



## Celebrate Scout-Guide Week February 17–24, 2013

Duty to God has been defined by the Cubs Scouts of 1st Rosthern SK as “honouring God and taking care of creation; helping people who are in need.”

This group of 7-11 year olds has a good understanding of what duty to God means. They learned this more by doing than through formal instruction. Scouts and Guides across Canada learn by taking part in environmental projects. They learn by volunteering in their communities. They learn through the example of their leaders. They learn by doing because it is a fundamental part of Scouting and Guiding.

Learning by doing teaches what the church calls discipleship. In other words how to live one’s faith active in love. By learning this, without knowing they are learning, youth often adopt the ideal of service to their communities as one of the ways that they care for their communities and the world. They may not call it doing one’s duty to God, but that is exactly what it is.

Today youth encounter many competing programmes and messages, many of which encourage individuals to think only of themselves. Scouting and Guiding strive to have youth think of others and of ways in which they can be true to their faith, while at the same time encouraging the youth to grow as individuals. The possibilities for this growth are endless. As youth increase in age, they take on the responsibilities for planning how they will do this, under the guidance of adult leaders.

Many Lutheran congregations support Scouts and Girl Guides by providing leadership, meeting places and administering various stages of the Religion in Life Award, including the Pro Deo et Patria award. There is also a Leader stage, and outstanding leaders may be nominated for the Lamb Award.

The Religion in Life Award is designed to help youth explore their relationship with God and their church, with requirement appropriate to different age levels and abilities. The requirement for service is in place to help youth learn what needs to be done in church and give opportunities for discipleship.

Guiding and Scouting are constantly look for better ways to share their program with more youth. Churches provide a vehicle to do this by providing space and sponsoring. Sharing God’s love takes many different forms.

Please consider ways your congregation can get involved in this important ministry!



*The task of writing this year’s insert has been shared by members of the 1st Trinity Lutheran Rosthern Scout Group—Josh, Zak, Ireland, Say Eh Thaw, Samuel, and Thomas—and group leader Rev. Michael Diegel.*

For further information on Scouts Canada and Girl Guides of Canada, please visit their websites at [www.scouts.ca](http://www.scouts.ca) and [www.girlguides.ca](http://www.girlguides.ca).

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