

Newman Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

Scholarship Program - 2021

Newman's scholarship program is available to all members pursuing higher education. You don't need to be in your teens or 20's to get an award. Have you considered going back to school to learn a new skill or trade, or to pursue a degree? Then make sure to apply!

Dear Members,

As many of you are aware, Newman Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, has been blessed by the generosity of individuals and families who chose to donate funds to offer scholarships to Members of Newman pursuing Higher Education. This includes trade schools, colleges and graduate programs. This began over 50 years ago with the first awards in the form of a \$25 loan and has grown to where we awarded nearly \$40,000 to a pool of 16 individuals last year – a continuation of a truly incredible ministry!

Every year, we start the process of inviting Members to select an essay topic and submit them for review. Once the submission deadline of May 3rd passes, the members of the Scholarship Committee review the essays and confirm that an award is merited. This, in conjunction with identifying the amount of income to be received from two externally managed funds, five internally managed funds and a grant from the Gifford Foundation, newly received scholarship donations, and uncollected grants from 2020 (two students elected not to attend last year due to the pandemic), determines the amount of the awards to be presented in June. Note that the full amount of income, based on the market and individual parameters of the various funds, will be distributed. These factors lead to variation in the awards year to year based on the number of valid applications and total amount of funds available for distribution.

To be eligible, individuals must:

- Be a Member of Newman. The parent(s) do not need to be members, but the student must be.
- Be attending an accredited program.
- Complete their essays on the appropriate application electronically.
- Submit a qualified essay by the deadline of 05/03/2021.

Those of us on the committee are eagerly awaiting the opportunity to review the essays. Note, participants may be contacted to discuss sharing some or all of their essays, either through Newman News or by recording a video. We feel that this is an amazing ministry, part of Newman's identity, and the thoughts and ideas submitted should be able to be heard by more than just the group of people who are on the committee.

We will be working as a group to be as transparent as possible with regards to what makes up this ministry and how it works. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact any of us listed below. Also note that Michelle in the office is a fantastic resource - she has been intimately involved with scholarships for many years and we are blessed to have her helping us!

Joyfully,

Co-Chairs - Tom Mottur (tom_mottur@yahoo.com, 401-474-3668) & Karen Usas (karenuas@gmail.com, 401-714-6689)
Members - Keith Blackwell, Pamela Goulet, Pat Trodson