

## **GRACE WILKINSON SCHOLARSHIP**

Presented by Bethlehem UMC

This year on July 15 at the 11:00 am service, two young men were given the Grace Wilkinson Scholarship Award. Each received \$1200. They were Luke Hinshaw and Mario Massarelli. Both will be attending NC State this fall.

Luke and Mario followed in the steps of 26 others from our church who have received this scholarship. It is always presented on the Sunday in July closest to the birthday (July 17) of Grace Wilkinson for whom it is named.

Grace Martin Wilkinson was born in Glasgow, Scotland. She married Ernie Wilkinson in Glasgow after WWII ended – he served in the Royal Marines and was stationed in Glasgow. The family emigrated from Glasgow to Manchester, CT in 1965. Grace worked for Klock Co. (1965-1989) in the coatings and finishing department for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Engines.

Grace and Ernie's son, Alan, met and married Kathy Berry in 1982. They have two children, Scott and Rachel. Kathy's family had always attended Bethlehem, so Alan and Kathy settled in the area, and began attending Bethlehem. That is what brought the Wilkinsons (Grace and Ernie) to North Carolina when they retired in 1989.

Grace died in 1990. Ernie's family wanted to honor Grace and so set up the scholarship in her name. The church bulletin from July 28, 1991 tells us "The Grace Wilkinson Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established by Ernest H. Wilkinson in memory of his late wife. Most of the interest from this fund will be given in the form of scholarship aid for students to attend a Trade School, Community College, College, or University. Initial grants will be awarded sometime in July of 1992. We are grateful to Ernie for this most generous contribution to the education of young people who are in need of assistance. Others may contribute to this fund in order that the interest bearing capital might grow. Again, thanks Ernie."

Ernie died in 2012 so Alan now handles the fund. Scholarship forms become available in May on-line and from the church office. The forms are turned in on a certain date and Alan chooses a small committee to help him make the decision.

## Grace Wilkinson Scholarship Recipients

1992 - Dawn Flinchum White    1993 – Ritchie Robb  
1994 – Zach Greene            1995 – Heather Fields Coble  
1996 – Ian Green                1997 – Erin Smith  
1998 – Mary Ellen Suggs       2001-Mark Wilkinson  
2002 – John Edwards           2003-Tracy Allen  
2004-Meredith Grimes Mitchell 2005 – Erica Reid  
2007 – Christina Coble Ulander  
2008 – Casey Welborne        2009 – Layne Spencer Downing  
2010 – Emily Hinshaw         2011 – Ethan Eanes  
2012- Beth Coble                2014 – Jonathan King, Kylie Spencer  
2015 – Chea Welborn           2016 – Austin Fields  
2017-Emily Robb                2018 - Luke Hinshaw & Mario Massarelli

**Missing are names of recipients from 1999, 2000, 2006, 2013.**

Please e-mail Alan Wilkinson ([wilkial@triad.rr.com](mailto:wilkial@triad.rr.com)) or Judy Fields ([bd347@bellsouth.net](mailto:bd347@bellsouth.net)) if you were a recipient. Thanks!