



Girl Scouts

Celebrate

Faith!



At the heart of Girl Scouting are many of the same values most faiths hold:

- Supporting girls
- Making our world a better place
- Building compassionate leaders

“The motivating force in Girl Scouting is spiritual.”

—Preamble, Constitution
of Girl Scouts of the USA

Girl Scout Sunday celebrates the powerful ties between Girl Scouting and faith. Girl Scouts are encouraged to connect their faith to the Girl Scout Law and earn the religious recognitions of their faith. Let’s honor the Girl Scouts and adult volunteers who give their time and talents in service of others!

Visit us at [girlscouts.org/faith](https://www.girlscouts.org/faith) for more info.

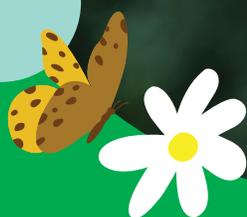




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Girl Scout Sabbath celebrates the powerful ties between Girl Scouting and faith. Girl Scouts are encouraged to connect their faith to the Girl Scout Law and earn the religious recognitions of their faith. Let’s honor the Girl Scouts and adult volunteers who give their time and talents in service of others!

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Girl Scout Jummah celebrates the powerful ties between Girl Scouting and faith. Girl Scouts are encouraged to connect their faith to the Girl Scout Law and earn the religious recognitions of their faith. Let’s honor the Girl Scouts and adult volunteers who give their time and talents in service of others!

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Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith honors the powerful ties between Girl Scouting and faith. Girl Scouts are encouraged to connect their faith to the Girl Scout Law and earn the religious recognitions of their faith. Let’s honor the Girl Scouts and adult volunteers who give their time and talents in service of others!

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Celebrating Your Faith During Girl Scout Week

There are tons of meaningful ways to lift up the Girl Scouts and Girl Scout volunteers in your house of worship this Girl Scout Week. Check out these simple tips to recognize girls' contributions before or after your worship service!

Before the Service

Share the joy of Girl Scouting with your house of worship!

- Have girls create a picture display of service projects or activities their troop has done and share it in your house of worship's social space.
- Have your Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith event flyer available for your house of worship.
- Display a Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith flyer in the entryway or on the information board of your house of worship.
- Place a Girl Scout informational section in your house of worship's bulletin or in the pre-service PowerPoint slideshow.
- Post signs or a banner detailing any Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith celebrations you are hosting, including worship services.

After the Service

Invite your house of worship to get to know their Girl Scout members with one of these social and community service ideas:

- Girl Scout Week falls during Girl Scout Cookie season, so consider allowing girls to set up a cookie booth in your house of worship's community space!
- Allow girls to organize a reception with Girl Scout Cookies and green punch for your house of worship to enjoy.
- Host an "Iron Chef Table" with Girl Scout Cookies as the main ingredient.
- Have troops organize a food drive as part of Girl Scout Week. Let your house of worship know girls will be collecting canned goods and other nonperishable items before, after, or during worship service.
- Does your house of worship's food pantry need some organizational help? Perhaps the garden needs some tending, too? Ask girls to complete a service project after worship service, and invite the entire house of worship to participate!

- Invite Girl Scouts to give a short presentation on a community service project they're working on, especially one they might be doing with the house of worship, and/or invite girls earning their Bronze, Silver, or Gold Award to give a short presentation on their project to share how their faith motivated them to pursue and complete their projects.

Virtual Options

For houses of worship celebrating virtually, you can:

- Invite Girl Scouts to participate in your house of worship's virtual or socially distant service projects (such as a socially distant food drive).
- Have girls participate in or host a virtual learning community where they can share their Girl Scout service projects, all the amazing things they do and learn as Girl Scouts, and more.
- Have girls help with house of worship service projects via a Facebook or YouTube message or video.
- Share troop messages of thanks on your house of worship's social pages, newsletter, or chat groups.
- Share digital Girl Scout Cookie buying options on your house of worship's website, emails, or social media pages.



Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith: Sample Service Ideas

As Girl Scouts, girls learn to take the reins in their lives and communities, growing their confidence through hands-on activities and service to others. Encourage the Girl Scouts in your house of worship to play an active role in Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith observances and services!

Girl Scouts and volunteers will be honored to be part of the service. They can:

- Be part of the procession. If readings will be taken from the Bible, Torah, or Quran, girls may proceed in with these texts.
- Serve as greeters or ushers.
- Run the nursery so that members can worship with their families.
- Sit together in the front pews during the service, sporting their Girl Scout vests or sashes. You could also mark the reserved pews with green bows or ribbons, or with Girl Scout trefoils.
- Participate in the service by reading or sharing brief remarks about how their faith relates to their Girl Scout experience.

You can:

- Offer a brief welcome or introduction to the girls and volunteers.
- Lead a group prayer or responsive reading tied to the theme of the service or one of the suggested Girl Scout prayers.

- Ask past and present Girl Scouts, volunteer leaders, and highest-awarded Girl Scouts to stand at some point during the service.
- Present religious award recognitions to girls and the adults who have supported them throughout the year. Check out our breakdown of awards at girlscouts.org/religiousawards.
- Acknowledge special STEM, outdoors, or entrepreneurship badges or Journeys, or the highest awards, that girls have earned throughout the year.

Celebrating virtually? You can:

- Have Girl Scouts give a greeting, thank you, and/or brief speech to the house of worship (live or prerecorded) during the virtual service.
- Have Girl Scouts sing a “virtual choir” song (live or prerecorded).
- Have Girl Scouts do a reading or prayer (live or prerecorded).
- Have Girl Scouts give a special children’s message (live or prerecorded).
- Present religious awards to girls and adults (live or prerecorded).
- Have your house of worship leader or youth leader give a welcome or introduction to troop(s) and adult volunteers (live or prerecorded).



Sample Prayers and Readings for Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith Services

These are sample prayers. When planning your Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith service, please reach out to your faith partners for guidance in formulating the appropriate prayer or reading for your service. Thank you!

Prayer for Jewish Girl Scouts

O, Lord, our God, we ask your blessing upon us and upon our sister Girl Scouts. Give us strength of character and of purpose so that we may fulfill our Promise and faithfully obey our Law. Teach us to understand that by living up to the ideals of our Movement we are helping to repair our world for ourselves and all people. AMEN.

Prayer for Catholic Girl Scouts

Lord God, we ask you to bless us and all other Girl Scouts. Give us grace to serve you and our communities, and to keep our Girl Scout Promise and Law. Make us humble and friendly, eager for adventure, alert, and prepared for service. Give us the courage to dare to do right; make us both strong to fight and steadfast to endure; and may our lives be filled with joy that spreads happiness everywhere. AMEN.

Prayer for Protestant Christian Girl Scouts

Gracious One, we know we are your children, we want to serve you faithfully, and we want to keep our Girl Scout Promise. Help us to listen to your voice; help us to be willing and quick to do your work; help us to be friendly and loving; and help us to thank you every day for all your gifts to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Prayer for Hindu Girl Scouts

O Lord God Almighty, may there be peace in celestial regions. May there be peace on earth. May the waters be appeasing. May herbs be wholesome, and may trees and plants bring peace to all. May all beneficent beings bring peace to us. May your Vedic law propagate peace all through the world. May all things be a source of peace to us. And may your peace itself bestow peace on all.

Prayer for Muslim Girl Scouts

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Look with compassion on the whole human family; remove from us the arrogance, divisions, and hatred that have infected our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; reunite us in bonds of love; and guide us as we work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth; that, in your good time, all nations and races may jointly serve you in justice, peace, and harmony. AMEN.

Prayer for Buddhist Girl Scouts

As a Buddhist Girl Scout,

I go to the Buddha for guidance.

I go to the dharma for guidance.

I go to the sangha for guidance.

May all beings be happy and joyous. May they live without fear. Understanding interdependence and compassion, I know that what I do now affects my happiness or unhappiness and also that of others. May all existence—human and others—whether weak or strong, small or great, near or far and throughout time, all attain perfect peace.

Prayer for Native American Girl Scouts

Please reach out to your Native American/Indigenous communities. Due to the large number of tribes and traditional practices, we want to show respect in acknowledging that there is no one universal prayer or way of worship across Native American/Indigenous communities.

A Girl Scout Prayer

Lord, help us to be good Girl Scouts, ones whom the world can trust.

Help us to respect our neighbors' rights, and never be unjust.

Help us as Americans, to be worthy of the flag we bear.

Help us as real Girl Scouts, to be proud of the uniform we wear.

Help us to be clean, Dear Lord, in thought, word, and deed.

Help us to follow the law that is in the Girl Scout creed.

Help us to love all people of the world, and then to serve them, too.

Help our actions to count, Dear Lord, in everything we do.

Help give us strength to carry on and do our part each day.

Make a place in this world for us and help us fill it, we pray.

Make us what we ought to be, and in thy footsteps fall.

Help us to live for others, O great Troop Leader of us all.

A Girl Scout Speech

Today is Girl Scout [SUNDAY/JUMMAH/SABBATH/SHABBAT], which is observed during Girl Scout Week, an event recognizing the founding of Girl Scouts on March 12, 1912. We would like to honor and thank the Girl Scouts in our house of worship [HAVE GIRL SCOUTS STAND] who have the courage, confidence, and character to make the world a better place. Thank you to all the adult volunteers [HAVE VOLUNTEERS STAND] who give of their time and talents to our Girl Scout troops. And a special thank you to [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP LEADER] and [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] for their leadership and support of our Girl Scout troops.

These girls represent the leaders of tomorrow. They belong to an organization that has continually adapted to meet the changing needs of girls. But even as things change, one thing remains the same: we continue to support girls as they grow strong in faith and maintain the belief that the motivating force in Girl Scouting is a spiritual one.

[JOINED BY THE GIRLS, RECITE THE GIRL SCOUT PROMISE]

On my honor, I will try:

To serve God* and my country,

To help people at all times,

And to live by the Girl Scout Law.

**Members may substitute for the word "God" in accordance with their own spiritual beliefs.*

Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith Bulletin/Newsletter Copy:

Note: Use the text below along with 1 or 2 photos of your Girl Scouts to your house of worship to include in any bulletins or newsletters. You can make edits as you see fit.

At the heart of Girl Scouting are many of the same values that most faiths hold:

- Supporting girls
- Making our world a better place
- Building compassionate girl leaders

Today we lift up these shared values for [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/GIRL SCOUT SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH], an inspiring tradition where girls explore the powerful connections between their faith and Girl Scouting. [PROVIDE DESCRIPTION OF EXISTING RELATIONSHIP WITH HOUSE OF WORSHIP, IF APPLICABLE]

Girl Scouts have endless opportunities to discover and nurture their interests, connect with others, and take action to better the world around them, all while strengthening their connection to their faith.

When girls are deeply rooted in their faith, they grow into compassionate leaders who inspire positive change in their communities. [NAME OF COUNCIL OR HOUSE OF WORSHIP] is finding ways to share its members' love and compassion to make the world a better place—not just this week, but all year long.

We are so grateful to all the families, volunteers, and other supporters who encourage Girl Scouts to grow together in leadership and faith. Thank you!

Learn more about what Girl Scouts do at www.gsmanitou.org

Email to House of Worship Leadership: Pre- and Post-Event Emails

Note: Use the text below along with 1 or 2 photos of your Girl Scouts to your house of worship to include in any bulletins or newsletters. You can make edits as you see fit.

Pre-Event Email Requesting a Meeting to Discuss Hosting a Celebration

SUBJECT LINE

Please join us in celebrating Girl Scouts and faith!

Dear [NAME],

Faith is at the heart of Girl Scouting and has always been integral to the Girl Scout tradition and experience. As a leader of [TROOP LEVEL AND NUMBER], I've had the pleasure of meeting at [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] for [NUMBER OF YEARS]. We're so grateful for your support as we prepare the next generation of female leaders.

I'm reaching out today because we would love to partner with you to celebrate an upcoming Girl Scout tradition that honors girls of faith. Girl Scout Week, celebrated every March, honors the guiding principles of Girl Scouts, including our mission to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. During the week, we also encourage girls to take part in Girl Scouts Celebrate Faith activities and services. This tradition, which includes specially designated days like Girl Scout [SUNDAY/JUMMAH/SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH], encourages girls to explore the values their faith shares with Girl Scouting and deepen their connection to both.

This year, [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH] will be observed on [March 10, 2024/March 16, 2024/March 16–17, 2024].

I'd like to discuss with you or someone on your team what we might plan together to support our Girl Scouts. I have good availability [YOUR AVAILABILITY]. Please let me know what works for you.

I've attached some sample service ideas, prayers, and ideas for pre- and post-service activities for some initial ideas to consider.

We look forward to working with you to celebrate all the positive changes the members of [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] are making in our community. Thank you for your consideration and support!

Best regards,

[NAME AND CONTACT INFO]

Post-Event Thank You Copy

Subject: Thank you for celebrating Girl Scouts and faith!

Dear [NAME]:

Thank you for helping us celebrate [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH] at [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] on [DATE]. Your support means so much to us! [PROVIDE A BRIEF CUSTOMIZED NOTE ABOUT YOUR EVENT, E.G., "OUR GIRLS ESPECIALLY ENJOYED THE CHANCE TO SERVE AS GREETERS OR PARTICIPATE IN XX SERVICE PROJECT TO SUPPORT THEIR COMMUNITY. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY THE ATTACHED PHOTOS. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO SHARE THEM!"]

As a part of Girl Scout Week, which celebrates Girl Scouts' rich history of community service, [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH] is a special day for girls across the country to deepen their connections to their faiths.

A big, heartfelt *thank you* to everyone at [NAME OF HOUSE OF WORSHIP] who has given their time and talents so Girl Scouts can continue their powerful legacy of service to others.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

[NAME AND CONTACT INFO]

Website Copy – for faith partners

[GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH + ADD YOUR EVENT DATE]

Please join us on [EVENT DATE] as we recognize the inspiring Girl Scouts and Girl Scout volunteers of [NAME OF COUNCIL AND/OR HOUSE OF WORSHIP] in honor of [GIRL SCOUT SUNDAY/GIRL SCOUT JUMMAH/GIRL SCOUT SABBATH/SHABBAT/GIRL SCOUTS CELEBRATE FAITH].

As a part of Girl Scout Week, which celebrates Girl Scouts' rich history of community service, this event is a special day for girls to deepen their connections to their faiths.

This year we'll celebrate by [OBSERVANCE DETAILS, IF AVAILABLE, AND COUNCIL URL AND/OR TROOP CONTACT INFO]. Join us!

A big, heartfelt *thank you* to all the families, volunteers, and other supporters who have given their time, talents, and financial support so that Girl Scouts can continue their powerful legacy of service to others. We're so grateful!

Sample Presentation for Girl Scout Sunday

Presentation

At the heart of Girl Scouting are many of the same values our faith holds:

- Supporting girls
- Making our world a better place, and
- Building compassionate leaders

Today we lift up these shared values for Girl Scout Sunday, an inspiring tradition for the past 111 years, where girls explore the powerful connections between their faith and Girl Scouting. The Girl Scouts in our church are part of the Girl Scouts of Manitou Council. The Girl Scouts of Manitou Council, itself 101 years old this year, maintains partnerships with many faith communities throughout the 7 counties of the council. Girl Scouts in our area are strong in faith, and strong in number. The number of Girl Scouts in our community rose by 12% over the last two years. Nearly one in every three girls in the elementary schools is a Girl Scout.

Girl Scouts make a promise to serve God and to take action to better the world around them. When girls are deeply rooted in their faith, they grow into compassionate leaders who inspire positive change in their communities. For example, all through the COVID pandemic local Girl Scouts continued to meet virtually when they needed to and face to face when they could, cheering the spirits of seniors citizens in nursing homes who couldn't have visitors through sending letters and cards, decorating the trees and sidewalks outside the resident's windows, and performing sidewalk concerts that the elderly residents could see and listen to safely.

We are so grateful to all the families, volunteers, and other supporters who encourage Girl Scouts to grow together in leadership and faith. Thank you!

Prayer for Christian Girl Scouts

Lord God, we ask you to bless all Girl Scouts. Give them grace to serve you and our communities, and to keep the Girl Scout Promise and Law. Make them humble and friendly, eager for adventure, alert, and prepared for service. Give them the courage to dare to do right; to make them both strong and steadfast. May their lives be filled with joy that spreads happiness everywhere. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.