

J.A.M. Scholarship

A Celebration of the Music and Life of Justin Andrew Melzer

(6/22/88 – 9/7/09)

Justin Melzer was a young man full of love. Among the things he loved most were the Lord, music and helping others. The purpose of this scholarship is to celebrate the life and honor the memory of an outstanding young man. The youngest son of two Methodist ministers, Justin had an extended-family at every one of his parents' churches. As he grew in years and in his faith, he learned to always put others before himself. Active in the music ministry at Trenton First United Methodist church, he played lead guitar in the praise band and saxophone in the chancel band. In both of these roles he helped teach other, younger musicians how to play and in doing so, he taught them how to worship the Lord and be a witness to others. He was also an outstanding musician in the junior and senior high bands and became a person to whom other students looked for guidance, support and strength. In addition to being actively involved in music, Justin was immersed in the work of the "LifeSaver" program at Wesclin High. Through this peer-to-peer counseling and support group, Justin was a "rock" for so many friends and classmates. He will always be remembered for his "bear hugs", sympathetic ear and unconditional friendship. Additionally, he was active in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. As he finished high school and searched for his calling, he found his mission in emergency medical services. He worked with the local ambulance service and, much like his days in the LifeSavers group, he became a "rock" for so many others. Many times as he would respond to a call, people that he never knew commented that his compassion was evident as he provided care. He used a humorous story, a quiet conversation or simple words of encouragement to help calm the victim so that they could be transported for medical care.

Justin was a quiet leader. He led by example. He let his actions speak for him. In addition to the music, Lifesavers, and EMT work, he was active in the high school youth program at church. He participated in mission trips and service projects. He also served on the church's Building Committee.

The J.A.M. Scholarship is designed to honor Justin's life and his passions. The recipient must also demonstrate a passion for the Lord, music and helping others.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Justin Andrew Melzer Scholarship is established to honor the memory of Justin Melzer and his ministry through music and to encourage participation in church music ministries. It is our prayer and intention that this scholarship will cultivate and stimulate a future generation of church musicians.

I. Who May Apply?

- The applicant shall be a member of a United Methodist Church within the Illinois Great Rivers Conference.
- High school seniors, college undergraduates, technical or trade school students may apply.
- A requirement for award selection is that the applicant is an active participant in a music ministry within their church.
- Awards are *not* based on the applicant's age, race, financial status, or gender. Neither the type of higher education being pursued, including degree program, nor the religious affiliation (if any) of the school shall be considered basis for the award.
- Previous applicants not awarded a scholarship may reapply.

II. Who Administers the Scholarship Fund?

- The Scholarship Committee shall consist of permanent members including Debbie and Chris Melzer, Jeff & Lisa Campbell, Rob & Amanda Campbell, and Tyler Campbell. The committee shall also include a Crossroads Praise Band representative, a representative of the Church Council, and the pastor of FUMC in Trenton shall serve as an ex- officio member.
- The FUMC Scholarship Committee shall administer the J.A.M. Scholarship.

III. What is the Source of Funding?

The Scholarship Fund will consist of specific contributions and/or funds raised.

IV. What is the Award Amount?

- Each year, a minimum of one J.A.M. Scholarship recipient will receive \$500 to be applied to that academic year's textbook and/or academic fees.
- Scholarship award(s) will be granted upon committee review.
- Scholarship award(s) will be disbursed to recipient(s) no later than August 15.
- The committee reserves the right to award additional scholarships, if funds permit.

V. What is the Application and Review Procedure?

- Deadline for application is April 1. Award/s will be announced in May.
- Signed applications should be sent to Trenton FUMC, 220 N. Main St., Trenton, IL 62293. Attention: J.A.M. Scholarship Committee.
- If no qualified applicant is identified, that year's funds and any interest earned, will be held and applied to the next year's award recipient(s).

VI. Termination of the Scholarship

Any decision to terminate a scholarship shall be made by the Scholarship Committee. Funds will be disbursed in accordance with the United Methodist *Book of Discipline* and the bylaws of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference of the United Methodist Church.

VII. Amendments

The Scholarship Committee reserves the right to make any changes/additions/deletions to this document as necessary.

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Application Deadline: April 1st, 2010

c/o J.A.M. Scholarship Committee
Trenton FUMC
220 N. Main
Trenton, IL 62293

Please print all information below.

Name: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

College or University (either attending or plan to attend): _____

School Address: _____

Year in School (as of Fall 2010): Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior _____ Senior _____

Other: _____

For what career are you planning? _____

Member of _____ United Methodist Church

Pastor's Name: _____

Church Address: _____

1. Please attach a letter from your local church pastor, verifying the length of your church membership, and indicating your participation in local church music ministries.
2. Please attach a typed personal statement detailing your service to church, to community, and to youth in no more than 1,000 words.
3. Feel free to include a maximum of two other letters of personal reference which highlight your church involvement and personal character. Examples may include but are not limited to, campus minister, teacher, youth director, band director, choir director, program advisor, etc.

Applicant Signature: _____

Pastor's Signature: _____

The Scholarship Presentation will be held at the First United Methodist Church in Trenton, IL on a date to be arranged with the church and the recipient. The Scholarship Committee would like, if possible, for the recipient to receive this award in person.

