



The Willard A. Peterson & Winifred W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship **Revised 1/2/2023**

The Willard A. Peterson & Winifred W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Moline, Illinois (FCC) is to provide tuition assistance for church members who are seeking private or public post-secondary education.

Scholarships will be awarded to applicants for the 2023-2024 academic year. Qualified expenses that may be covered with this scholarship's award are tuition and mandatory academic expenses required for enrollment (no book, supply charges, or room and board expenses qualify).

Applicants for the Peterson Memorial Scholarship must meet the following criteria:

- Active, participating member of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Moline, Illinois
- High school or college graduate or earned a G.E.D.
- Achieved a GPA of at least 2.0 on a 4.0 scale
- Enrolled (or will be at the time scholarships are distributed) in a regionally accredited institution of higher learning, either part-time or full-time, pursuing certification, Bachelor's degree, Master's degree or Doctorate

The Peterson Memorial Scholarship is a one-year scholarship. Church members must apply annually.

Each semester's funds will be paid from FCC directly without exception to the college or university upon receipt of institutional statements of enrollment.

DEADLINE is April 10, 2023.

The following items must be **postmarked or delivered** by April 10, 2023:

- Complete application online. (**Please be sure all *six* sections are completed.**) Additional space may be used for essay questions.
- Include a picture of yourself for future press release. **Must be a .pdf file sent to office@fccmoline.org with Peterson Scholarship in the subject line.**
- Include **official grade transcripts** from current school. If the applicant has been out of school for more than five (5) years, most recent grade transcripts will be accepted.
- Two letters of reference from the following:
 - One letter of recommendation must be from a non-related, non-staff, current member of First Congregational Church and must attest to the applicant's character and church participation
 - One letter of recommendation must be from another non-related person (i.e. teacher, counselor, mentor, etc.) and must attest to the applicant's character and academic potential.
 - It is your responsibility to make sure that letters of recommendation (**ATTN: Peterson Scholarship Committee**) are received in the church office by April 10, 2023.
 - Prior submitted recommendations will not be accepted.
 - Prior applications for this scholarship will not be accepted.

Please have transcripts and letters of recommendation sent to:

Peterson Scholarship Committee
First Congregational Church
2201 7th Avenue
Moline, IL 61265

Or via email to: office@fccmoline.org
ATTN: Peterson Scholarship Committee

SECTION 1: PERSONAL INFORMATION

Applicant's Name: _____

Applicant's Email Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Parent(s) Name(s): _____

SECTION 2: ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Highest grade completed (as of Fall 2022): _____

Last school attended: _____

Are you a recent graduate (within last 2 years) _____ or an adult returning to school (out for more than 2 years)? _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) as of December 2022: _____

College to attend (2023-2024): _____

College Student ID if known: _____

Name and Address of College Registrar: (this is where a scholarship will be sent)

Proposed College Enrollment Status (Part-time or Full-time): _____

Is this college on semesters or trimesters? _____

Projected tuition and mandatory academic expenses (one semester/term): _____

SECTION 5: ESSAY**Part I: Please respond to the following questions.**

1. In 100 words, write what your hopes, plans and /or goals are for the future.
2. In 100 words, explain why receiving a Peterson scholarship would be beneficial to you.

Part II: The following questions should be answered in 150-250 words.**^ If you are presently in high school, please answer the following questions:**

HS 1. How do you feel that your faith experience at First Congregational Church has prepared you for your future life as a college student? Give examples.

HS 2. What advice would you give this year's confirmands in regard to their involvement in the life of their church?

^ If you are presently in college or have graduated from college, please answer the following questions:

C 1. How have you continued your faith experience while away from FCC – or here at First Congregational Church if you have remained in the area?

C 2. What advice would you give this year's confirmands in regard to their involvement in the life of their church?

SECTION 6: REFLECTION**CHURCH ACTIVITY REFLECTION
FOR PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS**

Peterson Scholarship Recipients are active participants in First Congregational Church. In this section, reflect on how participation in the activities of the church has influenced your personal growth.

1. Reflect on the impact this church has had on your life.
2. Give an example of how your faith has impacted others.

I agree to allow First Congregational Church the use of my name and picture for press release information in regard to receiving a Peterson Scholarship.

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

If you have any questions, please call or email Susan Llewellyn (susanL1232@hotmail.com, 309-314-8020) or Marcia Renaud (marpjr@aol.com, 563-343-2036).

Please email your completed application to office@fccmoline.org
ATTN: Peterson Scholarship Committee

Thank you for completing this application. A decision on scholarship awards will be made in mid-May.