



ANNUAL REVIEW

2020





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Dear Friends,

Throughout this extraordinary year, you have chosen to stick by our side! You have continued to support students when they did not even know what they needed. You have offered your prayers, and you are helping us see a brighter future. On behalf of our board, staff, and scholarship recipients we want to thank you for your commitment. It has meant so much.

Even in these challenging times, you will see in this report that your support helped 906 students. We were able to provide over \$2 million in scholarships for students facing a very daunting financial and academic year.

Our commitment to you is that we will continue to learn new ways to give United Methodist students the opportunity to attend United Methodist schools, no matter what.

In this review of 2020, we celebrate God's work with you. The mission of the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation shines through each person listed herein. You are a vital part of our community of donors helping to make a real difference in the lives of UM students today and into the future.

Thank you!

Bob Fletcher
President/CEO



CELEBRATING UM SCHOOLS

OTTERBEIN UNIVERSITY

Westerville, OH

Like many United Methodist-related schools, Otterbein University has been committed to standing as an institution of opportunity. This commitment started with its founding in 1847 as one of the nation's very first universities to welcome women and persons of color to its model community of teachers and learners.

*Photo and information courtesy
of Otterbein University*



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Join us in thanking the members currently serving on the UMHEF Board of Trustees for their dedication, leadership, and service.

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*Above photo
courtesy of
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MEET THE TRUSTEES WHO JOINED THE BOARD IN 2020



MOLLY GABEL *Washington*

Molly is an attorney in Seattle. She graduated from Boston University and Washington University School of Law. She is a member of Seattle First UMC.



WILLIE JOHNSON *Texas*

Willie is a retired engineer in Austin. He graduated from Lamar University, University of Texas at Austin, and George Washington University. He is a member of Wesley UMC.



REV. KATHI AUSTIN MAHLE *Minnesota*

Kathi is retired UMC Clergy and served an eight-year term on the Judicial Council of The UMC. She graduated from Beloit College and United Theological Seminary.



REV. DR. JEFFREY KUAN *California*

The Rev. Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan is the 7th President of Claremont School of Theology and Professor of Hebrew Bible. He is also the past chair of the Division of Higher Education of The UMC.

SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAMS

GENERAL NAMED ENDOWED PROGRAM

UMHEF's General Named Endowed program manages and distributes more than 120 endowed scholarship funds established by various donors. These scholarship funds are often created in memory of a person or are an ongoing legacy created with estate plans.

UNITED METHODIST DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This unique scholarship program starts with a \$1,000 scholarship gift from a student's local church. UMHEF matches, raising the award to \$2,000. We call this the "Double Award." Participating United Methodist schools of higher education may also award, bringing the scholarship to \$3,000; the "Triple Award." Lastly, participating United Methodist Conference Foundations may provide matching funds, bringing the total scholarship amount to \$4,000. This is our "Quadruple Award."



American University
Washington, DC

American.edu

*Photo courtesy
of American
University.*

AT A GLANCE

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

\$2,057,390 AWARDED IN 2020!

GENERAL NAMED ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS:

\$465,703 to 264 Students

UM DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIPS:

\$1,498,867 to 611 Students, including:

280 Quadruple Awards

294 Triple Awards

37 Double Awards

UM Dollars for Scholars Partners Include:

474 Churches

83 UM-Related Schools

21 UM Conference Foundations

FOUNDATION MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS:

\$93,000 to 31 Students

**HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS:**

\$107,650* to 33 Students

**This amount is included in General Named Endowed and UM Dollars for Scholars figures.*

Simpson College
Indianola, IA

Simpson.edu

*Photo courtesy
of Simpson
College.*





YOU'RE SO *Generous!*

IN 2020, YOU
HELPED TO RAISE
\$1,265,443
TO SUPPORT
UNITED METHODIST
STUDENTS!

YOUR GENEROSITY
PROVIDED

906

SCHOLARSHIPS!

637 to Undergraduates
266 to Seminarians
3 to Other Students

*TOTAL
ASSETS*

The total assets of the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation is **\$67,178,310** (as of 12/31/2020). This is an increase of more than \$8.8 million since 2019!

Notes of *THANKS* from UMHEF SCHOLARS

"I am thankful for your support this year. Fall semester and dealing with COVID and some virtual classes was a new experience.

Thinking of you and giving thanks!"

JULIA T.

Dillard University



"If you are considering attending a United Methodist school, you need to connect with the UMHEF. Their scholarships are helpful, but the beauty is that so many of the colleges match it too. I received a scholarship all four years. I know I am an anomaly as I graduated debt free! I'm so thankful!"

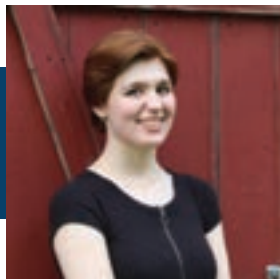
GLEN K.

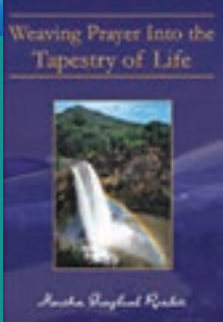
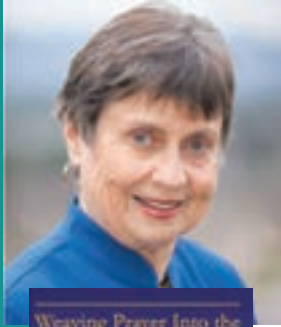
McKendree University

"Thank you so much for your generous donation to assist my journey into college. I am very grateful for the financial assistance you have provided me, which will make paying my tuition much easier. I am proud to be a member of the United Methodist Church, and have felt very cared for by the church as I've grown and made decisions about my future. Thank you so much!"

SOPHIA H.

North Central College





Weaving Together Life and Helping Others

In Martha Rowlett's book *Weaving Prayer Into the Tapestry of Life*, she wrote in the introduction, once done with most books they can be shelved or passed on, "but this book wants to hang around and be used. It would like to be a friendly companion to help you connect with God about the living of your life as you weave your personal life tapestry."

That also describes Dr. Rowlett. If you've had the opportunity to spend time with her, you want to keep her around.

Dr. Rowlett and her late husband, Dr. Robert Arnott established an endowed scholarship through the UMHEF. While working at Claremont School of Theology, Dr. Arnott visited Africa for a conference where he bonded with Bishop Lawi Imathiu and was inspired to establish an endowment that would provide scholarships for students from Africa attending United Methodist schools in the United States or Africa.

Over the past few years, Martha has so enjoyed receiving updates and letters of thanks from the students that she decided to gift a portion of her estate plan while she is still alive. It is her goal to be able to see even more impact, but she claims that she is "simply following in their direction. This was Bob and Bishop Lawi's dream and I know that they would've been happy to see this happen."

If you are interested in establishing an endowed scholarship, or if you would like to support a current fund, please contact the UMHEF Development Officer, Melissa Houck, at mhouck@umhef.org or (615) 649-3970.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Fernando Domingos *Drew University*



Having grown up in The United Methodist Church, Fernando Domingos sees a parallel between his interest in mission and his choice of psychology as his college major at Africa University: both focus on people and communities. Although mission work is hard, he also knows it is God's work, and God will sustain him. He looks forward to hearing the stories of others, becoming an advocate for social justice, and helping to build strong communities.

After graduating from Africa University, Fernando has spent the past two years in Brazil working with Shade and Fresh Water, an after-school program of the Methodist Church of Brazil for at-risk youth ages 6 to 14.

Through his education and experience in Brazil, he saw a shortage in pastoral care and counseling services. With assistance from the Martha G. Rowlett and Robert J. Arnott Scholarship Endowment, Fernando is now working toward his Master of Divinity at Drew University with a focus in this area.

Fernando shared that his first priority is to always give back smiles as he comforts those going through life's challenges, and to orient others to have a heart of love and charity. His lifestyle is one set to serve God and to serve others. He prays that after completion of his MDiv, he can "extend the services of the church community in larger ways to help others through a great heart of love to the work of God in this earth."

Fernando is from Luanda, Angola, and is a member of Redentor United Methodist Church in the West Angola Annual Conference. He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Africa University.

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THANK YOU!

We apologize if your name was omitted or listed incorrectly. Please contact our office at 800-811-8110 or umhuf@umhuf.org for any changes in future publications.

1 MINUTE = ONGOING SUPPORT



The Aldersgate Society is UMHEF's monthly giving program. When you join the Aldersgate Society, which takes about a minute, you will join a special group of people committed to providing education for nearly 1,000 United Methodist students every year, impacting the future of the United Methodist Church.

HOW IT WORKS

You determine the amount and duration of your donation. We will charge your gift to your credit card at the predetermined interval (charges are made on or around the same date each month). You will receive an email confirming each charge and your gift will automatically renew each year.

HOW TO JOIN (IN AS QUICK A MINUTE!)

ANY size gift can be made monthly. To join the Aldersgate Society, simply visit [UMHEF.org/give](https://umhef.org/give), enter your gift amount, and choose the "make this monthly" box. It's that easy! You may also call us at 615-649-3990.

Supporting UM students has never been easier.

ENDOWMENT *SPOTLIGHT*



BISHOP B. MICHAEL WATSON SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Created in 2011, UMHEF established this endowment fund to specifically provide scholarship assistance for United Methodist students attending one of the United Methodist-related undergraduate schools in Georgia.

This year, this fund celebrates its 10th anniversary! To date, the fund has awarded 31 scholarships to UM students, totalling more than \$82,000!

If you would like to contribute to the Bishop Watson fund, or if you'd like to learn more about setting up your own fund, contact Melissa Houck at mhouck@umhef.org or call 615-649-3970.



UNITED METHODIST
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Photo courtesy of McMurry University / MCM.edu

GRAND VISION

It is our grand vision that it be economically possible for any qualified United Methodist student to be educated at a United Methodist-related institution of higher education.