



YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

St. James United Methodist Church
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MISSION

*St. James' mission is to make disciples for Jesus Christ.
This is what we strive to do as a people called St. James United Methodist Church.*

MOTTO

*Connecting people with God in practical ways.
This is a short and concise reminder of what we are all about.*

VISION

Connecting people with God through exciting worship, compassionate outreach, and authentic Faith development.

YOUTH MINISTRY

The St. James UMC supports youth members by offering three (3) scholarships.

- **ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP**
- **THE MR. BILL JOHNSON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP**
- **THE MR. BILL JOHNSON BOOK SCHOLARSHIP (COLLEGE STUDENT)**

HOW IT'S FUNDED

*The second Sunday of each month is designated as Youth Scholarship Sunday. Each member, including the youth of the church, is asked to contribute \$5.00 per month or \$60 per year to support the scholarship fund. **Awarded amounts may vary year to year based on the year-to-date funding for the Scholarship Fund.***

I. ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

The St. James United Methodist Church Membership Scholarship is a non-renewable scholarship to help supplement the financial needs of St. James youth members who will be continuing their education after High School. In order to receive the Membership Scholarship, students must complete an application. The Membership scholarship is open to any youth member of St. James United Methodist Church who is beginning post-secondary education (university, college, military academy, certification, professional training) within one year of their High School graduation.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA | To receive consideration, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Be a current member of St. James United Methodist Church
- ✓ Be a current graduating high school senior or graduating candidate;
- ✓ Be in good academic standing at the time of graduation;
- ✓ Be accepted to ANY accredited institution/program;
- ✓ Required to be a full-time student according to their school's standards for the program for which they are enrolled;
- ✓ Write and submit the requested Essay
Essay Criteria: Compose a 200-word essay which describes your involvement at St. James UMC to include your spiritual background and development. The essay needs to be typed, doubled space with a 1" margin on each side and submitted with the application.
Essay criteria questions: Describe your spiritual heritage. Who has been instrumental in your faith development? What influence did the church have in your spiritual development? (Must answer each question within the essay)

RENEWAL | The St. James United Methodist Church Membership Scholarship is a non-renewable, one-time award.

REQUIRED INFORMATION | Applicants are responsible for gathering and submitting all necessary information. Applications are evaluated on the information supplied by the application deadline; therefore, answer all questions as completely as possible. Interested youth must complete the application and mail or email the application with the following documents:

- Scholarship Application
- Provide a confirmation certificate or note from the confirmation class instructors as proof that Confirmation Class requirements have been completed.
- Copy of a high school transcript or GED certificate indicating the current graduation year
- Acceptance Letter from a university, college, military academy, technical/vocational school
- Essay

APPLICATION DEADLINE | Applications including all required information must be emailed to scholarship@sjumckc.org or mailed to and postmarked on or before **June 15th: St. James United Methodist Church, Youth Scholarship Fund, 5540 Wayne Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64110-2964.**

Applications are not a guarantee of funds. The Scholarship Committee will contact you after receiving the application to verify receipt. Please follow all application requirements carefully. Late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted. Questions regarding the scholarship program should be addressed to Rhiannon Sampson at scholarship@sjumckc.org or at 913-206-2101.

GUIDELINES FOR AWARD AMOUNTS¹

The maximum award amount of The St. James UMC Membership Scholarship is \$500.

¹ Awarded amounts may vary year to year based on the year to date funding for the Scholarship Funds.

II. MR. BILL JOHNSON YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP²

In honor of Bill Johnson and his commitment to the youth program. The scholarship was established to assist youth members of St. James UMC who are seeking to continue their education in a post-secondary, certification, or license program. The Scholarship is open to active members who have displayed their commitment to being servant-leaders in the church awarding scholarships based on their spiritual commitment. Recipients are selected based upon academic excellence, active participation in church ministry, and submission of a written essay.

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA | To receive consideration, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Youth must meet the requirements of the **ST. JAMES UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MEMBERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP**
- ✓ Youth must have completed Confirmation Class.
- ✓ Youth must be an active member of the Youth Ministry. Active Youth Ministry membership is defined as regular participation in youth Small Groups or Sunday school for two years **in order to receive the full scholarship**. The applicant must be active in youth ministry either junior or senior year preferably both.
- ✓ All Mr. Bill Johnson Youth Scholarship applicants are required to complete community service volunteer hours. Community service hours should be completed no later than June 15th of senior year.

Community service volunteer requirements can be fulfilled by volunteering at an external non-profit. Proof of hours should be provided on official organizational letterhead or by using an official school community service or volunteer hours form with appropriate signatures.

Community service volunteer requirements can also be fulfilled by volunteering at St. James UMC. Applicants need to ask the St. James UMC ministry leaders to submit a ministry participation form verifying the applicant's volunteer participation to scholarship@sjumckc.org. *Applicable Ministries include, but are not limited to Sharefest, Loaves & Fishes, Easter and Fall Outreach, and Leadership Board Member.*

- ✓ Youth applicants must also serve in at least two on-going church ministries for at least two years. The applicant must provide a signed ministry participation form from the leaders of the ministries in which they participate. Applicable ministries **include, but are not limited to** Audio Visual Ministry, Usher Board, Choir, Children's Ministry, Dance Ministry, and Leadership Board.

REQUIRED INFORMATION | Applicants are responsible for completing the application and submitting the required information listed below. Please follow all application requirements carefully.

- Include copies of all required St. James UMC Membership Scholarship information
- Two ministry participation forms from the leaders of the ministries in which they participate.*
- Documentation of Volunteer Community Service hours*

APPLICATION DEADLINE | Applications including all required information must be emailed to scholarship@sjumckc.org or mailed to and postmarked on or before **June 15th: St. James United Methodist Church, Youth Scholarship Fund, 5540 Wayne Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64110-2964**. There are no extensions of the deadline. If the application packet is not complete, it will not be reviewed. Applications are not a guarantee of funds. Applicants will receive notification of their award prior to Youth Sunday, when scholarship checks will be presented. Questions regarding the scholarship program should be addressed to Rhiannon Sampson at scholarship@sjumckc.org or at 913-206-2101.

² College students who receive the full "Mr. Bill" Johnson Scholarship are then eligible to receive a \$500 book scholarship** each year for three (3) years while they are in school. The maximum "Mr. Bill" scholarship award while attending a higher education institution is \$1,500 (over three years). See criteria for the "MR. BILL" JOHNSON BOOK SCHOLARSHIP.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship checks will be paid directly to eligible youth. This money is to be used at the student’s discretion to aid in their educational needs (i.e., books, fees, clothes, transportation, etc.).

Recipients will be acknowledged during the Next Generation Sunday Worship service. Scholarship recipients will be notified of their award prior to the Next Generation Sunday Worship service. Checks will be distributed on Next Generation Sunday.

The youth must enroll in a school of higher education/vocational/technical school within one year of their high school graduation. Any youth not enrolled within the allotted time frame will be required to return all funds and will no longer be eligible for the Book Scholarship. *Verification of enrollment will commence on **June 1st** and **January 1st** of each calendar year to be in compliance with such acceptance bylaws.*

GUIDELINES FOR AWARD AMOUNTS |

The Mr. Bill Scholarship will be awarded to all eligible youth according to their ministry participation, proof of confirmation and number of volunteer hours.

AWARDS³ |

Distribution of scholarship awards will be granted based on the following criteria, for graduating high school seniors as follows:

| Scholarship Opportunity Outline | SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT |
|--|--------------------|
| Membership Scholarship | \$500 |
| "Mr. Bill" Johnson Scholarship* | \$200-\$800 |
| Community Service** | \$200 |
| Total Scholarship Opportunity Award | \$1,500 |

**Based on years of eligibility; proof of confirmation required.*

***Proof of at least 40 community service hours required.*

| Length of Eligibility | Scholarship Amount |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Three years (Full Scholarship) | \$800 |
| Two Years | \$400 |
| One year | \$200 |
| Less than one year | \$0 (not eligible for Mr. Bill Scholarship) |

³ Awarded amounts may vary year to year based on the year to date funding for the Scholarship Funds.

III. MR. BILL JOHNSON BOOK SCHOLARSHIP

College students who have received the full “Mr. Bill” Johnson Scholarship are eligible to receive a \$500 book scholarship. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors are eligible to receive the book scholarship for three (3) years following the year they receive the full Mr. Bill Scholarship award.

RENEWAL | The Mr. Bill Book Scholarships are renewable for up to three years provided you maintain continuous full-time enrollment each semester and maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA. Renewals will not be automatic and only available for those recipients of the “Mr. Bill” Scholarship. Recipients may not apply for the scholarship once they have received the maximum \$1500 award.

IN ORDER TO RENEW THE MR BILL BOOK SCHOLARSHIP FOR THREE (3) YEARS STUDENTS WHO HAVE RECEIVED THE AWARD ARE TO SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE FOR EACH YEAR THEY ARE REQUESTING SUPPORT |

- Book scholarship information form
- A copy of the most recent final transcript for the year

APPLICATION DEADLINE | Applications including all required information must be emailed to scholarship@sjumckc.org or mailed to and postmarked on or before **June 15th: St. James United Methodist Church, Youth Scholarship Fund, 5540 Wayne Avenue, Kansas City, MO 64110-2964**. There are no extensions of the deadline. If the application packet is not complete, it will not be reviewed. Questions regarding the scholarship program should be addressed to Rhiannon Sampson at scholarship@sjumckc.org or at 913-206-2101.

GUIDELINES FOR AWARD AMOUNTS |

- ✓ The Mr. Bill Book Scholarship is renewable for three (3) years and will be awarded to all eligible youth who received the Mr. Bill Scholarship, based on their submission of their transcript, required GPA and information form by the applicable deadline.

AWARDS⁴ |

Distribution of scholarship awards will be granted as follows:

| BOOK SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY OUTLINE** | SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT |
|--|--------------------|
| Mr. Bill Book Scholarship (Year One) | \$500 |
| Mr. Bill Book Scholarship (Year Two) | \$500 |
| Mr. Bill Book Scholarship (Year Three) | \$500 |
| TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY AWARD | \$1,500 |

***Please refer to Book Scholarship criteria.*

⁴ Awarded amounts may vary year to year based on the year to date funding for the Scholarship Funds.