Programs of Religious Activities with Youth

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020
COMMENTS & INSIGHT FROM P.R.A.Y. VOLUNTEERS

“Loved having some background information in the Jesus and Me Counselor Manual to study ahead of time.”

Jeanette Gabrys  
*Jesus and Me Counselor/Parent*  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Port Washington, Wisconsin

“Danny’s favorite part of God and Me? ‘Doing things together with my family.’ What a great thing to hear!”

Pastor Deanna Wildermuth  
*God and Me Counselor*  
Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
Mercer Island, WA

“Spending time with my son in faith has drawn us closer and given me a chance to share God with him. He approached me and asked about being baptized. Thank you for the program!”

Marc Dayton  
*God and Family Adult Mentor / Parent*  
Spokane, WA

“Seeing Kingston grow in his faith and desire to follow Jesus is inspiring. This program has built more excitement in me for God and this church.”

Tim Jirrels, Youth Pastor  
*God and Church Counselor*  
The Harbor Church, Friendswood, TX

“It was very enjoyable to study the Bible with my son and to get his specific insights.

Heather Laffey  
*God and Life Counselor/Parent*  
Seventh Day Adventist  
Vienna, Virginia

“The P.R.A.Y. program truly is a family program, from beginning to end.”

Bob Elliott  
Four Star Counselor  
Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church  
Apple Valley, Minnesota

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.

Building Faith in Youth
From the P.R.A.Y. President and CEO

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

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. Psalm 46:1-3 (NIV)

As COVID-19 continues to spread, the future has never felt so unpredictable. These are challenging times for us all, and we pray you are in good spirits and health! While there is a lot of uncertainty, we know that we need to adapt fast to our changing reality. Now, more than ever, our community needs us. And we need you.

Since the P.R.A.Y program material, curriculum and resources, is suitable for delivery virtually, in small groups, and at home and can address devotional and instruction needs during COVID-19, we are doubling down on this work. We are grateful to be in a situation that allows us to continue serving our community during this crisis as we pivot our delivery mechanisms. In the successive pages we will share our work in:

- program delivery through new videos, virtual materials and 30-Day challenges,
- new Bible Basics patches and curriculum,
- Counselor and Clergy Facebook groups for support and resources.

This past December, Programs of Religious Activities with Youth celebrated 40 years of ministry to young people. During that time countless clergy and adults have counseled hundreds of thousands, “Building Faith in Youth.”

Forty is the ruby anniversary and it is only fitting that as P.R.A.Y. continues its strategic approach to curriculum we conclude a revision of God and Me, represented by red in the program series. We were blessed with a team of volunteer writers, both clergy and lay leaders, who took responses from our survey and made the God and Me program contemporary and relevant. In the end more than 200 volunteers helped refine our focus and participated in the process — a truly collaborative effort! That work is detailed inside this report.

In times like this, we are reminded of how interconnected we all are. Thank you for being part of our community. Without you, none of it is possible. Thank you for partnering with us in our shared ministry to children, youth, and families. We present to you, our shareholders in Christian development, P.R.A.Y.’s 2019-2020 Annual Report.

Stay safe and well,

Roni Luckenbill
P.R.A.Y. Board President

Jason Noland
P.R.A.Y. CEO

National Executive Board of Directors 2019-2020

President
Roni Luckenbill
CEO
Girl Scouts of Western Ohio

Vice-President
Rev. Samuel C. Tolbert, Jr.
President
National Baptist Convention of America International, Inc.

Secretary/Treasurer
Star Geisz
National Representative American Heritage Girls

Director
J.T. Dabbs, III
Scout Executive / CEO
Greater Alabama Council, BSA

Director
Matt Devore
Scout Executive / CEO
Cascade Pacific Council, BSA

Director
Charles Flowers
Scout Executive / CEO
Connecticut Yankee Council, BSA

Director
Lee Shaw, Jr.
Scout Executive / CEO
W.D. Boyce Council, BSA

Director
Vikki Shepp
CEO
Girl Scouts of Orange County (CA)

Director
Joy Wheeler
CEO
Girl Scouts of NE Kansas and NW Missouri
**P.R.A.Y. Responds to Covid-19**

**P.R.A.Y. Launches Virtual Resources and Reminds Parents of their Role as Counselors/Mentors**

When the pandemic hit along with all the uncertainty, P.R.A.Y. came alongside families, churches and scouting groups to help model the certainty of our faith, that God is indeed our refuge and strength.

Recognizing that families were looking for ways to anchor their children and find ways to continue their scouting activities, P.R.A.Y. responded with virtual resources and videos to help parents understand their role as at-home counselors and mentors. P.R.A.Y. has always recognized that parents and guardians are responsible for the faith development of their children. Covid-19 made it real.

As Matt Gurtner noted (after his son and daughter completed the God and Family program), “We really appreciate the great program you have to offer. It really helped fill a void during Covid lockdown (no sports, no scouts, no Sunday School). This program really adapted well to an online format.”

The P.R.A.Y. Online Resource Library now includes a “Virtual Learning” section with videos, 30 Day Challenges, and other tools including Facebook Live Recordings by P.R.A.Y. CEO Jason Noland exploring family ministry through P.R.A.Y. awards and the Bible Basics RP3 Patch series. Find these and other resources here: https://www.praypub.org/documents-resources?lib-category=virtual-learning

**RP3 Patch Series Grows during Pandemic**

“Making Room” was announced during the Corona Virus Pandemic in March 2020. How appropriate that during the start of “social distancing,” P.R.A.Y. launched a patch to remind us to make room for others and for God in our daily living.

“Fire” quickly followed in time for Pentecost in May 2020. Again, with a timely message: The Spirit is aflame. It seeks to ignite us!

The Bible Basics RP3 Patch Series offers free Bible lessons to help families and scouting groups “GET INTO THE BIBLE.” Visit www.praypub/rp3 for more information.

**God and Me Revised Program Coming October 2020**

The hard work is done! The God and Me Revision Team completed its work during Covid-19, and the new curriculum is ready for the printers. Here’s a sneak peak at the new program coming October 2020:

- Same great program with a focus on “Best Friends with Jesus.”
- Children will still make a GAMEBox.
- Student Workbooks will contain the handouts children need to make the games.
- The Counselor Manual has an expanded side-by-side format to display the student pages.
- The Adult Mentor Workbook includes snapshots of the Student Workbook to more closely connect the mentor curriculum to the student lessons.

Thank you to the Revision Team and countless volunteers who made this possible! www.praypub.org/god-me
## 2019 PRAY Program Usage

The P.R.A.Y. Program is the Religious Emblems program for Protestant and Independent Christian churches and is recognized by the American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts of America, and the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. It is a tool for both Christian Education and Evangelism reaching out to children, youth, and families. P.R.A.Y.’s mission includes encouraging churches to partner with national youth agencies to not only benefit children and youth, but to strengthen the congregation through these community partnerships. Here are the P.R.A.Y. usage figures broken out by program level, denomination, and youth agency:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DENOMINATION</th>
<th>YOUTH</th>
<th>ADULT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Methodist Episcopal</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African Methodist Episcopal Zion</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anglican Church in North America</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assemblies of God</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baptist</td>
<td>1831</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brethren</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian and Missionary Alliance</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian Methodist Episcopal</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of God</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland Presbyterian</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Episcopal</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evangelical Lutheran Church in America</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lutheran Church Missouri Synod</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mennonite</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Church of the Nazarene</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pentecostal</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Church of America</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant / Independent</td>
<td>2808</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformed</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvation Army</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Day Adventist</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Church of Christ</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Methodist</td>
<td>3649</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wesleyan</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>12295</strong></td>
<td><strong>361</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Recipients by Youth Agency

- **Jesus and Me**
  - K-1
  - 499 Recipients
- **God and Me**
  - Grades 2-3
  - 4,403 Recipients
- **God and Family**
  - Grades 4-6
  - 4,578 Recipients
- **God and Church**
  - Grades 6-8
  - 1,505 Recipients
- **God and Life**
  - Grades 9-12
  - 1,060 Recipients
- **Four Stars**
  - 250 Recipients
- **American Heritage Girls**
  - 1,058 Recipients
- **Boy Scouts of America**
  - 10,111 Recipients
- **Girl Scouts of the U.S.A.**
  - 675 Recipients
- **Sunday School (or other youth agency)**
  - 451 Recipients
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 2019 - June 2020 of $25 or more are acknowledged below.

Lloyd and Ruthie Brown
David Greg Chase
J.T. Dabbs
Don Dare
J. Tim Davis
Seth W. Distler
Mark and Debra Hazlewood
Gerald Hodgson
Dr. and Mrs. James Hoke
Ryan Larson *

Roni Luckenbill
Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ken Lyons
Michael Angus McClain
William Roy McClung, Phd
David A. Moskal
Bradford Nesheim
Max A. Netzeband
Jason Noland *
Don Noland
Scott D. Pickering *

Multi-Family Mission Ministries
National Baptist Convention of America International, Inc.
P.R.A.Y. Course, Spartanburg, SC
Stolze Printing Co.

Cumulative Giving

In addition to the many “Friends of P.R.A.Y.” who made contributions during the 2019-2020 fiscal year, we want to acknowledge those donors whose cumulative giving has exceeded $500. We thank you for your continued support!

$500 - $999
Robert B. Boykin
John R. Carpenter *
Don Dare
T.J. Furlong
J. Ford Griggs
Don Helton
Dr. and Mrs. James Hoke
Ryan Larson *
Roni Luckenbill *
Robert A. Madison
Jason Noland *
Scott D. Pickering *
Mr. and Mrs. Greg Pope
Larry and Mary Pritchard
Patrice Rosner
Bill and Rita Rundquist
Mrs. Thomas A. Steenberg *
Kathi S. Sterling *
Denise Stewart
Jeff and Pam Thompson *
Anonymous
Christian Ed Dept. AME Church
Girl Scouts of NE Kansas & NW Missouri *

Love Fellowship Church
Prayer Fellowship of Christian Scouters

$1,000 - $4,999
Ronald and Celia Adolphi
Lloyd and Ruthie Brown *
Ralph Callier
J.T. and Ginger Dabbs
Buddy and Eileen Davis
John and Stephanie Fenoglio
Mr. and Mrs. William Flather and Family *
John B. Forrest
William Gattle
Kevin Geoghegan
Angela Hazlewood
Roni Luckenbill
Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ken Lyons
Llewellyn Mallette
Kendrick JE Miller
Etta R. Moore
Ellie Morrison
Patrick and Cheryl Muckler
Bradford M. Neshem
Max A. Netzeband
Byron O’Quinn

Ellyn Schleiffarth and John Bennett
Steve and Cindy Taylor
Dennis Thornton, LAS of Maryland
Rev. Robert J. Thornton
Jon P. Wilson
LAS – Puget Sound Area
Multi-Family Mission Ministries
National Association of Conference Presidents
National Baptist Convention of America International, Inc. *
The Jerry D. and Cheryl L. Sawatzke Routh Family Foundation
United Methodist Men Foundation

$5000 OR MORE
Dr. and Mrs. William A. Bridgforth, Jr
Roy and Ruth Dressel
Paul Hafer
Carol E. Hazlewood
Mark and Debra Hazlewood
Fr. Bill Hibbert
Dover Place Christian Church
E.A. Dion, Inc.
Anonymous

* Denotes Monthly Donors

* Denotes New Giving Level
P.R.A.Y. Awards are Family Affair  
Siblings Earn Respective Awards

“I feel like the P.R.A.Y. program is a great way for my kids to explore faith and it brings up great questions and discussions within the family. Because we do it as a family, it gives the older kids that reminder that they are always mentoring the younger kids and the younger kids know that they can approach the older kids with questions and for help. While we do attend worship services & other church activities regularly as a family, I feel like we are not always as open about our beliefs as we could be and this serves as a guidance for us to have family conversations about many aspects of our faith and that’s really the reason that we continue to pursue these awards.

This year was a big year for our family. Our oldest received the 4 Star award and our youngest received his first award. Our youngest was the most excited! This will be the only time that all four kids will work on the awards at the same time.”

Laura McLaughlin  
Wichita, Kansas

---

Statement of Activities  
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

Revenue and public support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program revenue (net sales)</td>
<td>$301,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$6,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations - Restricted</td>
<td>$400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$9,563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized gain on investments</td>
<td>$11,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrealized (loss) gain on investments</td>
<td>$(3,653)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue and public support</td>
<td>$325,855</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>$332,730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>$60,717</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$4,669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>$398,116</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Change in net assets</td>
<td>$(72,261)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net assets beginning of year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets beginning of year</td>
<td>$703,974</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net assets end of year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets end of year</td>
<td>$631,713</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value of Endowment Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value of Endowment Fund</td>
<td>$333,177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
P.R.A.Y. Spotlight

Jesus and Me
“*I really enjoyed the scroll!*”
Donald G.
New Port, NC
New Bern Church of God

God and Me
“Learning about Jesus through a combination of home learning and virtual meetings.”
Simon P. and Isaac P.
Cookville, TN
First Cumberland Presbyterian Church

God and Family
“While working on the chapter on ‘cheese,’ my grandson James accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior.”
Grandfather Mark and Grandson James J.
Real Life Christian Church
Central Florida

God and Church
“The best part of my journey was drawing Jesus’ emotions. It helped me understand that he went through everything we go through.”
Dannah M.
Carthage, Texas
First Baptist Church

God and Life & Four Star Award
Nicole H. and Nikolette D.
Glendale, AZ
Mountain Ridge Baptist church

Programs of Religious Activities with Youth
11123 S. Towne Square, Ste. B, St. Louis, MO 63123
phone 314-845-3318 / fax 314-845-0038 / email info@praypub.org
web www.praypub.org