

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
600 SOUTH MAIN STREET
EATON RAPIDS, MI 48827**

THE WALLACE SWANK SCHOLARSHIP FUND

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

HISTORY OF THE FUND: A Scholarship Fund for the First United Methodist Church of Eaton Rapids (FUMER) was started with gift from the estate of the late Mable Hutchinson in 1960 during the pastorate of Donald B. Winegar. In 1972 the Administrative Board established a Scholarship Committee to administer the Fund. During the pastorate of Robert E. Betts in the 1980s, the church received a generous bequest from the estate of Wallace Swank. Mr. Swank, a retired educator and member of the church, wanted to assist persons in obtaining their college educations. Because this desire was consistent with the policy and purpose of the Scholarship Fund, his gift was added to the Fund and it was renamed in his memory. The Wallace Swank Scholarship Fund is invested under the guidance of the church's Finance Committee and administered pursuant to these policies as amended from time to time by the Church Council.

GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE FUND: This Fund provides for 3 financial awards of \$600 each for tuition for a total of \$1800 per year to members of the First United Methodist Church of Eaton Rapids who wish to continue their education beyond high school. This includes post-high certificate programs, college, and graduate school studies.

FUND ADMINISTRATION AND POLICIES: Detailed policies for administration of the Swank Scholarship Fund by the Scholarship Committee were confirmed and adopted by the Church Council in 2015. They include the following:

1. An applicant must be a member of FUMER, including the family members of pastors and staff.
2. An applicant must attend worship regularly either at FUMER or in the community where they are living while attending school.
3. The focus of the Scholarship Committee's inquiry is on the potential positive impact the award will have on the applicant's faith journey and relationship with Christ.
4. Scholarships are limited to post-high school certificate programs, college, and graduate school studies. The course work can be religious or secular in nature. The awards can be for tuition only.
5. Applicants do not have to demonstrate financial need, high academic achievement, or active participation in extra curricular activities to be eligible for a scholarship. These are factors to be weighed in the discretion of the committee together with all other factors they may deem relevant in awarding scholarships.
6. A person may only receive one scholarship in any one calendar year. A person awarded a scholarship may receive additional scholarships in subsequent years in the discretion of the committee if they provide satisfactory evidence of how the previous award was appropriately used. Persons from the same family may receive scholarships in the same year or subsequent years.
7. Scholarship awards will be paid directly to the educational institution or as reimbursement from paid receipts.
8. Applicants must fully complete and submit a Swank Scholarship Application Form to be eligible.

AWARD PROCESS:

1. Completed Applications must be received in the church office or postmarked no later than June 18.
2. Within 30 days a four-member committee chaired by the senior pastor will review all applications.
3. The committee may choose to interview applicants in addition to reviewing their applications.
4. The committee will then make a report of its recommendations to the Church Council for action at its next scheduled meeting.
5. Applicants will be informed of the Church Council decisions.

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APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION FOR A SCHOLARSHIP AWARD
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 20____ THROUGH 20____

(REQUESTS MUST BE FOR TUITION ONLY)

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name_____

Street Address_____

City & State_____ Zip Code_____

Telephone _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Spouse_____

Other Dependents_____

YOUR EDUCATIONAL GOALS:

Year in School_____ Major_____

Name and Address of School (where award would be sent)

B. LIFE PLANS AND GOALS (Use additional sheets if needed.)

1. How have you been active in FUMER or a campus or other religious group over the last year?

2. How has your faith journey helped you grow in your relationship with Christ over the past year?

3. Describe how this scholarship request will continue to help you grow in your relationship with Christ and fit within your plans and goals for your life.
