

2016 SPRING GRANTS

It is with great thanksgiving for the generous donors – individuals, congregations, and other ministries and partners who have made these grants possible that we announce the following grants from the endowments and other restricted trusts held by the Foundation.

Grants to The United Church of Canada

- \$625,606.49 for general program support
- \$57,761.37 for specific programs of the General Council Office
- \$294,617.63 for Mission & Service

Grants to Congregations and Other Ministries

These grants are made at the direction of the donor – either through an agreement that established the fund and set the beneficiaries or through annual instructions forwarded to the Foundation.

- \$267,406.97

Grants made through the various granting programs of the Foundation

The Joint Grants Committee met on May 11th and reviewed 71 applications. 21 of these applications were recommendations from the New Ministries and Scholarship and Academic Awards sub-groups while 50 were through the Seeds of Hope program. The Foundation's board received the recommendation of the Joint Grants Committee on June 1st and awarded 48 grants, scholarships and academic awards totalling \$704,225.

Scholarships and Academic Awards; 15 grants totalling \$153,000:

Rowntree Scholarship

The Marjorie F. Rowntree Fund, together with the Chester Rowntree Fund, offers an amount not to exceed \$30,000 annually for research that explores, draws together, and reflects on fresh expressions of The United Church of Canada in our changing social context. Rowntree applications are accepted under the Seeds of Hope Programing which is different than the rest of the scholarship and academic awards and is due to the nature of research.

- \$20,000 to *The United Theological College (Montreal, QC)* in the Rowntree Scholarship fund for the research component of La Présence—QI, an initiative of UTC combining new ministry with ministry leadership formation.
- \$11,000 to *The United Theological College (Montreal, QC)* in support of the Research on Intercultural Ministry; The project is focused on a study of intercultural ministry practice in French in our Canadian context. The goal is to enhance the capacity of United Church ministers and lay leaders to integrate people from diverse backgrounds into existing faith communities and/or to accompany emerging intercultural faith communities.

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The Bill and Anna Jentsch Endowment Bursary

The Bill and Anna Jentsch Endowment Bursary's purpose is to support women in ministry.

- *Angelika Piche for her pursuit of an advance masters degree*
- *Brenda Baily for her M. Div studies*
- *Catherine Smith for her D. Min studies*
- *Kelly Colwell for her Ph.D studies*
- *Kelly Osgood for continuing education*
- *Sheryl Johnson for her Ph.D studies*

The Victor Blatherwick Memorial Bursary

Victor Blatherwick Memorial Bursary Fund is a yearly scholarship that is available to a member of The United Church of Canada who is enrolled in full- or part-time studies leading to an academic doctorate suitable for teaching in a United Church theological college. Priority will be given to a student demonstrating both financial need and academic excellence, and preference will be given to visible minority or aboriginal students.

- *Sheng Ping Guo for his pursuit of doctoral studies*

The W. Norman McLeod Scholarship

The Scholarship is available to ordered ministers in the United Church of Canada for post-graduate study. Applicants in a master's (not M. Div.) or doctoral program may re-apply for two additional years. The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to approve the school of study. The intent of the Scholarship is to constitute the promotion, advancement and encouragement of theological education.

- *Catherine Smith for her D. Min studies*
- *Mary Taylor for her D. Min studies*

Rural Ministry Studies Award

The Rural Studies Award is a one-time offering of an award recognizing a student specializing in Rural Ministry Studies.

- *Jason Richards for his M. Div at St. Andrew's College*

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The Roy M. Davidson trust Award

The Davidson Award is to attract and/or retain outstanding people in the service of the theological colleges within Canada, associated with The United Church of Canada, by providing an annual award or prize for excellence in teaching and scholarship.

This award acknowledges and promotes excellence of both scholarship and teaching in theological education. This award is available to any faculty member teaching in a United Church-related theological school

- *The Rev. Dr. Janet Gear of the Vancouver School of Theology*
 - Dr. Gear has worked at VST for 10 years and has been the Director of United Church Formation throughout that time. In her 2015 review work review colleagues and students used descriptors such as “extraordinarily articulate”, “remarkable communication”, and “high emotional and relational intelligence”.

The McGeachy Senior Scholarship

The McGeachy Memorial Fund represents a substantial bequest from the estate of William A. and Margaret H. McGeachy, an agricultural family in southwestern Ontario. The McGeachys’ commitment to the Christian church and the role of the church in society is memorialized in the McGeachy Senior Scholarship, derived from the Fund.

The intent of the scholarship project is to develop leaders who will provide The United Church of Canada with discernment and direction that inspire and challenge the church towards creative and faithful mission.

The McGeachy senior scholar is expected to express the prophetic vision of the church and to interpret Christ’s call to justice and peace in our pluralistic world. She or he will combine reflection and research with practical action, and communicate the results of this work in a form accessible to the wider church.

The scholarship is intended to free a person to use a major block of time for concentrated effort on a project of enduring value to the Church. It is hoped that the award will enhance the life work of the McGeachy scholar at a creative moment in her or his development, and thus yield continuing benefit to the individual and to the community.

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Grants

- *Bill Millar*

Proposal: The assessment of intercultural church initiatives and the development of specific tools and resources to address intercultural interactions that will become increasingly significant to many United Churches.

- *Shelia Macgregor*

Proposal: The creation a complete curriculum that can be used by other United Church congregations and ministry sites. The end result will be a book, study guide and videos focussed on a "Spirituality for the Second Half of Life".

New and emerging ministries; 8 grants totalling \$219,830

New Ministries Fund:

- *\$45,000 to Alderwood United Church (Toronto, ON)* for a two year new ministry development to expand a network for a new generation of ministry leaders who are seeking mentorship in spiritual practices for themselves in their local area.
- *20,500 to Burin Pastoral Charge (Newfoundland, NL)* over 2 years The Rev. Simon Muwomo, a minister from Zambia is leading a growing youth ministry that has the potential to not just entertain youth but also provide them a solid foundation of faith.
- *\$12,000 to Knox United Church (Brookfield, NS)* to coordinate and lead a contemporary Wednesday night worship service called "Knox at Night" which will be an entry-point for people of all ages seeking contemporary music-driven, culturally relevant worship that is informed by and evangelizes progressive and inclusive theology.
- *\$25,000 to Stella's Circle (Newfoundland, NL)* to continue the work of the spiritual director a position that is helping fill the gaps in their community. The Spiritual Director helps the holistic needs of individuals, including physical, emotional, educational, mental and spiritual.
- *\$30,000 to Thunder Bay – Gen X Ministry (Thunder Bay, ON);* The Rev. Hubert DenDrak is a minister finding ways to connect with Generation X (those born between 1965 and 1981). This project will shape worship to reflect the language, music, art, and interests of this generation.
- *\$25,000 to The United Church of Canada* to fund the support system for new ministry funding for the next 5-6 months.
- *\$25,000 United Theological College (Montreal, QC)* per year for 3 years; The project will create a new faith community presence in the South West area of Montreal characterised by regular small events that combine arts, music, values, spirituality, community building and hospitality.

London Conference New Ministries Fund

- *\$17,830 to Siloam United Church (London, ON)* as the final instalment of their grant to expand their vibrant youth ministry.

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Through the Seeds of Hope granting program; 25 grants totalling \$331,935:

For Events

The James Robertson Memorial Fund

- \$10,000 to Montreal & Ottawa Conference for Réseau oecuménique justice écologie paix (Montreal, QC) for the Forum mondial théologie et liberation/Theology and Liberation World Forum project an international, ecumenical bi-annual gathering hosted in North America for the first time.

The William Naylor Trust

- \$2,500 to *College Street United Church (Toronto, ON)* in support of “Jesus: The Misunderstood Jew” seminar led by Vanderbilt Divinity School’s Jewish scholar Amy-Jill Levine this will initiate a grass-roots dialogue between Christian and Jews, between congregations and organizations of both faith traditions and to advance scholarship and understanding about Jesus of Nazareth and his place in our faith formation and his role in advancing peace and justice in this world.
- \$600 to *Powassan Pastoral Charge (Powassan, ON)* in support of the Advanced Care Planning Workshop to help people engage in a process of reflection to discern their values and wishes and name a Substitute Decision Maker who they can communicate what kind of health and personal care they wish should they be unable to make decisions for themselves.

For projects and programs related to Peace & Justice

The Peace and Justice Fund

- \$1,200 to *Churchill Park United Church (Winnipeg, MB)* in support of the Transgender: Affirmed by God “A day of discussion that identity is more than anatomy” project to explore and learn about the life experiences of LGBTTTQQ folks with a focus on the transgender segment of the community.
- \$3,000 to *Lambeth United Church (London, ON)* in support of the Parish Advocate Pilot project to assist those living with health issues, particularly senior citizens, cope with the many levels of care which might be needed and provided by many social service and government agencies offering a myriad of programs and services.

The Peace & Justice Fund and the Brian and Belva Piercy Fund

- \$6,800 to *The Bridge (Hamilton, ON)* in support of The Bridge Education and Social Time (BEST) evening program. This is a new program is the fruit of a vision for criminalized men in Hamilton to have a safe and healthy space to spend their evenings in order to disrupt the cycle of homelessness and incarceration.

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Camping Ministry

The Camping Trust Fund

- \$4,000 to Loon Bay United Church Camping Centre (Gander, NL) in support of the Cabin Restoration project to replace roof shingles, windows and exterior siding one cabin containing 35 bunks.

Youth Ministry

The Living Spirit Fund

- \$10,000 to Saskatchewan Conference (Regina, SK) in support of The Caravan project in which a group of five young adults will travel throughout Saskatchewan Conference during the summer months offering VBS-type programming to nine communities of faith.

The United Church of Canada Foundation's General Granting Fund

- \$12,000 to The United Church of Canada for Rendez-vous 2017

General Programing

The Davey Family Fund and the Living Spirit Fund

- \$8,000 to St. Thomas Wesley United Church (Saskatoon, SK) in support of the St. Thomas Wesley Hub for Healing and Performing Arts program.

This project reimagines St. Thomas Wesley United Church as a hub for healing and performing arts and intergenerational and intercultural community building and capitalizes on the congregation's strengths of inclusive and progressive worship, respecting elders, aligning ourselves with those marginalized by economics, ethnicity, and gender identity, and working for environmental and social justice.

The Living Spirit Fund

- \$5,000 to St. Matthew's Pastoral Charge (Belleville, ON) in support of the Faith in Art project that seeks the return to an old model of creativity in which the church commissioned local artists to create original works of art using Christian story and themes.
- \$10,000 to Knox Community Garden Outreach Ministry (Ottawa, ON) in support of the Knox Community Garden Outreach Ministry.

On-line Christian Education Programming

The Faith & Mission Fund

- \$4,000 to Cambrian Presbytery (Marathon, ON) in support of the Online Licensed Lay Worship Leader program to educate and equip lay leaders for service in congregations.

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The Living Spirit Fund, the Kingscourt United Church Endowment Fund, and the Davey Family Fund

- \$8,335 to *Maritime Conference (Sackville, NB)* in support of the More than Friends: a marriage preparation and relationship deepening course.

This will be an innovative, flexible, affordable, web-based marriage preparation resource designed to be readily adaptable to the diverse situations of couples and communities of faith. Five modules have already been developed. Funding is for Phase Two which will broaden the curriculum to include 4 focused units. It will promote and launch the project across the country within the United Church, and also ecumenically, and internationally. Thereafter, the delivery framework and price structure will enable the resource to self-sustain.

Innovative Seniors' Ministry

The Ann Baker Fund for Innovative Seniors' Ministries

- \$20,000 to *First United Church Community Ministry Society (Vancouver, BC)* in support of the Supporting Isolated Seniors Living in Social Housing project to bring social and wellness programs, including weekly meals, gardening, outings and neighbour-assisted homecare, right inside the buildings where these seniors live.

The Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$2,500 to *Emmanuel Pastoral Charge (Waterloo, ON)* in support of the Adopt-A-Grandparent Program that will provide seniors with an opportunity to establish and foster a relationship with an "adopted" grandchild by intentionally pairing them and then providing a variety of programs that will allow them to enjoy new experiences together.
- \$10,000 to *Pinegrove United Church (Roslyn, ON)* in support of the Café de Soul project that offers an inclusive community to those who are not part of any, fostering their sense of wellbeing, and affirming the special person that God created them to be.

Programs and Projects Addressing Poverty and At-risk Children/Youth

The Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults and the Ina Grafton Gage Fund

- \$40,000 to *Fred Victor (Toronto, ON)* in support of the Help Fred fill a Home program.

Fred Victor will own/ manage a Pan Am Housing building, now converted to 108 affordable housing units. 350 people in need, veterans, youth, seniors, people with disabilities, athletes and refugee families, will be housed there. This grant will help convert and furnish 8 units.

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The Wesley C. Smith Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk

- *\$2,500 to L4L – Grace United Church (Sarnia, ON)* in support of the Lunches for Learning

This is a program that provides hot nutritional lunches to a new school with a significantly high number of disadvantaged children. Utilizing church and community volunteers will create a sense of community and inclusion in a new school environment.

The Wesley C. Smith Fund and The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk

- *\$10,000 to Massey Centre (Toronto, ON)* in support of the Breaking Free project

The Breaking Free program will be offered to young moms, aged 13-25 currently parenting their children 0-3 years old and who were/are involved in sex trade or sex trafficking. Approximately 30% of the young mothers have self-identified as being forced into sex work as a means of survival prior to coming to Massey Centre. The program will focus on helping them deal with the trauma of being involved in sex trade and sex trafficking and address systemic violence against women. They will receive counselling, stable housing, case management support, advocacy and education supports to help them live independently in the community.

- *\$2,500 to Coverdale Courtwork Society (Halifax, NS)* in support of the F. I. R. S. T Contact (Facilitating Individual Rehabilitation & Successful Transition)

The Society will visit the Nova Institution for women in Truro NS once a month to meet with women and encourage and support them to become involved in our First Contract program upon their release from the Institution. This will enable the Society to better support and guide their successful reintegration into the community through the First Contact Plan.

The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk and the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- *\$30,000 to Vancouver General Hospital and University of British Columbia Foundation* (Vancouver, BC) in support of the Downtown Eastside Spiritual Empowerment program.

This is an eight-month pilot program to expand the Clinical Pastoral Education Program (CPE) to the residents and the homeless of the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver (DTES). Working from a base at First United Church Community Ministry Society, this program will provide a unique interpersonal outreach to the DTES community that will foster in residents and the homeless a greater sense of individual and community empowerment.

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The Wesley C. Smith Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk, the Ina Grafton Gage Fund and The Amelia Toeper Elliot Memorial Fund

- \$40,000 to Knox United Church (Calgary, AB) in support of the Inn from the Cold program.

In January 2015 the Knox/Inn From the Cold (IFTC) partnership began with Knox providing overnight shelter nightly for children and their families (The Foundation provided a grant of \$50,000). The initial one year agreement has been extended until March 2017. Expansion of the project going forward requires upgrading the kitchen at Knox in order that food preparation and storage can take place on site thus resulting in significant cost reduction. Currently dinner and breakfast are prepared at another location as neither IFTC nor Knox has a kitchen that is adequate or meets code or health standard criteria. Increased use of volunteers can also result in cost reduction to IFTC.

The Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk and the Brian & Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

- \$14,000 to Montreal City Mission (Montreal, QC) in support of Child friendly Space/Family Friendly Space – Place aux Enfants/Place aux Familles project.

This project assists newly-arrived Syrian families to integrate into Canadian society. It follows a highly successful 6-week pilot project (CFS/FFS Phase I) organised jointly by MCM and the Muslim Association of Canada (MAC), which introduced Syrian children to Canadian life through fun educational activities

The United Church of Canada Foundation's General Granting Fund and Watkins Fund for Innovative Programs and Projects in Addressing Poverty and Children at Risk

- \$75,000 to St. Luke's United Church (Sarnia, ON) in support of The Hub program

The Hub will provide a one-stop, multi-service location for youth aged 16-24 in Sarnia and Lambton County. Growing out of a local inventory and needs analysis, local youth must have their basic needs met and have meaningful relationships with service providers. The working committee is comprised of 20 community partners, including St. Luke's United Church. The vision of the community partners is to offer a collaborative, single point of service. The agencies will be co-located at St. Luke's increasing accessibility and collaboration to best respond to the needs of the youth.