Badge Beads, is a Vigil Honor Member in the Order of the Arrow and wears the Lutheran Adult Religious Award.

Wayne strongly advocates the religious emblems program which promotes growth of faith in youth. He served as counselor for the God and Life award for Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. Wayne staffed the Lutheran exhibits at the 2010 and 2013 National Scout Jamborees and is coordinating the 2017 exhibit. As President of the

NLAS, Wayne sits on the Religious Relationships Committee of the BSA National Committee as well as serving as a member of the Protestant Committee.

Thank you for all your service and congratulations Wayne!





In Memoriam

Francis H. Cliffe

The NLAS received notification that longtime member, Mr. Cliffe passed away at the age of 83 in October, 2015.

Originally from Beloit, WI and a resident of South Beloit, IL since 1953, Francis Cliffe was a U.S. Marine veteran who served from 1951 until 1954, was honorably discharged and then continued serving in the Reserves from 1954 until 1959.

He was a member of the Boy Scout Troop #605 since 1963 and was still very active in the troop. He was also a very active member of Faith Lutheran Church where he was a council member, on the Property Committee, confirmation teacher and youth leader. NLAS records show that he received the Lamb Award in 2006 and was member of Sinnissippi-Glaciars Edge local Lutheran Scouters.

The NLAS extends sympathy to all those who mourn Francis' passing as well as thankfulness for his NLAS membership for many years and his continued dedication to his congregation and Scout Troop.

Charles Duerk

Longtime NLAS member, Mr. Duerk joined the Church triumphant in 2016 at the age of 91.

Born in Defiance, Ohio, Charles lived his entire life in his hometown except for his military service during WWII and Korea with the Army Air Corps.

He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and there was presented with the Lutheran Lamb award in 1960. His lifelong passion was Boy Scouts. He served as Scoutmaster of Troop 75, chartered at St. John Lutheran, from its inception in 1956 until his passing.

Memorial donations may be given to the church, Defiance College Duerk Scholarship or the Boy Scouts of America.

While rejoicing with gratitude in his lengthy NLAS membership and his lifetime of dedication to Scouting, the NLAS extends sympathy to all those who mourn Charles' passing.

James McConnell

St Louis resident, NLAS member and member of Peace Lutheran Church, James McConnell passed in April, 2016.

NLAS records show that he received the Lamb Award in 2006 and that he attended a Lutheran Scouting Conference at Philmont, NM in 1996. His dedication to church, youth and Scouting is evidenced by the request of donations to be made to St. Louis Boy Scouts or the Peace Lutheran Church early childhood program.

While celebrating with joy James' commitment to the church and Scouting, the NLAS also extends sympathy to those who mourn his passing.



Send NLAS News Items

The deadline to submit articles for the next issue is June 16, 2017. Send Association and other news for the *Lutheran Scouting* newsletter to Pam Ciccarello at eagle-snest0810@att.net. 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.

BSA 2017 National Jamboree NLAS Exhibit Logo Preview

Below are the logos for the NLAS exhibit in the Duty to God and Country area of the BSA 2017 National Jamboree. These reflect the theme of the 500th anniversary of the start of the Protestant Reformation.

LUTHERAN SCOUTING CELEBRATES 500 YEARS OF
THE REFORMATION 1517-2017





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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