



Community of Christ

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
Community of Christ
and
Boy Scouts of America



BOY SCOUTS
OF AMERICA

Whereas, Community of Christ congregations and the Boy Scouts of America have maintained a valuable and productive relationship on behalf of youth, young adults, and families for more than 100 years; and

Whereas, The Boy Scouts of America provides family-centered programs related to leadership, career, and character development for youth and young adults where the programs are delivered through and according to the values, aims, and objectives of chartered organizations; and

Whereas, The mission of Community of Christ, through the Enduring Principles and Mission Initiatives, is reflected in the goals and values of the Scout Oath and Law, and the church and community service provided by the diverse membership and leaders of the Boy Scouts of America; and

Whereas, Duty to God is a core principle of the Boy Scouts of America as is evident in the 12th point of the Scout Law—"A Scout is Reverent"; and

Whereas, membership criteria for adults in Boy Scouts of America units and the Community of Christ Registered Children and Youth Worker Program appropriately includes certain background information reviews and registration requirements to protect the health and safety of the youth and adult members of the units and congregations; therefore be it


Resolved, That Community of Christ and the Boy Scouts of America will work cooperatively, within the policies and regulations of each organization, to encourage the establishment of Scout units in Community of Christ congregations as an expression of the nurture and outreach ministry of Community of Christ, so youth, young-adult, and adult participants may grow in Christian character, citizenship responsibility, and personal fitness to achieve their greatest potential; and be it further

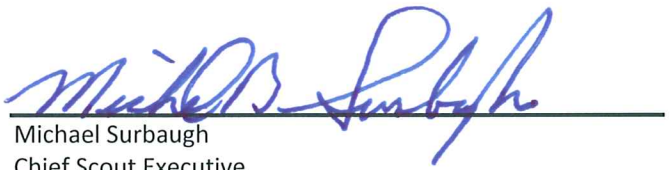
Resolved, That Community of Christ and Boy Scouts of America will work cooperatively to establish and ensure safe environments for all those participating in units chartered by congregations of Community of Christ. This includes the Boy Scouts of America's eligibility requirements, Youth Protection standards, the Guide to Safe Scouting, and other methods recommended by the Boy Scouts of America. The safe environments also will be in alignment with the Community of Christ Registered Children and Youth Worker Program, Risk Management, and other membership policies; and be it further

Resolved, That Community of Christ and the Boy Scouts of America mutually respect the youth and adult membership standards of both organizations. This includes the stipulation that membership in Boy Scouts of America and Community of Christ-chartered units may not be denied to youth, volunteer adult leaders, or employees based solely on sexual orientation. The leadership of the chartering congregation and the chartered unit have the discretion to set boundaries and policies for appropriate behavior within the policies of the Boy Scouts of America and Community of Christ, and they may take action to enforce such policies and boundaries; therefore be it finally

Resolved, It is mutually agreed that all congregations of Community of Christ may rely on the stipulations in this Memorandum of Understanding while operating under any charter executed with the Boy Scouts of America.

Date: July 7, 2017


K. Scott Murphy
Director of Field Ministries
Community of Christ
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Michael Surbaugh
Chief Scout Executive
Boy Scouts of America
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