



Scouting in the Church of Christ

Background

- Approximately 1.5 percent of the U.S. population is affiliated with the Church of Christ, according to Pew Forum's 2007 U.S. Religious Landscape Survey.
 - According to the 2010 *Yearbook of American & Canadian Churches*, this represents approximately 1.6 million people.
- The Church of Christ has more than 15,000 individual churches:
 - In all 50 states
 - In more than 80 foreign countries
- Churches of Christ are autonomous with no central headquarters for the church and any organization or central governing body. Within each local congregation:
 - Elders, appointed by the congregation, serve as the governing body of the congregation.
 - Deacons, teachers, and evangelists or ministers serve underneath the elders and generally carry out church activities.
 - Ministers and evangelists wear the title of Brother instead of Reverend or Father.
- In 2010, Scouting membership included:
 - 10,364 Cub Scouts in 253 packs
 - 5,138 Boy Scouts in 245 troops
 - 598 Venturers in 68 crews

Role of Scouting in the Church of Christ

- Founded in 1986, the Members of the Churches of Christ for Scouting (MCCS), headquartered in Abilene, Texas, is an independent organization recognized by the Boy Scouts of America and dedicated to helping youth develop servant hearts for Christ.
- Mission:
 - Interpreting Scouting to Churches of Christ.
 - Encouraging the use of Scouting by members of Churches of Christ.
 - Promoting spiritual growth by encouraging use of the Servant Leadership Series.
- The MCCS is led by a national board of trustees of registered Scouters from across the United States.

Scouting Religious Recognitions

P.R.A.Y.'s 2007 Religious Emblems Report highlights the Church of Christ's use of religious recognitions as follows:

- 128 Cub Scouts
- 108 Webelos
- 58 Boy Scouts
- 19 Adults
- 5 Venturers

The Servant Leadership Series is the religious recognition program for Scouts who are affiliated with the Church of Christ, addressing servant leadership at four stages of life.



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Purpose

- Help youth and adults cultivate and model servant leadership and encourage a lifetime of servanthood.



Servant Leadership Series – Loving Servant

Eligibility

- Tiger or Cub Scouts in first through third grades

Requirements

- Completion of a minimum two-month curriculum



Servant Leadership Series – Joyful Servant

Eligibility

- Webelos Scouts in fourth through sixth grades or Boy Scouts 11 to 12 years old

Requirements

- Completion of a minimum three-month curriculum



Servant Leadership Series – Good Servant

Eligibility

- Boy Scouts in sixth through 12th grade or 13 to 18 years old or Venturers 14 to 20 years old

Requirements

- Completion of a minimum four-month curriculum



Servant Leadership Series – Faithful Servant

Purpose

- Recognizes adult leaders for their servant leadership in Scouting

Eligibility

- Scout leader with at least 10 years of service as a registered leader

Nominations

- Made by a fellow Scouter, unit committee, church leader, or member, or the recipient's Scout council



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Servant Leadership Series – Four Hearts Motif

The four-hearts motif of the Servant Leadership Series logo symbolizes the four spheres in the life of a servant leader. The logo also suggests that the four parts of a servant's life function in unison, as the four chambers of the biological heart work in symphony to nourish life. The four hearts represent the following:

- Service to God and His church
- Service to one's own family
- Service to the nation
- Service to Scouting



Organization Information

- Print and video resources:
 - The brochure *Scouting Works in Churches of Christ*, No. 05-201, produced by MCCS and the BSA, offers endorsements from local congregations.
 - An eight-minute videotape, *Scouting Works in Churches of Christ*, includes testimonials from elders, deacons, parents, and Scouts.
 - Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting publish a newsletter.
- For additional information about membership, religious awards, or the newsletter, please contact:
 - Members of Churches of Christ for Scouting, 401 Cypress St., Ste. 406, Abilene, TX 79601; Phone: 325-370-1679
 - E-mail: info@goodservant.org
 - Website: www.goodservant.org