

March 14, 2016

Dear Student:

Thank you for inquiring about our First United Methodist Church Scholarship(s). As a church, we place a high value on education and are seeking to encourage a lifelong commitment to Jesus Christ by offering \$1000 scholarship(s) for higher educational pursuits.

In order to be eligible for these scholarship(s), students must:

- be accepted to an accredited college, university, trade or technical school
- be a graduating high school senior or high school graduate
- have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale

While the scholarships are primarily intended for graduating seniors or first time college students, current college students are also eligible.

When filling out your scholarship application, and when requesting your letters of recommendation, please keep in the following selection criteria, listed in order of importance:

1. Service to and participation in a church
2. Service to community
3. Quality of character
4. Recommendations
5. Any special circumstances or limiting factors, such as financial need or disability
6. Intent to attend a United Methodist or other Christian college, if applicable

Applications must be received or postmarked by May 1, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding this scholarship or its applications process, please contact either Rev. Christy Miller-Black, (989)835-6797 ext. 142, cblack@fumcmid.org, or John Engler (989) 835-6797 ext. 112, jengler@fumcmid.org.

God's blessings to you as you continue your pursuits of education and of growing as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,



Rev. Christy Miller-Black and John Engler
On Behalf of the First United Methodist Church Scholarship Selection Committee

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH-MIDLAND SCHOLARSHIPS

Revised 4/25/2013

The FUMC-Midland Endowed Scholarship Fund (the Fund)

Funding for the scholarship endowments is obtained by any and all of the following: fund raising campaigns, special offerings, wills, memorials, grants. Any person, whether an individual, corporation, foundation, trust, estate or organization may make a gift to the Fund by a transfer of property acceptable to the FUMC Midland Endowment Committee in whole or in part for the Fund. All gifts, bequests and devises to the Fund shall be irrevocable. While the Fund prefers unrestricted gifts for its purpose, it may accept restricted and specific gifts if the committee feels it can honor the restrictions.

Purpose

Midland First United Methodist Church places a high value on education and seeks to encourage a lifelong commitment to Christian discipleship by offering scholarships for higher educational pursuits. Priority for awards will be given to those who are members of or regularly attend FUMC Midland. While the scholarships are primarily intended for graduating seniors or first time college students, current college students are also eligible.

Mission

The mission of the Fund is to provide annual scholarship awards to high school seniors and as the Fund grows, to expand to include other eligible persons.

Scholarship Committee

The application and selection process will be managed by a Scholarship Committee, approved by the Education staff, FUMC Midland. The Scholarship Committee will have three to six members, including as follows:

- Minister of Christian Education
- Lay Leader
- Lay Representative

Investment of Funds

The Fund will be repositied with and managed by the Endowment Committee of FUMC Midland. The Endowment Committee shall have all power necessary to carry out the purpose of the Fund including, but not limited to, the power to retain, invest and reinvest the Fund in accordance with the FUMC Midland Endowment Committee's Investment Policy and the power to co-mingle the assets of the Fund with those of other Funds for investment purposes.

Distribution

The Fund is intended to be an endowment fund, and distributions from the Fund shall be limited to the amounts allowed under the Endowment Spending Policy.

Payment

An annual scholarship will be presented to selected student(s) each year, payable to the college, university, or technical school. The scholarship will be \$1,000 unless adjusted by the Scholarship Committee in consultation with a representative from the Endowment Committee. The money awarded is to be used for tuition, room and board or other school expenses.

General Requirements

Eligible students must:

- be accepted to an accredited college, university, trade or technical school
- be a graduating high school senior or high school graduate
- have maintained a minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale

While the scholarships are primarily intended for graduating seniors or first time college students, current college students are also eligible.

Selection Criteria

The Education Work Area recommends the following selection criteria, listed in order of importance:

1. Service to and participation in a church (priority given to service to Midland FUMC)
2. Service to community
3. Quality of character
4. Recommendations
5. Any special circumstances or limiting factors, such as financial need or disability
6. Intent to attend a United Methodist or other Christian college

Application

The process for scholarship application will be publicized within the church no later than February 1 each year. Applicants must submit an application for consideration (see Appendix 1). Essays, letters of recommendations and/or interviews with the Scholarship Committee may also be required. Applications must be postmarked by April 15. Scholarships will be awarded by June 15 each year. All information submitted to the Scholarship Committee will be held in the strictest confidence.

Variance Power

The Scholarship Committee of the Education Work Area, FUMC Midland, can amend this document and have the amended document approved by the Education Work Area Committee or Administrative Board.

Costs of the Fund

It is understood and agreed that the Fund shall share a fair portion of the total administrative costs of the FUMC-Midland Endowment Fund. The administrative cost annually charged against the Fund shall be determined in accordance with the then current Fee Policy identified by the FUMC-Midland Endowment Committee as the fee structure applicable to funds of this type.

Charitable Deductions

It is intended by the Fund that federal gift, income and estate tax deductions shall be allowed to Donors and their estates. This entire agreement shall be construed and applied so as to comply with the requirements of federal tax law for allowance of such charitable deductions and for such qualifications.

Approved By

This document is approved by the Education Work Area Committee.

2016 FUMC - Midland Scholarship Application

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____ Email: _____

School I anticipate attending in the fall: _____

1. List High School/College awards, extra curricular activities, achievements, leadership positions, and work experiences. (Use separate sheet if necessary.) Please also attach a transcript of your grades to this application.

2. Attach a 500 word essay to this application that covers the following:
 - a. Your personal history that would help us get to know you – including insights as to your:
 - i. service to and participation in a church
 - ii. service to community
 - iii. character
 - iv. special circumstances or limiting factors, e.g. financial need, disability, etc;
 - v. intent to attend a United Methodist or other Christian college, if applicable

3. *Submit with your application three letters of recommendation, with at least one being an adult leader of one of the ministries in which you participate. Please list your references below:

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____

* Please share the selection criteria listed above with the persons writing your letters of recommendation. **Submit application and reference letters to: First United Methodist Church, Attn. John Engler, 315 W. Larkin St., Midland, MI 48640. Application must be received or postmarked by May 1, 2016.**