

Good morning. My name is _____ and all of us standing in front of you represent a small number of youth who are currently members of Kansas 4-H. We come here today to explain how 4-H and our faith are intertwined.

_____: 4-H Sunday, formerly known as Rural Life Sunday, is observed by church organizations throughout the Nation to emphasize the meaning of Christianity in rural life. The more recent history of 4-H Sunday dates back to the time of Saint Mamertus, Bishop of Vienne, in Gaul, sometime prior to AD 475. The countries of France and England soon followed the observance over the next three-hundred years. By the end of the 8th century, Pope Leo III ordered churches to observe this day.

_____: Moving forward to present day, we observe 4-H Sunday for several reasons: It gives us a chance to understand and appreciate the stewardship that people who work with the soil have with God. It helps 4-H members and leaders interpret spiritual activities in their everyday living. Also, it gives members opportunity to work with their community groups and realize their responsibilities to their church. In addition, 4-H Sunday emphasizes and recognizes the spiritual value and character-building qualities of club work.

_____: The four leaf clover is the symbol of this organization in which we are a part. The clover is green and all four leaves have an “H” on each leaf. The “H’s” stand for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. The H’s are symbols of the teaching of 4-H clubs by which we endeavor to become better citizens of this world for tomorrow. The Head represents knowledge and wisdom that guides us in our everyday lives. The Heart – all of our ideals and dreams come from the heart. Our Hands are the tools of the brain and the heart; they represent our service to others. Good Health is an essential factor, a symbol of a well personality.

_____: In the back of church, we have on display some of the items we have made or put together, and then exhibited. Please feel free to take a look and ask us some questions. We will also be handing out cookies to show our appreciation to you for the support you give us in return. October is the beginning of a new 4-H year and to start it off right, we have asked Father to bless all those involved, in any way, with the youth of our nation.

Father: *Give us grateful hearts, our Father, for all Thy blessings; help us to be more worthy members in our own homes and more responsible citizens in our communities; make us mindful of those in need; give us strength to do our full part; relieve the suffering of the world; and grant peace in our time. Amen.*