



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



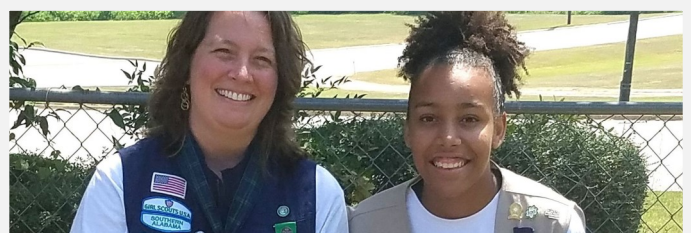
Building Faith in Youth

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.,

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. C.E.O.



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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:



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

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



AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS
FAITH | SERVICE | FUN

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	Roni Luckenbill	James Reavis
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Ryan Larson *	Scott D. Pickering *	Henry Voegtle

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

*** Denotes Monthly Donors**

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

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Girl Scouts of NE Kansas & NW Missouri *

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*** 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

Program revenue (net sales)	\$ 301,359
Donations	\$ 6,481
Donations - Restricted	\$ 400
Investment Income	\$ 9,563
Realized gain on investments	\$ 11,705
Unrealized (loss) gain on investments	\$ (3,653)
Total revenue and public support	\$ 325,855

Expenses

Program services	\$ 332,730
Management and general	\$ 60,717
Fundraising	\$ 4,669
Total expenses	\$ 398,116

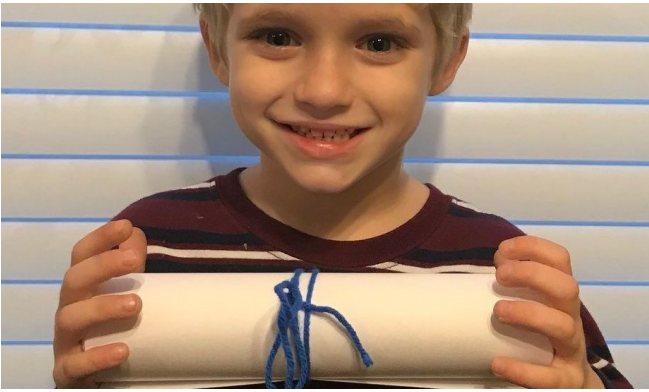
Change in net assets \$ (72,261)

Net assets beginning of year \$ 703,974

Net assets end of year \$ 631,713

Value of Endowment Fund \$ 333,177

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

"Cactus Bloom Neighborhood of Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council honor Nicole and Nikolette."

Nicole H. and Nikolette D.

Glendale, AZ

Mountain Ridge Baptist church



Programs of Religious Activities with Youth

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