



UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY

Your generous gift today enriches ministry and connects students to their faith.

Photo credit: Courtesy of Debra Tyree



"My goal is to play music and teach it to whomever wants to learn. ... Receiving this scholarship has helped me pursue my dreams."

JONATHAN TYREE, GIFT OF HOPE SCHOLAR



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YOUR GIFT TRANSFORMS LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

Jonathan Tyree joined the school band in fifth grade. "I loved every second of it," he admits.

That is not surprising since his adoptive parents eagerly shared their love for music. His mom, the Rev. Debi Tyree, is the minister of music and worship at Bellevue United Methodist Church, Nashville, Tenn. His dad, David Tyree, was a retired church organist. He died when Jonathan was a high school sophomore.

"The church has always been an active part of my life," says Jonathan. His church family knew he would study music in college, he recalls. "Once they heard that I finalized my decision, they were happy. I play sometimes during service, and they all come up to me afterward, telling me how much they enjoy hearing me play."

Now a student at the University of Tennessee — Martin, Jonathan is grateful for the Gift of Hope scholarship.

"Receiving this scholarship," he says, "has helped me pursue my dreams to become a musician and a teacher."

Jonathan sees himself as an encourager.

"I am making a difference in the world," he says, "by supporting my friends. If they quit, then we would have one less engineer, scientist or musician."

His faith is important to him.

"I believe that God has put me in music for a reason," Jonathan says. "Whether that be to teach, play or start a worship band, God has a reason for it."

YOUR GIFT TODAY MATTERS

Your contribution enriches ministry and connects students to their faith. The United Methodist Student Day offering makes a difference for people like Jonathan Tyree. Thank you for your generous gift!

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