

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE – FEBRUARY 9

OH LORD, THANK YOU FOR SO MUCH...FOR ALL YOU OFFER TO US. WE THANK YOU FOR THIS HOUSE OF WORSHIP. TODAY, WE ESPECIALLY PRAISE YOU FOR THE RELATIONSHIP WE CELEBRATE TODAY FOR THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AND SCOUTING BSA. WE THANK YOU FOR THE VISION OF OUR CHURCH AND SCOUTING TO FORM A RELATIONSHIP ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

THE YOUTH OF OUR NATION IS THE FUTURE OF OUR NATION. LORD ROBERT BADEN-POWELL CREATED SCOUTING IN ENGLAND. LORD POWELL SAID THAT WE SHOULD LEAVE TRACKS TO BE HELPFUL TO OTHERS COMING AFTER US. AS CHRISTIANS WE ARE TOLD TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS OURSELVES.

MOST IMPORTANTLY HE SAID THAT 'SCOUTING IS NOTHING LESS THAN APPLIED CHRISTIANITY.' THE VALUES OF SCOUTING MATCHES VALUES OF OUR FAITH. BADEN-POWELL ALSO SAID THAT 'NO MAN IS MUCH GOOD UNLESS HE BELIEVES IN GOD AND OBEYS HIS LAWS.' TO THESE ENDS AND BEYOND, BEING SAFE, TYING KNOTS, HELPING OTHERS.

WE ARE PROUD THE METHODIST CHURCH SUPPORTS SCOUTING AND WE ARE PROUD OF THE SKILLS AND VALUES SCOUTING PROVIDES TO OUR YOUTH.

WHILE WE CELEBRATE THIS SPECIAL DAY, LORD, WE KNOW THERE IS SO MUCH HURT AND PAIN IN OUR WORLD. THERE HAVE BEEN FIRES IN AUSTRALIA. THERE IS A VIRUS THREATENING LIVES IN CHINA AND SPREADING. WE ARE ENTERING THE DEEP OF WINTER WHERE WEATHER CAN CREATE HARM AND DANGER. AS WITH EVERYTHING IN OUR LIVES, GOD, WE ASK FOR YOUR COMFORT AND PEACE.

THANK YOU FOR THE COMFORTING PRAYER YOU GAVE US (AS WE PRAY IN UNISON)... "OUR FATHER WHO ARE IN HEAVEN...."