

Quivira Council – Communicating with Unit Families About the United Methodist Church Charter Renewal Decision

The following are suggested communication points for unit leaders to use with Scouting families. These may be used in this form or modified based on the specifics of your unit's situation.

The Basics

The Scouting program is delivered through civic, faith-based, and educational organizations called chartered organizations, which operate Scouting units to deliver the programs to their youth members, as well as the community at large. Scouting units are established in cooperation with community partners that charter Scout units under a charter agreement with the local Council. This charter is renewed annually during the unit recharter process. The United Methodist Church (UMC) and its predecessor denominations have a relationship with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), which dates back more than 100 years.

What is Changing?

The UMC announced recently that its local churches should not renew expiring charters of Scouting units. The UMC has suggested that the charters be replaced with facility use agreements where the local church chooses to continue to allow Scouting units to use church facilities for meetings and/or equipment storage.

What is the Plan?

Our unit(s) is (are) seeking a new charter partner to ensure the Scouting program within our unit(s) will continue when the unit(s) charter(s) expire(s). Our unit has a small committee with representatives of all of the impacted units that are seeking to identify a new chartered partner. The committee is engaged actively with our chartered partner to understand whether we will be able to continue to use its facility for meetings and/or equipment storage in the future.

[Insert additional details about your committee's goals for a new chartered partner such as continuing to meet at the existing location but under new chartered partner or finding an alternative meeting location while ensuring it is nearby and can accommodate unit needs. Add any other goals you have for the transition.]

The committee is working closely with Quivira Council resources and a newly formed Quivira Council UMC Transition Committee. All are striving to minimize, as much as possible, any disruption to our units' operations. We will keep you posted as more develops, but rest assured, our goal is to ensure that we continue to deliver the Scouting program in partnership with a new chartered partner.

Please raise questions or concerns with [insert your unit leader point of contact].