The Office of Scouting Ministries currently has formal relationships with the following youth-serving organizations:

- Boy Scouts of America
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Girl Scouts of the USA
- Camp Fire USA

Questions can be directed to:
Scouting Ministry Assistant:

Direct Phone: 615-620-7262
Fax: 615-340-1770
Email: mstowe@gcumm.org

www.umscouting.org
**SMS MISSION**

This position is designed to help local churches consider scouting as a ministry, as well as a new response to one of the Four Areas of Focus of the general church: to develop principled Christian leaders.

Specialists will help provide information to the local church through relationships with the General Commission on United Methodist Men (GCUMM) office and annual/district scouting coordinators.

**SMS QUALIFICATIONS**

Interested candidates must meet the following prerequisites:

- 18 years of age or older.
- Proof of BSA Youth Protection Training and/or Safe Sanctuaries and Sexual Ethics - online course (offered at www.umscouting.org).
- Registration fees: $10 for 1 year or $45 for 5 years, ensures your active ministry status.
- Read Scouting Guidelines (order from Cokesbury).

**SMS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Scouting Ministry Specialists will be responsible for the following:

- Visit and communicate with up to three United Methodist churches in their areas.
- Assist the annual and district scouting coordinators.
- Promote scouting ministry training events with adult leaders (Philmont, Sea Base, UM Scouting workshops, etc.).
- Promote scouting recognition awards.
- Promote the Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.) awards.
- Enroll each church as a Shepherd Church.
- Promote Scout Sunday.
- Support the pastor.
- Consider serving on Council Relationships/Religious Committees for the various scouting agencies.
- Recruit one additional scouting ministry specialist.

**COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Why is this position needed?**

Only 6,700 of the 34,000 United Methodist churches have scouting units. The specialists will help churches understand the value of scouting and communicate information related to training, awards and recognition.

**What is the difference between an SMS and the annual/district/local Scouting Coordinator?**

Specialists are recruited and registered with GCUMM, and are responsible for up to three churches. They are not necessarily a liaison to a youth agency council/office like a local church scouting coordinator.

**HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME AN SMS?**

Visit our website at www.umscouting.org. Please complete a contact interest form. Someone will respond to your request with additional information.

**WHAT KIND OF COMMITMENT IS REQUIRED?**

Scouting ministry specialists are volunteers. The amount of time allocated for the position is determined by the individual’s schedule.