

Beard Scholarship Fund Policy and Procedure (Effective 2024)

The Beard Scholarship Fund was established through the generous bequest of the Beard Family for members of the United Methodist Church of Macedonia (UMCM). The stipulation of the \$100,000 gift was to create and administer an endowment fund with the income only therefrom to be used to provide periodic scholarships for those needing financial assistance.

A proposed modification of restriction for the Beard Scholarship Fund was submitted to the Office of the Ohio Attorney General on October 27, 2023, and subsequently, a revised proposal modification to the request on February 27, 2024. An email was received on May 10, 2024, stating the Ohio Attorney General did not oppose the proposed modification of the restriction on the Beard Scholarship Fund.

Removing the restriction frees us to use the \$100,000 bequest for other purposes.

However, to fulfill the obligation of the Beard Scholarship bequest, the UMCM must now deposit the equivalent annual interest into the Beard Scholarship Fund, interest which would have otherwise been generated had the \$100,000 remained in the fund.

For continuity, each month, the Huntington National Bank (HNB) promotional 90-day MMA Non-Relationship Rate APY will be noted. The MMA rate will be used to calculate the equivalent monthly interest amount based on the balance of the Beard Fund. Using church donations, the equivalent calculated interest will be deposited into the Beard Scholarship Fund to allow continuance of grants as the donor intended. Additional deposits greater than the calculated interest amount are permitted.

This revised way of funding scholarships monies will continue until the fund contains \$100,000 and allows interest earnings again to pay for scholarships. The original terms would apply, meaning only interest earnings can be used for scholarships. If at any time accumulated funds are needed for capital costs, use of these funds may be considered, however, the above modification always remains in effect.

In the desire to properly administrate these funds, the following guidelines are established:

1. The Finance Team is responsible for investing the monthly contributions with the goal of generating as much income as possible while avoiding undue risk.
2. The amount available to grant a scholarship is dependent upon the calculated amount of interest accumulated in the previous 12 months since the last scholarships were awarded.
3. The size of the grant that can be individually awarded is dependent upon the number of individuals requesting funds and the total accumulated contributions. The total amount awarded each year for all grants should not exceed the equivalent of one year of calculated earnings unless otherwise recommended and approved by the Unified Church Board (UCB).
4. The person requesting funds must be a member of the United Methodist Church of Macedonia.
5. Funds granted can only be used for tuition or course materials charged by an accredited school for higher or continuing education. The student must presently be maintaining full-time student status for either a four-year or two-year degree.
6. In October, the Treasurer first determines how much money was accumulated since grants were last offered. If funds are available for grants, the congregation is given information about the

Beard Scholarship, the request form, and due date. The information may be communicated through a general church service announcement and the church bulletin.

7. A request form must be submitted and include the name of the school and proof of attendance; such as: course schedule, course report grade, or paid receipt from the school.
8. The individual amount of the award is calculated as follows:
 - a. The total amount of equivalent contributions using the prior years money market rate for a \$100,000 investment divided by the number of requests submitted on or before the request form deadline.
 - b. The total amount awarded shall not exceed \$1,000 per individual. An award, however, may be less based on many factors:
 - i. the number of applicants,
 - ii. the prior year's equivalent earnings,
 - iii. the size of the accumulated fund,
 - iv. forecasted future grants, and
 - v. the effort to re-establish a \$100,000 fund so that grants can again be awarded from earnings and not from general giving.

The desire is to maximize the size of each individual grant, while at the same time, minimize the risk of depleting the fund or not having a sufficient balance for subsequent years. Any funds not awarded will be used to grow the fund for future grants, offset periods of low interest, and help to re-establish the original grant.

 - c. Should there be a large number of approved applicants thereby resulting in grants deemed too small, a lottery will be used to award what is considered a meaningful amount. The names of each approved applicant will be written on a piece of paper and drawn in the presence of the Treasurer and two other volunteers, none of whom are associated with an approved applicant.
 - d. Exceptions to the guidance outlined in 8b can be presented to the UCB for approval.
9. The Beard Scholarship Fund can be re-purposed should such need arises, but only if approved by the UCB and the aforementioned monthly contributions are maintained.

United Methodist Church of Macedonia

Beard Fund Scholarship Program

General Guidelines and Application

The Beard Scholarship Fund was established through the generous bequest of the Beard Family. Fund income provides periodic scholarships for those needing financial assistance. The amount granted varies depending on the amount of available earnings and number of participants.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) The applicant shall be a member in good standing with the United Methodist Church of Macedonia.
- 2) The applicant must presently attend an accredited university or college, maintaining full-time student status for either a four-year or two-year degree.
- 3) The application must be completed and returned by December 1st of the current year.
- 4) Proof of school registration must be provided with the application. Attaching a copy of a class schedule to the application is suggested.
- 5) A parent may apply in lieu of the student signing the application. This does not alleviate the need to attach a current class schedule for the student.

Drop-off the application to the church office or mail application to:

United Methodist Church of Macedonia

Attn: Denise Pince

1280 E. Aurora Road

Macedonia, Ohio 44056

Deadline for submittal is December 1st or, if mailed, post-marked by that date.

ITEM III

I give, devise and bequeath to the following charitable organizations for the purpose stated, as follows:

1. To the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of Macedonia, Macedonia, Ohio, the amount of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to and thereafter administered as part of its endowment fund with the income only therefrom to be used to provide periodic scholarships for those needing financial assistance;

2. To CLEVELAND SENIOR COUNCIL, Cleveland, Ohio, the amount of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) to be added to and thereafter administered as part of its endowment fund with the income only therefrom to be used at the discretion of its Board of Directors; and

**Christley,
Herington
& Pierce**
Attorneys at Law

215 West Garfield Road
Suite 230
Aurora, Ohio 44202

(216) 562-3156
(216) 678-5900
(216) 562-9540 Fax

United Methodist Church of Macedonia
Beard Scholarship Program Application Form

1) Applicant

Name (Last)	(First)	(M.I.)
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Home Address	City	State/Zip
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Date of Birth	Daytime Phone	Home Phone
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2) University or College Attending

Name	Address
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3) Number of Credit Hours Taken: _____

- | | | |
|--|-----|----|
| 4) Is this a considered a full-time status by the College or University? | Yes | No |
| 5) Are your courses fulfilling requirements for a 2 or 4-year degree? | Yes | No |
| 6) Are you currently a member of the UMC of Macedonia? | Yes | No |
| 7) A copy of a current class schedule attached as proof of enrollment. | Yes | No |

Signature _____ (Parent may sign in lieu of student)

Print Name _____ Date _____

Drop off or mail to:

United Methodist Church
Attn: Denise Pince
1280 E. Aurora Road
Macedonia, Ohio 44056

An application received or postmarked after December 01, 2024 are ineligible for consideration.

October 20, 2023

Abigail A.K. Jacobs

Principal Assistant Attorney General
Charitable Law Section
Office of Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost
30 E. Broad St., 25th Fl.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Subject: Proposed Release of Restriction Request

Dear Ms. Jacobs

Enclosed is the completed Notification Form for the Proposed Release or Modification of Restriction Upon Institutional Fund Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 1715.55 (D).

As a member of the Finance Guidance Team of the United Methodist Church of Macedonia, I am sending this on the church's behalf.

Our intent is to make better use of the bequest, while at the same time, allow future fulfillment of the bequeathed funds.

Thank you for your assistance in processing this request to Attorney General Dave Yost.

Sincerely,

Douglas M. Wyer

881 Hidden Ridge Dr.

Sagamore Hills, OH 44067

EM: d123w@live.com

Cell: 330-697-4767