

Duty to God News

#DutyToGodBSA

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Girls in Scouting...You Bet!

For those of you that have been avoiding the internet, tv, radio, and any other form of communication since Wednesday, October 11th, the BSA National Office made an announcement about girls coming into Scouting at a younger age.

Rather than re-type the press releases, frequently asked questions, and other media items from the National Office on this topic, see page 5 for links to all the items that have been released.

October Meeting Highlights

The NRRC met on Monday, October 9th in Dallas as a part of the National Board and Committee Meetings. Many exciting things were discussed throughout the meeting, in sub-committee meetings, in denominational lunches, and in the lobby as we all gathered together.

Find details from the meetings throughout this newsletter, including information on the new Religious Relationships Committee neckerchiefs and standing banners.



Contact Information

Position	Contact	Phone	Email
Committee Chair	Paul Moffat	702-250-1148	paul_moffat@me.com
Staff Advisor	Gene Butler	W: 972-580-2425 C: 469-401-6060	gene.butler@scouting.org
Program Assistant	Jeanne Tillman	972-580-2312	jeanne.tillman@scouting.org
Awards & Emblems Chair	Todd Moody	702-527-5705	tmoody@hutchlegal.com
Chaplaincy Chair	Peter Hyman	W: 410-822-9772 C: 484-612-3851	peter.e.hyman@gmail.com
Duty to God Chair	Robert Edmonds		drrobert@scoutingourway.com
Literature Development & Review Chair	Jason Noland	800-933-7729	jasonn@praypub.org
Membership Growth Chair	Clarence Crayton	202-253-2993	ccrayton@amescouts.org
Religious Relations Chair	Dr. Larry Call		
Religious Rights & Liberties	Steve Hoskins	W: 801-240-5534	hoskinssa@ldschurch.org
Training & Meetings Chair	Donna Copeland	W: 918-333-4488 C: 918-333-9439	donna@copelandappliance.com
Media & Newsletter Submissions Chair	Amanda Vogt	314-650-3602	venturingpresident@yahoo.com

Upcoming Events

- ⇒ P.R.A.Y. Webinar: November 9th, 2017
- ⇒ Cubcast on Religious Emblems: December 1st, 2017
- ⇒ NRRC Meeting in Dallas: February 12th, 2018
- ⇒ National Annual Meeting in Dallas: May 23rd-25th, 2018

2017 Religious Relations Goals

- ⇒ Membership Growth
- ⇒ New Unit Growth
- ⇒ Elevate Duty to God
- ⇒ Increase Relationship Support

Awards & Emblems

Notes from October

- ⇒ The Subcommittee discussed the proposal of a Faith Awareness Merit Badge and will continue to explore that possibility.
- ⇒ P.R.A.Y. is working towards the development of a new Lions Cub age religious emblems for kindergarteners and first grade. The emblem will be called *Jesus and Me*, and will consist of four lessons. Plans are this emblem would not count towards the *Four Star Award* or the Youth Religious Emblems BSA Knot.

Social Media

Notes from October

- ⇒ Welcome to **new committee member**: Joe Shaver. Joe will be working with Religious Emblems posts and other social media projects. Joe lives in Ohio and is a member of the Catholic Church.
- ⇒ **Facebook** Goals: Invite every council to like the page, add videos, start monthly photo competitions
- ⇒ **YouTube** Goals: Add all existing faith-based videos to the Duty to God YouTube Channel, promote the channel to councils through Facebook
- ⇒ **Instagram** Goals: Create an Instagram Account for Duty to God and share photos of past events
- ⇒ **Duty to God Hub Page**: Looking to create an easy to find website page that lists all the religious or Duty to God existing materials to one page so unit leaders can find resources easier.
- ⇒ **Newsletters**: We are always looking for stories for the newsletters and for social media. Send them to venturingpresident@yahoo.com. If you would like someone added to the Newsletter Distribution List, send their information to Jeanne at jeanne.tillman@scouting.org.
- ⇒ **Three Minute How To Video Campaign**: We are looking for topics and scripts for a series of monthly How To Videos on faith/Duty to God topics. Send ideas to Amanda at venturingpresident@yahoo.com.
- ⇒ Looking for new Subcommittee Members for the Media Subcommittee. If you have suggestions of someone that knows social media and would like to help with projects, please submit their contact information to Paul Moffat, Gene Butler, and Amanda Vogt. We are particularly looking for someone with video editing skills.



New American Sikh Council Scholarship

ASC Scout Scholarship of \$2,500 for Eagle/Gold Award recipients

Since 2006 a tremendous amount of work and effort has gone into laying the foundation and doing the groundwork in order for Sikh Scouting to be recognized by the Boy Scouts of America (and Girl Scouts of America) and the Sikh Faith community at large. The entire list of projects, books, medallions, booklets, brochures, website coverage, magazine coverage, general media coverage, etc., is all available upon request. Some information is accessible at www.americansikhcoouncil.org.

The fundamental Scouting values all fit like a glove with the principles of the Sikh Faith. In fact, Scouting reflects the teaching of 'Sabad Guru' of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib.

In general the Sikh American community does not really understand the true long term value of the fantastic leadership skills of Scouting and the patriotic buy in, by being integrated without losing the distinguished unique Sikh identity.

In order to propagate the value of the Eagle Award and the Gold Award to all the Sikh Americans through the Gurdwara networks a one-time scholarship award of \$2,500, has just been started in October 2017 to be given to any young teenager who achieves this distinction. This special ASC Scout Scholarship for Eagle/Gold Award recipients has been started so that parents realize that ASC takes the upbringing of our children very seriously, because unless and until all our children are armed with the very best leadership skills how can we expect a bright future for the community as a whole?

Advantages of doing the Scouting program:

1. Anyone achieving and receiving the Eagle Award or Gold Award has a leg up on their peers because Universities and Colleges will invariably prefer an applicant who is an Eagle or Gold award with all other things being equal.
2. Those children who have achieved the Eagle or Gold award have a higher likelihood of getting scholarships from many Universities and Colleges in addition to any other merit scholarships.
3. By advancing this special scholarship the American Sikh Council will be able to play a very positive role in the lives of our children across the nation and gain a tremendous respect from the parents. This will help empower our children to become great future leaders. Many of the US Presidents, Astronauts, Scientists, Professors, CEOs, Generals, etc. have been Scouts.

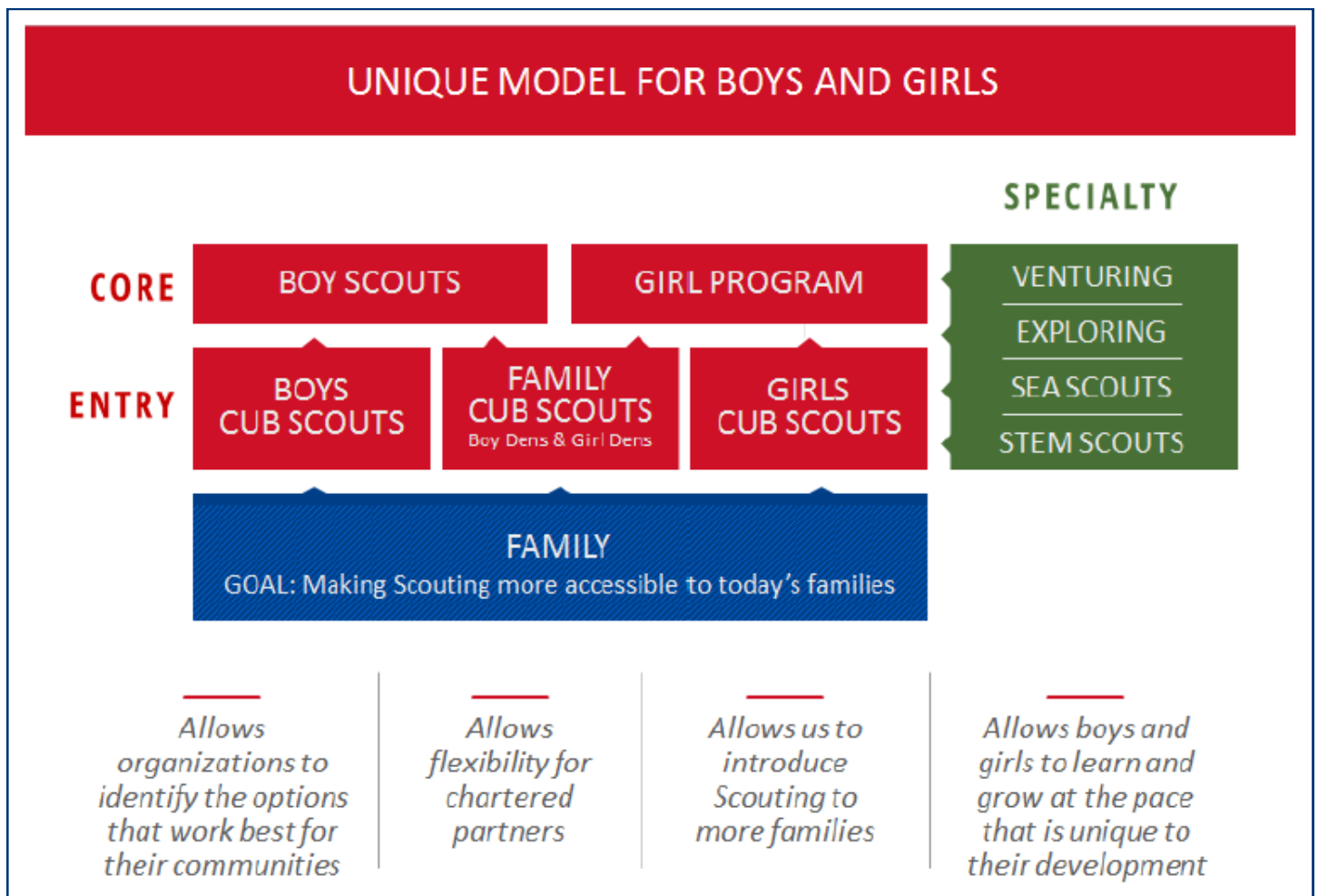
The American Sikh Council (ASC) leadership will provide ongoing guidance in order for every Sikh American Scout to achieve their goal. All parents are humbly requested to step up and enroll their children (boys and girls) in Scouting.

Contact: contact@americansikhcoouncil.org | sikhscoutsusa@gmail.com

New Program Announcements from National

On Wednesday, October 11th, the National Office released a statement about Girls joining Cub Scouting in the fall of 2018, and other future program items. Click on the links to be directed to the National Office documents regarding the announcement.

- ⇒ Press Announcement: <http://www.scoutingnewsroom.org/press-releases/bsa-expands-programs-welcome-girls-cub-scouts-highest-rank-eagle-scout/>
- ⇒ Factsheet: https://www.scoutingnewsroom.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/BSA_Family-Entry-Fact-Sheet.pdf
- ⇒ Frequently Asked Questions: <https://www.scoutingnewsroom.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/Family-Scouting-FAQ.pdf>
- ⇒ The Cub Hub: <https://cubscouts.org/cub-scouts-welcomes-girls-to-expanded-programs/>
- ⇒ Bryan on Scouting: <https://blog.scoutingmagazine.org/2017/10/11/bsa-welcomes-girls/>



Faith-Based Training Dates

There are numerous training opportunities around the country coming up for faith-based topics. Here are the ones we know about right now. Are we missing any your faith-group is conducting? Let us know at venturingpresident@yahoo.com.

In Person Training Opportunities

LDS Weeks at PTC: June 23rd-29th, June 30th-July 6th

Religious Relationships Week at PTC: July 15th– 21st

- ⇒ Baptist Scouting– Reaching, Teaching and Ministering to Children, Youth and Families
- ⇒ Chaplaincy
- ⇒ Scouting in the Catholic Church
- ⇒ Scouting for Jewish Youth
- ⇒ Scouting in the Lutheran Church
- ⇒ United Methodist Scouters Workshop

Online and Webinar Training

Is your faith group running any webinars or online training programs? Let us know and we will promote them.

- ⇒ P.R.A.Y. Webinar: November 9th, 2017
- ⇒ Cubcast on Religious Emblems: December 1st, 2017

Council Duty to God Events

Does your council hold Duty to God Events? We want to hear about them!

We also love patch images and photos of youth participating in the events. Check out these patches from the Greater St. Louis Area Council and then send us your photos and stories.



New Religious Relationships Bling

Paul Moffat got some new bling items created to help bring awareness to Duty to God at local and national events. Check out the items below. They are available for purchase, or will be in the near future, details below.

Patches

National Religious Relationships Committee:

For members of the National Religious Relationships Committee only. Contact Gene Butler for instructions on how to get one if you were not at the October Committee Meetings.

Council Religious Relationships Committee:

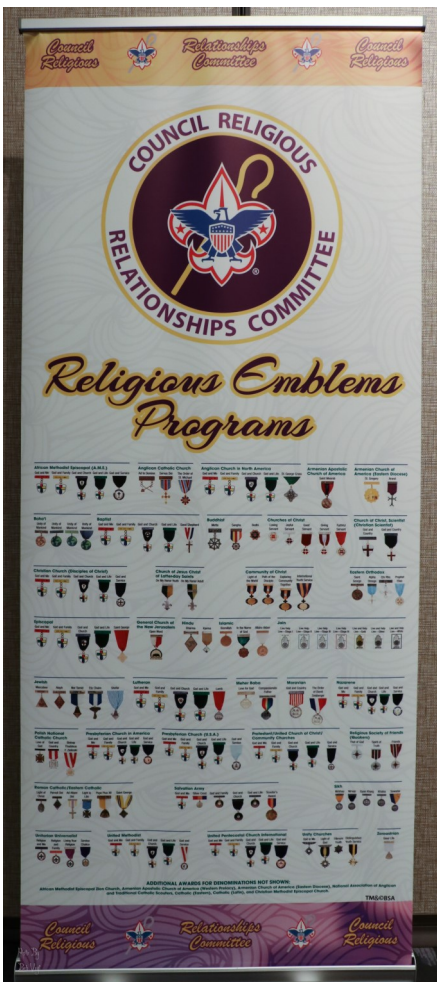
For members of local council committees. Details are being put in place for councils to be able to order them through ScoutStuff. Instructions will be announced once finalized.



Standing Banners

Religious Emblems: Available for purchase by local councils. Contact Gene Butler for pricing and to place an order.

Council Religious Relationships Committee: Available for purchase by local councils. Contact Gene Butler for pricing and to place an order.



New Religious Relationships Bling

Paul Moffat got some new bling items created to help bring awareness to Duty to God at local and national events. Check out the items below. They are available for purchase, or will be in the near future, details below.

Neckerchiefs

National Religious Relationships Committee:

For members of the National Religious Relationships Committee only. Contact Gene Butler for instructions on how to get one if you were not at the October Committee Meetings.

Council Religious Relationships Committee:

For members of local council committees. Details are being put in place for councils to be able to order them through P.R.A.Y. Publications. Instructions will be announced once finalized.



How to Tie World Friendship Knot

The neckerchiefs were specifically designed to be easy to tie in a World Friendship Knot versus the traditional American neckerchief slide. The purpose behind tying these with the World Friendship Knot is because we bring together faith-beliefs from around the world within our committees, and therefore tie the knot to represent the faith groups working together for an overall Duty to God in Scouting.

Instructions:

1. Roll triangle as traditionally rolled, and put it over your shoulders.
2. Take the purple ribbon side and go over the brown side, and back under the brown side (wrapping it around the brown side once)
3. Take the purple side and form a V shape by turning it away from and then back towards the hanging brown side (this is done to make a hole for the brown side to later go through)
4. Take the hanging brown side up behind all of the neckerchief to come up through the top neck hole (like you would a neck tie)
5. Come down the front to the purple V hole you made in step 3 and go through that hole from the front.
6. Pull tight, and rearrange to lay nicely at the end of the neckerchief as needed.

Faith Group Highlights

Each month, we will focus on three randomly assigned faith groups for 100 word stories about Scouting events and memories from their faith group to post on the Duty to God, BSA Facebook Page. Please submit the items by the 15th of the preceding month allowing time for editing and scheduling of the posts. In an effort to reach out year-round, faith groups are encouraged to submit transformational stories at any point in the year, as needed, in addition to their scheduled month. When submitting information, please send us a picture of those involved, along with their name, charter organization name, and council name if applicable.

November: United Church of Christ
Evangelical/Independent Churches

December: Church of Christ
United Methodist Church

January: Reformed Church in America
Jewish

February: Catholic
The Salvation Army
Armenian Church of America

March: Islam, Muslim, Masjid
Church of God
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

April: Buddhist
African Methodist Episcopal

May: Community of Christ
Episcopal

June: Moravian Church in America
Presbyterian Church

Friends, Society of (Quakers)
July: Christian Methodist Episcopal
Assemblies of God
Community Churches

August: Disciples of Christ
Orthodox Churches
Lutheran

September: Church of the Brethren
Baptist

October: African Methodist Episcopal Zion
Church of the Nazarene
Pentecostal

Example of text and photo to send to Amanda Vogt at
venturingpresident@yahoo.com



United Methodist Church: Scouting Ministries Workshop

Congratulations to everyone that completed the United Methodist Church Scouting Ministries Workshop at Florida Sea Base this February! Looks like a great group of volunteers, Scouting professionals, Lay Leaders, and Pastors.

2017 National Scout Jamboree

Chaplaincy Group Report

- ⇒ Chaplains at the 2017 National Scout Jamboree played a vital role at many levels, and the group received tremendous support and kudos from all sectors both during and following the Jamboree. Indeed, it was a great team effort and experience.
- ⇒ The number of ROSES noted by the Chaplains and others vastly outnumber the THORNS. A few of each are listed below.
- ⇒ Significant effort was put into greater interaction at all levels with the Medical Team, including direct interaction at each Sub-camp with the newly added Mental Health Team. Interactions were overall positive, and recommendations to strengthen this relationship are being made as we go forward towards 2021.
- ⇒ A very distinctive Chaplain shirt (with the word “chaplain” on the back) and white hat added visibility for all Chaplains, both in the Sub-camp as well as in the medical facilities and the arena during shows.
- ⇒ Interactions with the Duty to God and Country exhibits and the combines Worship Tent were very positive and fostered relationships that may well bring more Chaplains to future Jamborees.
- ⇒ Chaplains at all levels proved themselves to be doers— problem solvers, encouragers, faces with cheery smiles, lending hands, helping feet, etc. Many Sub-camp and Base-camp leaders commented on how amazing their Chaplains were 24-7.

ROSES (just a few examples reported by those outside the Chaplaincy)

- ⇒ A Chaplain who got up early every day and made coffee for his fellow Sub-camp staffers.
- ⇒ Chaplains who helped more than one Scout through a rough patch, including attempted suicide.
- ⇒ Scoutmasters and Advisors who noted that Chaplains were always there at just the right time when they were having a rough day.
- ⇒ Spectacular worship experiences for all faith groups, including both Staff and Participant services (and the amazing adaptability of our Chaplains, especially with last-minute changes in staff service locations).
- ⇒ Chaplains who brought a smile and encouraging word to Scouts who were in the hospital, both on-site and off-site.
- ⇒ Chaplains who visited staff at their work-sites and offered words of encouragement, and even pitched in to help with construction or moving of equipment.

THORNS (just a few examples from within the Chaplaincy)

- ⇒ Being listed as, and reporting to, the Program Group even though the majority of our work was with the Operations Group (Base-camp and Sub-camp staffs) and Administration Group (Medical)- we were sometimes out of the loop due to this construct.
- ⇒ Coordination of Sunday worship leaders and visitors onto the Jamboree site got a lot more complicated than it should have been. Lack of overall resources and too many different transportation groups led to confusion.
- ⇒ Is Duty to God a priority? As an organization we say it is, but too often it seems to take a back seat to other interests. For instance at Jamboree there were groups having their own programs during the time scheduled for staff worship, and there were no opening or closing prayers scheduled for any of the stage shows.
- ⇒ We still need more Chaplains— we continually have to fight to get approval for a high enough number to do the job, but we also struggle to get enough Chaplains and a diverse enough Chaplain staff to manage the known needs.

2017 National Scout Jamboree

Chaplaincy Group Report

BUDS (for next Jamboree)

- ⇒ A “Duty to God” patch was (finally) available for Scouts to earn, and the requirements included interaction with their Sub-camp Chaplain. Next time maybe we can get one that is actually a Jamboree Duty to God patch instead of a generic camp one.
- ⇒ More signage is needed for Worship events– some that were requested in advance never materialized and some Scouts had a hard time finding the worship sites.
- ⇒ Building on the work done with the Mental Health Team, we need more training in Jamboree-specific youth issues (especially for those who have not had a Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) course).
- ⇒ Continuing regular Chaplain training events at Philmont Training Center (already scheduled for July 2018) or perhaps at Summit in the future.

FINAL NOTES: The Chaplaincy program was an invaluable part of the Jamboree structure and experience on so many fronts. An amazing corps of Chaplains worked night and day to ensure that all participants and staff had a great experience.

Each Jamboree we learn how to do Chaplaincy a little better, and each time we have to bend ourselves a little to accommodate changes in structure and function of other staff groups. We do so with a smile and determination that we are there to help each and every Scouter that we come in contact with.

An after-action report was filed with the Summit Center Program Group (under whose structure we were aligned) and is available for anyone who would like a copy. Note, however, that it is specific to our relationship with Summit Center and does not include information about Base-camp or Sub-camp operations.

A more detailed report will be compiled and circulated among all Jamboree Chaplains in the coming months and will be available to guide the leadership team for the 2021 Jamboree.

Chaplain Training on my.scouting.org

Serving as a chaplain provides the opportunity to help Scouts as they grow, both physically and spiritually. Completing these modules will fulfill the position-trained requirements for any chaplain position across all programs for the unit, district, and council level.



1. Go to <http://my.scouting.org> (use Chrome on PC or Safari on MAC).
2. Enter your login name and password.
3. On the opening page, click on the BSA Learn Center or Exploring graphic.
4. Click on the Chaplain program button.
5. From the list of courses click the launch button to launch the course.

Chaplain Learning Plan ◀ BACK

Chaplain Training

3 ITEMS

0% COMPLETED

0 ITEMS PAST DUE

0 ATTACHMENTS

SEQUENCE NUMBER FILTERS (#)

Chaplain Learning Plan > Chaplain Training

1

Chaplain Roles and Responsibilities

This module will provide an understanding of various unit worship opportunities and identify the duties of the Unit Chaplain and Chaplain Aide.

STATUS Not Attempted

OPTIONAL No

TYPE Course

2

Religious Emblems and Awards

This module will introduce you to the religious emblems, badges, patches, and awards available in Scouting.

STATUS Not Attempted

OPTIONAL No

TYPE Course

3

Interfaith Considerations

this module will help you become familiar with various unit worship opportunities.

STATUS Not Attempted

OPTIONAL No

TYPE Course

New *Jesus and Me* Emblem from P.R.A.Y.

CEO Jason Noland presented the initial outline for a new program called *Jesus and Me* to the P.R.A.Y. Board of Directors at their Annual Meeting September 21st, 2017. Designed for kindergartners and first graders, this new program will introduce Jesus as teacher, friend, healer, and storyteller— someone young children can relate to and understand. As Jason explained, “This is a new venture for P.R.A.Y. We want a program that will fit seamlessly with our current series, and yet stand apart and usher in a new strategy moving forward.”

Jesus and Me will model a new cooperative writing process inviting national denominations to invest in the P.R.A.Y. curriculum and engage volunteers in producing the new piece. P.R.A.Y. is looking for experienced writers to create lessons, and also for reviewers to provide feedback. This cooperative writing model will be used not only for *Jesus and Me*, but also for future revisions of current curriculum.

To help oversee this project, P.R.A.Y. will be working with Rev. Patrice Rosner who will serve as Project Editor coordinating the team of writers, assembling the lessons, and ultimately producing the final manuscripts for the *Jesus and Me* Student Workbook, Counselor Manual, and Adult Mentor Workbook. Rev. Rosner is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and has years of experience in Christian Education and curriculum development.

Quiz Time

At lunch on October 9th, Paul Moffat started quizzing the Subcommittee Chairs about random statistics that we should all know off the tops of our heads so that we can accurately answer questions we are asked by members of Scouting or the general public. We didn't do so great without looking up the answers :(How well can you do? (These are based off of August numbers)

1. How many youth are registered in the Boy Scouts of America through a Faith-Based Charter Partner?
2. How many recognized Faith-Based Charter Partner Groups are there (ex: Catholic, United Methodist, etc.)?
3. How many Faith-Based Charter Partner units are there?
4. How many religious emblems were earned in 2016?
5. How many registered attendees of the National Jamboree did not list a religious preference on their registration form?

Answers: (1) 1,221,000 (2) 31 (3) 68,295 (4) 74,928 (5) 23 of 30,339