

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD



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January 2, 2002

Mr. David G. Richardson, Associate Director
National Office
Boy Scouts of America
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving TX 75015

Office of the President
The Reverend Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick
President of the Synod

Dear Mr. Richardson:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod officially expressed its support for the Boy Scouts of America a number of years ago. I am pleased to offer our continuing support and appreciation for the work of the Boy Scouts of America.

I know that scouting offers young people numerous opportunities which they may not otherwise experience, e.g., personal leadership development, service to others, learning civic responsibility, social involvement, shaping positive moral values, recreation and many more. Many of our congregations have worked in partnership with the Boy Scouts of America in providing leadership, programs and resources that have enhanced their ministry with young people. I'm also pleased to know that the Boy Scouts of America does not promote any particular religion or theological point of view. Thus, I appreciate the emphasis on ethical and moral living.

I am grateful for the many individuals in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod who give of their time to fostering the above principles in the scouts they work with and for the many congregations who sponsor BSA troops. We pray that God will bless and be with those who participate in and give leadership to all scouting efforts.

Thank you for the opportunity to lend my support to the Boy Scouts of America and to express The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's appreciation for the excellent work this organization continues to do for the young people in our country and around the world.

Warmly and Sincerely,
In Christian Love,

Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

GBK/ljb



**MEMORANDUM
OF
MUTUAL SUPPORT**



WHEREAS *The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Boy Scouts of America have maintained a valuable and productive relationship on behalf of boys, young adults, and their families for many years. We now enter into this agreement for the purpose of confirming a framework for a cooperative relationship under which The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Boy Scouts of America will assist one another in areas of mutual objectives.*

WHEREAS *“It is the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to prepare young people to make ethical choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.”*

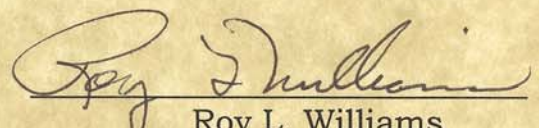
WHEREAS *“The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by love for God. Its mission is to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and meet human needs in his name without discrimination.”*

WHEREAS *The Boy Scouts of America is desirous of lending its aid and support to the citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness of boys and young men and women through community-based organizations.*

RESOLVED, *The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and the Boy Scouts of America will work cooperatively with each other, within the policies and regulations of each organization, to establish and nurture Scout units as an expression of the outreach ministry of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod so that boys, young adults, and adults may grow in Christian character, citizenship responsibility, and with the personal fitness necessary to achieve their greatest potential.*


Gerald Kieschnick
President

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod


Roy L. Williams
Chief Scout Executive
Boy Scouts of America