

# Faith In Action

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A series profiling members and friends of SMCC

## David Link

As the Eagle Scout Coordinator for Boy Scout Troop #355, one of Dave Link's responsibilities is to ensure that every candidate writes a Life Purpose Statement. In Dave's life he clearly sees that his own purpose is to mentor boys and provide them with character-building experiences. Having been previously involved in youth sports, Dave is now actively engaged in scouting leadership. This work is Dave's passion as well as being "a lot of fun." Encouraging boys to accept a series of challenges, confront new experiences, take risks, and then to see them conquer their fear and succeed is tremendously gratifying. Through these experiences boys develop character and become responsible leaders.



Dave's dedication to scouting recently led the San Gabriel Valley Council of Boy Scouts to award him the Silver Beaver Award, for his extensive volunteer commitment. He has been Scoutmaster, Eagle Scout Coordinator, and has twice taken a troop of thirty-six 13-17 year olds to the National Jamboree. The Jamboree is a group camping and leadership development event where the boys learn responsibility as they take care of their own belongings and cook many of their meals. The three-week long trips included ten days on the East Coast touring historically significant attractions in New York, Washington DC, Philadelphia, Gettysburg, and more. The boys were exposed to the basic tenets of American democracy as well as the sacrifices made to ensure freedom and liberty for all. These trips are so fun for Dave, that he thanks all the parents for allowing him the opportunity to be with their sons.

Dave was raised in a Christian family, attending Altadena Methodist Church as a youngster. Dave and wife Lisa were prompted after 9/11 to reaffirm their faith and to make church an integral part of their family life. After joining San Marino Community Church, Dave was quickly identified as a Deacon because he thrives on being "hands on" and doing things for others. Their family includes two sons, Andy (active with youth group, but now at Claremont McKenna) and Ryan (currently in the Confirmation class). Lisa sings in the chancel choir.

Dave has found that scouting and faith go hand in hand, and that scouting allows him to be a witness to his Christian faith. Faith is a part of the Boy Scout syllabus, and "reverent" is one of the scouting ideals. For Dave, being reverent means to demonstrate a belief in God. When sitting around the campfire lit by a million stars, surrounded by awe-inspiring landscapes, Dave knows that this amazing world most certainly had a Creator and he feels richly blessed.

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