

SCOUTING MINISTRY IN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*Train up a child in the way he should go
and when he is old he will not depart
from it.*

Proverbs 22:6

The office of Scouting and Civic Youth Serving Ministries has formal partnerships with the following organizations:



FIVE YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS THAT WE WORK WITH

- **Boys Scouts of America**
- **Girl Scouts of the USA**
- **Camp Fire USA**
- **4-H**
- **Big Brothers Big Sisters of America**

	BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA	GIRL SCOUTS OF THE U.S.A.	CAMP FIRE USA	4-H	BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS
Ages served	6-20	5-17	0-21	9-19	6-18
Population served	Boys, except Venturing (co-ed, ages 14-20)	Girls	Co-ed	Co-ed	Co-ed
Program emphasis	Youth (and parents)	Girls	Family orientation	Youth	Youth
Ministry opportunities with local churches	•Venturing – through Bronze Award •Scout Reach (inner city)	Girl Sports	*Club* concept (CFCG)	Secular education- computers, rural settings, etc.	Amachi
Religious emphasis	P.R.A.Y Awards (formerly God & Country)	P.R.A.Y. Awards All in Good Faith	P.R.A.Y. Awards	No national promotion of P.R.A.Y. Awards	consulting
Sponsor or charter agreements	Charter – eg., McDonald's	Sponsor agreements- optional (we encourage use of)	optional	N/A	Local "MOU" available
# of youth in UM churches	370,000	120,000	10,000	10,000	Targeted expansion
Special notes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Venturing -- great complement to UMY (camps, training, mission & ministry) •Scout Reach -- matches with Bishop's Initiative on Children & Poverty, 2001-2004 •Ongoing excellent relationship 	1999 Plan of Cooperation updated 2005 – currently experiencing major national and local council reorganization – 300 councils to 100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •2000 pilot project •2000 Plan of Agreement – updated 2005, major reorganization 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Separation of church & state issues •Declined "Memorandum of Understanding" 	2006 national partnership agreement signed. Amachi is coordinated through UMM-Conference Congregational Volunteer Coordinator (CCVC)

Awards and Recognition

Good Samaritan Award

Individual youth are nominated for this award by the local church.

Bishop's Award of Excellence

Boy Scout and Girl Scout troops, Camp Fire and 4-H clubs earn this award by meeting established requirements.

Adult Recognition

Adults should be recognized by being nominated for the following awards.

- Cross and Flame Award - given by the local church
- Torch Award - given by the conference
- Silver Torch Award - given for regional, national, or international service

Shepherd Church Charter Recognition

Recognize outstanding ministry within United Methodist churches.

Visit www.umscouting.org to download brochures.

P.R.A.Y.

The Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) program is an age-appropriate study series for youth.

- God and Me — grades 1-3
- God and Family — grades 4-5
- God and Church — grades 6-8
- God and Life — grades 9-12

www.praypub.org

What You Can Do

Celebrate a Scouting Ministry Sunday on the second Sunday in February or on a Sunday that suits your congregation.

Encourage Boy Scout Eagle and Girl Scout Gold Award candidates to develop projects with the church.

Organize P.R.A.Y. program classes for children and youth members in your local church.

Become a scouting ministry specialist.

Resources

Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/
Scouting Ministries, General Commission
on United Methodist Men
PO Box 340006
Nashville, TN 37203-0006
(615) 340-7145
www.umscouting.org



LIVES

IMPACT
*of children
and youth
in your
community*



Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries

Outreach ministry to children and youth

Scouting

"Scouting and the United Methodist Men are perfect partners. Each blesses the other. Men and women in this ministry help shape our impressionable youth."

Gil Hanke, General Secretary
General Commission on United Methodist Men

As your men's fellowship strives to make a difference in your community, consider using the following programs. These are sound, proven ways to instill values of character, citizenship and respect for others while developing a strong reverence of God, self respect and self reliance.



www.bsa.scouting.org

Chartered by Congress in 1916, the Boy Scouts of America emphasizes strong personal values, character, self-worth and usefulness, caring relationships, a desire to learn, and productive and creative use of time.

The program levels are:

- Tiger Cubs - age 6
- Cub Scouts - ages 7-10
- Boy Scouts - ages 11-17
- Venturing - ages 14-20 (co-ed)

www.girlscouts.org



The Girl Scouts of the USA, the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world, helps girls grow strong physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

The program levels are:

- Daisy Girl Scouts – ages 5-6
- Brownie Girl Scouts – ages 6-8
- Junior Girl Scouts – ages 8-11
- Cadette Girl Scouts – ages 11-14
- Senior Girl Scouts – ages 14-17

www.campfire.org



Camp Fire USA supports children and youth on their journey to adulthood with inclusive, youth-development programs that develop personal life skills, social responsibility, healthy lifestyles and leadership.

Programs include:

- Child care
- Camping and environmental education
- Absolutely Incredible Kid Day
- Clubs and mentoring opportunities
- Co-ed programs

www.bbbs.org

People of Faith mentoring children of promise.

Big Brothers Big Sisters' Amachi is the only congregation-based mentoring program in the United States to offer a proven and effective model for mentoring children who have an incarcerated parent.



The Need

Over 2.4 million of our children nationwide face a 70 percent probability of following their parents to prison. The caring members of your congregation can help break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration for the children who live right around the corner in your community.

Our Faith is in You.

You will join other congregations that share a vision of mentoring your community's most vulnerable children. Become a Big Brother or Big Sister and help an entire generation of our community's children become happy and productive citizens.

www.fourhcouncil.edu

The objective of 4-H remains: the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. 4-H serves youth ages 9-19 through a variety of methods:

- Organized clubs or individual members
- Special interest or short term groups
- School enrichment programs
- Camping and activities



Four Areas of Focus

UMC leaders have asked the church to focus on four areas of ministry, in a united effort to make disciples and reach the world for Christ.

Developing principled Christian leaders

Train UM scouting leaders for the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Train and equip scouting ministry specialists to serve in every district.

Train youth to be effective, caring leaders in church and community.

Creating new congregations and revitalizing existing ones

Awaken men, and build men spiritually as the primary means to revive congregations.

Train clergy and lay leaders in courses developed for effective discipleship in men.

Engaging in ministry with the poor

Train UM Men leaders to become advocates and friends of the poor, and eliminate the effects of poverty and racism.

Support the children of incarcerated parents through Amachi.

Support hunger relief efforts by the Society of St. Andrew.

www.endhunger.org

Combating the diseases of poverty by improving health globally

Direct UMC-sponsored scouting units in advocacy and fundraising efforts for Nothing But Nets and help eliminate malaria in our lifetime.

www.NothingButNets.net

Expand global hunger relief through the World Methodist Council men's affiliate and Stop Hunger Now.

www.stophungernow.org

Adult Leaders in United Methodist Scouting

Scouting Ministry Specialist

Scouting ministry specialists are members of the United Methodist Church who have an interest in helping local churches establish or expand their Scouting ministries. These volunteers help local churches consider Scouting as a ministry while serving as a communication liaison from the general church to the local church. Each SMS promotes training events, recognition awards, Scout Sunday, and support of the pastor. All interested candidates must be at least 18 years of age, hold membership in the UMC, show proof of Youth Protection or Safe Sanctuaries and Sexual Ethics training, and pay an annual registration fee. Ongoing training is provided.

Steps for Organizing a Unit

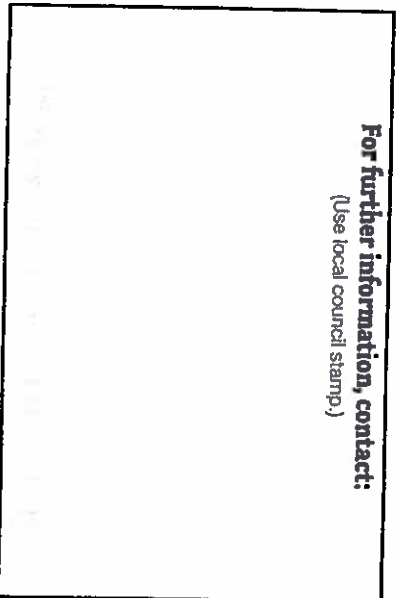
1. The BSA organizing committee (unit commissioner, district executive, and member of the district membership team) meets with the executive officer/head of the religious organization to introduce and inform the organization about Scouting.
2. Working with an assigned unit commissioner from the BSA district, the executive officer/head of the religious organization and its church membership officially adopt Scouting and select a chartered organization representative. The new-unit application is signed with a charter fee.
3. The BSA organizing committee continues to work with the executive officer/head of the religious organization and the chartered organization representative to help select volunteer adult key unit leadership and committee members and to develop a succession plan for future key leadership.
4. All new volunteer leaders are required to take Youth Protection training before submitting an application for registration. They are then to register with the BSA and complete their adult volunteer applications.

5. New volunteer leaders are to be trained immediately with Fast Start online training, unit budget planning, and unit program planning training.
6. The unit commissioner and district program committee help plan the new unit's program for one year.
7. The BSA organizing committee helps the religious organization with recruitment of local youth members.
8. New youth and their parents complete applications and fees for registration with the BSA.
9. New unit meetings are planned and begin.
10. The BSA organizing committee helps present the religious organization with its first charter at a formal ceremony of the organization.

Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting

P.O. Box 340006
Nashville, TN 37203-0006
Phone: 615-340-7145
Fax: 615-340-1770
E-mail: gcumm@gcumm.org
www.umscouting.org or www.gcumm.org

For further information, contact:
(Use local council stamp.)



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, Texas 75015-2079
<http://www.scouting.org>

SKU 522107



7 30176 30928 6
522-107 2011 Printing

Scout As Reverent



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BSA Mission Statement

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

The United Methodist Church and the Boy Scouts of America

The United Methodist Church has a rich history of sponsoring BSA troops because churches have found Scouting to be a successful way to minister to community youth and families.

Theological Foundation

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church, which means every church is interrelated through districts, annual conferences, and regions in the larger family of the denomination. *The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church* describes, among other things, the ministry and leadership of all United Methodist Christians, the essence of servant ministry and leadership, how to organize and accomplish that ministry, and how our connectional structure works. (pages 125-138).

Scouting: A United Methodist Church Outreach Ministry

"Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."
—Proverbs 22:6

Five Reasons to Establish or Expand Your Scouting Ministry

1. Scouting provides an outreach opportunity.

The mission of the United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (page 120, *Book of Discipline*).

Half the young people involved in Scouting have no church home. A Scout program offers an opportunity for your congregation to welcome young people and their families to your church, where they may be nurtured as disciples of Jesus Christ.

2. Scouting provides opportunities for spiritual growth.

Awards offered through Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) provide opportunities for church leaders to educate young people about the denomination and help them grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Four age-appropriate awards enable young people to grow in the faith.

3. Scouting provides a ministry to the community.

While many Scouts may never become part of your congregation, you are providing valuable experiences for young people in your neighborhood. Through Scouting for Food, Nothing But Nets, Eagle Scout projects, cleanup efforts, and other service initiatives, Scouts minister to their communities and the world.

4. Scouting is intergenerational.

Often, older adults and youth become isolated from one another. Scouting provides an opportunity for adults to become merit badge counselors, mentors, leaders, or committee members.

5. Scouting may be coeducational.

The Venturing program is for young men and women between the ages of 13 and 20. Its structure and activities complement your church's youth ministry. Local BSA councils offer the use of their youth-protection training, leadership education, and access to high-adventure activities in addition to low-cost liability and accident insurance for Venturing crews.

Awards and Recognition Programs for Local Churches

The Cross and Flame Award

This award recognizes adult leaders who have given exceptional service in the use and promotion of local Scouting programs. Three years of service is required.



The Good Samaritan Award

This award is to recognize children, youth, and young adults who serve others through outreach, humanitarian assistance, or advocacy. Recipients must be between the ages of 6 and 30.



The Shepherd Church Charter Recognition

This award honors churches that provide outstanding ministry to their communities through the BSA.



For information on related recognitions and awards, including the Torch Award, the Silver Torch Award, and the Bishop's Award of Excellence, please visit the website at www.umscouting.org.



Torch Award



Silver Torch Award



Bishop's Award of Excellence

P.R.A.Y. Awards

P.R.A.Y. awards are the religious program designed for use by the BSA and other youth agencies. However, any young person who is a member of a Sunday school class or other church group may use the P.R.A.Y. program, regardless of whether he or she is in Scouting. For more information, please visit www.praypub.org.

g Brothers Big Sisters is America's leader one-to-one youth service, with nearly a century of proven success in creating positive friendships that benefit children, churches, families, neighborhoods, and communities.



It's the friendship that makes the difference

Being an Amachi Big Brother or Big Sister is about friendship. There are wonderful outcomes—children matched with Big Brothers and Big Sisters are:

- 52% less likely to skip a day of school
- 46% less likely to start using illegal drugs
- 27% less likely to start drinking
- Less likely to lie to their parents
- More likely to have better relationships with peers

—Public/Private Ventures
Making a Difference
An Impact Study of Big Brothers Big Sisters



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Amachi

People of faith

**Children mentoring
of Promise**

What it
means to
your
congregation



Big Brothers Big Sisters





People of faith, mentoring children of promise

Amachi Big Brothers Big Sisters is the only congregationally based mentoring program in the United States to offer a proven and effective model for mentoring children of incarcerated parents.

The Need
Over 2.5 million children nationwide face a 70% probability of following their parent(s) to prison at some point. The caring members of your congregation can

help break the cycle of intergenerational incarceration for the children who live right around the corner in our community.

Our Faith is in You
You will join other congregations that share a vision of mentoring your community's children in need. Through a consortium of faith-based partnerships, and *People of Faith Mentoring Children of Promise*—the Amachi

motto—a whole generation of our community's children can become happy and productive citizens.

How it Works

Big Brothers Big Sisters provides proven, comprehensive support service to Amachi volunteers and to the families of the children. Each partner congregation helps recruit volunteers and hosts orientation and group gatherings. Big Brothers Big Sisters provides support that allows the congregation to focus on service.

Inspiration

The Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode Sr. is the Amachi champion and leader of the Philadelphia prototype. Goode challenges you to become a "tighthouse" in your community—through Amachi Big Brothers Big Sisters. His moving words are at right

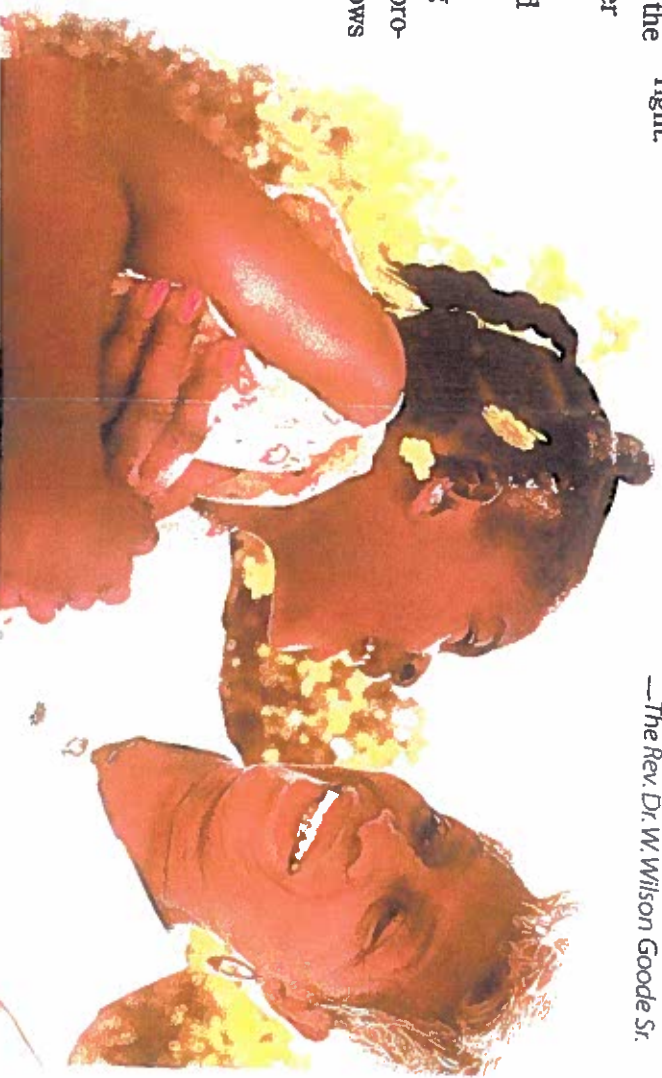


Big Brothers Big Sisters

Little Moments. Big Magic.™

Amachi is more than a program. It is the passionate response to the needs of children with one or both parents in prison. These children are invisible to most of us. While there are many programs to help those in prison, there are few viable programs to address the specific needs of the 'invisible' children.

—The Rev. Dr. W. Wilson Goode Sr.



TEN REASONS FOR SCOUTING AS A MINISTRY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

1. Outreach

2. Evangelism

**25% of scouts are United Methodist,
25% are from other faiths and 50%
are from UNCHURCHED
families....what a GREAT way for a
local pastor to grow his church...**

3. Intergenerational

**Older people can serve as mentors, merit badge
counselors, PRAY Award counselors, etc.
Older people have SO MUCH to give...**

4. Co-Educational

**Scouting can be a great complement to
UMYF....also, Venturing is a great co-ed
division of Boy Scouts of America.**

5. United Methodist Men

**UMM have traditionally been the backbone of
support for scout units.**

6. Mission

Service projects that scouts can focus on include hunger relief (Society of St. Andrew, for example), programs with at-risk youth, and Habitat for Humanity (building homes for low-income persons)

7. P.R.A.Y. Awards

An age appropriate study series that brings youth to a closer relationship and better understanding of his/her faith, church community and God.

8. Develop Servant Leaders

By nature of scouting projects, we can develop servant leaders for our church, community and God.

9. Intentionality

10. Save Souls!

Help scouting become a ministry of the local church like any other ministry (UMYF, etc.) It CAN be a ministry, not just another program!



WANTED:



Scouting Ministry Specialists

Have your experiences with scouting had a positive influence upon your life?

Have your children had enriching experiences with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Camp Fire USA or Big Brothers Big Sisters?

Are you interested in helping churches develop scouting ministries?

Would you like to inform churches about resources, awards and programs to strengthen their scouting ministries?



If so, please fill out the information below and mail to the address listed below.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Home Church _____

Mail to:

SMS

Director of Scouting Ministries, GCUMM

PO Box 340006

Nashville, TN 37203-0006



lsayles@gcumm.org or (fax) 615-340-1770

SCOUTING MINISTRIES

The Office of Scouting Ministries currently has formal relationships with the following youth-serving organizations:

- Boy Scouts of America
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Girl Scouts of the USA
- Camp Fire USA
- 4-H



Girl Scouts
Where Girls Grow Strong



Camp Fire USA
a century of kids. a future of leaders.



Big Brothers Big Sisters
Little Moments. Big Magic.



**P.O. BOX 440515
NASHVILLE, TN 37244-0515**

Questions can be directed to:
Volunteer Coordinator:

Direct Phone: 615-620-7260
Fax: 615-340-1770
E-mail: lsayles@gcumm.org

www.umscouting.org



**MEN GROWING
IN CHRIST,
SO OTHERS CAN
KNOW CHRIST**

**SCOUTING
MINISTRY
SPECIALIST**

**GENERAL COMMISSION ON
UNITED METHODIST MEN**

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A SCOUTING MINISTRY SPECIALIST?



SMS MISSION

This position is designed to help local churches consider scouting as a ministry, as well as a new response to one of the Four Areas of Focus of the general church: to develop principled Christian leaders.

Specialists will help provide information to the local church through relationships with the General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUUMM) office and annual/district scouting coordinators.

SMS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Scouting Ministry Specialists will be responsible for the following:

- Visit and communicate with up to three United Methodist churches in their areas.
- Assist the annual and district scouting coordinators.
- Promote scouting ministry training events with adult leaders (Philmont, Sea Base, UM Scouting workshops, etc.).
- Promote scouting recognition awards.
- Promote the Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) awards.
- Enroll each church as a Shepherd Church.
- Promote Scout Sunday.
- Support the pastor.
- Consider serving on Council Relationships/Religious Committees for the various scouting agencies.
- Recruit one additional scouting ministry specialist.

SMS QUALIFICATIONS

Interested candidates must meet the following prerequisites:

- 18 years of age or older.
 - Proof of BSA Youth Protection Training and/or Safe Sanctuaries and Sexual Ethics - online course (offered at www.umscouting.org).
 - Registration fees: \$10 for 1 year or \$45 for 5 years, ensures your active ministry status.
- Read *Scouting Guidelines* (order from Cokesbury).

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is this position needed?

Only 6,700 of the 34,000 United Methodist churches have scouting units. The specialists will help churches understand the value of scouting and communicate information related to training, awards and recognition.

What is the difference between an SMS and the annual/district/local Scouting Coordinator?

Specialists are recruited and registered with GCUUMM, and are responsible for up to three churches. They are not necessarily a liaison to a youth agency council/office like a local church scouting coordinator.

HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME AN SMS?

Visit our website at www.umscouting.org. Please complete a contact interest form. Someone will respond to your request with additional information.

WHAT KIND OF COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED?

Scouting ministry specialists are volunteers. The amount of time allocated for the position is determined by the individual's schedule.



Recognition and Awards

- *Cross and Flame – adult, local church*
- *Torch – adult, district and conference level*
- *Silver Torch – adult, jurisdictional, national and international*
- *Good Samaritan – youth to young adult*
- *Bishop's Award of Excellence – unit award*
- *Shepherd Church Charter Recognition – local church*

The brochures for these awards

can be downloaded at

www.umscouting.org

and

www.gcumm.org

ORDER FROM COKESBURY:

scouting and
civic youth-
serving
ministry

*Building Effective
Scouting Ministry
in Your Church*



G U I D E L I N E S

PRAY Awards

PROGRAMS OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES WITH YOUTH (P.R.A.Y.), 11123 S. TOWNE SQUARE, STE. B, ST. LOUIS, MO 63123
 PHONE 314-845-3318 OR 800-933-PRAY (7729) FAX 314-845-0038 E-MAIL PRAY@PRAYPUB.ORG WEB WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG

God and Me (Grades 1-3)

Children will become best friends with Jesus and tell their story of "God and Me" together. Children will make a game in each lesson and keep their games in a GAMEBOX (God And Me Exploring BOX).



These games will reinforce the Bible lessons and provide opportunities for families to explore God's love together.

- SECTION 1: God Created Me
- SECTION 2: Jesus is God's Gift to Me
- SECTION 3: I Can Talk with God
- SECTION 4: Because God Cares for Me, I Can Care for Others



God and Family (Grades 4-5)

The God and Family program will help children understand the importance of family and God's role in a healthy family. Children will compare families and "pizza," and they will make a pizza as they study how families can grow together in God's love.



- 1. CRUST-FOUNDATION - We are God's Family
- 2. SAUCE - Family Heritage, Spiritual Heritage
- 3. TOPPINGS - Our Talents and Gifts Strengthen Our Families

PIZZA

4. CHEESE - In God's Family We're Loved No Matter What! Because We're Loved, We Follow Rules

5. BAKE - Being in God's Family Helps Us When Things Are Tough

6. EAT, SHARE, ENJOY! - In God's Family, We Share as a Response to God's Love

God and Church (Grades 6-8)

The God and Church program will be a journey to meet Jesus, worship God, and witness and minister for Christ. Participants will create a video or a photo album to share their faith journeys with others.



UNIT I - My Journey: Meeting Christ

- Meeting Jesus, the Person
- Meeting Jesus, the Son of God
- Meeting Jesus, the Head of the Church

UNIT II - My Journey: Worshiping God

- Learning how Christ Worshiped God
- Exploring How My Congregation Worships God
- Discovering How I Can Worship God

UNIT III - My Journey: Witnessing and Ministering for Christ

- Learning How Christ Witnessed and Ministered to Others
- Exploring How My Congregation Witnesses and Ministers to Others
- Discovering How I Can Witness and Minister to Others



God and Life (Grades 9-12)

The God and Life study is based on the life of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Acts 9:1-31.



- SECTION 1: God calls all kinds of people.
- SECTION 2: God doesn't expect us to do it on our own.
- SECTION 3: Each of us must make a personal response to the call of God
- SECTION 4: God gives strength to face adversities.
- SECTION 5: God can accomplish great things through those who are willing to do God's will.

Four Star Recognition

A special recognition is available for young people who complete all four levels of the P.R.A.Y. series. Start now: students cannot go backwards to earn younger awards!



Adult Mentor Program

The Adult Mentor program is an optional program for parents who have children enrolled in the P.R.A.Y. series. Parents will have a workbook to complete as they work side-by-side their children.



Adult Recognitions

Adults who have served youth through their church and a national Scouting agency may be nominated to receive an Adult Recognition. Visit www.praypub.org to download nomination forms.



VISIT WWW.PRAYPUB.ORG FOR INFORMATION AND TO ORDER BOOKLETS ONLINE.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(written by a God & Country class)

**We believe in God,
who created the universe...
God is all-knowing and almighty,
yet loves each one of us.
We are God's children and God is merciful,
tender and generous.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ.
The Son of God, who by His love and death on a cross,
saved us from our sin.
He is strong yet he freely
sacrificed his life for us...
that we may live abundant lives
and have eternal life.
He is our best friend.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit
God's presence with us.
The spirit helps us to know God,
and is our prayer carrier, teacher, and comforter.**

**We believe in the church...
the living body of Christ.
The church is the community of believers and friends
gathered
to share God's messages of
forgiveness,
hope, fellowship, and salvation.
The church is a place of sanctuary, a safe haven...
open to all.**

BISHOP'S DINNER FOR SCOUTING QUICK TIPS



A. What is it? An annual conference (or district) event intended to bring church pastors, youth ministers and lay leaders together with civic youth agency officials to share information and ultimately grow scouting in the local church.

B. Who attends? From the "church":

1. Bishop of an annual conference
2. District superintendents
3. Annual, district and local scouting coordinators
4. Local church pastors
5. Youth ministers
6. Lay leadership

From the youth agency:

1. Executive Director
2. Other professional staff
3. Top council volunteer leadership

C. Why? To grow and expand the scouting ministry in the local church

To serve youth in the local church's community

To serve unchurched families

D. Where? At a local United Methodist church (remember, it is a church event and should be held in a local church setting)

E. Cost? Should be no cost to participants. Ask local UM Men's chartered unit to assist in funding, or local UM donors. Use resources of the youth agencies and annual and district conferences.

F. Methods? Bishop's Dinners may be more effective when they are conducted by district or by inviting a few districts (2-4, for example) at a time. It really depends on the annual conference, the bishop's schedule and other dynamics and variables that should be considered.

KEYS TO SUCCESS



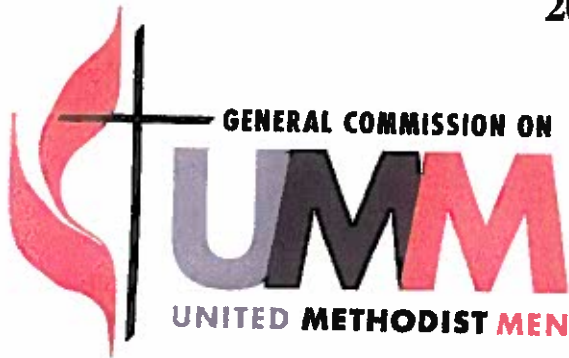
16 Organizational Steps to Conducting a Successful Bishop's Dinner

1. **Plan your work** (see backdating schedule in **Guidelines for Organizing a United Methodist Bishop's Dinner**) and **work the plan.**
2. Plan the event in partnership with UMMen (president and/or key leadership of the district/conference).
3. Allow 3-6 months of planning in scheduling a Bishop's Dinner.
4. Organizing/Planning Committee (this is not a "one-man show").
5. District Superintendents must have ownership (meet one-on-one with each one and/or meet/present concept at Bishop's cabinet meeting).
6. Conduct Bishop's Dinner at a church facility (a local church, fellowship hall, etc.). It is a church event.
7. Send invitations to all churches (pastors, lay leaders) in a timely manner.
8. Youth ministers can be a key to ultimate success. Make sure to invite them.
9. Do not charge participants (develop sponsor[s], other funding sources).
10. Follow-up phone calls.
11. Concise (2 – 2½ hour) program.
12. Brief all presenters on program.
13. Recruit and train (brief) table organizers.
14. Covenant cards handed to Bishop by local pastors before departing.
15. Thank yous to appropriate persons (the Bishop, sponsors, etc.).
16. Follow-up to the event – where the work begins. District and local church scouting coordinator and professional staffs of the youth agencies **must follow-up together and in partnership.** (See steps to organizing a unit, club, etc. – **2013-2016 Guidelines: Scouting and Civic Youth-Serving Ministry**, copyright 2012, available at www.Cokesbury.com, or call 800-672-1789).

For more information, contact:

Larry Coppock, National Director, Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting
General Commission on United Methodist Men
1000 17th Ave. S.
Nashville, TN 37212
Phone: 615-620-7261 Email: lcoppock@gcummm.org

20 WAYS UNITED METHODIST MEN CAN



**SUPPORT
AND
PARTICIPATE IN**

**SCOUTING AS A MINISTRY
OF THE LOCAL CHURCH**

BACKGROUND

1. *Become aware of the church's involvement in the ministry of Scouting*
 - Scouting in the church includes: Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Camp Fire USA and 4-H.
 - At the end of 2011 there were 371,000 youth being ministered to in 11,200 units chartered by 6,700 local United Methodist churches.
 - United Methodist churches serve more BSA youth with the Scouting program than any other organization worldwide.
 - Approximately 20% of our churches sponsor at least 1 scout unit (pack, troop, crew).
2. *Sponsor a Ministry of Scouting exhibit at district or conference meetings*
 - Discuss how Scouting provides outreach, nurture, and service.
 - Encourage churches to add Scouting and civic youth-serving agencies to their ministry of outreach and education.
3. *Charter, or recharter, one or more Scouting units*
 - If you already charter a unit, recharter it and support it with committed leadership.
 - Consider offering the "whole Scouting family" (pack, troop, crew).
 - If you do not presently charter a unit, check with your local council about starting one.
 - Sponsor Girl Scout troops, Camp Fire USA, and 4-H clubs.

DISCIPLESHIP

4. *Support ethnic minority local churches in organizing and chartering Scouting units (Packs, Troops, and Crews) when appropriate and in response to one of the Four Areas of Focus: Poverty.*
 - Be aware that local churches are the last remaining neighborhood centers.
 - Pledge person, talents, time, skills, and money to help.

5. *Encourage lay persons to become involved in discipleship by providing leadership to units using the Scouting program*

- There are a variety of opportunities, such as: unit leaders, unit committee members, Scouting Coordinators, merit badge counselors, unit commissioners, etc.
- Both men and women can be scouters.
- Participate in units chartered by other community organizations that are meeting a need.
- Survey your membership to recruit others for special jobs.
- **Encourage someone to become a Scouting Ministry Specialist.**

6. *Encourage your pastor to register as unit Chaplain*

- Especially if your local church charters a unit.
- Encourage pastor participation in various scouting events in the local church.

7. *Provide program support for your locally-chartered unit*

- Volunteer your talents and skills.
- Provide transportation when needed.
- Give your time freely.
- Support Bishop's Dinners for Scouting when organized in your district or conference.

SERVICE

8. *Encourage Scouting units to plan service projects that:*

- Thank the chartering institution.
- Focus on concerns and cares of the church community, such as helping persons living in at-risk areas (neighborhoods isolated by highways, interstates, railroad tracks, etc.), older and homebound persons, ethnic minorities, low income families, and persons with special needs.

TRAINING

9. *Financially support an annual United Methodist Workshop on Scouting Ministry at Philmont Training Center, Philmont, New Mexico*

- Provide scholarships for worthy candidates.
- Provide leadership and resources.
- Provide publicity.

10. *Support the planning and implementing of a Workshop on Scouting Ministry in your jurisdiction, conference or district*

- Ask the conference or jurisdictional Council on Ministries to include a workshop in their planning.
- Recruit participants from your church, district and conference for the workshop.

11. Sponsor a PRAY AWARDS (formerly the God & Country Series) seminar in the community, district or conference

- Key words are interpretation, promotion and training.
- Nominate worthy candidates for the Torch Award (adult-conference level), Cross and Flame (adult-local church level), Silver Torch Award (adult-regional, national or international level), Bishop's Award of Excellence (unit), and/or the Good Samaritan Award (youth and young adult).

FUNDING

12. Provide scholarships or grants for persons to attend United Methodist Workshops on Scouting Ministry

- In 2012, it cost each participant \$495 plus travel to go to a workshop at Philmont Training Center.
- Costs will probably increase for future events.

13. Support the program of Scouting Ministry in the United Methodist Church through the General Commission on United Methodist Men

- Give individual gifts.
- Honor someone by making them a John Wesley Fellow in Ministry of United Methodist men (a \$1,000 gift to support scouting ministries).

14. Fund work scholarships to help Scouts attend summer camps, high adventure base treks, national and world jamborees, and other events

RECOGNITION

15. Encourage annual recognition for United Methodist youth who have earned a religious emblem

- A local church may do it on Scout Sunday (second Sunday in February [Boy Scouts] or second Sunday in March [Girl Scouts]).
- A cluster of churches or community might do it with a dinner or weekend retreat.
- A district might conduct a similar event.
- A conference might conduct an annual session on Youth Day.

16. Support recognition of the ministry of Scouting in the local church

- Recognize youth who earn major achievement awards.
- Include unit leaders in Christian Education Sunday observances.
- Display unit awards with the same pride as athletic awards.
- Nominate someone outstanding for God and Service recognition (adult) administered by P.R.A.Y.
- Also promote adult awards: Torch, Cross and Flame and Silver Torch.
- Also promote youth and young adult award: the Good Samaritan Award.

17. *Support observance of Scout Sunday*

- Encourage unit members and leaders to wear uniforms to Sunday School and worship services.
- Encourage use of Scouts as ushers, acolytes, readers, worship leaders, choir, etc.

DUTY TO GOD

18. *Plan an interdenominational or interfaith retreat*

- Promote religious emblems programs for all religious groups.
- Stress belief in God as essential for all.

19. *Support and encourage local Scout councils in their efforts to adhere to the basic religious principles of Scouting*

- Celebrate the religious heritage of Scouting.
- Emphasize the importance of the 12th point of the Scout Law – “a scout is reverent”.

20. *Support summer chaplaincy programs*

- Be sure the Scout council plans for a Scout Chaplain as part of the camp staff.
- Provide adequate funding for a Scout Chaplain.
- Provide scholarship for Scout Chaplain to attend Camp School.
- Nominate chaplain candidates for Jamborees, Philmont (paid), and related events.

These are some ideas—and you may have other ideas. If you have another idea to contribute, if you know of something that has worked for you, or if you want more information on additional ideas, please contact:

**Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting
General Commission on United Methodist Men**

1000 17th Ave. S.

Nashville, TN 37212

(615) 340-7145

www.umscouting.org

email: mstowe@gcumm.org



For more information, call or email the
**Office of Civic Youth-Serving
Agencies/Scouting**
of the
General Commission on United Methodist Men

LARRY COPPOCK, *National Director*
lcoppock@gcumm.org

MARC STOWE, *Scouting Ministry Assistant*
mstowe@gcumm.org

GCUMM
1000 17th Ave. S.
Nashville, TN 37212
(615) 340-7145