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**Grace Lutheran Church  
131 W. Gettysburg Avenue**



**For 60 years, Troop 224 has been providing the youth of Oak Ridge with a high adventure Scouting program.**

**Contact** – Our Scoutmaster is happy to answer any questions you may have regarding our program:

**Andy Moehl -- Scoutmaster**

**e-mail: [andy.moehl@gmail.com](mailto:andy.moehl@gmail.com)**

**High Adventure** – Troop 224 offers traditional Boy Scout skills and values in a high adventure platform. Out Scouts consider high adventure activities to be the cornerstone of our program. At the same time, we adjust and adapt our activities to be age appropriate for the boys who are participating. *In this way, each boy is challenged to excel at his own rate and his own skill level.*

The high adventure aspects ensure that the youth members do not become bored with the program as they grow and mature, both emotionally and physically. This is an important factor in our proven ability to keep boys active and engaged long enough to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

### **Program Goals**

Boy Scouting works by targeting three aspects of youth development:

**Character** – Developing moral strength and character are emphasized. We work to help a boy shape his values and his outlook.

**Citizenship** – Broadly, citizenship relates to the boy's relationship with others. He learns his obligations to other people, to our society and to the government that presides over our way of life.

**Fitness** – We target the development of physical, mental and emotional fitness. Fitness includes the body (well-tuned and healthy), the mind (ability to think and solve problems), and emotions (self control, courage and self-respect).

**Purpose** - Our program uses high adventure activities to keep our members interested and active in the troop. As a result, members of Troop 224 routinely attain Scouting's highest rank – that of Eagle Scout – at a rate which far exceeds the national average. Along the path to Eagle, they also learn many valuable skills which will serve these growing young men for the rest of their lives. The most enduring skills are:

- **Leadership**
- **Self Confidence**
- **Self Reliance**

**Planning and Safety** – Our program and activities are “Boy Led”, but supported with the guidance of adults who are trained in maintaining BSA's demanding requirements and expectations for safety and supervision, as outlined in the *Guide to Safe Scouting*

**Gear** – Troop 224 maintains an inventory of equipment which may be checked out by any troop member. Consequently any boy can join our troop and begin participating immediately without needing to purchase a lot of costly camping equipment. Each boy is expected to provide for his own personal clothing, rainwear, boots, eating utensils and hygiene needs.

**Fees** – Dues are collected annually, and include a Council fee of \$30 and a troop fee of \$50 to cover badges and supplies. Troop T-Shirts are provided to new Scouts upon joining. The final word on cost is this: No boy is ever excluded from participating in Troop 224 activities because of a family's inability to pay.

**Meetings** – Meetings and activities are as noted on our Troop 224 calendar. Meetings are held each Monday from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.



*“In Scouting, a boy is encouraged to educate himself instead of being instructed.”*  
**Lord Baden-Powell**

## Troop 224 Methods

Our annual calendar highlights the types of events we participate in each year, but the events include a healthy dose of these high-adventure activities:



**Backpacking** – Backpacking is our mainstay for teaching self-reliance. Scouts learn to camp, carrying everything they need to have fun while being safe and comfortable in the backcountry. Learning to backpack teaches responsibility, leadership, teamwork and organization.

**Summer Camp** - Summer camps alternate between local and remote camps. Our typical rotation includes trips to the San Juan Mountains of Colorado, the Wind river Range in Wyoming, and the Boundary Waters Canoeing area in Minnesota.



**Caving** – Boys love to explore caves. They get to see a part of nature that most people have never experienced in a wild setting. Since caving involves moving through, around, and over obstacles, it is great for fitness. Also, playing in the mud and muck typical to caves is always a lot of fun.

**Mountain Biking** – Mountain biking allows our scouts to stretch their cycling skills in a high-fitness, backcountry experience.

**Whitewater Skills** – Whitewater experiences are obtained through kayaking, canoeing and rafting. The boys master paddling skills in a variety of craft. They also learn how to apply their swimming and boating skills to enjoying rivers and lakes safely.



**Rappelling** – There is no bigger boost for self-confidence than rappelling. Scouts learn how to use specialty equipment to safely lower themselves down cliffs and rock faces. The scout learns the importance of knot tying in a practical application of the skill. Scouts also care for and maintain the specialty climbing equipment.



**Rock Climbing** – Once a Scout masters the basic skills learned through rappelling, he can begin expanding his skills to include rock climbing. They learn the excitement and thrill of completing a challenging climb while using the techniques of top-rope climbing. They learn the importance of communication and teamwork to arrest any slips that occur while learning the sport.



**Troop 224 - High adventure and high expectations since 1951**

