



Faith & Funding

Of Such is the Kingdom

As our Lord admonished, children are living examples of the heavenly kingdom – deserving of our patience, appreciation and utmost care. Children can also be among the most vulnerable members of our earthly society.

Ed and Toy Mae Odom took this Christian message to heart long ago. As a young married couple with a new baby of their own, Ed and Toy Mae became house parents for 12 teenage boys at the David and Margaret Children's Home in La Verne, California. This experience set them on a life-long path of ministry to at-risk children and youth.

Ed served as the executive director of three child welfare organizations operated by the United Methodist Church, culminating in his service to Missouri's own

Epworth Children & Family Services in St. Louis from 1976 until his retirement in 1994. Ever-present and in full partnership by Ed's side was Toy Mae. Together they served the needs of countless children – including raising five of their own.

The Odoms led Epworth during a pivotal time that saw operations and assets consolidated, growing numbers of children served, and a blossoming of facilities on the main campus. The Odoms led the completion of eight new buildings with expanded residential capacity and new therapeutic programs. They could often be seen gardening side-by-side to beautify the campus, as well as maintaining the personal contact with residents that helped young lives to heal and blossom anew.

In 2005, to honor the Odoms, the Epworth Board of Directors created a designated endowment fund administered by the Missouri United Methodist Foundation. The Toy Mae and Ed Odom Building Endowment Fund provides financial support for the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the main campus facilities. As part of Epworth's current "Living the Legacy" capital campaign, the board has set a goal of \$2 million in new gifts to the Odom Fund.

In recent years, Ed became a full-time caregiver as Toy Mae suffered through a debilitating illness. She passed away in July of this year amid the tears and prayers of an enormous circle of loving family and friends.

The work of the Odom Partnership continues, however, as Ed maintains his vital involvement with his church, Webster Hills UMC, Kingdom House, the Shepherd's Center – and, of course, Epworth.

Of such is the Kingdom...

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
EPWORTH VISIT
www.epworth.org OR
CALL 314-961-5718.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
ODOM BUILDING FUND
CAN BE
SENT TO:

**Living the Legacy
Capital Campaign
Epworth Children &
Family Services
110 North Elm
Webster Groves,
Missouri
63119**



Missouri United Methodist Foundation 2007-2008 College Scholarships



MERRYDELLE MAY FUND

Merrydelle May was active in Methodist causes statewide, including Epworth Children and Family Services, Gambrill Gardens, and the Wednesday Club. A member of the Methodist Hall of Fame, Mrs. May held a masters degree in social work and was an avid supporter of higher education. This year, 13 students received a May Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 each.



LEFT TO RIGHT FROM TOP:
Andrew Blacksher Asbury UMC, *Springfield*
Nicholas Bracciano Huffman Memorial, *Saint Joseph*
Dustin Buell Liberty UMC
Heidi Buell Liberty UMC
Jenna Chase King's Way UMC, *Springfield*
Angela Cole Neosho UMC
Justin Fox Neosho UMC
Allison Hoy Ashland UMC, *Saint Joseph*
Grace Hunt First UMC, *Blue Springs*
Gayle Livingston Nelson Memorial UMC, *Boonville*
Joshua Pemberton Kennett UMC
Emily Ponder Centenary UMC, *Cape Girardeau*
Brent Spradling Aurora UMC



LEFT TO RIGHT FROM TOP:
Machelle Bryan Liberty UMC
Benjamin Hopper Branson UMC
Chris Janis First UM/Presbyterian Church, *Montgomery City*
Tyler Matthews Wesley UMC, *Troy*

CLINT & MARGE HAWKINS MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FUND FOR YOUTH

The Clint & Marge Hawkins Memorial Christian Education Fund for Youth was created to honor the Hawkins' lifetime devotion to the church and their dedication to promoting and sustaining the development of young people.

This year, four students received a Hawkins Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 each.





**Grant Applications
for 2008-2009
are due by
April 1, 2008.**

LEFT TO RIGHT FROM TOP:

Jessica Boeger Christ's Community UMC, *Joplin*

David Brannum Jr. Zion UMC, *Saint Louis*

Jennifer Brinkman Woods Chapel UMC, *Lee's Summit*

Ashley Carleton Lee's Summit UMC

Joel Flynn Wesley UMC, *Jefferson City*

William Franks Albany UMC

Emily Heying Hermann UMC

John Miller Wesley UMC, *Springfield*

Jessie Newman First UMC, *Jefferson City*

Jennifer Nienhueser Casco UMC

Amy Osborn First UMC, *Odessa*

Danielle Overstreet Carrollton UMC

Amy Wehnes First UMC, *Jefferson City*

FOUNDATION SCHOLARS

This year, the Foundation Board of Directors redirected additional funds to supplement the usual scholarships awarded by the Foundation. Thirteen students received these scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each.

www.mumf.org 

**Visit our our website
for scholarship application
instructions.**

ALSO ON THE WEBSITE

- Free informational brochures, available in quantity
- An automatic calculator to show the income you would earn on a charitable gift annuity benefiting your church or favorite Methodist charity
- Downloadable grant applications

JUDGE LEAH B. MCCARTNEY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The Judge Leah B. McCartney Scholarship Fund was created by Leah's husband, Reverend Victor McCartney, as a perpetual memorial to his wife. The scholarship is a fitting memorial to one who achieved both educational and professional distinction. This year, three students received a McCartney Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000 each.



FROM TOP:

Julia Ehlers First UMC, *Maryville*

Elizabeth Fulton First UMC, *Maryville*

Kyle Rupp First UMC, *Rolla*



CONTRIBUTIONS AND TRIBUTES

The following contributions, tributes, honors, and memorials were received January 1, 2007 through July 25, 2007. Please notify us of any corrections or omissions at 800-332-8238.

CAPPELLO "FOR ELISE & SAM"

DONOR ADVISED FUND

Deborah Letchworth

CENTENARY UMC-CAPE GIRARDEAU

HVAC FUND

Frank D. Bean

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

Anonymous

-benefiting St. Paul School of Theology

Anonymous

-benefiting King's Way UMC-Springfield

Raymond Carnes, Jr. & Catherine Carnes

-benefiting Central Methodist University

Gerald Huddleson

-benefiting UMCOR missions at First UMC of Rolla

Frances M. Lampe

-benefiting Campbell UMC-Springfield

Deane L. & Fancine Thompson

-benefiting Kirkwood UMC

Loren G. & Elizabeth H. Waller

-benefiting Oregon UMC

CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUST

Donald A. Davis, Sr. & Martha D. Davis

-benefiting Central Methodist University

CONCORD TRINITY UMC-St. Louis

LIVING MEMORIALS FOUNDATION

ENDOWMENT FUND

Richard & Shirley Duncan

THE WILLIAM H. & JO ANN DINWIDDIE

EDUCATION FUND

Florence M. Dinwiddie

William H. Dinwiddie

EPWORTH-ED & TOY MAE ODOM

ENDOWMENT FUND

Jack & Mary Lou Adams

FIRST UMC OF NORTH KANSAS CITY

Monk Bryan

FOUNDATION SEMINARY SCHOLARS FUND

Reverend Mary Ellen & Warren Meyer

-In Memory of C. Shrum Burton

FOUNDATION UNRESTRICTED ENDOWMENT

Charles & Rachel Meier Trust

Reverend Mary Ellen & Warren Meyer

-In Memory of Glen Creech

-In Memory of Reverend Jane Clark

CLINT & MARGE HAWKINS CHRISTIAN

EDUCATION FUND

The United Church Men of

Greater St. Louis

KINGDOM HOUSE

Jack & Mary Lou Adams

KING'S WAY UMC-SPRINGFIELD

William L. Gibbs Trust

MANCHESTER UMC

Jack & Mary Lou Adams

OWENSVILLE NEW HOPE UMC SALEM

UMC AT BLAND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Verna & Edward Haring

PLATTE CITY UMC ENDOWMENT FUND

Joseph Cockriel

THE UNITY AWARD ENDOWMENT FUND

Central Methodist University

Robert Siler

WEBSTER HILLS UMC

FORMER TRUSTEES MEMORIAL FUND

V. Ray Stranghoener

GRANTS SPRING 2007

BATTLEFIELD UMC - \$1,600 to help purchase a media projector and laptop computer for use during worship services

BELFONTAINE UMC, St. Louis - \$5,000 to help purchase and install an updated audio/visual system

BROADWAY UMC, Kansas City - \$5,000 to help upgrade the sanctuary sound system

CENTENARY UMC – CENTENARY CARES, St. Louis - \$2,500 to help purchase beds and mattresses for sleeping rooms designated for visiting mission teams

CENTRAL METHODIST UNIVERSITY - \$10,000 to furnish a study annex for the Missouri United Methodist Archives

FIRST UMC OF WASHINGTON - \$2,000 to help purchase entertainment equipment and other furnishings for a youth center

FRANCIS STREET FIRST UMC, St. Joseph - \$1,500 to help develop a church website

GAMBRILL GARDENS, St. Louis - \$2,655 to help purchase audio/visual equipment for the chapel

HANNIBAL FIRST UMC - \$5,000 to help purchase a computer and audio/visual equipment for use during worship services

HARPER CHAPEL UMC - \$4,374.90 to help purchase audio/visual and recording equipment to broadcast services on the local cable channel

HYDESBURG UMC - \$5,000 to help purchase a computer and video projector system for use during worship services

KINGSWOOD SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY, KC - \$1,000 to help purchase paraments, a cross, candle holders, and a compact stereo system

LAFAYETTE PARK UMC, St. Louis - \$5,000 to help purchase a projector, laptop, software, and other hardware for use in the new Praise Service

LEE'S SUMMIT UMC - \$10,000 to help with relocation to a larger building

METRO HOMELESS CENTER AND FAMILY SERVICES, St. Louis - \$2,500 to help support the Emergency Shelter Program, a residential facility for single, chronically homeless women with mental illness and/or chemical dependency

More grants on the back.

GRANT HIGHLIGHT Lexington United Methodist Church



In June 2006, the Lexington United Methodist Church was awarded a \$2,000 grant from the Missouri United Methodist Foundation to help provide start-up funding for a part-time youth ministry position. After an additional grant from the local Trustees rounded out the initial funding for the position, church leadership was blessed with an extraordinary candidate. According to Reverend David Collum, pastor at Lexington UMC, the endeavor produced true results. Youth group participation nearly doubled from 25 students in September 2006 to 40 students by the end of the 2006-2007 school year and youth participation increased in Sunday School, worship services, and the annual mission trip. Reverend Collum adds, "We would be quick to point out that the increase was largely due to the efforts of our volunteers; however having a staff person with us as a coach and spiritual encourager has definitely helped our volunteers to approach the task with greater confidence and excitement!"



Missouri United Methodist Foundation
PO Box 1076
Columbia, Missouri 65205-1076

573-875-4168 or 800-332-8238

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GRANTS *continued*

MO ANNUAL CONFERENCE ñ SAFE SANCTUARIES PROGRAM - \$30,000 to help purchase and implement a document management system

MO UNITED METHODIST CAMPING & RETREAT MINISTRIES-WILDERNESS RETREAT & DEVELOPMENT CENTER - \$10,000 *contingent*, to help build a swimming pool for use by summer camps and retreat groups

NEW HORIZONS UMC - \$4,000 to help convert a classroom into an ADA accessible restroom

PINEVILLE UMC - \$5,000 to help purchase a projector and retractable screen for use during worship services

POTOSI UMC - \$5,000 to help purchase audio/visual equipment to enhance services and programs

RED BRIDGE UMC ñ EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER - \$1,085.95 to help purchase a roll laminator for preschool and church projects

ST. FRANCISVILLE UMC - \$5,000 *contingent*, to help build an indoor, ADA compliant restroom and kitchenette

SALEM UMC - \$5,000 *contingent*, to help fund a new praise worship leader for one year

SAMARITAN UMC, St. Louis - \$4,000 to help develop an afterschool program

SOUTHEAST DISTRICT COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY - \$6,500 to help fund a Pastoral Leadership Development program for the Southeast District

TUCKER UMC - \$5,000 to upgrade to a more efficient HVAC unit

VALLEY PARK UMC - \$5,000 to help purchase a new video projection system

WEST PORT UMC ñ NEIGHBOR 2 NEIGHBOR - \$2,000 to help expand electrical capacity so the program can safely and efficiently use all equipment

Total Grant Awards:
\$152,715.85