

THE CHURCH OF  
**JESUS CHRIST**  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Elder Dale H. Munk

UTAH SOUTH AREA

Date: July 31, 2018

To: Members in the Utah South Area

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Thank you very much for your interest in the well-being of the youth in your area. Your time and generosity are making a difference in their lives and in the future of the Church.

Elder Christensen has asked me to lead our 2018 FOS drive in the Utah South Area, which encompasses your ward. As you are aware, the Church will end its 105-year association with Scouting and implement a new child and youth program in January 2020. Members are asked, however, to “continue their active participation and financial support” of Scouting during this interregnum, as “the Church will continue to register all boys ages 8-13, those 14 and older working on rank advancement and adult leaders associated with those youth.”

At the BSA national meeting held in Dallas in May, Elder Holland said, “Please know how grateful we are to the BSA. We are friends now and we will be friends forever. In 18 months when our charters are finished, we hope that many LDS youth who wish to do so will still choose to be in Scouting. It is just the charter part that we are separating from. We’re going to stay in close contact. And we are locked arm in arm and hand in hand for the next 18 months. Please keep your shoulder to the wheel. . . . We’re not in any way disavowing any of those virtues of Scouting. This is about children. We hope that you keep serving. Let me say it again, ‘Keep Serving.’”

It continues to be important to maintain financial sustainability in the local BSA council through this 18-month period to make sure our camps function properly and we continue to provide training, support and liability protections for current leaders and youth. Here are a few key points for you to consider as you are asked to contribute to the 2018 Friends of Scouting drive:

- 100% of Friends of Scouting donations are used to benefit local Scouting
- Camp fees are subsidized by Friends of Scouting dollars, allowing the council to keep camp costs low for Scout groups, girls camps, activity day girls, and other stake and ward activities.
- You are investing in the future of Scouting, which has a direct impact on our Young Men program for the next eighteen months, and will be a continuing benefit for those youth (including many LDS youth), who elect to participate in the future.

I hope you will consider joining me in donating to the Friends of Scouting campaign and helping our young men grow to be worthy husbands, fathers, and leaders.

Love,

Elder Dale H. Munk  
Of the Seventy