



Onarga United Methodist Church



**Open hearts, open minds, open doors
The People of The United Methodist Church
Vicki Killus, Pastor**

Barber Scholarship Application Process Deadlines And Application Information

This program began through the generosity of the late Edwin J. Barber, who provided funds for this program in his estate plan. This scholarship fund is designed to assist students seeking training for full-time service in the church. This may include M.A.R. and M.Div. programs at accredited theological schools; however, scholarships have also been awarded to students completing their undergraduate degree prior to enrolling in a master's program.

The scholarship application deadline is June 30, 2025 for the 2025-2026 school year. Scholarships will be awarded by July 30, 2025. A minimum of \$500 has been established for each scholarship awarded. Our evaluation process is limited to study of the written material you submit with your application form. Because personal interviews are not part of our evaluation process, the written material you submit is the primary factor we use in comparing your application to the applications of others. The content of your narrative statement will greatly impact our selection process. I encourage you to give your written material your strongest preparation and editing efforts.

Our areas of focus are determined by the guidelines of the trust. Geography was a concern for Mr. Barber. Applicants who have lived locally are given priority over applicants who have not spent any time residing in our area. This geographical component is factored into our evaluation of your application. We also will look at your progress toward degree completion. While this scholarship is not restricted to "honor level" students, we will consider your academic performance. Our committee desires to gain good insight into your commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The weight of emphasis given to each of these factors is listed on the application form. For more information, please contact the Barber Scholarship Committee at the Onarga United Methodist Church either by e-mail (methodistof@att.net), or U.S. Mail (Onarga United Methodist Church, 109 E. Seminary Ave., Onarga, IL 60955).

Onarga United Methodist Church

109 E. Seminary Ave. Onarga, IL 60955-1240

Telephone: 815-268-4320

E-Mail: methodistof@att.net

Application Deadline for 2025-2026 Grants: June 30, 2025

Barber Education Fund Scholarship Application

Name, Address, Telephone Number, and Email _____

Name and Address of home church (recommending Charge Conference if United Methodist student) _____

Are you a Certified Candidate _____ If yes, year certified _____

Ordination Track _____ Anticipated Ordination _____
Deacon/Elder (Year)

Do you serve at least as a half-time pastor to a local church? _____
Explain fully. _____

Name and address of school you will attend during the 2025-2026 school year _____

Are you enrolled at least half-time for the 2025-2026 term? _____ (Yes or No)

Explain fully. _____

Class level _____ Degree Track _____

Please attach a narrative statement that will allow us to better evaluate your situation and apply it to our criteria for awarding scholarships. The portion of our evaluation that is based on each segment is listed next to the item. You will be evaluated on these areas:

- Amount of time you have lived in Illinois and how much time you have spent in our local area. (40%)
- A description of how you plan to use your training to serve Christ through the church will help us see what type of ministry you plan for the future. A description of your call to ministry will help us know how your faith journey has led you to the decision to train for full-time service in Christ's church. (15%)
- A description of other resources available for the cost of your training will allow us to evaluate your need for assistance. (20%)
- Your level of progress toward completion of educational requirements for your degree. A description of the course grades you have received will help us see how you are evaluated in an academic setting. (10%) Please include a copy of your official transcript.
- Each applicant is given the opportunity to show how he or she merits assistance with the cost of education. (15%)