

# Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith



# Celebrating Your Faith Through Girl Scouts

While Girl Scouts is a secular organization, Girl Scouts celebrate with our faith partners – during Girl Scout week and throughout the year, to recognize Girl Scouts in their place of worship, share the benefits of Girl Scouting with faith families, and thank faith partners for their support. Celebrations with your faith partners support membership, programming, and community engagement goals.

Girl Scout Week in March offers two opportunities for girls to be recognized by their place of worship for being Girl Scouts.

- Girl Scout Sunday - Protestant Christian, Catholic and Buddhist - the Sunday prior to March 12th
- Girl Scout Jumma - Muslim - the Friday following March 12th
- Girl Scout Sabbath - Jewish - the Saturday following March 12th

## My Promise, My Faith Pins

The My Promise, My Faith Pin is earned by girls who want to find out what their faith and Girl Scouting have in common, using the Girl Scout Law as a guide. There is a different pin for each year a Girl Scout earns the recognition.

Learn the steps to earn the pins with the [My Promise, My Faith Fact Sheet](#)

Additional Resources: [Make the Connection Guide - Daisy, Brownie Junior](#) | [Make the Connection Guide - Cadette, Senior, Ambassador](#)



Interested in earning this pin virtually? Utilize GSUSAs Girls of Faith: Celebrating Together virtual series.

- Session 1:
  - » Interfaith Celebration
  - » Orthodox Christian Speakers
- Session 2:
  - » Buddhist Speakers
  - » Lutheran Speakers
  - » Roman Catholic Speakers
- Session 3:
  - » Baha'i Speakers
  - » Islam Speakers
  - » Judaism Speakers
  - » United Methodist Speakers





## Religious Recognitions

Religious recognition programs reinforce many of the values integral to Girl Scouting and help girls grow stronger in and learn more about their chosen faith. Each religious organization develops and administers its own program. The following page lists the religious recognitions created by various faith groups. Parents and religious leaders will help girls earn Religious Recognitions. These may not be recognitions girls earn as a troop. Girls are of different faiths and belong to different congregations. These programs are primarily opportunities for Girl Scout families to work on together.

To learn more about P.R.A.Y., and its affiliation with the Girl Scout Program, visit [www.praypub.org/gsusu](http://www.praypub.org/gsusu).

## Planning a Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith Service and Event with Your Faith Partner(s)

1. Work closely with your faith partner. Teaming up will help event planning and promotion go smoothly and deepen the connection between you and your faith partner.
2. Start early. Houses of worship will appreciate the extra time to incorporate your event into their worship schedule!
3. Include pre- and post-activities. Events before and after the worship service are a great way to share the benefits of Girl Scouting with faith families and give back to your faith partner. You might host a cookie booth and/or cookies and punch reception after the service or do a service project—check out the activities tip sheet on page 4 for more.
4. Promote your event. Spread the word through your social media and communications channels. Ask your faith partner to promote the event in their newsletters or bulletins.
5. Thank your faith partner after the event. Faith partners will appreciate a note of thanks after your event, especially one they can share with their community.



Faith-based fun patches are available for purchase at [GirlScoutShop.com](http://GirlScoutShop.com).

# TO SERVE GOD...

RELIGIOUS RECOGNITIONS CREATED BY THE FAITH COMMUNITIES FOR THEIR MEMBERS WHO ARE GIRL SCOUTS

## African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.)



## Anglican Church in North America



## Baha'i



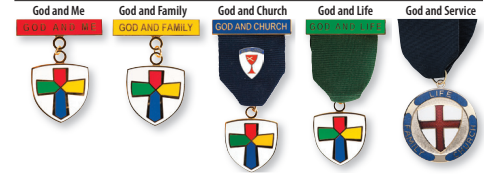
## Baptist



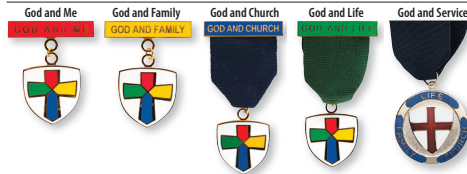
## Buddhist



## Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)



## Christian Methodist Episcopal (C.M.E.)



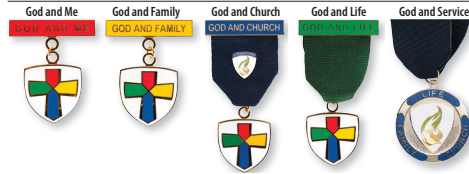
## Christian Science



## Churches of Christ



## Church of the Nazarene



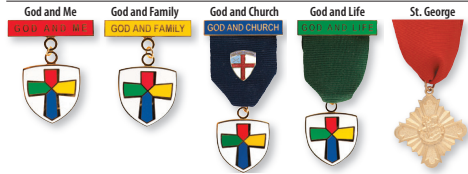
## Community of Christ



## Eastern Orthodox



## Episcopal



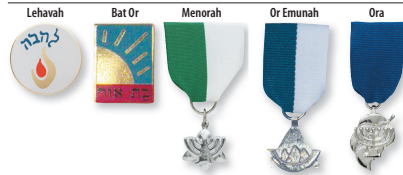
## Hindu



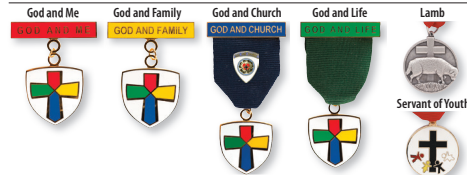
## Islamic



## Jewish



## Lutheran



## (Mormon) Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints



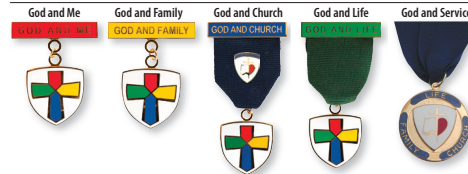
## Polish National Catholic Church



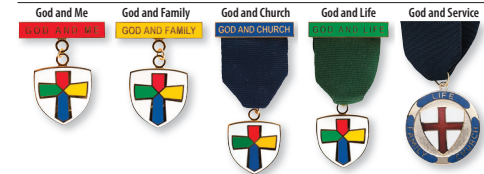
## Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



## Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)



## Protestant and Independent Christian Churches



## Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)



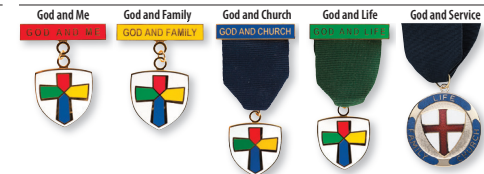
## Roman Catholic Church



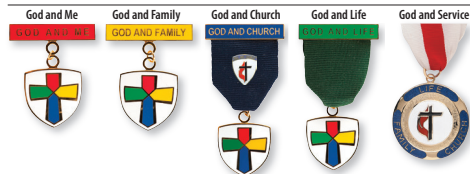
## Unitarian Universalist



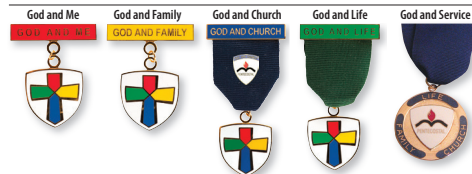
## United Church of Christ



## United Methodist



## United Pentecostal Church International



## Unity Worldwide Ministries



## Celebrating Your Faith During Girl Scout Week

There are tons of meaningful ways to lift up the Girl Scouts and Girl Scout volunteers in your house of worship this Girl Scout Week. Check out these simple tips to recognize girls' contributions before or after your worship service!

### Before the Service

Share the joy of Girl Scouting with your house of worship!

- Have girls create a picture display of service projects or activities their troop has done and share it in your house of worship's social space.
- Have your Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith event flyer available for your house of worship.
- Display a Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith flyer in the entryway or on the information board of your house of worship.
- Place a Girl Scout informational section in your house of worship's bulletin or in the pre-service PowerPoint slideshow.
- Post signs or a banner detailing any Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith celebrations you are hosting, including worship services.

### After the Service

Invite your house of worship to get to know their Girl Scout members with one of these social and community service ideas:

- Girl Scout Week falls during Girl Scout Cookie season, so consider allowing girls to set up a cookie booth in your house of worship's community space!
- Allow girls to organize a reception with Girl Scout Cookies and green punch for your house of worship to enjoy.
- Host an "Iron Chef Table" with Girl Scout Cookies as the main ingredient.
- Have troops organize a food drive as part of Girl Scout Week. Let your house of worship know girls will be collecting canned goods and other nonperishable items before, after, or during worship service.
- Does your house of worship's food pantry need some organizational help? Perhaps the garden needs some tending, too? Ask girls to complete a service project after worship service, and invite the entire house of worship to participate!
- Invite Girl Scouts to give a short presentation on a community service project they're working on, especially one they might be doing with the house of worship, and/or invite girls earning their Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award to give a short presentation on their project to share how their faith motivated them to pursue and complete their projects.

### Virtual Options

For houses of worship celebrating virtually, you can:

- Invite Girl Scouts to participate in your house of worship's virtual or socially distant service projects



(such as a socially distant food drive).

- Have girls participate in or host a virtual learning community where they can share their Girl Scout service projects, all the amazing things they do and learn as Girl Scouts, and more.
- Have girls help with house of worship service projects via a Facebook or YouTube message or video.
- Share troop messages of thanks on your house of worship's social pages, newsletter, or chat groups.
- Share digital Girl Scout Cookie buying options on your house of worship's website, emails, or social media pages.

## Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith: Sample Service Ideas

As Girl Scouts, girls learn to take the reins in their lives and communities, growing their confidence through hands-on activities and service to others. Encourage the Girl Scouts in your house of worship to play an active role in Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith observances and services!

**Girl Scouts and volunteers will be honored to be part of the service. They can:**

- Be part of the procession. If readings will be taken from the Bible, Torah, or Quran, girls may proceed in with these texts.
- Serve as greeters or ushers.
- Run the nursery so that members can worship with their families.
- Sit together in the front pews during the service, sporting their Girl Scout vests or sashes. You could also mark the reserved pews with green bows or ribbons, or with Girl Scout trefoils.
- Participate in the service by reading or sharing brief remarks about how their faith relates to their Girl Scout experience.

**You can:**

- Offer a brief welcome or introduction to the girls and volunteers.
- Lead a group prayer or responsive reading tied to the theme of the service or one of the suggested Girl Scout prayers.
- Ask past and present Girl Scouts, volunteer leaders, and highest-awarded Girl Scouts to stand at some point during the service.

- Present religious award recognitions to girls and the adults who have supported them throughout the year. Check out our breakdown of awards at [girlscouts.org/religiousawards](https://www.girlscouts.org/religiousawards).
- Acknowledge special STEM, outdoors, or entrepreneurship badges or Journeys, or the highest awards, that girls have earned throughout the year.

**Celebrating virtually? You can:**

- Have Girl Scouts give a greeting, thank you, and/or brief speech to the house of worship (live or prerecorded) during the virtual service.
- Have Girl Scouts sing a “virtual choir” song (live or prerecorded).
- Have Girl Scouts do a reading or prayer (live or prerecorded).
- Have Girl Scouts give a special children’s message (live or prerecorded).
- Present religious awards to girls and adults (live or prerecorded).
- Have your house of worship leader or youth leader give a welcome or introduction to troop(s) and adult volunteers (live or prerecorded).



# Sample Prayers and Readings for Girl Scouts

## Celebrate Faith Services

These are sample prayers. When planning your Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith service, please reach out to your faith partners for guidance in formulating the appropriate prayer or reading for your service. Thank you!

### Prayer for Jewish Girl Scouts

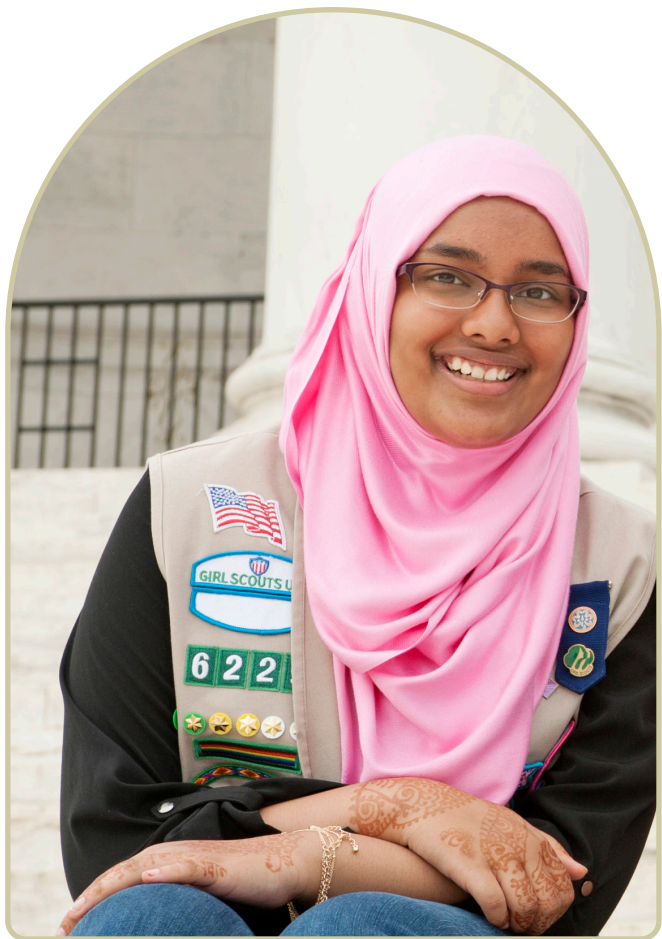
O, Lord, our God, we ask your blessing upon us and upon our sister Girl Scouts. Give us strength of character and of purpose so that we may fulfill our Promise and faithfully obey our Law. Teach us to understand that by living up to the ideals of our Movement we are helping to repair our world for ourselves and all people. AMEN.

### Prayer for Catholic Girl Scouts

Lord God, we ask you to bless us and all other Girl Scouts. Give us grace to serve you and our communities, and to keep our Girl Scout Promise and Law. Make us humble and friendly, eager for adventure, alert, and prepared for service. Give us the courage to dare to do right; make us both strong to fight and steadfast to endure; and may our lives be filled with joy that spreads happiness everywhere. AMEN.

### Prayer for Protestant Christian Girl Scouts

Gracious One, we know we are your children, we want to serve you faithfully, and we want to keep our Girl Scout Promise. Help us to listen to your voice; help us to be willing and quick to do your work; help us to be friendly and loving; and help us to thank you every day for all your gifts to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.



### Prayer for Hindu Girl Scouts

O Lord God Almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions. May there be peace on earth. May the waters be appeasing. May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to all. May all beneficent beings bring peace to us. May your Vedic law propagate peace all through the world. May all things be a source of peace to us. And may your peace itself bestow peace on all.

### Prayer for Muslim Girl Scouts

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Look with compassion on the whole human family; remove from us the arrogance, divisions, and hatred that have infected our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; reunite us in bonds of love; and guide us as we work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may jointly serve you in justice, peace, and harmony. AMEN.

## Prayer for Buddhist Girl Scouts

As a Buddhist Girl Scout,

I go to the Buddha for guidance.

I go to the dharma for guidance.

I go to the sangha for guidance.

May all beings be happy and joyous. May they live without fear. Understanding interdependence and compassion, I know that what I do now affects my happiness or unhappiness and also that of others. May all existence—human and others—whether weak or strong, small or great, near or far and throughout time, all attain perfect peace.

## Prayer for Native American Girl Scouts

Please reach out to your Native American/Indigenous communities. Due to the large number of tribes and traditional practices, we want to show respect in acknowledging that there is no one universal prayer or way of worship across Native American/Indigenous communities.

## A Girl Scout Prayer

Lord, help us to be good Girl Scouts, ones whom the world can trust.

Help us to respect our neighbors' rights, and never be unjust.

Help us as Americans, to be worthy of the flag we bear.

Help us as real Girl Scouts, to be proud of the uniform we wear.

Help us to be clean, Dear Lord, in thought, word, and deed.

Help us to follow the law that is in the Girl Scout creed.

Help us to love all people of the world, and then to serve them, too.

Help our actions to count, Dear Lord, in everything we do.

Help give us strength to carry on and do our part each day.

Make a place in this world for us and help us fill it, we pray.

Make us what we ought to be, and in thy footsteps fall.

Help us to live for others, O great Troop Leader of us all.

## A Girl Scout Speech

Today is Girl Scout [SUNDAY/JUMMAH/SABBATH/SHABBAT], which is observed during Girl Scout Week, an event recognizing the founding of Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912. We would like to honor and thank the Girl Scouts in our house of worship [HAVE GIRL SCOUTS STAND] who have the courage, confidence, and character to make the world a better place. Thank you to all the adult volunteers [HAVE VOLUNTEERS STAND] who give of their time and talents to our Girl Scout troops. And a special thank you to [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP LEADER] and [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] for their leadership and support of our Girl Scout troops.

These girls represent the leaders of tomorrow. They belong to an organization that has continually adapted to meet the changing needs of girls. But even as things change, one thing remains the same: we continue to support girls as they grow strong in faith and maintain the belief that the motivating force in Girl Scouting is a spiritual one.

[JOINED BY THE GIRLS, RECITE THE 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.

\*Members may substitute for the word "God" in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.



# Sample Bulletin Insert

Include the text below in a bulletin for a Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith service.

At the heart of Girl Scouting are many of the same values that most faiths hold:

- Supporting girls
- Making our world a better place
- Building compassionate girl leaders

Today we lift up these shared values for [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/GIRL SCOUT SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH], an inspiring tradition where girls explore the powerful connections between their faith and Girl Scouting. [PROVIDE DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING RELATIONSHIP WITH HOUSE OF WORSHIP, IF APPLICABLE]

Girl Scouts have endless opportunities to discover and nurture their interests, connect with others, and take action to better the world around them, all while strengthening their connection to their faith.

When girls are deeply rooted in their faith, they grow into compassionate leaders who inspire positive change in their communities. Girl Scouts of the Chesapeake Bay is finding ways to share its members' love and compassion to make the world a better place—not just this week, but all year long.

We are so grateful to all the families, volunteers, and other supporters who encourage Girl Scouts to grow together in leadership and faith. Thank you!

Learn more about what Girl Scouts do at [www.gsrb.org](http://www.gsrb.org).