



# Troop 23 – Hot News

## March 8, 2021

### REVISED INSTRUCTIONS FOR IN-PERSON TROOP MEETING - MONDAY MARCH 8, 7PM-8PM

Our Return-to-in-Person Meeting Plan will evolve as conditions change and as we improve upon it each week. In looking at last week's meeting, we're moving all cohorts to new locations to better match the size of the space with the size of the group. Please see the chart below for details:

	Drop-Off/Pick-Up Location	Entry Door	Meeting Space
<b>Cohort 1</b> Star/Life/Eagle	Rear entrance of the church on Madison Ave	Rear entrance of the church off Madison Ave	Stewart Hall
<b>Cohort 2</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	Jefferson Ave side of church property	Downstairs door beside main entrance	Sanctuary Hall/Overflow Room
<b>Cohort 3</b> Pre-Scout/Scout/ Tenderfoot	Front entrance of the church	Main Entrance near rotunda	Ministry Center/Gym

Thanks to everyone for your efforts and flexibility as we returned to in-person meetings last week. Troop 23 assembled 46 Scouts and 15 leaders for our first indoor Troop Meeting since March 9, 2020. It was easy to see from the happy faces Scouts were pleased to be returning to First Presbyterian Church. A special thank you goes to Doug Kurtz, our Safety Coordinator who thoughtfully developed our Return-to-In-Person Meeting Plan, and to his Return-to-In-Person work group: Rick Busse, Julie Carlson, Jeff Jeffers, Julee Lockard, Lynne Monticello, and Judith Zapf.

### T23 PARENTS JOIN US FOR COMMITTEE MEETINGS – TUESDAY MARCH 9:

These are a great opportunity to become informed and involved in Scouting. Meetings are currently being held via Zoom. To get on the e-mail list to receive Zoom meeting details, contact Committee Chair, Judith Zapf at [judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net). For what to expect, click Troop 23 [Meeting Participant Guidelines](#). The next meeting is Tuesday, March 9 at 7 pm.

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:

District 200 and the Wheaton Rotary Club are looking for help at two mobile food pantries with loading cars of food pantry patrons. Four (4) scouts are needed at each distribution. The two times and locations are:

- March 24 from 3:15 to 5PM at Hubble Middle School, and
- April 9th from 3:15 to 5PM at Monroe Middle School

These are Class A events, masks required. Contact Mr. Jeffers at 630-682-3388 to sign up.

### FOOD DRIVE UPDATE:

Thanks to those scouts who volunteered their time to help with First Pres's Love your Neighbor Food Drive. Nearly \$5000 and 7600 items were donated to People's Resource Center and Interfaith Food Pantry. The food pantry committee, members and donators loved seeing the boys serve. Way to represent Troop 23 well! We logged 15 service hours to the cause.

### CANOEING AND SPELUNKING OVERNIGHT – MAY 21 – 23, 2021:

Troop 23 has planned an exciting canoeing and spelunking adventure for interested Scouts and Adults! We will travel to Blue River, Wisconsin on Friday, May 21, 2021, where we will setup our tents and enjoy a campfire. On Saturday morning, we will be provided a hearty pancake breakfast before heading out to the Wisconsin River at 10 AM for an all-day canoeing adventure. Along the way we will stop to enjoy a provided sandwich lunch. After returning from the Wisconsin River, Scouts can enjoy hiking or work on advancement at the campsite before heading to dinner where a fried chicken and mashed potato meal will be waiting! On Sunday morning, after enjoying a French toast breakfast, Scouts will have 2 hours to spelunk in Wisconsin's largest onyx cave before heading back to Wheaton. This exciting adventure is open to the first 45 Scouts or Adults who sign up. Because everything will be provided for us, the cost per person is \$70.

Sign up will begin this Monday, March 8, 2021. Please contact Mr. Halter ([mhalter3469@yahoo.com](mailto:mhalter3469@yahoo.com) or 630-520-2948) with any questions and to reserve your spot for this outing. Please note in your reservation request if you will be using your scout account or will be providing a check to Troop 23 in the amount of \$70.

**T23 WELCOMES JOHN BERRINGER TO ITS LEADERSHIP TEAM:**

We're happy to report John Berringer, a Troop 23 Eagle, has returned to us as an Adult Leader and Merit Badge Counselor. Earning his Eagle in 2013 during our own Mr. Jeffers' tenure as Scoutmaster, Mr. Berringer fondly recalls going to Florida Sea Base and many adventures at summer camp. He served as Quartermaster, Patrol Leader and Assistant Senior Patrol Leader. Since then, he has been busy earning a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and Political Science at the University of Wisconsin Platteville and is now working on a master's degree in Homeland Security at American Military University. Currently, he serves as a paramedic working with the Wheaton Fire Department.

Joining Troop 23 as a Committee Member, Mr. Berringer will assist at Troop Meetings and events as his schedule allows. In addition, he will provide Merit Badge Counseling for First Aid, Emergency Preparedness, Fingerprinting and Public Health. Thanks to Mr. Berringer, T23 Scouts will now be able to pursue Fingerprinting and Public Health with a T23-affiliated Counselor; and they'll have more choices when selecting a counselor for the Eagle-required Emergency Preparedness and First Aid Merit Badges. Scouts interested in beginning work on these Merit Badges should (as always) begin by getting a blue card signed by Mr. Jeffers and then contact Mr. Berringer directly. He can be reached at [johnberringer95@yahoo.com](mailto:johnberringer95@yahoo.com) Please join us in welcoming Mr. Berringer as he returns to Troop 23.

**EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT UPDATE:**

Patrick Herr is working on his Eagle Project wherein reusable masks are being made for donation to the Wyndemere Community/Wynscape Nursing & Rehab Center and the Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. Patrick is looking for volunteers to assist with the (very simple!) sewing and assembly of masks. He will provide instructions as well as all pre-cut and measured materials. If you are willing to assist, thank you! And please email Patrick at [pherreagleproject@gmail.com](mailto:pherreagleproject@gmail.com)

**SUMMER CAMP 2021 - JUNE 20 – 26, 2021:**

T23 Summer Camp 2021 at Camp Freeland Leslie (CFL) will take place from Sunday, June 20 through Saturday, June 26. Mark your calendars, and please direct any questions to T23's Summer Camp Coordinators, Ms. Carlson ([julie@burritcarlson.com](mailto:julie@burritcarlson.com)) and Mrs. Zapf ([judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net)).

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS AND/OR FEEDBACK, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Jeff Jeffers, Scoutmaster at [frankejeffers@yahoo.com](mailto:frankejeffers@yahoo.com)  
Judith Zapf, Committee Chair at [judez21@sbcglobal.net](mailto:judez21@sbcglobal.net)