

2025 Summer Edition



ABS Today

A Publication of the Association of Baptists for Scouting



ABS Eagle Corner

Association of Baptists for Scouting would like to recognize the following scouters for reaching the highest rank in Scouting. Congratulations for a job well done!

Eagle Scout Jonah Ozious Givens

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Jonah Givens of Troop 646 in the Swamp Fox District of Coastal Carolina Council in South Carolina. He is the son of Denise and Joe Givens.



Jonah chose to construct an outdoor youth gathering and fellowship area for his home church, Ashton Baptist Church, as his Eagle Project. The construction created an area where people can gather to visit and reflect.

Jonah joined Scouts as a Tiger Cub and completed all the Cub Scout ranks, earning the Arrow of Light award before bridging to Boy Scouts. His favorite part of Scouting has been summer camps. He loved the hands-on and outdoor merit badges, earning the Complete Angler Award as well as the National Outdoor Award for Camping.

Jonah enjoyed Scouting as a family event. His older brother, Noah, earned Eagle in 2020 and his younger brothers, Micah and Ezra, are currently Life Scouts. Jonah looks forward to helping them reach Eagle.

Congratulations, Jonah, on a job well done. Your growth in leadership and commitment to your goals is obvious through your work in Scouting. The Association of Baptist for Scouting is proud of you. May you find your scouting experiences useful as you serve others and God in the future. May they help you share His love.





Eagle Scout Michael Kennedy

The Association of Baptist for Scouting congratulates Michael Kennedy for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. He is a member of Troop 654 in the Indian Waters Council in Cheraw, South Carolina. Michael is the son of Megan and James Kennedy.

Michael chose as his Eagle Project to build a stage at his church, First Baptist Church in Cheraw, SC. The youth director had requested an outside stage to be used for activities on the back lawn area of the church in an underutilized place. Michael was happy to honor his request.

Highlights from Michael's scouting adventures include earning the Wilderness Survival merit badge, going on a 23-mile Appalachian Trail hike, a Cape Fear River kayak trip, climbing Crowders Mountain at Kings Mountain, and attending summer camps (Camp Barnhard for two years, one year at Camp Bowers and one year at Camp Ravenknob). One year the troop planned and executed the Halloween program at Camp Coker, which was a great success.

Michael looks forward to continuing work on merit badges that will allow him to finish his Palms and obtain the Order of the Arrow.

Michael, may God continue to guide you as you look toward your future. May He lead you to use your Scouting skills to serve Him and others. The Association of Baptist for Scouting is proud of your achievements.



Eagle Scout Wyatt Moncla

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Wyatt Moncla. Wyatt is a member of Troop 511 in Sam Houston Area Council. He is the son of Amber and Brandon Moncla and a member of First Baptist Church in Houston, TX.



Wyatt's Eagle Project involved leading a group of volunteers to relocate and replant a memorial rose garden at the Pioneer Memorial Log House in Houston, Texas. This project



benefited the Daughters of the Republic of Texas.

Wyatt joined Scouting as a Tiger Cub and advanced through Cub Scouts and Scouting BSA. While in Scouting he led his troop as a Chaplain Aid and Senior Patrol Leader. He completed a Philmont Trek in 2022, traveled to Kanderstag Switzerland in 2023, and attended Sea Base in 2025.



In addition to Scouting, Wyatt is a member of the local Society of American Magicians, International Brotherhood of Magicians, and Houston Association of Magicians. He was selected to perform in the "Stars of Tomorrow" at the Society of American Magicians Convention in 2024.

This Fall, Wyatt will attend the University of Houston, studying in the field of Mechanical Engineering.

Congratulations, Wyatt. The Association of Baptist for Scouting is proud of your determination to set and reach your goal of Eagle Scout. May God continue to guide you as you use the skills you learned in Scouting to serve Him and others.



Eagle Scout Alexander Schmidt

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Alexander Schmidt.

Alex is a member of Troop 301 in the Buffalo Trace Council in Evansville, Indiana. He is the son of Cassie and Adam Schmidt.

Alex's Eagle Project involved building a permanent fire pit and several wooden benches in an outside area of his church, Vann Avenue Baptist Church. The area is being utilized for outreach in the neighborhood and for a place for church and youth events. It provides a safe place for the elderly and disabled in the church to participate outside with sturdy seating. The church youth now have a communal space for bonfires and social events.

Alex is active in his community with outreach ministries through school, scouts, and church.

Scouting provided Alex with opportunities to step out of his comfort zone and challenge himself. He

gained valuable life skills in the areas of sailing, camping, hiking, leadership, wilderness survival, first aid, how to be a concise and clear public speaker, to be fiscally responsible and manage a budget. He has been a representative for his troop in the Order of the Arrow for several years.

Through merit badges he has been able to explore his passion for space science. This exposure has increased his desire to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville beginning in the Fall 2026.

Congratulations, Alexander. May God continue to guide you as you use your scouting skills to serve Him and others. The Association of Baptist for Scouting is honored to recognize you.



Eagle Scout Gabriel Talbert

The Association of Baptist for Scouting recognizes Eagle Scout Gabriel Talbert, a member of BSA Troop 503 in the Middle Tennessee Council. Gabriel is the son of Frank and Christy Talbert.



For his Eagle Project, Gabriel designed and constructed a prayer trail on the new campus of Real Life Sango, his home church. The trail was named “A Walk with God”.

Gabriel worked with local businesses to provide over \$17,000 in supplies and led close to 40 people to complete more than 550 service hours.

As a scout, Gabriel earned 51 merit badges on his way to Eagle, and held many leadership roles, such as Patrol Leader, Troop Guide, Den Chief and Order of the Arrow Representative.

In 2025 he was inducted into the Order of the Arrow as an Ordeal member and plans to achieve Brotherhood this December.

He attended the 2025 National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) and plans to become a guide next summer for those attending NYLT. He is presently in his second year as a Cub Scout Den Chief and wants to mentor his den until they reach the Arrow of Light award.

Gabriel plays the drums and plans to compete for a drumline position next summer as he enters high school. After high school he would like to attend Belmont University’s School of Music.

Gabriel, may your determination and passions continue to be a blessing to others as you follow God’s will for your life. The Association of Baptist for Scouting is honored to highlight you.