

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth
ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017



"When we did God & Church, I enjoyed learning more about the history of the church and it was during this course that I accepted Jesus as my Savior."

Spencer S.
Four Star Award
Land O'Lakes, FL

"My favorite family project was volunteering at the church's Vacation Bible School because I enjoy helping children."

Brooklynn K.
God and Life
Churubusco, IN
Churubusco Church Nazarene

"Michael has grown through this program and been challenged to put into words his own faith. Through the God and Family program, I have had the opportunity to share more of my faith and heart with Michael. Our family is now challenged to find more godly friends to be examples to our children."

Michael B.
God and Family
Whitehouse Station, NJ
South Ridge Community Church

"My favorite part was having Mrs. Cindy as a teacher. The most fun family project was looking up the church history"

Elizabeth G.
God and Church
Graniteville, SC
Langley Bible Church

"My favorite part was learning about God. I remember best when Jesus was found alone praying. I liked all the lessons. The Game Cube was my favorite."

Bruce P.
God and Me
East Quogue UMC
East Quogue, NY



Building Faith in Youth

MISSION STATEMENT

.....
To foster the Christian growth of children, youth, and families through churches and youth serving agencies.

VISION STATEMENT

.....
Young people are brought closer to Christ through dynamic programs that enable adults in their ministry with youth. Our programs and resources are offered through churches and youth agencies for them to work together for the benefit of youth.



From the P.R.A.Y. President and CEO

Dear Friends of P.R.A.Y.,

Each and every day P.R.A.Y. and its volunteers, like you, provide opportunities for youth and adults to connect to their faith in a meaningful and personal way through study and curriculum. Thank you for all of the work you do. In addition to Spotlight stories on our website, excerpts from the stories of Brooklynn, Spencer, Elizabeth, Michael, Rev. Coralee, Russ, Christine and others are highlighted on these pages. These stories are about growth, understanding, sharing, and families. They are personal stories that have impacted and changed lives. It is that work and the people who have shared them on a daily basis that have impacted us most in our first year of service as President and CEO.

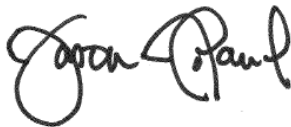
The most notable impact in the last year has been the development and launch of a website that is dynamic, contemporary, and relevant to our users and youth agency partners. Its potential to serve is going to provide you more resources and a place to share your experiences and materials that you have developed for the events you lead. It is our sincere hope that you will work with us to build a community where best practices for Scout Sabbaths, Ten-Commandment Hikes, workshops, and program can be shared. Look for our direct e-mail communications and social media posts for opportunities to collaborate with us on this work. Most importantly, keep us posted about your needs moving forward.

This collaborative approach will also yield new material in 2018. Titled *Jesus and Me*, curriculum is being developed for kindergarten and first grade children, introducing them and their families to Jesus as teacher, healer, storyteller, and friend. This material is being developed by a community of Protestant faiths, connecting P.R.A.Y.'s mission and God's work.

Thank you for partnering with us in our ministry to children and families. We are pleased to present to you, our shareholders in Christian development, P.R.A.Y.'s 2016-2017 Annual Report.



J.T. Dabbs
P.R.A.Y. Board President



Jason Noland
P.R.A.Y. C.E.O.



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Usage by Program Level

18,281 young people earned a P.R.A.Y. award in 2016. This means that 18,281 young people read the Bible, learned about Jesus, engaged in meaningful discussions with parents, mentors, and counselors, and participated in service projects for their church and community. The P.R.A.Y. curriculum is a tool for Christian Education and Discipleship and is the cornerstone of the P.R.A.Y. ministry.

God and Me

"Best Friends with Jesus"

Grades 1-3

7,204 recipients

God and Family

"Growing in God's Love"

Grades 4-6

7,308 recipients

God and Church

"My Journey with Christ"

Grades 6-8

2,290 recipients

God and Life

"Called by Christ to Serve"

Grades 9-12

1,196 recipients

Four Star Recipients

P.R.A.Y. Awardees who have earned all 4 youth awards in the P.R.A.Y. Series.

283 recipients



Usage by Agency

Part of P.R.A.Y.'s mission is encouraging churches to partner with national youth agencies. Not only do children and youth benefit from these partnerships, the congregation itself can become stronger. Here are the P.R.A.Y. usage figures broken out by youth agency:



American Heritage Girls

1,286 Recipients



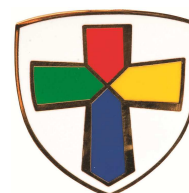
Boy Scouts of America

14,926 Recipients



Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.

1,233 Recipients



**Sunday School
(or other youth agency)**

836 Recipients

Usage by Denomination

The P.R.A.Y. Program is used by the denominations as a religious growth series and discipleship program for children, youth and families, and also as an outreach tool to the Scouting families in their communities. Here are the youth and adult recipients by denomination:

DENOMINATION	YOUTH	ADULT
African Methodist Episcopal	20	0
African Methodist Episcopal Zion	0	0
Anglican Church in North America	43	4
Assemblies of God	122	3
Baptist	2828	42
Brethren	38	0
Christian Missionary Alliance	96	1
Christian Methodist Episcopal	65	0
Church of God	158	0
Cumberland Presbyterian	19	0
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)	169	5
Episcopal	569	20
Lutheran Church Missouri Synod	454	17
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America	460	52
Lutheran	1250	5
Mennonite	15	1
Miscellaneous	625	1
Church of the Nazarene	129	1
Presbyterian Church of America	244	1
Pentecostal	120	1
Presbyterian	896	82
Protestant / Independent	4270	27
Reformed	113	2
Salvation Army	8	0
Seventh Day Adventist	10	0
United Church of Christ	354	0
United Methodist	5150	88
Wesleyan	56	0
Totals	18281	353

Bible Basics RP3

This patch series is designed to teach Bible STORIES and how to do Bible STUDY. Participants READ the Bible to PICTURE, PONDER, AND PUT IT INTO ACTION. Each patch focuses on one object in the Bible. Two new patches were added this year: Tents and Shelters, and Holes.

947 requests for curriculum

989 recognitions were purchased



TENTS AND SHELTERS

Story 1: God Speaks with Moses in the Tent of Meeting

Story 2: The Festival of Booths Helps us Remember

Story 3: Tent Maker Paul

Sponsor

Max Netzeband

In honor of the ministry partnership between
NLAS and P.R.A.Y.



HOLES

Story #1: Joseph in the Pit

Story #2: Blind Leading the Blind

Story #3: Through the Roof

Sponsor

Hazlewood Family

In honor of Mark Hazlewood's retirement.

Friends of P.R.A.Y.

We are grateful for the many "Friends of P.R.A.Y." who have given financial gifts in order to bring children, youth, and families to Christ. We thank you for your support! Gifts received during fiscal year July 2016 - June 2017 of \$25 or more are acknowledged below.

William Banta	Mark and Debra Hazlewood	Ellyn Schleiffarth and John Bennett
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Sheryl Halstead-Shake	Harold E. Rouse	Unitarian Universalist Scouters Organization

Cumulative Giving

In addition to the many "Friends of P.R.A.Y." who made contributions during the 2016-2017 fiscal year, we want to acknowledge those donors whose cumulative giving has exceeded \$500. We thank you for your continued support!

\$500 - \$999

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LAS – Puget Sound Area

Multi-Family Mission Ministries
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The Jerry D. and Cheryl L. Sawatzke
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\$5000 OR MORE

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Dover Place Christian Church
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MJ's PIZZA OF FAITH

What I learned About My Family:

God is always with us.

To always have faith in God.

To never give up.

*Mom, dad, family, friends - they
can give major support.*

To always cherish good memories.

*It is good to share. You can share
in many different ways.*

**God and Family
Deliverance Outreach Temple
Fort Belvoir, VA**

Statement of Activities

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2017

Revenue and public support

Program revenue (net sales)	\$ 564,972
Donations	\$ 16,050
Donations - Restricted	\$ 4,150
Investment Income	\$ 24,052
Unrealized gain on investments	\$ 7,365
Total revenue and public support	<u>\$ 616,589</u>

Expenses

Program expenses (cost of goods sold)	\$ 160,849
Other direct program expenses	\$ 353,798
Management and general	\$ 84,168
Fundraising	\$ 5,783
Total expenses	<u>\$ 604,598</u>

(Decrease) Increase in net assets	\$ 11,991
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Net assets beginning of year	<u>\$ 672,483</u>
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Net assets end of year	<u>\$ 684,474</u>
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Value of Endowment Fund	<u>\$ 295,772</u>
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"July 2017 was the end of a wonderful journey that I took with my grandson Travis. We started our journey when he was in the second grade and finished it eight years later when he earned the Four Star Award. P.R.A.Y. enabled us to go on this faith journey to be closer to Christ. From playing games from his "game" box to our family pizza party to all of his service projects and our studies of the Bible, we not only became closer to Christ but also to each other."

Nancy Easton (Grandmother of Four Star Recipient, Travis

Mt. Olive Lutheran (LCMS)

Folsom, CA

"For a lot of reasons, last night's pizza was the best I have ever tasted." The pizza was a celebration of Isaiah's "exploring, identifying, using, and celebrating his spiritual gifts/talents, appreciating the family he has (in his Great Grandmother, here at our church, and in scouting) and learning more about God through His Word."

Pastor Coralee Cox

Union Avenue UMC

Alliance, OH

"Thank you so much for this amazing program! The girls and I learned so much doing this Bible study together!"

Christine Chappell (AHG God and Church Counselor)

New Hope Church

Harrisburg, PA

"[The God and Me program] brought us closer together in Christ. Cole's love for Jesus grew along with his faith. Using the Bible was important to me. The games were fun and we played them with our pastor. In fact, we still use the prayer cube and board game!"

Pierre Chevalier (parent of God and Me recipient)

Christ Community Church

Palmer, MA

"Thank you very much for your support. This project was an effort of a spiritual young man who also completed his confirmation while attending to his Scouting projects. The pastor of Christ Church UMC, Louisville, KY was very impressed with the program and development of Evan."

Ross Johnson, God and Church Counselor

Christ Church UMC

Louisville, KY



Programs of Religious Activities with Youth

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