



# TROOP 21

**Christ United Methodist Church**

**Established 1912**

<http://minnesotatroop21.ScoutLander.com>

Troop 21 originally began meeting November 1912 as an outgrowth of the Sunday School Class of Dr AH Sanford. It was chartered as Troop 1 on December 23, 1912 and became Troop 21 in 1925 when Gamehaven council was created. The troop has helped 171 boys achieve the rank of Eagle through January of 2017. For 2017, the troop has 24 chartered youth members and 18 chartered adult leaders. Troop 21 has earned the Quality Unit Award in 2008, 2009, and 2010 and the Journey to Excellence Gold Award in 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, and 2016. The current scoutmaster is Dave Nelson.

**Meetings** – We meet Mondays in Wesley Hall September through July. We take August off. Meeting times are 7 PM to 8:30 PM. The first Monday of the month is a Patrol Leader's Council and is attended by the youth leadership and adult leaders.

**Camping** – We have one outing a month except the month of August. These include Spring and Fall district camporees, Base Camp in St. Paul, Eagle Cave in Wisconsin, and other campgrounds in the area.

**Summer Camp** – Summer camp is held the second week of July. Troop 21 alternates summer camps, attending a camp for two consecutive years before attending a different camp. The youth of the troop determine which camp to attend. For 2018, we will be attending Many Point in July.

**High Adventure** – Each year the youth who are 13 or older and have reached the rank of First Class decide upon a High Adventure. The 2016 High Adventure was at Sea Base, and there is a canoe trip on the Brule River planned for 2017. Recent High Adventures have included float plane fishing into Ontario Canada, mountain biking at Cuyuna Lakes State Trail near Crosby Minnesota, hiking on the Appalachian Trail in Tennessee, Canoeing in the Boundary Waters, and hiking in the Big Horn Mountains of Montana.

**Service Projects** – The Boy Scout slogan is "Do a Good Turn Daily". The troop participates in numerous service projects each year having provided 130 hours of service to the community in 2017. In addition to time spent on Eagle Service projects, we participate in Scouting for Food, Litter-Bit-Better, Rochesterfest, Christmas Anonymous, Christmas Tree Recycling, and other projects.

**Troop Website** – The troop's website is <http://minnesotatroop21.ScoutLander.com>. The website includes the troop's calendar, information on summer camp and high adventure, history of the troop, Eagle honor roll, and additional information. There is a private side of the website that is password protected that includes information on needed equipment, uniforming, scout cooking, and patrol and adult leader information. The troop also uses TroopMaster Web which gives parents and scouts the ability to view their rank advancement status information on-line.

**Troop Equipment** – The troop has tents, cooking gear, and all of the equipment necessary for camping year around. The troop also has a trailer that is used to store and transport equipment. In addition, high adventure gear is available, including lightweight backpacking tents, backpacks, backpacking stoves, and water filtration gear. These can be used for high adventures by boys who do not have such equipment.

**Scout Equipment** – Scouts should have the following equipment: Class A uniform (including Scout Shirt, and pants and belt in BSA color), a neckerchief provided by the troop when the boy is given their Scout rank, Class B uniform shirt (provided by the troop on joining) and scout book (provided by the troop on joining). The scout will need to buy camping gear such as a sleeping bag, sleeping pad, water bottle, mess kit (plate, cup, bowl, silverware), backpack or duffle bag, flashlight, and day pack.

**Annual dues** – Annual dues are \$65 which includes BSA national dues and Boy's Life subscription.

**Fundraisers** – Fundraisers are Spring and Fall Popcorn sales and Fall Wreath sales. The troop uses 5% of Fall popcorn sale profits and 10% of wreath sale to cover the costs of the troop such as equipment, patches, etc. The remaining profits go into the account of the youth who made the sale. Participation in Fall Popcorn and Wreath sales is required. Participation in Spring Popcorn sales is optional.

Occasionally, additional fund-raisers are held including hotdog/brat sales at Silver Lake Foods, and Scheels special events.

**Scout Account** – Each boy has their own account containing the money they have raised from fundraisers or funds deposited by their parents. These funds can be used to pay for monthly outings (which are \$15 to \$20 per outing) as well as buy scouting related equipment (receipts can be turned into the treasurer for reimbursement from the account).

**Financial Assistance** – Through the generosity of former scoutmasters and Eagle scouts, funds are available to assist with the expense of summer camp for those who are in need.

**Participation** – Boys cannot advance without attending meetings and activities. It is possible to participate in other activities, such as sports, and we have many boys involved in baseball, soccer, and football. Participation in these activities is not a reason to NOT join Boy Scouts. Boys should attend as many meetings and outings as possible. It is strongly recommended that every new scout attend summer camp their first year as it will help them greatly with their advancement as well as getting to know the other boys in the troop!

**Questions?** – Please feel free to contact Scoutmaster Dave Nelson (scoutmaster@t21mn.net, 507-536-7023) or Committee Chair Mark Carlson (committeechair@t21mn.net , 507-250-6640) with any questions. Also, please visit the troop's website (<http://minnesotatroop21.ScoutLander.com>)!