

UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®



When you give to the special offering on United Methodist Student Day, you invest in a channel of hope for young leaders who bring their Wesleyan values into their schools and professions.

For example, Katrina Lewis says she struggled with her self-worth when her parents divorced. "I saw myself as a mistake and unloved," she recalled. Then her mother introduced the children to First United Methodist Church, St. Mary's, Pennsylvania, which, she said, "completely changed the trajectory of my life."

When she was preparing for college, Katrina's pastor and church family encouraged her to apply for a Gift of Hope Scholarship, funded by the United Methodist Student Day offering. "Their belief in me and what God has in store for my life," she said, "empowered me to apply, knowing I could not fund college alone."

Receiving the scholarship permitted her to follow God's direction for her life. "I know that God is calling me to team with him in restoring his beautiful creation," she said.

Katrina is pursuing a bachelor of science degree in statistics and predictive analytics at Robert Morris University, Moon Township, Pennsylvania. Her classwork and extracurricular experiences have given Katrina a deeper appreciation of natural resources and "our collective obligation to protect and defend those resources," she said.

"The scholarship," she said, "has blessed me beyond comprehension. God has used that money in my life to truly transform my college experience and allow me to pursue opportunities I never thought possible. I will always remember the generosity poured out to me by my church, and the fruits God has grown through that. A scholarship provides true hope and testimony to God's generosity and goodness."

Thank you for your generous gifts that give students a financial boost to help them realize their dreams while giving them a spiritual boost knowing that United Methodist congregations are supporting them and their dreams.

Please give online at UMC.org/SSGive or mail checks to United Methodist Student Day, GCFA, P.O. Box 340029, Nashville, TN 37203. Checks can also be directed to your local church by writing "UMSD" in the memo line.

