



EDUCATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY



UNITED METHODIST
HIGHER EDUCATION
FOUNDATION



Annual Review 2022



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Since 1965, donors to the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation have helped educate students who became leaders in a wide range of career fields. Past UMHEF scholarship recipients have become teachers, lawyers, nurses, pastors, engineers, doctors, business owners, and leaders in countless other professions.

Even amid major shifts in the church, UMHEF remains steadfast and focused, keeping the education of tomorrow's leaders at the center of our work. Now, more than ever, students and the UM-related institutions they attend rely on the scholarships we provide to reach their goals.

As you will read in these pages, we have much to celebrate about 2022, but I grieve the loss of dear friends: Bob Forrest, Bishop Bob Spain, and Syble Spain who left indelible marks on me personally, as well as hundreds of future leaders, UM-related schools, and the church. (Read more on page 5.) I am thankful for their lives and legacies.

As I reflect on the past year, I also give thanks for—and to—each of you. On behalf of the board, staff, and scholarship recipients of UMHEF, I thank you for your financial and prayer support. When you give to the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, you make quality education accessible to more of tomorrow's leaders.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bob Fletcher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bob Fletcher
President/CEO

ABOUT OUR COVER SCHOLAR!



Endia Clark was a 2022 UM Dollars for Scholars recipient. She is a student at Centenary College of Louisiana.

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on the UMHEF
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NEW FACES

These esteemed trustees joined the board in 2023.



Dr. Herman J. Felton, Jr. (Texas)

Dr. Felton is President/CEO of Wiley College. He is also co-founder of the Higher Education Leadership Foundation.



Tari Hughes (Tennessee)

Tari Hughes is a nonprofit strategist who has led several large organizations, including serving as the President/CEO of the Center for Nonprofit Management and President of the Nashville Library Foundation.



Bishop Bruce R. Ough (Minnesota)

Bishop Ough served as resident bishop to the Dakotas-Minnesota Area of The United Methodist Church until his vocational retirement in 2020.



Rev. Dr. Javier A. Viera (Illinois)

Rev. Dr. Viera is President of Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, as well as Professor of Education and Leadership.

“As a proud alumna of a United Methodist-related institution and a lifelong United Methodist, I am honored to serve on the UMHEF board of trustees. The faith stories of the students applying for these scholarships are heartwarming and inspiring. I love that UMHEF can be a part of the education journeys of future teachers, lawyers, doctors, nurses, theologians and more. With the escalating costs of higher education, it feels great to award scholarships to our church's young people.”

TARI HUGHES

Remembering Faithful Friends

The UMHEF community celebrates the legacies of Bob Forrest and Bishop Robert & Mrs. Syble Spain.



UMHEF's mission to support the higher education of United Methodist (UM) students was greatly impacted by the lives of Robert "Bob" Forrest and Bishop Robert and Mrs. Syble Spain. Our community mourns their recent passing, but celebrates the immense contributions they made to funding scholarships that will continue for generations.

Long before joining the UMHEF board of trustees in 2017, Bob Forrest was committed to seeing UM members gain access to quality higher education. The Martha Forrest Scholarship Fund, endowed by Bob in honor of his wife Martha in 2013, has awarded \$141,182 to UM students in the Georgia Conference of The United Methodist Church through quadruple matches to our UM Dollars for Scholars program. Beginning in 2022, Bob and Martha established a new UMHEF endowed scholarship fund to offer scholarships to Georgia Methodist minority students attending Clark Atlanta University, Paine College, and Gammon Theological Seminary, which are all Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the state.

Bishop Robert Spain and Mrs. Syble Spain diligently sought to help UM students in Tennessee obtain a higher education. The UMHEF scholarship fund named after the couple was created in 2006 to support UM students attending Martin Methodist College. The college became the University of Tennessee Southern in 2021, and preference is now given to UM students attending the school. To date, the fund has awarded \$248,250!

Bob Forrest and Bishop Spain both passed away in September 2022, and Syble in April 2023. It is with profound affection and gratitude that the UMHEF community remembers these friends for their unmatched support and exemplary legacies.

THANK YOU!

UMHEF receives dozens of notes from students every year, but they really belong to you, our supporters. Here are just a few.



"I am humbled by the graciousness of the Foundation and all its sponsors. These scholarships are taking the pressing financial burden of attending a private four-year institution off my shoulders, so I am able to focus on my schoolwork, extracurriculars, and giving back to the community."

Madeline Streicher
Simpson College



"Thank God for you! Thank you! Those six words don't come close to expressing even a fraction of the gratitude I have to you for the scholarship awards I received from you and your donors. I pray that I am able to give back, at minimum, tenfold of everything I have received."

Kimberly Stephens
Candler School of Theology



"Thank you very much for the scholarship! Since I have arrived at Ohio Northern University, my faith in God has grown stronger. In addition to being a part of the communities on campus, I have also participated in a Habitat for Humanity build in Cleveland. Thank you!"

Jack Ballas
Ohio Northern University



UMHEF CHURCH PARTNERS

Buncombe Street United Methodist Church

GREENVILLE, SC

Is your
church a UM
Dollars for
Scholars
partner?



Photo via Facebook.com/BuncombeStreetUMC

UMHEF UM Dollars for Scholars scholarships begin with the life-changing support of local United Methodist congregations committed to seeing their students obtain a higher education at UM-related schools. As a UM Dollars for Scholars partner for a decade, Buncombe Street UMC in Greenville, SC supported 10 scholars in 2022 alone, awarding a total of \$10,000. These awards were matched by UMHEF and other program partners to send students to school!

We're forever grateful for the UMHEF church partners who join the village to make higher education possible for more UM students!

More about UM Dollars for Scholars



**Number and amount of matching awards are not guaranteed and may vary.*

FACTS & FIGURES

\$1,888,820

awarded to tomorrow's leaders in 2022:

68%
to Undergraduates

30%
to Seminars

2%
to Others

295

students received
**General Named Endowed
scholarships, totaling
\$596,195**



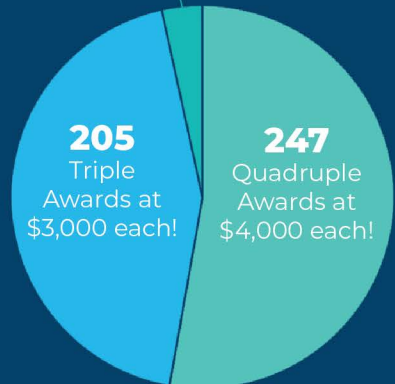
Malachi was awarded the 2022 Thomas Henry Talton Memorial Scholarship, a UMHEF General Named Endowed award, and attended Willamette University.

DID YOU KNOW? *The General Named Endowed program manages and distributes over 130 endowed scholarship funds established by various donors.*

468

students received
**UM Dollars for Scholars
scholarships, totaling
\$1,181,625**

16 Double Awards,
at \$2,000 each!



Since 1965, donors to the United Methodist Higher Education Foundation have provided support to over 35,000 students!

604

Donors gave
\$985,423 in 2022
THANK YOU!

Over 40% of gifts
from individuals
were **\$75** or less.
Every gift matters!

50%
of our 2021
donors gave
again in 2022

**TOTAL
UMHEF
ASSETS:**
\$56,702,890
(as of 12/31/2022)

This wouldn't be
possible without our
**UM Dollars for
Scholars Partners:**

367
Churches

90
UM-Related Schools

24
UM Conference
Foundations

See page 7 for more about
UM Dollars for Scholars.

37 students
received the
**FOUNDATION
MERIT SCHOLARSHIP,**
totaling

\$111,000

\$143,900*
was awarded to
47 students
attending **Historically
Black Colleges and
Universities**

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



UMHEF FOUNDATION PARTNERS

Twenty-Two in '22

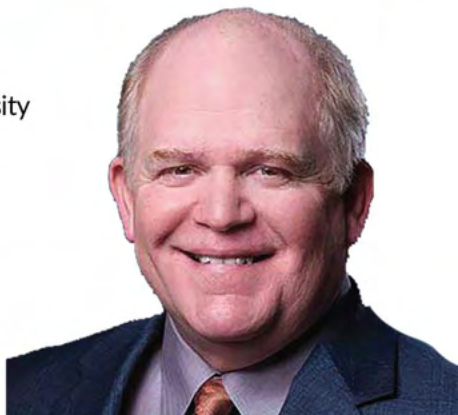


In 2022, UMHEF teamed up with the Missouri United Methodist Foundation (MUMF) to award scholarships to twenty Central Methodist University students and two Saint Paul School of Theology seminarians through the UM Dollars for Scholars program.*

For over 55 years, the MUMF has provided resources and funds to individuals and churches that strengthen and enable United Methodist ministry in the "Show-Me" state. This includes scholarships and grants for members of UM churches in Missouri, attending these two UM-related schools.

Through the UM Dollars for Scholars program, the MUMF kicks in \$1,000 for qualified, full-time students of CMU and Saint Paul, matching \$1,000 gifts from the student's local church, school, and UMHEF. In 2022, that totaled \$22,000 of support! Partnerships like this exemplify what it means to be a connectional church.

MUMF Executive Director David P. Adkins reflected on their involvement. "UM Dollars for Scholars is a great connector within The United Methodist Church, and, by not being tied to a particular degree program, this scholarship equips future leaders of the church in a broad sense, not just exclusive to church activity," he said. This partnership touches future leaders in a wide range of career fields, and "gives them a sense of being grounded and supported by the church," Adkins added.



"UM Dollars for Scholars is a great connector within The United Methodist Church..."

David P. Adkins
MUMF Executive Director

**To learn more about the Missouri United Methodist Foundation, visit mumf.org. For more about the UM Dollars for Scholars program, see page 7.*



UMHEF ALUMNI

Yesterday's UMHEF Scholars are Today's Leaders!

More than 25 years after being a UMHEF scholar, Molly Gabel is a leader in her church and community.

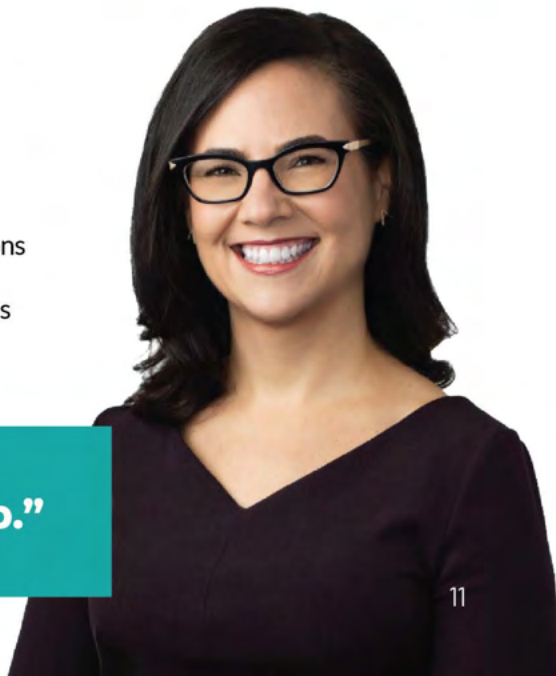
Beginning in 1997, Molly Gabel attended Boston University with the help of scholarships from UMHEF. Today, she exemplifies our goal to help educate the leaders of tomorrow.

Molly is a leader in her church, community, and profession:

- Is Chancellor for the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church
- Serves on the Seattle Symphony Board of Directors
- Is a partner at Seyfarth Shaw LLP
- Serves on the American Bar Association Section of Labor and Employment Law's Council
- Serves on the UMHEF Board of Trustees, chairing the Communications & Public Relations Committee
- Served on the Staff-Parish Relations Committee at First UMC in Seattle

"UMHEF's scholarships made me who I am as a lawyer. Through my work with the Foundation, I've seen firsthand how many students' lives our scholarships have impacted. It's important to me to pay it back to the Foundation so that we can keep helping students obtain top-notch educations at our Methodist schools."

MOLLY GABEL



**"Education is the
mother of leadership."**

Wendell Willkie

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Thank you for helping educate the leaders of tomorrow. Your generosity makes a difference.

Thank you!

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*Monthly donor in 2022

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Steve & Pam Parr
Brent Porter
Martha Rowlett
Richard P. & Norma Small
James W. Warner

If you plan to leave UMHEF in your will, please let us know so we can thank you in your lifetime. For more information about legacy giving and planned gifts, visit UMHEF.org/legacy.

Wofford College

This UMHEF Dollars for Scholars partner school in Spartanburg, SC leads the pack.



When you give to UMHEF, you are supporting not only United Methodist students but also the UM-related schools they attend. Wofford College relies on the UM Dollars for Scholars program and other UMHEF scholarships to attract students to join its diverse student body of 1,800+ in Spartanburg, SC.

In 2022, Wofford College was a “Triple Your Dollars” matching partner for 36 UM Dollars for Scholars recipients!



Photo: Wofford.edu

“People often underestimate the difference made by small to mid-sized scholarships in determining whether someone goes to college or not, especially for students of color and first-generation college attendees. UMHEF often provides the support that makes a difference for many students and thus is a significant catalyst in making higher education accessible. UMHEF can make that difference and it is why I'm proud to serve on its board.”

REV. DR. JAVIER VIERA
UMHEF Board of Trustees Member



UMHEF SCHOLARS



EVAN SMITH attends Duke Divinity School and is working to obtain a Master of Divinity degree with a certificate in Methodist and Wesleyan Studies. In 2022, he was awarded the UMHEF Ernest I. Bass & Eunice Miller Bass Scholarship. Here's what he has to say about what this award means.

"No doubt this experience [at Duke Divinity School] has been not only beneficial to myself and my family, but also to my current congregants, and to those with whom I will interact with and minister to in Holston in the immediate future.

I would not be afforded the opportunity to attend higher education without the support that the UMHEF and others provide, permitting me to relentlessly pursue the mission of the universal and the Methodist churches – to make disciples of Jesus Christ to transform the world. The transformative experiences, knowledge, and opportunities that I have gained since answering the call to ministry and applying to Duke could not have been realized without personal, financial support.

I truly thank you and the UMHEF for your generosity."

Photo: Duke.edu

Thank You!

EDUCATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS TODAY

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



Stay in touch!

UMHEF.ORG

umhef@umhef.org

800-811-8110

615-649-3990

P.O. Box 340005

Nashville, TN 37203



"I greatly appreciate your kindness and generosity towards me by granting me the \$2,000 scholarship for UMDFS! This will make such an impact on me through continuing my college career. I am a business major with minors in Christian discipleship and youth ministry. This money will [...] help me to become stronger in my faith and help strengthen the faith of those around me as well."

TREVOR PETERSON

Southwestern College Student & 2022
UM Dollars for Scholars Recipient