



# SCOUTING MINISTRY TRAINING MANUAL

A project of the  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED  
METHODIST SCOUTERS (NAUMS)

June 16, 2005

Permission is hereby granted for this material to be copied.

### **Acknowledgements**

This training manual was originally written and / or edited by Mildred Keeney, a former board member of NAUMS. Parts of this manual are her writing. The NAUMS board wishes to thank Robert Chase, Larry Coppock, Karen Heim-Baugh and Gene Winland, Pat Long, Tina Justice, and Don York who assisted in both writing and editing this edition of the manual. There are also many parts of this manual that have unknown origins, therefore, many people who have unknowingly contributed to this training manual. NAUMS also thanks all the unknowing contributors.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Chapter		Page
Introduction		3
Chapter 1	The Ministry of Scouting	5
Chapter 2	The Role of the United Methodist Church In Providing Support	13
Chapter 3	Overview of the Four Youth Serving Agencies Partnering with the UMC	22
Chapter 4	Awards and Recognitions	40
Chapter 5	The Religious Education Program – God and Country	45
Chapter 6	Children and Youth Protection	49
Chapter 7	Encampments, Retreats and Other Activities	55
Chapter 8	Bishop's Dinner for Scouting	72
Chapter 9	Resources	75

## Introduction

### Scouting And Civic Youth-Serving Ministry

The mission of the church is to reach out to those within the community, receive them as they are, relate them to God, nurture and equip them, and send them back into the community in order to make the community a more loving and just place in which to live. Therefore, United Methodist congregations should regard all their members, whatever their age, as important and deserving of their concern. As a result, children and teenagers should be nurtured and equipped along with all other members of the congregation.

In 1532, Martin Luther preached about how difficult it was to make other people good for a life of service to God. Luther's remarks are appropriate in considering ministry to young people and the goal of the church to help young people become committed Christians and responsible citizens.

Since its inception in 1996, the message of the General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM) has been compelling and focused. The United Methodist Men (UMM), have an assignment to reach men of all ages for the Lord Jesus Christ. The primary purpose is the spiritual development of men and of the youth involved in civic youth-serving agencies through The United Methodist Church. God is honoring that purpose by empowering and blessing men's and scouting ministries.

Scouting ministries is a collaborative venture. The National Association of United Methodist Scouters (NAUMS) is a volunteer organization that is dedicated to scouting ministry. The GCUMM has an office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries, which is staffed with a full-time director. The purpose of this office is to promote the use of these programs across the church and to help local congregations understand how they might use civic youth-serving agencies as an outreach ministry within their community.

The church has chosen to use four youth agency programs: Boy Scouts of America, Camp Fire USA, Girl Scouts of the USA, and 4-H. These agencies offer a unique opportunity to minister to young people. These four were chosen for three reasons:

1. Their programs are consistent with Christian teachings.
2. They are currently in place in many local congregations.
3. They recognize the God and Country program offered through The United Methodist Church and administered through Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.).

A young African American Eagle Scout and college student remarked, "I love the scouting program. It has helped me a lot. I was introduced to the church through the Scouts. You can't do scouting without the church." He's right! Scouting in The United Methodist Church is special. The Church is endowed with certain responsibilities that

allow scouting and civic youth-serving programs to become a ministry. This is what differentiates church based programs from a civic or community-based clubs.

\*From *Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation, 2005-2008*

## Chapter 1

### The Ministry of Scouting

Ten Reasons to Consider Scouting and Civic Youth-Serving Agencies as a Ministry of the Local Church

#### 1. Outreach

The ministry of Christ revolved around the profound concept of reaching out to others. Modeling Christ's example, scouting and civic youth-serving agencies seek to touch lives with the compassion of Christ. We have found that when we reach out to others, the blessings of God are returned to us.

#### 2. Evangelism

Statistics indicate that of all the youth who join scouting through the church, 25 percent are United Methodists, 25 percent are members of other denominations or faiths, and 50 percent come from unchurched families. Reaching out to families that do not have a church home is not a new concept. Scouting is one potential entry point for persons to join the church, which then has the opportunity to introduce, nurture, and strengthen a relationship with Jesus Christ. Scouting provides a great way for the local church to serve its local community and in the process offer new and exciting programs that the church may transform into ministry to, with, and through youth.

#### 3. Intergenerational

Scouting and civic youth ministry offers opportunities for older adults as well as youth. So often congregational members become isolated from one another because we tend to spend time with people of similar age groups. Scouting offers older adults a chance to become merit-badge counselors, mentors, or committee members who plan activities with and for youth. In these ways, and more, older adults can become an integral part of a youth's life. The experiences are ones that will be cherished for a lifetime.

#### 4. Coeducational

Some scouting programs exist for both girls and boys alike. Camp Fire USA (CFUSA) is coeducational for ages 1 to 21, while Boy Scouts of America's (BSA) Venturing division is for ages 14 to 20. These programs are a great complement to any church's United Methodist youth ministry and also serve to encourage older Boy Scouts to participate in scouting for a longer period of time. Conversely, girls may participate through Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. (GSUSA) in many of the high adventure activities that boys do.

BSA Venturing crews offer a high degree of flexibility for their members. Some crews elect to focus on helping others through activities like building homes for Habitat for Humanity, while other crews enjoy the benefit of camping, hiking, and high adventure. Local BSA councils offer the use of their youth protection training and leadership training in addition to low-cost liability and accident insurance for their members.

## **5. United Methodist Men**

United Methodist Men's groups have traditionally been the "standard bearers" of scouting and civic youth ministry. United Methodist Men's units have been a source of manpower and volunteer leadership as well as a link between the church congregation and the youth agency. United Methodist Men have assisted in fundraising events, workdays, special events, and a variety of mentoring opportunities.

## **6. Mission**

A variety of mission opportunities are made available through the four youth agencies. Camp Fire USA, through Gift of Giving, Teens in Action, and Extending Our Reach educate and nurture children in projects that encourage their participation and commitment to volunteerism in a uniquely spiritual atmosphere. Similar opportunities exist within the various programs of BSA, GSUSA, and 4-H.

## **7. God and Country Program**

An age-appropriate study series, the God and Country program, invites youth to become better acquainted with their church and community and enhances their relationships with their pastor and congregation. The God and Country series focuses on education, spirituality, and service to others and brings recognition and increased self-esteem to the youth and teenagers who participate.

## **8. Develop Servant Leaders (Friends, Followers, Fishermen)**

Each youth organization that we work with has inherent "building blocks" that the local church can transform into effective ministry. For example, they require service projects that offer opportunities to begin to cultivate effective servant leaders. By starting as "friends" (members of a troop or club), progressing to "followers" of Christ (older youth who are setting the example), and culminating in "fishermen" (youth who do service projects to meet requirements), we can envision how this is a true beginning for servant leadership in the church, community, state, and nation.

## **9. Intentionality**

The scouting program can be an effective, intentional outreach ministry of the local church. Through intentional planning, the church has the ability to transform these scouting programs into important youth ministries similar to other important ministries and initiatives. As a result, scouting always should be on a level with other church ministries. It has the potential to be a far-reaching, positive outreach youth ministry for the immediate community.

## **10. Make Disciples**

By considering one or a combination of the previous reasons, a local church may develop a consistent list of prospects for the Lord. Nurturing children, teens, and families through outreach and evangelism and incorporating them into the life of the church may have tremendous, eternal results for the youth, their family, and the church.

The United Methodist Church seeks to minister to young people today through

partnership with four youth agencies:

- Boy Scouts of America (BSA)
- Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. (GSUSA)
- Camp Fire USA (CFUSA)
- 4-H

With over 90 years of history for each, these agencies are known to provide moral and ethical values, self-esteem, citizenship training, leadership skills, respect for others, career exploration, and service to others, as well as a lot of fun. These established organizations can provide exciting programs, and the church can provide faith role models to work with them.

Instead of merely providing facilities, we must help local churches see their scouting programs as opportunities to expand their ministries among the youth of their church and as an outreach to unchurched youth. Teaching honesty, integrity, respect, and other values is best accomplished when the leaders take an active part in the church program. The church needs to see that good leadership is supplied, and it helps if the pastor also takes an active interest in the groups.

"Statistics indicate that less than 25 percent of the youth who are active members of civic youth-serving agency programs within United Methodist churches are from United Methodist families, and 50 percent are from non-church families. Many young people have their first contact with the church through these programs."<sup>1</sup>

Senior Girl Scout Troop 497, with only six girls, had just one girl who was a member of the church, which sponsored them. They participated in Girl Scout Sunday, then Scouting Ministries Sunday, every year, and for many of these girls and their families it was the only time they ever attended church. In seventh grade, one of the girls asked about baptism and confirmation. Now five of the girls in the troop are members - because the church provided a supportive, stable, and friendly environment for Scouting and religious education through the God and Country program. The other girl is an active member of another faith.

Boy Scout Troop 825 is only three years old, but they have helped their charter partner church. Families who join the church from the scouting program have leadership and organizational skills that have helped their church grow. When the church has a workday, more people associated with Scouting come to help than others. The Scouts, in their uniforms, assist with other service projects, and the people appreciate them. The church people help with financial needs, and the United Methodist Men purchase uniforms for those who cannot afford them.

Another church, with a long history of Scouting, observed separate Boy Scout and Girl Scout Sundays. One year, when the average attendance at worship was 281, they had 451 people attend the Girl Scout Sunday. In a sixteen-month period, they

---

<sup>1</sup> Byron Lee White, "Reaching Out to Youth and Children, 1997-2000," 9

received into church membership seventeen persons who became involved with that church through the Scouting program. There also were thirteen other prospective members in these young families. The adults served as Sunday school teacher, Vacation Bible School director and teachers, bell choir director, scout representatives on the Administrative Board and Council on Ministries, short-term leaders of classes, and song leader. The young people were active in United Methodist Youth Fellowship, Sunday school, bell choir, vocal choir, God and Country classes, as babysitters, and in work areas.<sup>2</sup>

Groups sponsored by the church are welcome to participate in activities of the local church, but the various religious opinions and practices of the individual members are respected. No attempt is made to require the youth to take part in religious observances of the sponsoring group. Though faith modeling by the leaders is very important, faith teaching is believed to be the responsibility of parents and their religious leaders.

### **Our Leaders as Faith Models**

There is a difference between faith modeling and faith teaching. Faith teaching is instruction about a particular faith (for example, Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and so forth) or a specific doctrinal stance (such as one's beliefs about God or Holy Scriptures). The Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting emphasizes faith modeling, while clearly stating that faith teaching is the responsibility of the home or the religious institution or organization.

Jesus constantly provided a faith model for his followers. When the disciples asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Jesus, the ultimate servant leader, called a child into their midst and talked about becoming like children. Then he said, "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were fastened around your neck and you were drowned in the depth of the sea" (Matthew 18:1-6). This passage conveys the high calling of those who inspire youth by modeling their faith.

As a servant leader and scouting leader you are entrusted with the precious gift of young lives. Parents, who have experienced the miracle of a new life, are sharing that miracle with you. They are expecting you to model your faith and to help their child grow. Civic youth-serving agency programs stress citizenship, character development, and physical fitness. These programs encourage you as a servant leader and are designed to promote these values.

Young people learn a great deal about their lifestyle by observing others and by practicing the behaviors they witness. Every parent can tell stories of how and when their children imitated them. Just as you have learned that personal skills are better

---

<sup>2</sup> Mildred B. Keeney, "Cookie Sales and a Lot More," Youth Teacher & Counselor, Summer 1988, 33-38.

taught by demonstration and followed by a chance to practice the skills, so faith development is encouraged by demonstration with encouragement and opportunities to practice faith skills. As a servant leader, you are expected to abide by the policy that specific religious instruction is the responsibility of the home or the religious institution. However, you can let young people know that God is important in your life by the way you live in their midst. You can live a faith-oriented lifestyle.

If you are a scouting leader in The United Methodist Church, you have committed yourself to holding a belief in God. You have committed yourself to a principle that says, "No person can grow into the best kind of citizen without recognizing his or her obligation to God." You have committed yourself to teaching young people both the words and meaning of the Girl Scout Promise, the Boy Scout Oath, the Camp Fire Code, or the 4-H Pledge. The best way to teach the words and meaning is to make them real in your life! If you are a member of and representative from the church to the troop or club, you have also declared in your membership vows to uphold your beliefs through prayer, practice, gifts, and service.

What is faith modeling? It is doing, thinking, and talking out of a faith-strengthened stance. It is letting faith determine your lifestyle.

One aspect of faith modeling is respect for one's physical body. Inasmuch as civic youth-serving agencies do not allow alcoholic beverages on outdoor trips (teenage alcohol abuse is on the increase), a good leader will observe the practice of no alcoholic beverages, without exception. The same is true regarding other drugs and other health-damaging substances. Listed below are several other characteristics of a good leader.

### **A Good Leader**

A good leader will demonstrate love and concern for the young people in the unit, troop, or club. You will find opportunities to listen to them as individuals. You will learn to share their excitement, their joy, their sorrow, and their concerns. You will recognize that they have one foot in childhood and the other in adulthood, hopping back and forth; and you will accept them for who they are.

A good leader will demonstrate the importance of his or her faith by being an active participant in the church, and that involves personal study and devotions. You may be the best model many young people will ever observe. Your faith life may well serve to encourage them to live their own faith commitments.

A good leader will foster spiritual growth by encouraging young people to plan and participate in religious observances in meetings, campouts, and more. You will want to plan activities to allow youth to participate in their own communities of faith and to schedule programs and travel that do not conflict with such participation.

A good leader will encourage faith development by urging young people to enroll in appropriate religious study programs. Just as young people need encouragement to work on advancement, so they need encouragement to grow spiritually.

A good leader knows that cursing is not a sign of maturity but is an attempt to disguise immaturity. Off-color stories or prejudice-loaded words will be avoided because they demonstrate a lack of value for persons (see James 3:5-12).

## **Let's Get Started**

### **Organizing from Scratch**

To increase our church's ministry to children and youth in the community, consider using one or more of the youth agencies. Present a plan to the local Administrative Board/Council on Ministries, or Administrative Council. Get approval to provide support for a budget to get the group started. If the church does not have a Scouting Coordinator, elect or appoint one, plus additional adult leadership for a task group. Determine which youth agencies to invite, and contact the appropriate agencies for professional help in forming the units. Set up a recruiting night, and work with the agencies to get them started. A consecration service can be planned for leaders, and be sure to plan for the Scouting Ministries Sunday service.

By building on long-standing, cooperative relationships with these agencies, The United Methodist Church will be able to serve youth and the community better. It will be an opportunity to bring them into an environment that fosters spiritual and moral values and develops the ability to transfer these values to life situations. The skills and values developed by adults and youth through these agencies often help in other areas of the congregation's ministry, also. The possibilities are exciting.

### **School Night for Scouting**

Check with your local Boy Scout Council for their assistance in recruiting through the schools early in the school year. Girl Scouts also may have recruitment events scheduled.

### **Recruitment Events in the Church**

Publicize in the newspapers, church bulletins and newsletters, on signs, with flyers in schools and businesses, however is the best way to get the word to young people in your area to enlist them in the civic youth-serving agencies you have in your church. There may be home-schooled youth who would not receive flyers from the schools, and you want to invite them, too.

On a designated date, plan a party-type atmosphere. Have older Scouts or Camp Fire entertain the younger ones who come, while their parents find out more about the plans and register their children. They can sing songs, play games, or do

crafts, fun things they have learned from past troop activities. One troop of Girl Scouts had a Teddy Bear tea to recruit new Daisy Girl Scouts. Make it a festive party. Let the older units be creative in ways to reach new people.

### **Bishop's Dinner for Scouting \***

A Bishop's Dinner for Scouting brings together at one time a number of churches and other United Methodist organizations that could expand this ministry of outreach and organize scouting units if properly motivated. Materials are available from the Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting for use in planning these dinners, including sample letters to be sent out and detailed lists of things to do.

A United Methodist Conference Committee on Scouting, a district committee on scouting ministry or other scouting ministry representatives, can initiate this program. In all cases, it is mandatory that the program be developed through the Conference Council Director and the Conference Scouting Coordinator or a District Superintendent who will initiate communication with the Bishop regarding his or her support of the project.

Different versions of this are being held over the country, some as a recognition dinner following business meetings of chapters.

\*See Chapter 8

### **Other Possibilities**

Watch for other opportunities for recruitment. Booths at big national events like the Girl Scout Convention or the Boy Scout Jamboree offer chances to talk to a lot of people. Perhaps you could have a booth at your County Fair, especially productive for 4-H Clubs, or street fairs in towns, also at United Methodist events and annual conferences. Check with your local agency Councils for opportunities with them. It is important to send articles to various publications, large or small, to tell the exciting things being done with the civic youth-serving agencies (be specific), and offer a place for them to join the action. Just keep alert to the possibilities.

Jesus gave us the great commission, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations..." Each congregation is a community of Christian people organized to carry out God's mission for the church as defined in this verse, Matthew 28:19-20. As a leader in your congregation and a minister of Jesus Christ, you are called to live out this mission. Reach out and invite the young people into the church through these agencies, encourage them and teach them, and support them as they go out to serve the world. Invite - Form - Send. Some will not be United Methodist, but we minister to all people.

## The Children and Youth of Today - The Millennial Generation

In order to provide a quality program for youth, it is important to understand the characteristics of the generation. Those characteristics are provided below and have been taken from research on the internet and multiple other sources that are unknown.

### Who are they?

- Born since 1981
- Exposed to life's realities
- Follow the X generation which is known for apathy, general discontent, and hostility
- They need for us to rethink how we do youth ministry
- Like being protected
- Have a great self image
- Believe that it is possible to change the world
- Believe that their place in the world is to be dutiful, public minded citizens

### Realities of Millennials

- They have technical sophistication
- They have increased sexual awareness
- They have been exposed to extreme violence and racial tensions

### Characteristics of Millennials

- Trusting
- Favored
- Confident
- Involved
- Collaborative
- Optimistic
- Religious

### Millennials and Spirituality

- Open to church experiences
- Open to God especially through group experiences
- Large group worship is important to them
- Since they spend time with tech "stuff" - they long for high touch relationships

### Millennials and Commitment

- They are more trusting
- They focus on collaboration not competition
- They commit to service oriented programs
- They focus on peer ministry

### Ministry among Millennials

- Needs to focus more on relationships
- Need a new ministry philosophy - kids can be entertained anywhere
- This youth culture is very accepting of many sub-cultures

The Millennial Challenge is to provide opportunities for

- Collaboration
- Service
- Leadership
- Significant ministry

## Chapter 2

### The Role of the United Methodist Church in Providing Support

#### **General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM)**

The General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM) was established in 1996 by the 1996 General Conference. The Commission became the denomination's first new agency since the merger of 1968. The mission of the GCUMM was to help strengthen the spiritual life on men in The United Methodist Church. As United Methodist Men (UMMen), they have the assignment to reach men of all ages for the Lord Jesus Christ. The primary purpose is the spiritual development of men and of the youth involved in civic and youth-serving agencies through The United Methodist Church. God is honoring that purpose by empowering and blessing men's and scouting ministries.

The GCUMM has the primary oversight for the coordination and providing resources about of men's ministry with The United Methodist Church. The GCUMM will provide resources and support for the office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting ministries: to provide training of local church, district, annual conference and jurisdictional Scouting Coordinators; to provide advocacy, cooperation, and relationship in partnership with NAUMS, the General Board of Discipleship, the Council of Bishops and the civic youth-serving agencies (Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire USA, 4-H, and such appropriate organizations within the Central Conference) for the promotion of youth-serving/Scouting ministries with The United Methodist Church.

#### **National Association of Conference Presidents (NACP)**

The National Association of Conference Presidents (NACP) was organized by the General Board of Discipleship staff in 1975 and became an affiliate group of the General Board of Discipleship. The NACP founded the United Methodist Men Foundation (UMMF) and helped form the National Association of United Methodist Scouters (NAUMS). The NACP is an affiliate of GCUMM.

#### **United Methodist Men Foundation (UMMF)**

In 1981 the United Methodist Men Foundation (UMMF) was established by the national leadership of United Methodist Men as a means to realize their dreams, which included the development and promotion of programs that would deepen the spiritual life of men across the church through the evangelism, mission and spiritual life. Many organizations, including the church, have discovered that an excellent method of funding is through endowment. Endowments enable the UMMF to fund outreach programs. Currently there is three endowment programs supported the UMMF: Scouting Endowment, Prayer Ministry Endowment, and Evangelism Endowment.

The Foundation is a 501(c) 3, nonprofit corporation. The Scouting Endowment to fund Scouting Ministries was created several years ago and supports the office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting of the GCUMM. Each year over 600,000 young people and their families are served the church through the scouting ministry. Over half of these families are unchurched, representing a tremendous outreach and evangelism opportunity for local churches.

### **National Association of United Methodist Scouters (NAUMS)**

The purpose of NAUMS is to enhance the ministry of The United Methodist Church; to develop strategies and resources; and to organize and expand the church's youth ministry through the programs of the youth-serving agencies.

Through youth agencies and church partnerships, NAUMS has undertaken the mission of providing character and citizenship development under the leadership of Christian role models.

Membership is open to people who have an interest in providing quality programs for today's children and youth within The United Methodist Church. All funds received through membership fees are used for program development and support. Members receive "Scouting News," a quarterly publication containing information related to Scouting Ministries in United Methodist Churches, and "NAUMS News," a publication started in 1998, with a goal of at least two issues a year.

NAUMS was organized in the early 1980's. It is an affiliate organization of the General Commission on United Methodist Church, created by the 1996 General Conference. Through cooperation with local United Methodist Churches, local officials of the youth serving agencies, United Methodist Men, Annual Conferences, and the five Jurisdictions, NAUMS invites you to become involved in this vital ministry to help children and youth in our community.

There is an annual membership fee of \$30 and a life membership is available for \$400. Please refer to the NAUMS application that is available in Chapter 9 of this manual. A new NAUMS patch is available for \$5 per patch, plus \$3 for shipping and handling.

### **NAUMS Chapters**

A Chapter should be composed of at least five members, representing a geographical area, with one member serving as chapter president.

Members in a chapter must meet the membership requirements as set forth in the NAUMS Bylaws. Currently, they are:

- \* Be of good Christian character.
- \* Be active in a church.

- \* Be active in at least one of the civic youth-serving agencies with which the United Methodist Church has a relationship.

The chapter will set its own geographical area. It may be an individual church, a church district, or an entire conference. The chapter shall choose its own president to serve for a term as set forth by the chapter's bylaws.

The purpose of the chapter shall be the same as the national organization. However, the chapter may wish to place a local emphasis on a certain program element of the ministry of scouting. For example, a chapter may wish to exist solely for the purpose of promoting the God and Country program within its area. Or, a chapter may see its purpose as serving as a fellowship of United Methodist scouts in order to exchange ideas and other assistance.

The chapter pays an annual fee \$40, plus half of the \$30 annual membership for each member. The other half remains with the chapter.

### **Internet Ministry**

There are numerous resources and links on the NAUMS web site – <http://www.naums.org> or <http://umcscouting.org>. In addition to information such as in this manual, there are many inspirational messages, sermons, services for Scouting Ministries Sunday and even clip art. There is also an e-mail discussion group where current issues are discussed and information is shared. Sign up by going to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/> and <http://group/scouts-UMC>.

### **Scouting Coordinators**

The United Methodist Book of Discipline provides for the establishment and support of scouting coordinators at all levels (jurisdiction, annual conference, district, and local church). Within our denomination "scouting" is an all-inclusive term and refers to the youth serving agencies that we promote to local churches: Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA, and 4-H. The organizational structure may vary in different Conferences and Districts.

Local Church Coordinators are appointed/elected by the Church Lay Leadership Committee (such as, the Nominating Committee). Each church should have a local Church Scouting Coordinator identified to work with the local youth-serving agencies to promote the scouting ministries within their church and the local community. The scouting ministry is an outreach and evangelism program of the church. The scouting coordinator promotes the God and Country program and the adult religious awards. Specific responsibilities are listed later in this chapter. Detailed job description is located at the back of this chapter.

District Scouting Coordinators are appointed/elected by the District Lay Leadership (such as, nominating) Committee and work closely with the District

Superintendents. They may have a scouting committee of local church scouting coordinators in their district. They have the responsibility to promote the use of the God and Country programs, to provide training to local church scouting coordinators, to encourage annual observances of Scouting Ministries Sundays, and to see that qualified volunteers are recognized with United Methodist awards, specifically the Cross and Flame award, the Torch Award and the God and Service award. They may appoint sub-district coordinators if needed. Specific responsibilities are listed at the end of this chapter.

Conference Scouting Coordinators may be appointed/elected by the Conference Council of Ministries, Board of Laity, Conference Nominating Committee, or Conference UMMen. They are to maintain contact with the District Scouting Coordinators and provide them with information on the Civic Youth-Serving Agencies' programs. The person works with the Bishop and his/her staff to see that local church units are recognized with the Bishop's Award of Excellence and that local churches are recognized with the NAUMS Shepherd Church Award when qualified. The Conference Scouting Coordinator also can see that qualified volunteers are recognized with the Cross and Flame, Torch, and God and Service awards. They are to promote the scouting ministry throughout the conference, insure that Districts provide training to their local churches and to encourage the observance of Scouting Ministries Sundays. They work closely with the Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinators. Specific responsibilities are listed at the end of this chapter.

Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinators are appointed by the Jurisdictional UMMen's President and serve at their pleasure. There are five jurisdictions of The United Methodist Church in the United States. They have similar duties with a relationship to jurisdictional events. They work closely with the Director of the Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies of GCUMM. Specific responsibilities are listed at the end of this chapter.

Regardless of your scouting coordinator position, it is recommended that you fill the scouting coordinator's personal summary sheet on each of your assigned scouting coordinators or scout leaders if at the local church level. This allows you to assess the training needs of your people and encourage or provide training to them in groups or one-on-one. This will also allow you to assess and submit nominations or encourage submission of nominations for those that are deserving of awards. A personal summary sheet example is shown at the end of this chapter.

At the local level the scouting coordinator should submit reports to the Church Council and submit reports to the District Scouting Coordinator as requested. The District Scouting Coordinator should submit reports to the Annual Conference Scouting Coordinator as requested and the Conference Scouting Coordinator should submit reports to the Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinator as requested. Regardless of the level, it is important to maintain records of the people you work with.

**Local Church Scouting Coordinator  
Job Description and Duties**

1. Serves as a link between the church and its Civic Youth-Serving Agencies (currently BSA, GSUSA, Camp Fire, and 4-H) as a member of the Church Council and also to the UMMen's Executive Committee.
2. Belongs to and oversees the work of the Committee on Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
3. Speaks often in Sunday morning worship to ask for prayer for the young people and to encourage support of civic youth-serving agencies.
4. Assists the pastor and the church Worship Committee in planning and observing a Scouting ministry Sunday in February (BSA) and/or March (GSUSA). While an observance of the ministry of scouting is the objective, separate services for each agency is allows for more recognition. In any case, sensitivity to Lenten services and other church conflicts should be of concern.
5. Reports annually the average attendance at events for inclusion in the Pastor's Report to the Annual Church Conference.
6. Explains the purpose of and encourages the use of the God and Country programs for children and youth (Book of Discipline).
7. Sees that qualified volunteer adults are recognized with awards of The United Methodist Church and Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
8. Submits application for a Bishop's Award of Excellence when that unit is eligible and qualified.
9. Reviews the church's programs annually with the Pastor and representative(s) of the Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
10. Represents the church on the District Committee of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting if one is identified.
11. Encourages youth participation in mission work locally, in the district, annual conference, nation and the world. Encourages youth recognition for the Good Samaritan Award and the church for the NAUMS Shepherd Church Award.

**District Scouting Coordinator  
Job Description and Duties**

1. Serves on the District Council on Ministries (Book of Discipline) and District UMMen Executive Board (Book of Discipline). Appointed or elected by these groups.
2. Meets regularly with local church scouting coordinators providing them with updated information on conference and national programs of church and Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
3. Encourages all local churches to have a Scouting Coordinator.
4. Encourages an annual observance of Scouting Ministry Sunday.
5. Promotes use of God and Country programs for children and youth (Book of Discipline).
6. Sees that qualified volunteers are recognized with the awards of The United Methodist Church and the Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
7. Works closely with the District Superintendent.
8. Serves on the Conference Committee for Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting if one is identified.
9. Has authority to appoint sub-district coordinators as needed.
10. Knows and understands duties of local church scouting coordinators.
11. Encourages youth participation in mission work locally, in the district, annual conference, nation and the world. Encourages youth recognition for the Good Samaritan Award and the local church for the Shepherd Award.

**Annual Conference Scouting Coordinator  
Job Description and Duties**

1. Knows and understands the duties of district and local church scouting coordinators.
2. Meets regularly with the District Scouting Coordinators providing them with updated information and training on Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
3. Works closely with the Conference Bishop to see that local church units are recognized with a Bishop's Award of Excellence when qualified. Also sees that all qualified volunteers are recognized with the awards of The United Methodist Church and the Civic Youth-Serving Agencies.
4. Encourages the observance of a Scouting Ministries Sunday for local churches.
5. Serves on the Conference Board of Laity (Book of Discipline) and the Conference UMMen Executive Board. Elected by the Annual Conference (Book of Discipline).
6. Attends annual conference and national meetings related to receiving training.
7. Serves on the Jurisdictional Committee of Scouting Coordinators.
8. Promotes and coordinates the implementation of Bishop's Dinners for Scouting (Book of Discipline).
9. Explains the purpose of and encourages the use of the God and Country programs for children and youth (Book of Discipline).
10. Encourages youth participation in mission work locally, in the district, annual conference, nation and the world. Encourages youth recognition with the Good Samaritan Award and the local church with the NAUMS Shepherd Church Award.

**Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinator  
Job Description and Duties**

1. Is selected and appointed by the Jurisdictional UMMen organization (Book of Discipline). The Director, Civic Youth-Serving Agencies of GCUMM is available to assist in this process.
2. Knows and understands the duties of local church, district and annual conference scouting coordinators.
3. Attends and leads jurisdictional and national events related to the Scouting Ministries.
4. Works closely with the Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies, GCUMM (Book of Discipline).
5. Promotes annual conference recognition of their qualified Civic Youth-Serving Agency volunteers with the appropriate award of The United Methodist Church or the Civic Youth-Serving Agency.
6. Participates in the preparation of material for and the promotion of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting Ministries Sunday for the church.
7. Meets regularly with and conducts training for Annual Conference Scouting Coordinators.
8. Has the authority to appoint Associate Jurisdictional Scouting Coordinators as needed.
9. Promotes Bishop's Dinners for Scouting (Book of Discipline).
10. Explains the purpose of and encourages the use of the God and Country programs for children and youth (Book of Discipline).
11. Encourages youth participation in mission work locally, in the district, annual conference, nation and the world. Encourages youth recognition with the Good Samaritan Award and local churches with the Shepherd Award.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH SCOUTING COORDINATOR  
PERSONAL SUMMARY SHEET**

Name:

Address:

Telephone (home & work):

Fax & email:

Spouse's name:

Date of birth & hometown:

Occupation:

Date became scouting coordinator:

Date received scouting coordinator training, # hours & location:

Member of NAUMS (y/n): \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, annual or life \_\_\_\_\_

Scouting ministries involvement (youth & adult / # years)

Boy Scouts

Girl Scouts

Camp Fire USA

4-H

Adult training received for the above programs:

Chronology of residences and church affiliations:

Church positions (past & present)

Community service outside of church (past & present)

Church awards & honors received & year:

Cross & Flame (y/n): \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, year \_\_\_\_\_

Torch Award (y/n): \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, year \_\_\_\_\_

God & Service (y/n): \_\_\_\_\_ if yes, year \_\_\_\_\_

***Use back of sheet for additional information.***

## Chapter 3

### Overview of the Four Youth Serving Agencies Partnering with the United Methodist Church

#### Introduction

The United Methodist Church currently has chosen to use four youth serving agencies: Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A., Camp Fire USA, and 4-H. These agencies offer a unique opportunity to minister to young people. These four were chosen primarily for three reasons:

1. Their programs are consistent with Christian teachings.
2. They are currently in place in many local congregations.
3. They recognize the God and Country program offered through The United Methodist Church and administered through the Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.)

When church troops became numerous, some of the denominational bodies decided to give recognition to the values of Scouting as a resource for the churches in their youth ministries. Among the earliest endorsements was from the Methodist Church in 1919. Today, Protestant churches have organized more than 26 percent of all packs, troops, and crews, making them the largest user of the Scouting Program. The United Methodist Church has been at the top or close to the top for youth membership.

The United Methodist Church had recently been # 1 sponsor of Boy Scouts of America with over 392,000 youth and adults. According to an unofficial survey approximately 120,000 Girl Scouts meet in 7,000 UMC and it is estimated that another 25,000 youth meet in our churches as members of Camp Fire USA and 4-H Clubs.

#### ***Boy Scouts of America***

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was incorporated in Feb 8, 1910, and chartered by Congress in 1916 “to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and to develop personal fitness.”

The BSA program consists of Cub Scouting, Boy Scouting, Varsity Scouting, and Venturing.

Contacts:

**Boy Scouts of America**

1325 West Walnut Hill Lane

P. O. Box 152079

Irving, TX 75011-2079

Phone: 972-580-2000 Fax: 972-580-7870

Website: [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

## **Cub Scouting**

In 1930, the Boy Scouts of America launched a home and neighborhood centered program for boys in the first through fifth grades (ages 7, 8, 9, or 10). Members join a Cub Scout Pack and are assigned to a Den, usually a neighborhood group of six to eight boys. First grade boys (Tiger Cubs) meet every other week or weekly like Wolf Cub Scouts (second graders), Bear Cub Scouts (third graders), and Webelos Scouts 1 & 2 (fourth and fifth graders) meet weekly.

Once a month, all of the dens and family members gather for a pack meeting under the direction of a Cubmaster and Pack Committee. The committee includes parents and guardians of boys in the pack and members of the chartered organization.

### **Cub Scout Promise**

I, (give name), promise to do my best,  
To do my duty to God and my country,  
To help other people, and  
To obey the Law of the Pack.

### **Cub Scout Motto**

Do Your Best

### **Law of the Pack**

The Cub Scout follows Akela.  
The Cub Scout helps the pack go.  
The pack helps the Cub Scout grow.  
The Cub Scout gives good will.

### **Cub Scout Colors**

**Blue** stands for truth and spirituality, steadfast loyalty and the sky above.  
**Gold** stands for warm sunlight, good cheer and happiness.  
*Together* they symbolize what Cub Scouting is all about.

## **Boy Scouting**

The Boy Scouts of America (BSA) was incorporated to provide a program for community organizations that offers effective character, citizenship, and personal fitness training for youth.

Specifically, the BSA endeavors to develop American citizens who are physically, mentally, and emotionally fit; have a high degree of self-reliance as evidenced in such qualities as initiative, courage, and resourcefulness; have personal values based on religious concepts; have the desire and skills to help others; understand the principles of the American social economic and governmental systems; are knowledgeable about and take pride in their American heritage and understand our nation's role in the world; have a keen respect for the basic rights of all people; and are prepared to participate in and give leadership to American society.

Boy Scouting, one of the membership divisions of the BSA, is available to boys who have earned the Arrow of Light Award or have completed the fifth grade, or are 11 through 17 years old. The program achieves the BSA's three objectives, known as the "Aims of Scouting." They are character development, citizenship training, and personal fitness.

Scouting evolved during the early 1900's through the efforts of several men dedicated to bettering youth. These pioneers conceived outdoor activities that developed skills in young boys and gave them a sense of enjoyment, fellowship, and a code of conduct for everyday living.

Local councils operate and maintain Scout camps. The National Council operates high adventure areas at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, the Northern Tier National High Adventure Program in Minnesota and Canada, and the Florida Sea Base in the Florida Keys. About 70 councils also operate high adventure programs. The BSA conducts a national Scout Jamboree every four years and participates in the World Scout Jamboree, also held at four-year intervals. Fort A. P. Hill, Virginia, has been the site of the 1981, 1985, 1989, 1993, 1997, 2001 and 2005 National Scout Jamborees.

## **Boy Scout Advancement Ranks**

Tenderfoot, Second Class, First Class, Star, Life and Eagle.

## **Scout Oath or Promise**

On my honor, I will do my best  
To do my duty to God and my country and  
To obey the Scout Law  
To help other people at all times  
To keep myself physically strong, mentally awake, and morally straight.

**Scout Law**

A Scout is: Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

**Scout Motto** – Be Prepared

**Scout Slogan** – Do a Good Turn Daily

**Varsity Scouting**

Varsity Scouting is a program for young men 14 through 17. It provides options for young men who are looking for rugged high adventure or challenging sporting activities and still want to be a part of a Scouting program that offers the advancement and values of the BSA. It is built around five program fields of emphasis: advancement, high adventure/sports, personal development, service and special programs and events. Youth and adult members may earn the Varsity letter. Only only a Varsity Scout team's youth members who have already earned the Varsity Scout Letter can earn the Denali Award.

Varsity Scouts are members of a Varsity Scout team chartered to a community organization, such as a church or service club. It is led by a youth Varsity Scout Team Captain and an adult leader called a Varsity Scout Coach. An adult committee made up of parents, guardians, and members of the chartered organization supports the Coach. It is a stand-alone unit, chartered independently of a Scout Troop, but the chartering procedure is essentially the same.

**Scout Oath** Varsity Scouts will use the Scout Oath.

**Venturing**

Venturing is a relatively new program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eight grade) through 20 years of age. It offers a program that is fun and full of challenge and adventure, to learn more about high adventure, sports, arts and hobbies, youth ministries, and Sea Scout crews.

The purpose of Venturing is to provide positive experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Venturing Crews can specialize in a variety of vocations or hobby interest. Venturing programs are developed around six experience areas of emphasis: Citizenship, Leadership, Fitness, Social, Outdoor, and Service.

**Venturing Oath** -- As a Venturer, I promise to do my duty to God, and help strengthen America, to help others, and to seek truth, fairness, and adventure in our world.

## **Venturing Code**

As a Venturer, I believe that America's strength lies in our trust in God and in the courage, strength, and traditions of our people. I will, therefore, be faithful in my religious duties and will maintain a personal sense of honor in my own life, I will treasure my American heritage and will do all I can to preserve and enrich it. I will recognize the dignity and worth of all humanity and will use fair play and goodwill in my daily life. I will acquire the Venturing attitude that seeks truth in all things and adventure on the frontiers of our changing world.

## **Goals**

Young adults involved in Venturing will:

1. Learn to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling the values in the Venturing Oath and Code.
2. Experience a program that is fun and full of challenge and adventure.
3. Become a skilled training and program resource for Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and other groups.
4. Acquire skills in the areas of high adventure, sports, arts and religious life, or Sea Scouting.
5. Experience positive leadership from adult and youth leader and be given opportunities to take on leadership roles.
6. Have a chance to learn and grow in a supportive, caring and fun environment.

## **Advancement Awards**

Venturing Bronze Award, Gold Award, Silver Award, Venturing Ranger Award, Trust Award, and the Sea Scouting Quartermaster Award.

## **The United Methodist Relationship with BSA**

BSA has a unique relationship with their Charter Partner, in this case The United Methodist Church (UMC). Unit registration and membership for youth and adults resides with the UMC. The charter agreement gives ownership and responsibility to the local church chartering unit. The local church can and should view its Scouting program as a means of outreach ministry with children and youth and the community. Since the church "owns" the unit, it can lift the name of Jesus Christ in and through its Scouting units. Persons from faiths other than Christian may participate but should be prepared to accept the church's participation in the BSA program as a straight forward attempt to evangelize for Jesus Christ. The local church is responsible for its BSA unit(s), including leadership selection (same as for Sunday school, UMYF, etc), spiritual direction, and growth development.

**Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.**

Juliette Gordon Low founded Girl Scouts in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia. Her dream of “something for all the girls” in the United States began with 18 girls. She gave them opportunities for activities in the out-of-doors and to give community service. In World War I, they worked in hospitals, helped at home, grew vegetables, and sold defense bonds. Although the girls sold home baked cookies to earn money in the early years, Philadelphia Girl Scouts sold the first commercially baked Girl Scout cookies in 1934. Again, during World War II, Girl Scouts served on the home front, collecting fat and scrap metal and growing Victory Gardens. The new Daisy Girl Scout age level began in the 1980s.

Contacts:

**Girl Scouts of the United States of America**

420 5<sup>th</sup> Ave

New York, NY 10018

Phone: 212-852-8000

Website: [www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

**Girl Scout Purpose**

The purpose of Girl Scouting is to inspire girls with the highest ideals of character, conduct, patriotism, and service that they may become happy and resourceful citizens. Girl Scouts seek to accomplish this through an innovative program that provides girls opportunities to develop their potential and have fun with their peers in a supportive, all-girl setting.

Girl Scouts is the largest voluntary organization for girls in the world. It is for all girls who are ages 5 through 17 (or in kindergarten through grade 12) who subscribe to its ideals as stated in the Girl Scout Promise and Law.

Through its membership in the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, it is part of a worldwide family of girls and adults, 8.5 million in 144 countries.

Girls and leaders participate in Girl Scouting through Troops/Groups, with over 223,000 USA Girl Scouts Overseas in over 80 countries. Most of these overseas troops come from military and civilian families living abroad. Troops are organized in over 300 Councils in the U.S.A. Councils are local units chartered by the National Organization (GSUSA) to administer and develop Girl Scouting in a council’s jurisdiction (a specific geographic area). Eventually “group” will replace the term “troop”.

There are over 3.8 million members (over 2.9 million girls and over 986,000 adult members (women & men)).

## **Girl Scouts: Where Girls Grow Strong**

Girl Scouts help girls grow strong, physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. There is a renewed emphasis on physical fitness, beginning with the health and fitness national service project in 1994 and the Girl Scout sports initiative in 1996.

Girls build skills in a balanced program that includes activities in science, math, technology, out-of-doors, arts, people, and well-being. The program also centers upon contemporary issues to support and assist girls in confronting the pressures of today's world. It promotes progressive and cooperative learning experiences, making decisions, evaluating progress, and developing leadership skills.

Federal funding was received for a youth anti-violence and conflict resolution program, beginning as a pilot project in early 2000. P.A.V.E. (Project Anti-Violence Education) will create a nation-wide coalition to give young people the skills they need to diffuse violence at a personal and community wide level.

Adult leadership is trained and prepared to guide and encourage girls to discover their talents and abilities while reinforcing their strengths in a supportive and safe environment.

## **Place of Religion in the Girl Scout Program (GSUSA Policies)**

Girls are encouraged and helped through the Girl Scout program to become better members of their own religious group, but every Girl Scout group must recognize that religious instruction is the responsibility of parents, guardians, and religious leaders. GSUSA makes no attempt to define or interpret the word "God" in the Girl Scout Promise. It looks to individual members to establish for themselves the nature of their spiritual beliefs. When making the Girl Scout Promise, individuals may substitute wording appropriate to their own spiritual beliefs for the word "God." Every Girl Scout Group shall respect the varying religious opinions and practices of its membership in planning and conducting activities.

When a Girl Scout Troop/Group is sponsored by one religious group, members of different faiths or religious affiliations with the unit shall not be required to take part in religious observance of the sponsoring group.

## **Five Program Levels**

1. Daisy Girl Scouts – ages 5-6 (kindergarten or grade 1).
2. Brownie Girl Scouts – ages 6-8 (or grades 1, 2, 3)
3. Junior Girl Scouts – ages 8-11 (or grades 3, 4, 5, 6)
4. Cadette Girl Scouts – ages 11-14 (or grades 6, 7, 8, 9)
5. Senior Girl Scouts – ages 14-17 (or grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

The Cadette and Senior groups are being gradually combined into a single group through 2007.

**Girl Scout Promise**

On my honor, I will try:  
 To serve God and my country,  
 To help people at all times.  
 And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**Girl Scout Law**

I will do my best to be  
 Honest and fair,  
 Friendly and helpful,  
 Considerate and caring,  
 Courageous and strong, and  
 Responsible for what I say and do,  
 And to  
 Respect myself and others,  
 Respect authority,  
 Use resources wisely,  
 Make the world a better place, and  
 Be a sister to every Girl Scout.

**Girl Scout Motto -- Be Prepared**

**Girl Scout Slogan -- Do a Good Turn Daily**

**Girl Scout Sponsorship Agreements**

The sponsorship agreement lists the responsibilities of the Girl Scout unit, the sponsor and the local Girl Scout Council. A Girl Scout council is responsible for making Girl Scouting available to all girls who want to participate.

In general, the sponsorship agreement may be that the United Methodist Church will furnish the facilities, offer to recruit adult leadership from among its membership, and provide an environment that supports the principles of Girl Scouting. It will say that the Girl Scout Council will provide the program, appoint and train the leaders, supervise the quality and safety of Girl Scout activities, provide liability insurance for Girl Scout activities, and keep the sponsor informed about Girl Scout activities and trends. The troop/group will learn and follow guidelines for using the facilities, carry out a service project for the sponsor, and keep the sponsor liaison (Local Church Scouting Coordinator) informed of troop activities and needs. The sponsor may provide guidelines for use of their facilities, select a person to serve as Local Church Scouting Coordinator, refer volunteers for Girl Scout leadership positions, give service project ideas to the unit, and publicize Girl Scout activities within the organization.

***GCUMM & GSUSA Plan of Cooperation filed at the back of this chapter.  
 Camp Fire USA***

## General

Camp Fire was founded in 1910 and was the first nonsectarian organization for girls in the United States. Membership was expanded to include boys in 1975. The guiding principle that young people's participation in adult-guided activities would lead to their acquiring the life-enhancing skills needed to be successful adults. This child-centered approach to youth development caught on and spread rapidly. By the end of the 1920s, Camp Fire reported that its groups were finding homes in faith-based communities, which had become the largest supporters of Camp Fire groups. (Forty percent of the groups were organized in churches or sponsored by clergy).

### Contacts:

#### **Camp Fire USA**

National Executive Director

4601 Madison Ave.

Kansas City, Missouri 64112-1278

Phone: 816-756-1950 Fax: 816-756-0258

Web site: [www.campfireusa.org](http://www.campfireusa.org)

Email: [info@campfireusa.org](mailto:info@campfireusa.org)

## Programs

Camp Fire USA national program, including clubs, camping and environmental education, and service to the community, give youth life-enhancing experiences with their family and other caring adults. The programs are family focused, welcoming and flexible. Camp Fire's mission is to build caring, confident youth and future leaders.

Programs build developmental assets as creating the foundation for healthy children and resilient adults: Support, Boundaries and Expectations, Positive Values and identities, Empowerment, Constructive Use of Time, and Social Competencies.

Camp Fire youth learn to be an active part of their communities, not just their group. In turn, communities help define the Camp Fire experience. Each Camp Fire Council determines programming according to its community's needs, tailoring national programs or creating new ones, working in collaboration and partnership with churches, businesses, civic organizations, and schools.

On the third Thursday of March each year, through the program -- ***Absolutely Incredible Kid Day***, Camp Fire issues a national call for a simple step that can make a lasting and positive impact: write letters communicating love and commitment to children, telling them how special and appreciated they are. The positive influence on the youth who receive these letters is deeply moving.

## Spiritual Development Philosophy

Camp Fire USA uses "God" in a number of program materials and ceremonies. However, they do not require an oath to God.

“Camp Fire USA holds dear the basic freedoms of democracy, one of the most cherished of which is the right of freedom to worship. Not only does Camp Fire USA respect the right of every youth to practice her or his own religion, but, through the Camp Fire program, encourages the active participation in that religion.”

“Camp Fire USA recognizes that people differ in religious belief, in religious observance, and in religious heritage. It, therefore, urges chartered councils to be sensitive to and appreciative of these differences, taking them into account in organizing Camp Fire groups under religious auspices, in planning religious observances and in scheduling places, times and menus for council-wide events involving people of different religious beliefs.”

### **Camp Fire Law**

Worship God  
Seek Beauty  
Give Service  
Pursue Knowledge  
Be Trustworthy  
Hold on to Health  
Glorify Work  
Be Happy.

### **Camp Fire Look**

Wearing a uniform is not required in Camp Fire but is strongly encouraged, because children feel pride in showing that they belong to a special group. The uniforms are red, white, and blue, consistent with Camp Fire colors.

### **Size:**

125 Camp Fire USA Councils  
629,000 participants  
Gender ration: 46% male and 54% female.

### **Purpose of CFUSA Working in Collaboration with the UMC**

1. Reach more youth and families in order to build Development Assets” in young people, as defined by the Search Institute.
2. Reach more underserved youth and increase our outreach to new at-risk populations.
3. Increase the opportunities for caring adults and older youth to become mentors for children.
4. Engage youth and their families in service activities.
5. Create sage and productive places for children who would otherwise be unstructured in out-of-school time.

6. Advocate on behalf of youth.

***GCUMM and Camp Fire USA Plan of Agreement at the back of this chapter.***

## **4-H**

### **General**

The roots of 4-H began at the turn of the century when progressive educators started to emphasize the needs of young people and to introduce nature study as a basis for better agricultural education. Boys' and girls' clubs and leagues were established in schools and churches to meet these needs. To spark the interest of young people, Farmers' Institute cooperated with school superintendents by promoting production contests, soil tests, and plant identification. By March 1904 several boys' and girls' clubs had already exhibited projects. Most states organized clubs outside the schools with rural parents acting as volunteer leaders and County Extension agents providing materials. Farmers saw the practical benefits of the program and public support and enthusiasm for 4-H grew throughout the nation.

In the 1800's, land-grant colleges and universities had been established. They and the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) maintained close contact with the development of 4-H. By 1912, virtually all of the land-grant institutions in the southern states had signed cooperative agreements with the USDA and had organized Extension Departments.

Congressional appropriations to the state land-grant institutions began in 1912 for development of early Extension work within the states. In 1914, the Smith-Lever Act established the Cooperative Extension System within the USDA, the state land-grant universities and the county extension offices. Since this legislation, Congress has continued to support 4-H.

Through the years, the overall objective of 4-H has remained the same: the development of youth as individuals and as responsible and productive citizens. 4-H serves youth through a variety of:

1. Organized clubs
2. 4-H special interest or short term-groups
3. 4-H school enrichment programs
4. 4-H instructional TV
5. 4-H camping
6. 4-H activities
7. Individual 4-H members

The mission of 4-H is to be an uncommon youth development organization fostering innovation and shared learning for youth workers and young leaders. Their

vision is to realize the transformational power of youth and adults learning together to address challenges and opportunities critical to youth in their communities.

Contacts:

**4-H National Council**

7100 Connecticut Avenue

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Phone: 301-961-2800

Website: [www.fourhcouncil.edu](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu)

## Values and Beliefs

The fundamental values guiding National 4-H Council are:

1. Treat others with mutual trust and respect and open and honest communication;
2. Assume personal leadership and responsibility for our actions;
3. Celebrate our differences as well as our similarities and always realize that working with you as partners is the key to our success.

Character building and education is an important part of all 4-H programs everywhere. 4-H is proud to be a coalition member organization of “*Character Counts!*” a nationwide nonprofit initiative to support nonpartisan, nonsectarian character education. Their Web site is [www.charactercounts.org](http://www.charactercounts.org).

## Programs

4-H Clubs, primarily for ages 9 through 19, may be organized in community or neighborhood clubs. They offer a variety of projects in which individuals enroll according to their interests. Others may be in project clubs, for a certain period of time, or short-term special interest groups, organized around needs of interests of the young people.

The five major initiatives of 4-H include: 4-H After-school, Science, Engineering & Technology, Youth in Governance, Healthy Lifestyles, and Professional Development

Since the programs vary with the areas, the local Extension Service should be contacted for more information. The telephone is normally listed under 4-H or Four-H – University Extension Center, sometimes with the County name.

**4-H Motto** – To Make the Best Better

### 4-H Pledge

I pledge

My Heart to clearer thinking,

My Heart to greater loyalty,

My Hands to larger service,

And my Health to better living

For my club, my community, my country and my world.

(The original wording of the 4-H pledge was officially adopted in 1927. It remained unchanged until 1973, when “my world” was added.)

### **The 4-H Name**

The first use of the term “4-H Club” in a federal document appeared in 1918 in a bulletin written by Gertrude L. Warren. By 1924, wider usage of the name “4-H” was adopted. This was used thereafter throughout the world.

### **The 4-H Emblem**

The first emblem design was a three-leaf clover, introduced by O. H. Benson, sometime between 1907-1908. The three H's on the three-leaf clover design signified Head, Heart and Hands. A four-leaf clover design with H's appeared around 1908. In 1911, Benson referred to the need for four H's – suggesting that they stand for “Head, Heart, Hands, and hustle...head trained to think, plan and reason; heart trained to be true, kind and sympathetic; hands trained to useful, helpful and skillful; and the hustle to render ready service, to develop health and vitality...” In 1911, 4-H club leaders approved the present 4-H emblem design. O.B. Martin suggested the H's signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. The 4-H emblem was patented in 1924 and Congress passed a law protecting the use of the 4-H name and emblem in 1939; the emblem was slightly revised in 1948.

**National 4-H Week** -- The first full week in October.

**4-H Sunday** – The first Sunday of 4-H Week.

**Number of Youth Involved in 4-H** – In 2000, 6.8 million youth ages 5-19 were involved in 4-H across the United States. More than 30% of youth involved in 4-H today represent minority populations.

### **4-H Relationship with the UMC**

4-H is one of the four cornerstones of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting in the UMC. It is a program that is no longer just for learning the way of the farm...it's much, much more... Times have been changing. 4-H offers some of the best co-educational youth development programs that have been developed by the best colleges and universities in the country. 4-H offers a unique opportunity for churches to provide a safe haven with quality programming, asset building and servant leadership from within the congregation to all youth at risk within the local church and community. Not all churches have the assets in providing the traditional Boy Scout, Girl Scout or Camp Fire programs or desire a non-uniform program...the 4-H program can fulfill the needs of the church in outreaching to youth and families in the community.

***A GCUMM and 4-H agreement has yet to be signed. When accomplished it will appear at the end of this chapter.***

***REMOVE THIS PAGE AND REPLACE WITH THE BSA & GCUMM  
PLAN OF AGREEMENT***

***REMOVE AND REPLACE THIS PAGE WITH THE GSUSA & GCUMM  
PLAN OF AGREEMENT***

***REMOVE THIS PAGE AND REPLACE WITH THE CFUSA & GCUMM  
PLAN OF AGREEMENT***

***REMOVE AND REPLACE THIS PAGE WITH THE 4-H & GCUMM  
PLAN OF AGREEMENT***

## Chapter 4

### Awards and Recognitions

It is most important that we properly recognize those who give their time and talents to make the civic youth-serving agency ministry possible. These ministries can no more function without volunteer leadership than could the Sunday school or any other branch of the church's ministry. It is also fitting and proper to recognize levels of performance that surpass the ordinary. Several awards and recognition programs have been developed for this purpose.

#### Unit Award

##### Bishop's Award of Excellence

The Bishop's Award of Excellence is authorized for the purpose of recognizing outstanding Boy Scout, Camp Fire USA, Girl Scout, or 4-H units operated by local churches (or organizations within) of The United Methodist Church that have met the established criteria. See the brochure, with application form. Where the requirements call for "a registered Unit Chaplain and Chaplain Aide," which is terminology for Boy Scout troops, the other agencies may fulfill this by seeing that the duties are fulfilled within the troop, pack, or club. Where it refers to "review annually the unit charter," other agencies may review sponsorship agreements. Several Girl Scout troops have earned the Bishop's Award of Excellence. Service projects should be significant enough to give meaning to the award by the unit participants and their churches.

Upon nomination by the Scouting Coordinator and approved by a proper committee or representative of the Annual Conference, the Bishop's Award of Excellence is presented by the presiding Bishop to the pastor, the unit leader, and at least one member of the unit at the next regular session of the Annual Conference. The award recognizes activity of one year and may be earned again.

#### Youth Recognition

##### Good Samaritan Award

The Good Samaritan Award is based on the attributes of the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-37, and our responsibility as Christians to reach out to people in need of a "helping hand" as exemplified by the Good Samaritan.

The purpose of this award is to recognize individual scouts and youth who demonstrate ministry to others through outreach, humanitarian assistance, or advocacy.

The youth candidate must be a registered member of a civic youth-serving agency unit (Girl Scout troop, Scout troop, Venture crew, Camp Fire club, 4-H club, etc.) or an active member of a United Methodist Youth Fellowship group meeting in, or

chartered/sponsored by, a United Methodist Church. Youth candidates must be between the ages of 12 and 21 and must be a member of a recognized Christian church (not necessarily United Methodist).

### **Adult Recognition**

#### **Cross and Flame** - given by the Local Church

The Cross and Flame award is a United Methodist award to recognize outstanding service to youth at the local church level. In order to qualify, a person must be an active member of a recognized Christian church (not necessarily United Methodist). This person must have been an active leader in a youth-serving agency (BSA, CFUSA, GSUSA, or 4-H) for at least five years, and/or have given outstanding leadership to children and youth in the local church. The candidate must also be active in his or her local church. For other requirements, see the brochure, with application form.

Nominees must be recommended to the local church by the local church Scouting Coordinator. After approval by the pastor, it must be presented to the church Administrative Board, Council on Ministries, or Administrative Council.

#### **Torch** - given by the Annual Conference

The Torch award is a religious service award authorized for recognizing adult leaders who have given exceptional service to children and youth through the civic youth-serving agencies. In order to qualify, a person must be an active member of The United Methodist Church, demonstrating exceptional Christian character. The recipient must have a continuous record of using and supporting the programs (for a minimum of ten years) in the life of the church at the district and annual conference level. For other requirements, see the brochure, with application form.

A special committee, appointed annually by the Conference Committee on Scouting, receives and reviews the nominations and names the recipients. Each conference may give one emblem each year, plus one for each 100,000 church members or major fraction thereof. Nominations may be made by an individual, by a local church, or by the Conference Committee on Scouting and forwarded to the special committee by April 1 each year. A citation will be prepared by the committee to be read in the annual conference session when the emblem is presented.

#### **For all of the above --**

It is important that sufficient time be allowed for processing all of these awards. Applications for these four United Methodist awards are available through the Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting, P. O. Box 340006, Nashville, TN 37203-0006, telephone (615) 340-7149, fax (615) 340-1770, or e-mail Larry Coppock, the director, at [lcoppock@gcummm.org](mailto:lcoppock@gcummm.org).

## **God and Service**

The God and Service award is a national recognition awarded by churches and youth agencies cooperating in Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.). It is given for distinguished service by adults in ministry to young people through service to the church and one or more of these national youth agencies: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire.

The design of the adult God and Service award comes from the crusader's shield that is used on the God and Country youth awards. This is to emphasize that God and Service recipients are being honored for their service to youth. Likewise, the words "Family, Church, Life" on the adult award not only reflect the standards by which the adult is being evaluated, but also refer to three of the programs in the God and Country series for youth (i.e. God and Family, God and Church, and God and Life).

The God and Service award may be given to any adult who is an active member of his or her church and who has rendered a minimum of five years of distinguished service to young people through the church and a minimum of five years of distinguished service to young people through a national youth agency. Self and spouse nominations will not be accepted. The award seeks the individual; the individual does not seek the award. If possible, the nominee should be kept unaware that he or she is being recommended for the God and Service award.

Contact P.R.A.Y. (Programs of Religious Activities with Youth), 8520 Mackenzie Road, Ste. 3, St. Louis MO 63123-3433, telephone (314) 638-1017 or 1-800-933-PRAY (7729), e-mail address [pray@praypub.org](mailto:pray@praypub.org).

## **Shepherd Church Award**

The National Association of United Methodist Scouters (NAUMS) now gives a certificate of recognition to churches that give outstanding ministry to youth and children. It is called the Shepherd Church Award, and a copy of the requirements and application blank are at the end of this chapter. Applications are to be sent to NAUMS at P. O. Box 23172, Nashville, TN 37202-3172.

## **Other Recognition**

Although the above recognitions should be given to all who have earned them, remember to show appreciation to everyone who works in the Scouting program. That can be a simple "thank you," articles in the church newsletter or local newspapers, public recognition during a worship service or other gathering, giving support to the program they are working to present, or gifts at times.

Find out, too, about the recognitions in each of the youth agencies, and nominate your leaders as appropriate.

Girl Scouts have a Leader Appreciation Day, which certainly could be adopted for appreciating leaders in all four agencies. It is on April 22.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED METHODIST SCOUTERS  
SHEPHERD CHURCH AWARD**

**For United Methodist Churches that have given  
Outstanding Ministry To Youth and Children  
Through Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.,  
Camp Fire USA, and/or 4-H**

**Purpose:**

To honor churches that provide outstanding ministry to their communities through Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Camp Fire USA, and/or 4-H. These churches welcome all youth and children; nurture them as they grow to become good citizens with a deeper relationship with God; and work with them in service to others.

**Requirements:**

1. Make available BSA, GSUSA, CFUSA, and/or 4-H groups to meet the needs of all youth and children in the congregation and the community.
2. See that no individual is denied participation in the groups because of race, creed, or economic capability. All are welcomed into the United Methodist Church and its activities, but members of different faiths or religious affiliations are not required to participate in church activities.
3. Offer and encourage participation in a God and Country religious education program each year for all ages of youth and children served. In addition, all those in the groups sponsored, but who are of another faith, will be assisted in obtaining the comparable program for their faith.
4. Observe a combined Scouting Ministries Sunday or separate special Sundays for each of the groups. The youth and children should have an opportunity to take an active part in the service.
5. When the group meets for camping or other activities, which take them away from regularly scheduled worship services, assist them as needed to provide a service of worship.
6. All leaders are required to be of good character, to have a faith in God that enables them to be a good example, and to have completed training for the position. Each group must have at least one person who is a member of the congregation serving as leader or as an active member of the committee.
7. Each group in the church has given significant service in at least two projects within the past 12 months. Service in cooperation with the local church and its members is encouraged.
8. The church has an elected or appointed local church Scouting Coordinator who reports regularly to the governing body of the local church.
9. The local church Scouting Coordinator has NAUMS Scouting Ministry training. (For training information and materials contact: NAUMS, PO Box 23172, Nashville, TN 37202-3712 or <http://www.naums.org>)
10. At least one member of the local congregation is a member of the National Association of United Methodist Scouters. Active membership in a NAUMS Chapter is strongly encouraged.

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNITED METHODIST SCOUTERS**

Application for

**SHEPHERD CHURCH AWARD**

**For United Methodist Churches that have given  
Outstanding Ministry To Youth and Children  
Through Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.,  
4-H, and/or Camp Fire Boys and Girls**

Requirements for this award must be reviewed and evaluated by the Pastor, a leader from each group, and the local church Scouting Coordinator. After all agree that the requirements have been met, and sign the application, it is to be submitted to NAUMS, PO Box 23172, Nashville, TN 37202-3172. NAUMS will send a certificate of recognition and will notify the Annual Conference Scouting Coordinator for appropriate Conference recognition.

Church Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

Conference \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children and youth receiving God and Country awards in past 12 months: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe service projects on the back of this page or on additional pages.

Who in the congregation are members of NAUMS? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Scouting Coordinator trained at \_\_\_\_\_ on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

Signed:  
Pastor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Local Church Scouting Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_

Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_

Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_

Leader \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_

Additional groups please sign below or attach another page.

## Chapter 5

### The Religious Education Program

#### God and Country

##### General

The God and Country program is a local church program of religious education, which was developed by Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.). It is not a scout program, although it is recognized and encouraged by Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Camp Fire. When members of these organizations are of other faiths, they should be assisted in knowing what program is available for their faith and helped to secure materials and an instructor for them.

The God and Country series has four units that are grade-level appropriate:

1. God and Me -- for grades 1, 2, and 3.
2. God and Family -- for grades 4 and 5.
3. God and Church -- for grades 6, 7, and 8.
4. God and Life -- for grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

**God and Me** encourages children to tell the story of their lives, think about the life and teachings of Jesus, and see how God is present in their lives today. Children at this age level do not understand many abstract terms and symbols. They can understand that the Bible helps people to know about God, but their understanding of Bible stories is quite literal. Children are also forming an image of themselves as capable or inadequate, attractive or unattractive. The God and Me curriculum is sensitive to both issues and introduces a God who is both gracious and loving. Children who participate in this program are encouraged to recognize the importance and uniqueness of their lives, and they are asked to express their views of God in their own ways.

**God and Family** is home-centered, with parents or guardians directly involved under the supervision of the pastor. This unit promotes Christian nurturing in the home and church, and encourages individuals to grow in the understanding of their faith as it relates to their homes, their family relationships in the church, and their own identities in societies.

**God and Church** provides young people with the opportunity to work with their pastor, to understand the church's structure and objective, and to participate in service projects that will give them a better understanding of the mission of the church.

**God and Life** is a reflective type of curriculum. The students will study the lives of men and women in the Bible and discover what their lives teach them about God. The young people will then be challenged to integrate their faith into their daily lives.

There is an adult curriculum as Mentor in each of the levels, whereby the adult is an active learning participant with the youth. This is a separate program, different from the “counselor.”

Program materials are available through P.R.A.Y. (and most BSA Council offices) and are to be provided by the local church to all interested children and youth whether in one of the youth-serving agencies or not. Note that the God and Church program is very similar to church confirmation programs and can be earned by an entire class.

### **Increasing Membership Through Religious Awards**

The religious awards programs have been part of Scouting’s “Duty to God” for many years, although the religious awards have always been recognized in terms of program; they have been overlooked in terms of “membership.” The religious awards programs can be used by local council to increase membership in the chartered organizations in the following ways:

1. The religious awards programs, the curriculum and recognition items, are created by the national religious organizations, not by the Scouting Programs, The allows Scout Council to initiate dialogue with local congregations about one of their resources designed to serve their own resources designed to serve their youth.
2. The religious awards programs can help a congregation embrace Scouting not as an outside group that meets in its building, but as an integral part of their ministry with children and youth. Local congregations will not only be providing religious instruction through the religious award programs, but they will also be strengthening the spiritual component of the Scouting program.
3. When a congregation embraces Scouting as ministry, it will be more inclined to offer all levels of Scouting. Although 62% of all units are chartered to religious institutions, and 55% of all youth belong to units chartered to religious institutions, only 8% of all chartered organizations offer all levels of Scouting. It would seem that current chartered organizations would be the biggest and perhaps easiest target to increase units.
4. The religious awards programs can be presented not only as opportunities for religious education, but also for ministry and outreach. For example, a faith community that offers the God and Country Mentor program for parents and guardians is ministering to the whole family, not just to the child. A faith community that offers a religious wards program class and publicizes it through the Scout Council newsletter might be reaching out to Scouts of the same faith who do not have membership in a religious institution but are interested in earning their religious awards.

The religious awards program can help Scout Councils reach diverse racial and ethnic groups and specific geographic areas of communities not being served by

Scouting. The religious award programs provide an instant and visible connection between Scouting and the church. Adults active in a congregation may volunteer as counselors for the religious award programs because they see that as a direct extension of the congregation's ministry. The continuity and tenure of adult leaders in religious institutions is greater than those in other areas.

### **Religious Emblems Display Team**

Religious Emblems Display (RES) Teams are groups of speakers who make presentations on the religious emblems programs in order to increase the awareness of these problems at district and unit level. RED Teams do not provide religious instruction. They provide information – information about the religious emblems of all faiths so that all Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting will have the opportunity to earn an emblem of their faith.

The RED Teams can be organized by a scout council or a NAUMS affiliated Chapter or district, conference, jurisdiction or national level of the UMC. P.R.A.Y. provides the instructional manual at their web site [www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org) that can be downloaded. The manual provides detailed information on organizing a RED Team, recruit team members, a listing of resources needed, and a complete script to conduct the presentations for unit levels and districts and above. Given is a RED Team Presentation outline, a presentation worksheet, checklist, and sample newsletter articles.

### **Why Youth Agencies and Religious Organizations Should Collaborate**

Although the P.R.A.Y. office is primarily known for administering the God and Country Series and other religious recognitions programs, equally important is the commitment of the P.R.A.Y organization to strengthening the partnership between Youth-Serving Agencies and religious institutions. Both organizations have unique resources in carrying out their work with children and youth, but when a congregation and Scout Council work side-by-side sharing their resources, more young people can be served more effectively. Both organizations working together for youth, can reach objectives not attainable by either working alone.

Goals of Youth-Serving Agencies and the UMC are to reach compatible goals, which they both subscribe with equal fervor, making a real and positive difference in the lives of children and youth. The program goals include leadership development, service to others, skill leadership development, and career exploration.

Congregations have new channels for reaching out to children and young people living in the neighborhood of the church and for broadening the congregation's ministry to include service to the community. The congregation's youth ministry department may be enhanced. Churches are sometimes limited in the kinds of activities they can offer their children and youth. By participating with a Youth-Serving Agency/Scouting they have

access to all the programs and resources that that agency has to offer (i.e. field trips, camp outs, crafts, achievement, rank advancement, badges, etc.).

### **Services Available from P.R.A.Y**

1. Encourages Youth-Serving Agencies to work with their religious community to serve children and youth more effectively to the benefit of both the Council and the religious organization.
2. Provides a toll free number so that council churches or volunteers may call for information. 800-933-7729
3. Contacts every council on a yearly basis to offer the “Religious Growth Programs” brochure free of charge. This brochure can be used in council training events, new unit packets, libraries or service centers.
4. Sends out quarterly reports listing recipients of both youth and adult awards. These reports provide recipient’s name and address, church name and address, pastor’s name, and unit number.
5. Provides an “Information / Training Resource explaining the guidelines for the God and Country programs and requirements for the various adult awards.
6. Mail out news releases and the *Youthscope* newsletter to all councils.
7. Provides input into adult workshops, weekend retreats, and other promotions.

A lot of the above information is available through the P.R.A.Y web site. Visit it regularly to get the current updates.

Contact:

**P.R.A.Y.**  
8520 Mackenzie Road, Suite 3  
St. Louis, MO 63123-3413  
1-800-933-7729  
[www.praypub.org](http://www.praypub.org)

## Chapter 6

### Children & Youth Protection

#### General

A central tenet of the Christian faith is the inherent value and worth of all children, youth, and adults. Children and youth are least able to protect themselves in our society and are particularly vulnerable to abuse and neglect. Each church should be desirous of doing what it can to protect the children and youth who participate in the life of the church.

Implement a policy and adopting procedures to protect our children recognizes that: *Our Christian faith calls us to offer both hospitality and protection to the little ones, the children. The Social Principles of the United Methodist Church states "...children must be protected from economic, physical, and sexual exploitation and abuse." Tragically, churches have not always been safe places for children. Child sexual abuse and exploitation occur in churches, large and small, urban and rural. The problem cuts across all economic, cultural and racial lines. God calls us to make our churches safe places, protecting children and other vulnerable persons from abuse.*

For purposes of a Policy, child/youth abuse is defined as any of the following:

1. **Physical Abuse**: Violent non-accidental contact which results in injury. This includes, but is not limited to, striking, biting, or shaking. Injuries include bruises, fractures, cuts, and burns.
2. **Sexual Abuse**: Any form of sexual activity with a child/youth, whether at the church, home, or any other setting. The abuser may be an adult, an adolescent or another minor.
3. **Emotional Abuse**: A pattern of intentional conduct which crushes a child's/youth's spirit and attacks his/her self-worth through rejection, threats, terrorizing, isolating or belittling.

The UMC congregation is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for all children, youth and volunteers who participate in ministries and activities sponsored by the church. The following policy statement reflects our congregation's commitment to preserving this church as a holy place of safety and protection from all who would enter and as a place in which all people can experience the love of God through relationships with others:

1. No adult who has been convicted of child abuse (either sexual abuse, physical abuse, or emotional abuse) should work with children or youth in any church-sponsored activity.
2. All adults involved with children or youth of our church must have been active participants of the congregation for at least six months before beginning a volunteer assignment.

3. All adults involved with children and youth of our church shall observe the Child/Youth Protection Policy at all times.
4. All adults involved with children and youth of our church shall attend regular training and educational events provided by the church to keep volunteers informed of church policies and laws regarding child abuse.
5. All adults involved with children and youth of our church shall immediately report to their supervisor (Director of Children and Youth or the Pastor) any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate.

### ***Child And Youth Protection Policy***

#### **I. Definitions**

##### **A. Child” and “Youth” and “Adult”**

Following the public school system, a “child” is anyone under the age of 11. “Youth” is anyone not a child and under the age of 18. An “adult” is anyone 18 years of age and older.

##### **B. “Paid Staff Person”, “Screened Adult” and “Adult Volunteer”**

A Paid Staff Person is someone paid by the church, overseen by the Staff Parish Relations Committee and screened. A Screened Adult is a volunteer who has gone through the screening process. An Adult Volunteer is someone who has not been screened. These persons may or may not be members, but they must be regular attendees for at least six months. A regular attendee is someone who would be missed if they weren't in church.

#### **II. Screen/selection of church staff and volunteers**

A. Volunteers (adults) who regularly work with the Church's children and youth and each church paid staff person will be screened. Those who work regularly with children/youth will be trained on child protection issues prior to beginning their regular involvement with children and youth. The procedure or screening is as follows: Each person being considered to work regularly with children and/or youth, whether as a volunteer or paid staff person, shall fill out the appropriate application.

B. Before placing the applicant in a position of responsibility with children or youth, a designated staff member or other person charged with specific responsibility will interview the applicant reviewing with them the application form previously mentioned.

C. The person conducting this interview will contact the references provided on the application form and any additional persons as the circumstances dictate.

D. Each person applying to work with children and/or youth shall authorize the church to conduct a criminal background check. At a minimum, the background check

should include the one offered by the State Department of Law Enforcement if applicable.

E. Before beginning work with either children or youth, each paid staff member and volunteer will sign a statement that they have read, understood, and agree to abide by this Child and Youth Protection Policy.

F. After the interview and background check have been accomplished, the decision will be made to accept or reject the applicant as a paid staff member of adult volunteer to work with children and/or youth.

G. Where it has been determined that an applicant should not work with children or youth, those persons involved with the decision should handle it in a sensitive manner. The Pastor and his/her designee (i.e. SPRC Chairperson / representative or Director of Children and Youth) should inform the applicant in person. The specific reasons for the decision should be given, if possible.

H. It is important that all records be kept in a locked cabinet in the Church Office. There will be a system in place that gives those who need these records access and a safe place to be stored when they are not needed.

I. Although not required to personally accomplish the above tasks, the appointed clergy shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with sub-paragraphs A through H above.

### **III. Ongoing education of persons who work with children and youth**

The church shall ensure that regularly schedule (at least annually) training focused on current issues of child protection is available to and received by those working with children and youth. Attendance at this training shall be required of all paid staff members, screened and not-screened adult volunteers who work consistently with children and/or youth.

### **IV. Supervision of children/youth**

All activities involving children and youth will be supervised by at least one screened adults/staff person. When reasonably feasible, each room set aside for children/youth should have a door with a window. Half doors should be considered for toddler to second grade children. The "Two Person Rule" is defined as having at least two people in any classroom or setting, one of which must be a screened adult volunteer or staff person

### **V. Transportation**

Transporting children/youth is an important concern. Their safety can be at risk in a variety of ways. Therefore, certain discretion must be used depending upon the event attended, the locale of the event, and the age group participating, and This Policy

includes both requirements and guidelines. When feasible, there should be adherence to the recommendations in the guidelines. It is expected that the requirements will always be followed. Specific requirements and guidelines are then listed (not included).

## **VI. Trip and retreat supervision**

Trip and retreat settings can call for different child/youth protection requirements depending on the circumstances. What follows are the requirements and guidelines of this Policy. The requirements should always be implemented. Depending on the circumstances of the setting, who is in attendance, etc., some of all of the guidelines should be implemented. Those in charge of the trip or retreat should be mindful of both requirements and guidelines, in addition to applying their own wisdom to the needs of a given occasion. The specific requirements and guidelines are then listed (not included).

## **VII. Responding to allegations of child abuse**

A. Everyone in the church has a moral responsibility and a legal duty to report suspected abuse whenever it comes to their attention, regardless of where that abuse takes place. Reporting abuse is a form of ministering to the needs of those crying out for help. Therefore, immediately notify the proper authorities (local law enforcement agency in the jurisdiction in which the child/youth resides or in which the suspected abuse occurred and/or the appropriate department of children's services). This is a requirement of the State (if applicable) "Mandated Reporter" law.

B. Immediately, remove the accused from further involvement with children/youth. Once the proper authorities have been contacted and the safety of the child/youth is secured, the appointed clergy or other designated persons should inform the accused that abuse has been reported.

C. If abuse is observed by, disclosed to, or suspected by a volunteer/paid staff member of the church, the observer shall report the incident immediately to the appointed clergy. If the appointed clergy is not available, the matter should be reported to the District Superintendent. If the accused is the appointed clergy or a member of his/her family, the allegations shall be immediately reported to the District Superintendent and immediately reported to the proper authorities as required by state of local law. The District Superintendent will take responsibility and act according to established rules of The Book of Discipline with respect to claims against a pastor. If the District Superintendent is not available, the incident should be reported to the Bishop.

D. Notify the parents of the victim and take whatever steps are necessary to assure the safety and well being of the child or youth until the parents(s) arrive. \*If one/both of the parents is the alleged abuser, follow the advice of the authorities concerning notification of others.

E. Take all allegations seriously and reach out to the victim and the victim's family. Show care and support for the victim to help prevent further hurt. Extend

whatever pastoral resources are needed. Remember that the care and safety of the victim is the *first* priority. Respond in a positive and supportive manner to the victim and the victim's family.

F. The church should provide a supportive atmosphere to all those who are affected, offering both objectivity and empathy as it seeks to create a climate in which healing can take place.

G. After having reported the suspected abuse to the proper authorities, the appointed clergy is to report the incident immediately to the District Superintendent. If the District Superintendent is unavailable, the incident should be reported to the Bishop's Office.

H. Keep a written report of the steps taken by the church in response to the reported abuse. The report should be brief and contain only factual information relevant to the situation. It should be kept in a secure place. It should be written in ink or typed to prevent it from being changed.

I. Any contact with the media should be handled by a *predetermined* spokesperson selected by the appointed clergy. \* The Conference Communications Department is a good source of help when media questions arise. The Church spokesperson should generally convey a spirit of concern of the spiritual, physical, and emotional well-being of all who are affected, and that the matter is being diligently and appropriately handled.

### **VIII. Implementation**

Unless otherwise specifically stated, it shall be the responsibility of the Staff parish Relations Committee to implant this Policy, to design and conduct future training, and to ensure the ongoing effectiveness of this Policy.

### **IX. Application**

All those who participate in the life of the United Methodist Church and use its facilities – individuals, organizations, and groups within and outside this congregation – are expected to respect, implement, and adhere to these provisions as a minimum.

-----  
**ADOPTION**

This Child and Youth Protection Policy is adopted by the \_\_\_\_\_ United Methodist Church.

---

Appointed Clergy Date

---

Chairperson, Church Council Date

---

Chairperson, Staff Parish Relations Committee Date

## Chapter 7

### Encampments, Retreats, and Other Activities

A wide variety of programs can be offered, to meet the needs of various ages and locations. Plan for the particular needs of your area. Some examples are described here that you can use as idea starters.

Be sure to designate which age groups are involved, keeping in mind the different levels of each of the agencies. Most of the events specify what may or may not be brought, such as no sheath knives, radios, tape/CD players, boom boxes, electronic gadgets, etc. They were reminded to bring a Bible, pen or pencil, and specific items if camping, such as flashlight, rain gear, and the usual equipment. Sometimes uniforms are specified, or on weekend retreats they sometimes say to save the "Class A" uniforms for specific assemblies or religious services.

Specific regulations evolve with experience, so that sometimes they may not allow tents to be set up before a certain time, there may be parking restrictions, cooking fires regulated, and types of wood-cutting equipment allowed. Always enforced, and sometimes instructed in advance, are regulations against use of alcohol, weapons, explosives, fireworks, tobacco, and illegal drugs. Vandalism and theft are not tolerated; violators will be sent home and possibly criminally charged. Although it is necessary at times to make restrictions, try to keep the information positive and fun, expecting the young people to be obedient (respect authority), courteous (considerate and caring), friendly (...and helpful), trustworthy (responsible for what I say and do), and other points of the Law.

When badge or advancement activities are offered, be sure they are equally fair to all participants, male and female. For example, if a Boy Scout First Aid badge is offered, and you have Girl Scouts, Camp Fire USA, and 4-H present, be sure you research comparable activities in their programs and offer that, too.

Information in this section comes from a variety of sources such as publications of OCYSA/S, SI NAUMS Chapter, brochures and web sites of the four youth agencies and PRAY, and event publicity.

#### **Scouting Ministries Sunday**

Scouting Ministries Sunday takes on many different formats. On the United Methodist Church calendar, the second Sunday in February is Boy Scout Sunday. This is different from the BSA calendar, which celebrates Boy Scout Sunday on the first Sunday in February. Girl Scout Sunday is the second Sunday in March. Because of the tightness of some church calendars a Scouting Ministries Sunday takes the place of the individual Sundays. Scouting Ministries Sunday can be any Sunday.

The amount of involvement of CYSA/ Scouting youth in the church service and

the actual design of the church service is very dependent on the pastor of the church. Remember that the pastor and/or the worship committee are responsible for worship. The scouting ministries coordinator needs to work closely with these people. Some pastors turn the entire worship service over to the youth; other pastors limit the celebration to an announcement that it is Scouting Ministries Sunday. The further ahead the Sunday is placed on the church calendar and the further ahead plans are made for the day, the more successful the day will be. If the day is planned with minimal participation but it goes well, the next year may be greeted with increased youth participation.

Resources to assist in planning can be found on the NAUMS website. Additional resources can be found through BSA and GSUSA.

### **Retreats**

The Evansville District in Indiana, with some South Indiana NAUMS members assisting, offered a one-day retreat for Cub Scouts, Brownie and Junior Girl Scouts, in 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grades, and their parents. Although they were required to be registered Scouts, they did not have to be a United Methodist to attend. The theme was "God Created My Family and Me." It was an opportunity to have fun, play games, worship God together, study the Bible, talk about "important stuff, do a cool craft, and eat great food." This was to complete either the God and Me or the God and Family religious award, and it was imperative that it be completed with parental assistance. It was held in a church in Evansville, Indiana, from about 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on a Saturday in October. Cost was \$22 per child/parent team, which paid for all program materials, lunch for parent and child, snacks, and a T-shirt for the child. Extra shirts could be ordered at \$10 each.

They also had an older Boy Scout and Girl Scout Retreat, where they could choose from four courses of study: God and Life (for High School), God and Church (for Middle School), Astronomy Merit Badge (boys), or Space Exploration (girls). They were required to be registered in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Venturing, or be an adult leader to attend the retreat. They were not required to be United Methodist. This was held in a campground affiliated with the United Methodist Church District, staying in a heated lodge with hot showers. A trip to a planetarium was included. Activities were both indoors and outdoors, starting on Friday evening and dismissing after worship on Sunday morning. The cost was \$40 per person, and no extra spending money was needed. This cost included a T-shirt, and extras could be purchased for \$10 each. Financial assistance could be requested.

### **Retreats- The How To Guide**

Retreats for members of civic and youth serving agencies/ scouting are church events, not the event of the youth agency. Before planning a retreat, it is important to establish a few pieces of information. Who is the target participant? What does that participant want or need in order to commit to a retreat event. Today's youth are very

goal oriented. They are hard workers and enjoy accomplishing goals that they have set. They want to know what they are doing with their time, as they are a very busy generation. These are the realities of the participants that we target to attend the Evansville District retreats for Girls Scouts and Boy Scouts.

The next step is to establish the goals of the retreat. The obvious goal of a church retreat is to provide an opportunity for youth to grow spiritually. The retreat staff recognizes that spiritual growth may not be a sufficient goal to attract attendance. Not all youth will commit to a weekend of Sunday School. The retreat staff also recognizes that the same youth may attend as newcomers to the church experience, so it is important to provide a program that will introduce the youth to church through scouting materials. The retreat staff must also recognize the need for fun and fellowship. The busier the young people are the happier everyone will be. Bored youth are creative in finding ways to fill their time. Bored youth will not return to another church event. The retreat has taken this information and established five goals for retreats. The goals are: (1) to provide opportunities for participants to grow spiritually. It is recognized that everyone is not in the same stage of spiritual development. (2) To provide fun, fellowship, and great food. (3) To serve as an outreach program of the church. (4) To provide an unusual but goal oriented program so that the youth can see what has been accomplished. (5) To provide crafts, games and other activities to fill any spare time.

Since retreats are relational events, the importance of carefully selecting and nurturing volunteers cannot be over emphasized. Each staff member should have a specific job to do, be trained and be given all of the materials that he/ she may need to do an awesome job. By no means should the staff be asked to pay to attend. Spoil the staff. Give them a budget. Give them a shirt. Encourage them. They are important to the youth and important to the success of the retreat. Make sure that they know that there are people there to help and support them.

Now that the program has been determined and the staff is in place, it is time to let other people know that the event will happen. Most of the time when retreats fail sufficient marketing has not been completed. Use the newsletters and mailings of the youth organizations that are being targeted. Respect the timelines. Just because event is important to the planners does not automatically make it important to everyone else. Brochures often need to be available six months before an event to guarantee it will be included in organization mailings. Don't forget to use district and conference mailings and newsletters from the church. It is not possible to do too much publicity. Paper is cheap. Get the word out in an exciting program that is well thought out and certainly worth their money and their time.

Retreat prices need to be reflective of all the program costs. COM, DCOM, CCOM all really like to see programs that are trying to support themselves. The retreat will have to have seed money to get started. The budget includes ten dollars a person for a retreat t-shirt and twelve dollars a person for snacks and meals. The remainder of the retreat fee is figured by adding the costs of all program materials and the cost of the retreat center. There is always money set aside for scholarships.

Sample retreat models are at the end of this chapter.

## **Fellowships**

There has been United Methodist Scouting Fellowship each year at the Assembly Center in Blackstone, Virginia. It started early Friday evening and ended after worship mid-day on Sunday. Weekend activities at their last one included a "Great Scout Cooking Contest," bagging potatoes for distribution to needy through food outlets, and collecting cans of food to be donated to the local food bank. There was a campfire, with skits, and a cracker barrel on Saturday night, followed by a patch auction. Twenty-three badge classes were offered during the weekend, with an extra fee for materials for some. Some requirements needed to be done in advance. Pre-registration fee, per troop, was \$20, with additional cost of \$8 per person payable at the event.

Since United Methodist Men support Scouting, sometimes retreats are joint event of the men and young people. In late 1998, the Circuit Rider Camporee X, an annual event, was held at Jackson's Mill (the state's 4-H facility) in West Virginia. The theme was "Do a Good Turn." The camporee is held in conjunction with the men's annual retreat. They had 287 scouts and 138 leaders/staff from four different councils. The attendance was up 50% over 1997.

Events held jointly for boys and girls are frequently held, since the programs can be so similar. However, in Southern Indiana a Girl Scout Retreat is held at Camp Laughery, Versailles State Park. The theme of the 2000 event is "The Light of the World." Cost is \$35.

## **Breakfasts**

The West Ohio Conference has an Annual Appreciation Breakfast. This event recognizes Scouts who have received their God and Country awards and honors adults with the church awards. The Cincinnati District Committee on Scouting and Youth Ministries does this, with only a token charge of \$2 per person for the breakfast. They have a local restaurant prepare the breakfast. It also serves the purpose of the Bishop's Dinner for Scouting, in that presentations are made to encourage more churches to have scouting as part of their ministry.

The South Indiana Conference CYSA committee along with the South Indiana chapter of NAUMS host a breakfast at annual conference every year. The purpose of the breakfast is to highlight scouting ministry and to be an active visible part of the church body. The breakfast is on the last day of conference (Saturday) and is free. The breakfast is held outside the auditorium where the annual conference is convening. Each year the event gains in popularity. Those attending almost always insist on donating money. Three years ago the sponsoring groups began donating the free will offering. The money has gone to the NAUMS Bible project as well as the Children and Poverty Initiative.

### **Ten Commandment Hikes**

Both churches and councils have been known to sponsor Ten Commandment Hikes. The Hike is great for those living in larger towns and cities. The concept is that participants hike to designated religious institutions and at each institution the group reflects on one of the Ten Commandments. This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce youth to different houses of worship representing different faiths. There is normally pre-registration, a fee, and a patch for completion of the hike. Larger communities may have to limit the number of participants. The All Faith Committee from Theodore Roosevelt Council offered four separate hikes on the same day with each hike having a maximum of 300 participants. Their fee was five dollars per registrant, which included a wristband and a patch.

The Tennessee Conference Scouting Committee of the United Methodist Men sponsored a God, Country, and Me Hike on the second weekend in September. This past year it was held on September 11 (Patriots Day). The hike was four and one-half miles long and was held in the city. The participants were again hiking between assorted religious institutions.

The event was open to all faiths and is designed to encourage belief in God, to reinforce God's universal laws in the hearts and minds of all believers, young, old, male, female, and to promote goodwill and tolerance amongst all peoples. It hopes to enlighten participants regarding the religious heritage of the United Methodist Church, dependence on God at home, church, school, and in government endeavors. The event also serves as a remembrance for those who perished on 9/11 and the War on Terrorism.

Each stop on the hike visited a different religious institution and celebrated one of the Ten Commandments. The commandment was then explained in terms of individual application and in terms of how it may apply more to civic law. The visit also includes prayer and an explanation the congregational history and unique concepts of the faith's teaching's about God and Country. Each stop on the hike lasted about fifteen minutes.

The fees for the event were \$8.00 for staff and \$18.00 for hikers. The fees covered lunch, maps, forms, trek signs, awards, postage, sanitation, contributions to sponsors, hiker identification, and hiker recognitions (patch, certificate, and a ribboned medal). The hike was scheduled to last from 8:00 am – 5:15 pm.

Both of these events took months of planning and required pre-registration.

### **Mission Trips**

The National Association of United Methodist Scouters, The General Commission on United Methodist Men, the Office of Civic-Youth Serving Agencies/Scouting, and the United Methodist Men's Foundation are in the process of planning the Colours of the Church Mission Adventure Series. These special mission adventures are

for youth connected with Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts of the USA, Campfire USA and 4-H.

The purpose of the trips are to grow youth to be partners in mission while giving youth opportunities to grow in their faith and with their understanding of different cultures.

In summer of 2006 there will be two mission opportunities offered. The Reverend Dr. Art Collins will lead a mission adventure to Africa University. Art is working with Africa University to plan this trip. Art is an ordained elder of The United Methodist Church. He has also served as Conference Scouting Coordinator for South Indiana Conference. In 2001 Art served as the advisor for the Trip of the Millennium, taking youth from south Indiana to Tanzania to do leadership training with UM Scouts and Guides. He has also served as head chaplain for the 1997 Jamboree and on the faculty at Philmont Training Center. Art is a strong supporter of all the Civic-Youth Serving Agencies.

The second mission opportunity in summer of 2006 will be to the Philippines. The Reverend Noah Panlilio will lead the trip. Noah is also an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. He is currently serving North Illinois Conference. Noah was born and raised in Manila, Philippines before immigrating to the United States. Pastor Noah has expertise in Philippine culture, history, language and religion. He is also a big supporter of scouting ministries also serving as head chaplain for Jamboree and is very excited about sharing his homeland with scouting youth. Noah is an experienced mission leader and has led volunteers in mission on several trips to the Philippines where both lay and clergy, adults and youth have participated in mission projects and skills training.

During the summer of 2007 Charlotte Barker will lead the third mission opportunity to Alaska. Charlotte has an extensive background in Scouting ministries particularly Girl Scouts of the USA where she has thirty-five years as a volunteer. Charlotte also has been director of the American Indian Education Foundation with the National Relief Charities. Charlotte is also a longtime supporter of youth ministry in the United Methodist Church. Currently residing in South Carolina, she has served the church at the local, district conference and jurisdictional levels. Charlotte has been a mission team leader leading youth to Brazil and also leading Girl Scouts to Alaska.

Also during the summer of 2007 Gil Hanke will lead a mission trip to Costa Rica. Gil also has an extensive background in church mission involvement. He has taken fifteen partners in Mission Trips to Haiti, one trip to Siberia and five trips to Costa Rica. His primary focus of these trips has been to provide assistance and training for children with hearing impairments and other disabilities, which affect communication and swallowing. Gil has worked closely with the Methodist Church and Rotary to make these trips successful. Gil is past president of his local Rotary Club. He has also been extremely active in the United Methodist Church, serving as a church volunteer on a local, district, conference, and national level. He has served as president of the Texas Conference United Methodist Men and is immediate past president of the National Association of United Methodist Men.

During the winter of 2008, Bob Chase will lead out last mission adventure to Chile. Bob will be teaming up with the Upper Room to provide another wonderful mission opportunity for youth. Bob is a lifelong United Methodist volunteer, who is a

past member of the Virginia Conference Board of Laity and Conference Scouting Coordinator. He has participated in two UMVIM trips to the Dominican Republic. He is also a longtime supporter of scouting ministries. Currently, Bob is the president of the National Association of United Methodist Scouters and is also a member of the executive committees for the General Commission on United Methodist Men, the National Association of Conference Presidents and a director of the United Methodist Men Foundation.

See additional information at end of chapter.

### **Sample Retreat Model for Younger Youth**

Target Attendee: Youth between the first and fifth grade who are Cub Scouts or Girl Scouts and their parent(s)

Time and Place: One day retreat form approximately 8:15 to 4:00 at a local Methodist Church

Number of Attendees: 25-30 parent/ child teams

Cost: The \$25.00 per team includes all program materials, snacks, lunch, and a shirt for the child.

Program: God and Me or God and Family

Staff: Retreat Master, chaplain, cook and menu planner, God and Me counselor, God and Family counselor, and two assistants

Crafts: Two crafts usually purchased from S & S Christian Crafts

#### Sample Retreat Schedule:

7:45	registration, welcome and breakfast
8:15	gathering and worship
8:45	work with individual retreat leaders with a break around 10:00. Snacks will be in fellowship hall.
11:15	games in celebration center
11:45	lunch and group singing
12:30	work with retreat leaders, craft with break around 1:45
2:45	finish up loose ends and check out
3:45	closing worship and celebration

## Sample Retreat Model for Older Youth

Target Attendee: Adult leaders and youth who are members of BSA or GSUSA and are in the sixth through the twelfth grade

Place: Santa Claus United Methodist Campground and Retreat Center

Number of Attendees: 50 to 75

Cost: \$45.00- this includes all materials; all program books, lodging, meals, snacks, and a t-shirt.

Sample Program: God and Life, God and Church, Geology merit badge for the boys, Digging through the Past for the Girls

Sample Program Title: God Created the Earth and Its Treasures

Staff: Retreat master, chaplain, God and Life counselor, God and Church counselor, guitarist/ music person, cook/ menu planner, two merit badge counselors, two helpers, and one Girl Scout program person.

Crafts: Two crafts usually ordered from S & S Christian Crafts.

Program Length and Sample Schedule:

### Friday Evening

7:00	staff report
7:30	registration and crafts
8:15	orientation and welcome
8:30	small group meetings
9:30	worship
10:15	bedtime

### Saturday

7:15	wake up
7:45	breakfast
8:30	large group worship
8:45	small group work or field trip with snack break at 10:15
12:15	lunch
12:45	free time
1:30	small group work with snack break at 2:30
4:00	outdoor games
5:15	free time
6:15	supper

Saturday Schedule continued

6:45	crafts/ free time
7:45	assemble for worship
8:30	snack/ finish crafts/ games
9:30	video and/ or small groups
10:45	bedtime

Sunday

7:30	wake up
8:00	breakfast
8:45	get ready for worship
9:30	pack/ clean retreat center
10:30	check out/ room inspection/ go home

**UNITED METHODIST SCOUTS AND GUIDES**  
**Colours of the Church**  
**Mission Adventures**

**Beginning in Summer 2006**

An Invitation  
To The United Methodist CYSA Family

The United Methodist Church will offer five mission adventures for youth and adults during the between the years 2006 and 2008. In 2006, two mission trips will take place in two very different parts of the world. Dr. Art Collins will lead a trip to Africa University and Rev. Noah Panlilio with Dr. Karen Heim-Baugh will lead a trip to the Philippines. In 2007, Charlotte Barker and Larry Coppock will lead a trip to Alaska while Gil Hanke will lead a trip to Costa Rica. In the winter of 2008 Bob Chase will lead a trip to Chile. Tentative trip schedules are being developed and will be sent to any one expressing an interest.

We are seeking youth who:

- Have experience in Boy Scouting, Girl Scouting, 4-H, or Camp Fire;
- Are active in their home churches and can articulate their faith;
- Have leadership ability;
- Are at least 14 years old but not more than 20 years old by the onset of the trip.
- Have the permission of their parents and the recommendation of their pastor and CYSA leader or Coordinator.

We are also seeking adults with similar backgrounds. Co leaders for several trips are also being sought. All leaders need to be recommended and will also need to clear background checks as required by CYSA/ Scouting agencies.

Each of the mission trips will have it's own goals and objectives. Each trip is being designed by the leaders and in conjunction with the mission destination. Details will be sent to interested people.

Cost of each mission adventure trip will vary but it is estimated at \$1,500 per person, though as final arrangements are made, we may be able to lower that somewhat. \$100 must accompany the initial application; this is refundable at any time up until approval of the application by the Committee. All remaining fees will need to be paid on the specific time schedule designed for your trip. Team members are encouraged and expected to seek church support as a volunteer in mission.

**UM Scouts and Guides Colours of the Church  
Mission Adventure Trips  
APPLICATION**

Please indicate which trip you are applying for: Africa University\_\_\_\_  
Philippines\_\_\_\_Alaska\_\_\_\_Costa Rica\_\_\_\_Chile\_\_\_\_ If you are interested in  
participating in more than one trip, please turn in a separate application for each.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Gender \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Church \_\_\_\_\_ Jurisdiction/ District \_\_\_\_\_

I have experience in the following CYSA programs:

BSA: Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouting _____	Boy Scouting _____
	Exploring/Venturing _____
GSUSA: Daisies, Brownies _____	Juniors _____
	Cadettes, Seniors _____
4-H: _____ Camp Fire: _____	Other: _____

List groups and programs in which you have demonstrated leadership (such as scouting, school, youth fellowship, clubs, hobbies, sports . . .)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Date of this application: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures: \_\_\_\_\_

Please consider me for membership in the team: \_\_\_\_\_

(Applicant)

My child has my permission to apply for the team: \_\_\_\_\_

(Parent/ Guardian)

I recommend this parishioner for the team: \_\_\_\_\_

(Pastor)

I recommend this youth/ adult for the team: \_\_\_\_\_

**(CYSA leader or District/ Conference CYSA Coordinator)**

Attach a check for \$100.00 written to "NAUMS" and send to:

Dr. Karen Heim-Baugh; 654 Bonnie View Drive; Evansville, IN 47715

More information is available from Karen at [umcscoutmission@aol.com](mailto:umcscoutmission@aol.com) or Marc Stowe at

[mstowe@gcummm.org](mailto:mstowe@gcummm.org)



## Colours of the Church Mission Trip

### Philippines 2006

**Leadership:** Rev. Noah R. Panlilio, OSL Pastor in Sandwich, Illinois  
Has lead numerous VIM mission trips to the Philippines.  
He was active in scouting in the Philippines before coming to the United States. He has served as a Chaplain in National Boy Scout Jamborees. He is also an active Boy Scout Leader.

**Background:** **THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS** is composed of seven thousand islands and islets. The country is slightly larger than the state of Nevada. The land is generally lush, with fertile farming lands, bountiful fishing waters and significant natural resources. The Philippines rank in the top 10 nations of gold, copper, chromium, and in exports of pineapples, bananas, and sugarcane and coconut products. More than a billion dollars worth of food products are exported each year. The capital city and the seat of Government is Manila City.

There are approximately 80 million people based on UN projections. Another two million Filipinos live in 117 countries including approximately one and a half million in the United States.

There are many ethnic and cultural groups speaking approximately 80 different languages and dialects. The official national language is based mainly on the **Tagalog** dialect, which has a very strong Spanish influence. **English** is the language used as the medium of instruction and officially used in government proceedings. It is largely spoken as a second language by a substantial number of Filipinos.

The Philippines is predominantly Roman Catholic – 85%, Protestants – 9%, Muslims – 5% and others – 1%.

The Methodist Church is the **First Protestant** church to set foot in the country in 1898, after the Philippines were ceded over to the U.S. Government when Admiral George Dewey defeated the Spanish fleet at the Battle of Manila Bay. Several Methodist missions started under the supervision of Bishop Thoburn of India in 1899. Today, the United Methodist Church is one of the largest Protestant evangelical denominations in the country.

**Project:** The Philippine Mission trip has two-fold objectives. First, is to **build a physical building** to serve as a place where the faithful can gather and be nurtured in the Word of God and second, to **build relationships** in the hearts of the church people and the community.

The Project site is **The Maria Mora Memorial United Methodist Church** in the rural town of Iba in the province of Zambales, 80 miles north of the city of Manila. This province is not too far from the former largest U.S. Naval Base in the Pacific, the Subic Naval Base. The United Methodist congregation in this town is a growing church. This area has been witnessed by the love of God in Jesus Christ. The pressing need is the completion of the **sanctuary** of the church for church people to use for Sunday worship services and the **Educational Building** for Christian Education programs and activities for children and adults. The project will revolve around putting up a roof, painting rooms, repairs and mending of the present facility.

**Tentative Date:** Early June 2006 for 12 days.

**Cost:** Estimated \$2200 inclusive with airfare from Chicago. Covers all costs except snacks and souvenirs; participants will also have to procure US Passports and the recommended immunizations to travel to Philippines. All team members are encouraged and expected to seek church support as a volunteer in mission participants A hundred dollars must accompany your application; this is refundable at any time up to the approval of the application by the committee. All remaining fees will need to be paid on the specific time schedule designed for your trip.

**Other features:** Mission exposure trips including Methodist Mission Sites and the General Headquarters for the Boy Scouts of the Philippines. There is also three days reserved at the end of the trip for touring and relaxing in Manila.

**Seats available:** \*The crew will have space for 22 people- 14-16 youth, 4-6 adults, and the two mission trip leaders.

\*Males and females are equally welcome to apply

\*Applications are available from Marc Stowe at [mstowe@gcumm.org](mailto:mstowe@gcumm.org), Karen Heim-Baugh at [umcscoutmission@aol.com](mailto:umcscoutmission@aol.com) or Pastor Noah at [revnrp1@yahoo.com](mailto:revnrp1@yahoo.com).

**\*Deadline for Application is February 2006**

\*All persons must have CYSA experience (BSA, GSUSA, 4-H, or Campfire USA) and UM connection (either directly or through CYSA Group)

\*There will be a required pre-trip orientation and preparation.



## Colours of the Church Mission Trip

### *AFRICA UNIVERSITY 2006*

#### **Leadership:**

Dr. Arthur W. Collins  
 Pastor, Tanner Valley UMC, Lawrenceburg, IN  
 Former South Indiana Conference Coordinator  
 Treasurer, NAUMS  
 Dr. Collins pioneered UM Scouting mission trips with the  
*Trip of the Millennium* to Tanzania in 2001  
 Venture Crew 699 Advisor  
 Hoosier Trails Council VP for Older Youth Membership  
 Lifetime Member GSUSA

#### **Background:**

**Zimbabwe** (formerly known as Rhodesia) lies in Southern Africa, between South Africa, Mozambique, and Zambia. The primary ethnic groups are Shona, Ndebele, and White. The central plains of Zimbabwe abound in large game. The eastern border with Mozambique is mountainous. The northern border is defined by the Zambezi River, of which Victoria Falls is the most prominent feature. Zimbabwe has the southernmost tropical rainforest, but is mostly plains. The capital is Harare. English is the predominant language.

**Africa University** is a United Methodist-related institution, the only four-year, accredited, degree-granting university between the Sahara and South Africa. Agricultural scientists, clergy, teachers, and future leaders for their home countries are educated there. Students come from all over sub-Saharan Africa. AU is situated near the town of Mutare, on land granted to the Methodist Church for missions work in colonial times. The United Methodist Church has many congregations and agencies active throughout the country.

- Project:** Working with AIDS orphans (older children and youth whose parents have died of AIDS)  
 The General Board of Global Ministries and Africa U. are working with AIDS orphans to teach survival skills  
 Our youth will live in dorms with the AIDS orphans for a week to augment their learning; AU faculty will work with them part of the time, and we will teach them leadership skills as well as provide them a camp-type experience  
 The week will include worship, campfire, and games
- Tentative date:** Mid-July, 2006 (after our Independence Day, but return before August 1)
- Cost:** Estimated at \$2000, which covers all costs except snacks and souvenirs; participants will also have to procure US Passports and the recommended immunizations to travel to Zimbabwe. All team members are encouraged and expected to seek church support as a volunteer in mission participants A hundred dollars must accompany your application; this is refundable at any time up to the approval of the application by the committee. All remaining fees will need to be paid on the specific time schedule designed for your trip.
- Other features:** Visiting Victoria Falls, hiking along the Mozambique border, game drive on the plains
- Seats available:**
- \*The crew will have space for 10-16 youth (ages 14-20) and 4-8 adults
  - \*Males and females are equally welcome to apply
  - \*Applications are available from Marc Stowe at [mstowe@gcumm.org](mailto:mstowe@gcumm.org), Karen Heim-Baugh at [umcscoutmission@aol.com](mailto:umcscoutmission@aol.com), or from Art Collins at [awcollins@suscom.net](mailto:awcollins@suscom.net)
  - \*All persons must have CYSA experience (BSA, GSUSA, 4-H, or Camp Fire) and UM connection (either directly or through CYSA group)
  - \*There will be required pre-trip orientation and preparation

## CHAPTER 8

### BISHOP'S DINNER FOR SCOUTING

#### General

A Bishop's Dinner for Scouting brings together at one time a number of churches and other United Methodist organization that could expand this ministry of outreach and organize scouting units if properly motivated. A Bishop's Dinner for Scouting brings together representatives from a number of United Methodist congregations at the invitation of the Conference Bishop. The purpose of this dinner is two-fold. First, the dinner affords conference leadership the opportunity to help local congregations understand how their youth-serving programs can become an integral part of the ministry and life of the church. Second, the dinner provides an excellent forum to showcase the programs offered by the four youth-serving agencies and to encourage local congregations to incorporate one or more of them into their ministry.

This program can be initiated by a United Methodist Conference Scouting Coordinator, a District Scouting Coordinator, or a combination of Conference and Districts that are geographical defined. The proper coordination should be accomplished with the Conference Bishop's Administrative office and/or the District Superintendent's Administrative Office.

#### Planning and execution

A. What is it? An Annual conference or district event intended to bring church pastors, children and youth directors and ministers and lay leaders together with civic youth-serving agency officials to share information and ultimately grow the scouting ministry in the local church.

B. Who attends?

- From the Church: Bishop of an Annual Conference; District Superintendents; Annual, District and Local Church Scouting Coordinators; Local Church Pastors; Children and Youth Directors or Ministers; and Lay Leaders.
- From the Youth-Serving Agencies: Executive Director, other professional staff, and local Council Volunteer Leadership.

C. Why? To grow and expand the scouting ministry in the local church, to serve children and youth in the local church's community, and to serve unchurched families.

D. Where? At a local United Methodist Church as it is a church event and should be held in a local church setting.

E. Cost? There should not be a cost to the participants. Ask a local United Methodist Men's Group to assist in funding or local United Methodist donors. Use resources of the local Youth-Serving Agencies and Annual and District Conferences.

F. Methods? Bishop's Dinners may be more effective when a District or a group of Districts conducts them.

G. Keys to success?

1. Plan your work and work your plan. See backdating schedule in *Guidelines for Organizing a United Methodist Bishop's Dinner*.
2. Plan the event in partnership with UMMen's President and/or key leadership of the district and conference.
3. Allow 3-6 months of planning in scheduling a Bishop's Dinner.
4. Have an Organizing & Planning Committee. Not a one-person show.
5. District Superintendents must have ownership as they meet one-on-one with each other and meet or present events at Bishop's cabinet meetings.
6. Conduct Bishop's Dinner at a church facility using their Fellowship Hall or Life Enrichment Centers. Ask the local church UM Men or UM Women to prepare and serve the food.
7. Send invitations to all churches in a timely manner.
8. Children and Youth Directors or Ministers can be a key to ultimate success. Make sure to invite them.
9. Do not charge participants.
10. Follow-up with phone calls.
11. Provide a concise 2 – 2 ½ hour program.
12. Brief all presenters on the program.
13. Recruit and train table organizers.
14. Insure that the covenant cards are handed to the Bishop or District Superintendent by the local pastors before departing.

15. Send thank you cards to the appropriate persons after the dinner.
16. Follow-up to the event.

### **Guidelines Resource**

As part of your planning, obtain a copy of the “Guidelines for Organizing a United Methodist Bishop’s Dinner for Scouting” which is a very detailed procedure on how to do it.

Send a request by mail to:

Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting  
General Commission on United Methodist Men  
P.O. Box 340006  
Nashville, TN 37203-0006

Or call 615-340-7149

Or send an email to [lcoppock@gcumm.org](mailto:lcoppock@gcumm.org)

Or visit the Web Site: [www.naums.org](http://www.naums.org) and download the document.

This pamphlet includes information and samples of master planning schedule, Plans of Actions for Conference, District, and Youth- Serving Agencies, sample Bishop’s letter, sample follow-up letter, visitation guide, covenant card, sample program agenda, sample invitation, duties of church organizer/contact person and duties of the church organizing committee and sample resources from successful Bishop’s dinners.

## Chapter 9

### Resources

#### Organization Addresses

##### **Boy Scouts of America**

1325 Walnut Lane  
PO Box 152079  
Irving, TX 75015-2079  
Phone: 972-580-2000  
[www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org)

##### **Campfire USA**

4601 Madison Avenue  
Kansas City, MO 64112  
Phone: 816-756-1950  
[www.campfireusa.org](http://www.campfireusa.org)

##### **Girl Scouts of the USA**

420 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10018  
Phone: 212-852-8000  
[www.girlscouts.org](http://www.girlscouts.org)

##### **4-H National Council**

7100 Connecticut Avenue  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
Phone: 301-961-2800  
[www.fourhcouncil.edu](http://www.fourhcouncil.edu)  
[www.4HUSA.org](http://www.4HUSA.org) (official website for youth by youth)

##### **National Association of United Methodist Scouters**

PO Box 23172  
Nashville, TN 37202-3172  
[www.naums.org](http://www.naums.org)

##### **Office of Civic Youth-Serving Agencies/Scouting**

PO Box 340006  
Nashville, TN 37203-0006  
Phone: 615-340-7149  
Fax: 615-340-1770  
e-mail: [lcoppock@gcumm.org](mailto:lcoppock@gcumm.org)  
[www.gcumm.org](http://www.gcumm.org)