

## **2026 Trinity UMC Scholarships**

**Application deadline for scholarships: April 30, 2026 at 12 pm.** Application forms are available in the church office or via the church website. Please contact the Church office with any questions at 908 852-3020.

### **Scholarships for Beginning Students Only (3):**

#### **The Mathias Severin Torgersen Memorial Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2008 in memory of Rev. Mathias Torgersen by the United Methodist Men, is to provide aid to a high school senior to begin his/her higher education at a college or trade school. The applicant must be an active participant in the ministry of Trinity UMC and a regular worship attendee. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity.

#### **The Norma G. Nelson Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 1995 in memory of Norma G. Nelson, is to provide for a high school senior within the church who is continuing his/her higher education at a four-year college. The applicant must be accepted to a four-year college in pursuit of a bachelor's or comparable degree. The criteria for the award are: Christian character, Christian discipleship, and financial need.

#### **The Rev. Paul L. Wells Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2018, is to honor Rev. Paul L. Wells for 26 years of voluntary, dedicated and inspirational ministry, made possible by members of Trinity UMC. This scholarship is meant to assist a high school senior to begin his/her higher education at a college or trade school. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity and must be an active participant in the ministry of Trinity and a regular worship attendee.

### **Scholarships for Beginning and/or Continuing Students(6):**

#### **The Learned T. Bulman Scholarship**

This scholarship was first awarded in 2018. This scholarship is meant to provide a high school senior or current college student assistance with his/her higher education at a college or university. The recipient shall be engaged or intending to engage in the **field of the humanities**, as opposed to math or science. This scholarship is open to members of Trinity UMC who are regular worship attendees.

#### **The Ruth E. Frost Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2017 in memory of Ruth E. Frost, is to assist church youth who have demonstrated health need, financial need or ill parents with his/her educational costs. The applicants will be evaluated on their Christian character (following the moral and ethical teachings of Jesus), Christian discipleship (displaying willingness to follow and serve Christ), financial need, health needs, or illness of a parent.

### **The Lon Leveto Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, awarded in memory of Lon Leveto, is for ministry students, high school seniors and adults seeking further higher education or trade school enrollment. Candidates should be a member of Trinity and have discipleship background in church and/or community.

### **The Sanman/Spender Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 1999 in memory of Ivan Sanman and Frank H. Spender, Jr., is to provide for an area high school senior or high school graduate (under age 21) to begin or continue their higher education at a college or trade school. The applicant must be accepted to or currently attend a college or trade school. The criteria for awarding of this scholarship are: character, Christian discipleship, community citizenship and financial need. The award may be divided among up to three applicants at the discretion of the scholarship committee. This scholarship is open to members of the community and does not require the applicant to be a member of Trinity.

### **The Steven L. Wexler Memorial Scholarship**

This scholarship, first awarded in 2021, is awarded in memory of Steven L. Wexler. A longtime member of Trinity UMC who was incredibly curious and loved to learn. Steven had strengths in Music, the Sciences, and English. This scholarship will be awarded to a deserving student who has a passion for learning toward an academic goal. There is no specific requirement for a field of study. The candidate would preferably be associated with Trinity but in the spirit of inclusiveness and passion for learning, a student from the community may be the qualified candidate.

### **The Arthur and Jean Koenig Scholarship**

The Arthur and Jean Koenig Scholarship will be awarded to a high school senior and/or current undergraduate student who is an active member of TUMC. It is further required that the recipient be accepted and will attend and/or attends a state, city or municipal institution and not a private one. The awardee must demonstrate strong Christian character and a strong sense of community service.

## **Scholarships for Post Graduate Students only (1):**

### **The Seelinger-Thompson Scholarship**

The intent of this scholarship, first awarded in 2017 in memory of George A. Seelinger and Katherine Thompson, is to assist those who are pursuing a new course of study or new career. Applicants must be accepted to or currently enrolled in a post-graduate program. The criteria for the award are: character, Christian discipleship, church and community service, and financial need.

**Trinity UMC 2026 Scholarship Application**  
**Application deadline: April 30, 2026 by 12pm**

**Instructions to Applicant:** Mail completed application form, along with all required items (see below) to:

Scholarship Committee  
Attn: Bill Blaskopf  
Trinity UMC  
213 Main Street Hackettstown, NJ 07840

1. Invite two people (who know you well) to each write a one-page letter of recommendation.
  - a. One person must be a (*non-staff*) Trinity member.
  - b. The second reference may be a person of your choice.
  - c. Neither person may be a relative or someone living in your house.

*Your application **will not** be considered without these **two letters**.* Attach these letters to your application OR since some people may not want to hand their letter of recommendation to you, they may send it to Kari Anzel at: [kanzel@catchthespirit.org](mailto:kanzel@catchthespirit.org)

2. Include a **one-page typed statement** on why you wish to be considered for one of these scholarships. Please include information about your association with Trinity United Methodist Church and the church's influence on your faith.

3. Fill out this application form (**both pages**). Make sure that your application is current. Check grammar and spelling carefully; they reflect the care and attention that have been given to preparing your application. Please type or print in ink. Remember that this form will be photocopied for committee members. Be sure that all information is clear and legible. Include a current copy of your transcript, it does not have to be an official copy.

4. All Applications – include a copy of your most **recent FAFSA**. Please make sure that the form has your parents **S.A.I. (Student Aid Index)**

5. **Financial Disclosure Form:** This form is required if the applicant is applying for:

- a. Sanman/Spender Scholarship
- b. Lon Leveto Scholarship
- c. Ruth E. Frost Memorial Scholarship

The Seelinger-Thompson, Mathias Torgersen, Learned T. Bulman, Norma G. Nelson, Rev. Paul L. Wells, Arthur and Jean Koenig, and Steven L. Wexler Scholarships **do not** require a Financial Disclosure Form.

6. The Sanman/Spender Scholarship and the Stephen Wexler Scholarship **do not** require the applicant to be a member of Trinity UMC. All other scholarships require applicants to be members or active participants of Trinity UMC.

7. The Seelinger-Thompson Scholarship is for post-graduate students only.

Scholarship funds are limited, and it may not be possible to grant a scholarship to every student who applies. **Incomplete or late application forms will not be considered.** It is the applicant's responsibility to make sure that all materials are *received* before the application deadline.

### **Application deadline: April 30, 2026 by 12pm**

This application form must be completed (both pages) and the following additional items must be submitted: (1) copy of acceptance letter from College or University (2) Two letters of recommendation (3) your one-page typed personal statement and (4) financial disclosure form if required – see page 1 (5) Copy of current FAFSA.

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#### **Final Checklist: Have you included?**

- 1) **Your personal essay**
- 2) **Your transcript**
- 3) **Acceptance letter to school (if entering Freshman)**
- 4) **Two (2) letters of recommendation or check that they have been sent.**
- 5) **Current FAFSA form including parents' S.A.I. (Student Aid Index)**
- 6) **Financial Disclosure Form (If needed)**
- 7) **Have you applied for all Scholarships that you may qualify for?**

## Trinity UMC 2026 Scholarship Application

Applicant's Name (First, Middle initial, Last): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Applying for: (Please check all the scholarships that you are qualified for. We strongly encourage you to apply for more than one.)

Beginning Students Only:

\_\_\_\_ Mathias Severin Torgersen Jr. Scholarship

\_\_\_\_ Norma G. Nelson Scholarship

\_\_\_\_ Rev. Paul L. Wells Scholarship

Beginning and/or Continuing Students:

\_\_\_\_ Learned T. Bulman Scholarship

\_\_\_\_ Ruth E. Frost Scholarship (Financial Disclosure Form)

\_\_\_\_ Lon Leveto Scholarship (Financial Disclosure Form)

\_\_\_\_ Sanman/Spender Scholarship (Financial Disclosure Form)

\_\_\_\_ The Arthur and Jean Koenig Scholarship

\_\_\_\_ Steven L. Wexler Scholarship

Post Graduate Students Only:

\_\_\_\_ Seelinger-Thompson Scholarship

Applicant's permanent home address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Phone/Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Email : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Check here if your current mailing address is different from your permanent address.

Current mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Dates your current address will be in effect: from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

School presently attending (name, city, state) or will attend in the Fall:

\_\_\_\_\_

What grade or class will you be entering? \_\_\_\_\_

If not currently enrolled, give date of last enrollment and grade or class \_\_\_\_\_

Did you include a copy of your most recent transcript? \_\_\_\_\_(Y/N)

Your plans after graduation from high school (for entering Freshman):

\_\_\_ two-year program \_\_\_ four-year program \_\_\_ Other

Degree or Certificate sought: \_\_\_\_\_

Major field of study: \_\_\_\_\_

Your career goal: \_\_\_\_\_

School at which the scholarship is to be used (name, city, state)  
\_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*If you are an entering Freshman, include a copy of your acceptance letter from this school\*\***

Your estimated expenses for the coming school year. Please be as accurate as possible.

Tuition \_\_\_\_\_ Room and Board \_\_\_\_\_

Books and other fees \_\_\_\_\_ Travel expenses \_\_\_\_\_

**Total estimated expenses:** \_\_\_\_\_

Have you received scholarship assistance from any other sources? \_\_\_\_\_(Y/N)

If yes, please specify the exact amount(s) and the name(s) of scholarship(s).

\_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been a member of Trinity United Methodist Church? \_\_\_\_\_

Church activities in which you have participated (please indicate leadership positions)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

School or community activities in which you have participated (indicate leadership positions)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

School/Church Honors and Awards:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of applicant

x \_\_\_\_\_

I endorse this scholarship application for my child (if under 18): (Signature of Parent)

x \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note: All information submitted is considered confidential and for the sole use of the scholarship committee.**

## Financial Disclosure Form

**Name of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Father** or Male Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Name & Address of Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Years w/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother** or Female Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation/Name & Address of Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Years w/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate combined income from wages or business \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**[The Lon Leveto, Ruth Frost, and Sanman/Spender Scholarships all require this Assets Section]**

**Assets:** Cash, savings, checking account \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Home, market value less mortgage (renters use 0) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other real estate and investments value \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please List all other children in the family(All applications):**

Name:	Age:	Grade or College Year:

**Please List all other Dependents receiving financial support from family(All applications):**

Name:	Age:	Relation to Student:	Living with Family?

**Student Work History:**

Have you worked part-time or during the summer? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

Will you work this summer? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

If you are going to work this summer, give name of employer and estimated income:

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated summer income: \_\_\_\_\_

**Employment History:**

Name of Employer:	Dates of Employment:	Est. Hours Per Week:

**Please state below any unusual circumstances which you feel make it imperative that you have financial aid in the form of a scholarship:**

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Signature of Applicant

Date