

"How to Best Work With Pastors to Support Them/Encourage Club Growth" By Calvin Brooks

"People like to feel needed and to be in the know. They like respect, acknowledgement and being appreciated. Pastors are no different. Let's work closely with our Pastors for the benefit of our kids."

Here are some suggestions on how to support your pastor/church and help your club at the same time:

1. Ask your Pastor how the kids can be involved as you look for ways to support your church activities.
2. Share the club's activities, schedules, and calendar with your Pastor and church board.
3. Have one-on-one meeting with the Pastor - keep him abreast of how the children are doing in the club. Tell the Pastor about each one - their interests, general behavior, talents, etc. (What you are doing is helping the Pastor to get to know the Adventurer/Pathfinder better.)
4. Invite the Pastor to come to club meetings when time allows, invite him to have devotional with the kids. Schedule this in advance to be sensitive to his/her schedule.
5. Even though he/she is the Pastor of the church, give them a special invitation to your programs and ask them to do specific things (help with scarfing, and pinning, if they are a Master Guide, if not, give them other things to do, but invite and encourage them to participate).
6. Ask the Pastor to wear Pathfinder uniform to uniformed events (if they have one or can purchase one).
7. Invite the Pastor to conference sponsored events also.
8. Ask the Pastor what he/she thinks of the club. What would they like to see done differently, what improvements would they like to see? Find out what are their expectations for the club.
9. Invite the Pastor to meet and talk to new parents, especially non-Adventist ones.
10. Ask the Pastor what the club can do to help in the upkeep of the church.
11. Is there any special project the Pastor would like for the club to work on?
12. Ask him/her to allow two Pathfinders or Adventurers in uniform to escort the platform party, maybe once a month/quarter.
13. Ask the Pastor if you could have Pathfinders/Adventurers in uniform helping collect the offering once a month/quarter.
14. Ask the Pastor if Pathfinders/Adventurers, in uniform, could serve as Greeters once a month at the door as people enter the church. Then train the new "Greeters" to know what to do/say and how to act.
15. Share with the Pastor what you are expecting from him/her and the church.



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