

Warren J. Meyer Scholarship Fund



The Warren J. Meyer Scholarship Fund was created in 2017 by Rev. Mary Ellen Meyer to honor the memory of her husband of 61 years. Since its inception, this fund has continued to receive gifts from family and friends whose lives were touched by Warren.

A Foundation scholarship fund is a fitting memorial as it combines Warren's appreciation for education, his devotion to the church, his commitment to charitable giving, and his keen interest in future generations. As Warren used to say, "The Foundation is a great resource for leaving footprints on the future."

Born in 1931 in Overland, Missouri, Warren earned his BSBA and MBA degrees from Washington University in St. Louis. He was called to service in the US Army and in 1955 married his soulmate Mary Ellen Lodholz. After his honorable discharge they moved to St. Louis and raised three children while Warren worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone for 32 years.

Warren delighted in a couple of "second act" careers in the second half of his life. First, he became a preacher's spouse when Mary Ellen became the first female ordained elder in the Missouri East Conference of the United Methodist Church in Missouri and later the first female District Superintendent. Always a dynamic team, Mary Ellen and Warren devoted themselves to the people of their congregations and to lifting up their colleagues in ministry – especially young pastors and their families. Warren's second great calling played out over 21 years as an Associate Director of the Missouri United Methodist Foundation.

Warren became an avid student of 'planned giving' – helping people create lasting legacies through major gifts, estate plans, and other gift arrangements. In 2015, in celebration of Warren's years of service and millions of dollars raised in support of ministry, the Foundation board presented him with its "Faithful Servant Award of Merit."

"Warren remains, in my mind, the model of a servant leader," states Foundation president, David P. Atkins. "Students receiving this scholarship can take pride in knowing that their lives are connected to a kindred spirit, a life well-lived. Faith, love and service defined Warren's life and are affirmed in this award."

This scholarship fund supports student members of United Methodist churches in Missouri pursuing post-secondary education at an accredited college or university, with a priority given to students enrolled at Central Methodist University in Fayette, Missouri.