

Holy Family and Troop 199

For the past several years, Holy Family has valued the partnership we have shared with Troop 199 through our role as their chartered organization. We are grateful for the dedicated volunteer leaders and families who have utilized our facilities to teach essential life skills and character development to generations of young people. We celebrate the legacy of service and learning that the scouting program has established within our community.

As many of you know from reading in the Vestry minutes, beginning this past Spring, the Vestry and I began a three-month discussion and review of all our ministries, including being the Charter Organization for Troop 199. This included a review of a recent parish survey that included a question regarding scouting, and a thoughtful and strategic evaluation of both the impact of the changes to our property – namely, having more limited space on our grounds – and our interests and human resources for ministry.

In June, the Vestry met with the leaders of Troop 199 in a shared discussion of the following 5 points of discernment:

- With the recent transition in clergy leadership, we are reevaluating whether Holy Family wishes to continue as a Chartered Organization. A key factor in this decision is that, despite several attempts to recruit a parishioner to serve as the required liaison and contact person (Chartered Organization Representative), we were unable to fill this essential position due to a lack of interest within the parish.
- Lack of involvement and interest among parishioners beyond having the scouts meet at this location.
- Changes to our physical space and the limitations they pose.
- The Troop has not indicated an openness to accept girls (become a coed troop), which does not align with our values of inclusion and opportunity.
- Changes in the Diocesan policy with Safe Church will result in changes of expectation for Troop and all outside groups and organizations who use the building.

In July, the Vestry decided that Holy Family will not renew the Church's status as a Charter Organization with Troop 199, to be effective as of the renewal date of the Charter in November 2025. In addition, the Vestry agreed to continue offering the Church building as a place for Troop 199 to hold their meetings.

In October, we received news from the Scout leaders that they found a new location and Charter Organization with Legacy Bible Church. They stated that they believe Legacy will be a good fit and has great space for their trailers and equipment storage needs. In early November, leaders from Holy Family and Troop 199 met to begin the dissolution process, which included transferring the titles and insurance of the scouting trailers to Legacy Bible Church.

Our formal relationship with Troop 199 will conclude by end of year, 2025. We wish them all the best in their new gathering place and success in their mission.

If you have any questions regarding this transition, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Father Frank
- December 3, 2025

