

*Rev. Cathy,*

## GIRL SCOUTING AT UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH

In the spring of 1947 five ladies from the Young People's Guild (Ladies Guild) wanted to start a troop for girls between the ages of 10-14 years. After attending classes a Girl Scout Troop was formed in September 1947. Fifteen girls showed interest in attending. Their purpose was to have fun with their own age group, render service to church and community, assume responsibilities, accept privileges of citizenship and live up to high ideals of the girl scout laws and Promise.

In 1952 troops were reorganized into three age groups. Brownie Scouts age 7 to 10, Junior Troop ages 9-12, and Cadettes age 12-15. These girls were from the Church and also the Community.

During the years of 1966-1978 over 100 girls were part of these three troops. Depending on age these groups did Badge Work, games, hiking, camping-Day and Overnight, held yearly suppers and did summer day camps and camping with other troops from other communities.

In 1975- 12 of the girls were finished with the Cadette Age Group and then formed a Senior Troop. Most of these girls were with scouting since Brownies. These girls helped with the younger troops, finished their Senior Activities which were given by the GS Headquarters and finished many Community Activities to achieve the highest honor in Girl Scouting, which was First Class Scout. A supper and Honor Program was held to celebrate this important event in their lives.

During this twelve year period we not only had the group of over 100 girls, we also had (the best we could have by having) the cooperation of parents and families. The family groups were always available to help in any way especially in transporting their children and supplies for all the camping, sightseeing trips, activities with other community troops and help with our suppers.

After 1978 the troops fell off. When they disbanded in 1980 there were 15 girls but no longer any parent or family cooperation. Most of our leaders continued until it became inevitable that the time had passed. Adult leadership became a problem and girls lost interest in the Girl Scouting Way of Life.

*Arlene Pate*