

EXPAND

FOUNDATION
EXPANDS ITS VISION
TO SUPPORT
MINISTERIAL EDUCATION
AND LEADERSHIP IN
NEW WAYS

PAGE 2



2020-2021 SEMINARY STUDENTS

A new school year begins for seminary students.

COURSE OF STUDY SCHOLARSHIPS

Supporting students while they serve.

'TO GOD BE THE GLORY'

Dr. Stegall expresses his gratitude to donors for 13 years of faithfulness.

Foundation Announces Two-Year Partnership with Wesley College in Tanzania

The Board of Directors of the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Endowment Foundation is excited to announce a new partnership with Wesley College in Mwanza, Tanzania. Beginning September 1, the foundation is providing scholarships for 30 students studying theology at the college. The foundation has made a \$120,000, two-curriculum year commitment. The funding used for this partnership comes from donations given solely for this purpose.

Located in the Mwanza Region of northern Tanzania, Wesley College is a United Methodist related institution that offers programs in theology and adult education. Students at Wesley complete a two-year course in the cohort model that focuses on preparing students for work as pastors. They take courses in foundation subjects such as: Biblical studies, church history, and systematic theology. They also take church ministry courses such as preaching, worship arts, family ministry, and pastoral counseling. Lastly, they take additional ministry courses in church administration, project planning and management, and entrepreneurship. Two thousand dollars per student, per year supports a student's tuition, room and board.

The students, upon graduation, are ready for ordination and appointment in the Tanzanian Methodist Church with several graduates already serving churches in various communities in Tanzania, usually with early leadership roles in their respective districts.

The Alabama-West Florida (AWF) Conference established a formal "Teaming with Tanzania" partnership with the Tanzania Methodist Church in 2019. As the Stegall Foundation board of directors began seeking ways to enlarge its mission, the college in Tanzania presented a natural opportunity that already had established local connections.

"I am so thankful to the Stegall Foundation for their support of Wesley College and 'Teaming with Tanzania,' said Bishop David Graves, Resident Bishop of the AWF Conference. "Wesley College is doing tremendous work in educating

ministry leaders in Tanzania which is yearning for the Gospel message of Jesus. My personal visit with the Wesley College students two years ago was the start of the conference establishing this partnership that now continues to grow."



A Student at Wesley College

Photo courtesy of Dr. Geoffrey Lentz

While the foundation is expanding into this new partnership, the board of directors affirms that its top priority will always be the support of seminary students from, and returning to serve churches within, the AWF Conference.

"Acknowledging that we are called in the Great Commission to 'go into all the world and preach the gospel to all nations,' we are now enlarging our vision to support ministerial students at Wesley College in Tanzania," said Dr. Karl K. Stegall, foundation president.

"Because of the extravagant generosity of our faithful donors, our foundation is able to do these exciting, new things while continuing our current and future support for both seminary and Course of Study students right here at home. This opportunity in Tanzania allows us to provide scholarships for even more men and women wishing to become effective ministers of the Gospel."

In 2019, Wesley College had 26 faculty and staff teaching 130 students. Since the school's beginnings three years ago, 50 have graduated from Wesley and gone on to plant churches; work, and train others to lead, in children's ministries; and work in nonprofit ministries.

"God is doing a good work in the nation of Tanzania!" said Rev. Allen Newton, senior pastor of Destin (FL) FUMC and "area champion" for the conference's initiative. "Through this

new partnership between the Stegall Foundation and Wesley College, young men and women will be trained up to lead a fledgling United Methodist Church impacting the hearts and lives of generations to come. I give thanks for the vision and generosity of all those involved."

As part of recent visits to Tanzania, both Rev. Newton and Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Lentz, senior pastor of Port St. Joe (FL) UMC, have been strong advocates of the partnership and ex-



Pictured on the front cover: Dr. Geoffrey Lentz serves communion to a student at Wesley College. Photo courtesy of Dr. Lentz.

The Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation is a 501(C)(3) non-profit foundation, and all gifts are tax deductible. Gifts for our Seminary students should be mailed to Dr. Karl K. Stegall, Seminary Scholarship Foundation, P. O. Box 241661, Montgomery, Alabama 36124-1661.

press excitement over what the foundation's partnership means for the region. "I am confident that supporting these students will make many disciples for Jesus Christ and transform the world," said Lentz. "In east Africa, the church is growing by leaps and bounds, and is in desperate need of leaders who are equipped to teach the scriptures, proclaim the Gospel, and transform society. Through this game-changing gift, the Stegall Foundation has made yet another bold move that will shape the future of the church for generations to come."

The Stegall Foundation will work closely with Rev. Eric Soard, Executive Director of the Wesley College Foundation, to facilitate the scholarships and receive periodic updates which will be shared with donors.

"For a new Annual Conference like Tanzania, which is growing so quickly that there are more churches than ordained pastors, this is a gift that cannot be counted," said Rev. Eric Soard, Executive Director of the Wesley College Foundation. "In a time in the world when so many charitable foundations are choosing to reduce their funding and not take on new projects or partners, the Stegall Foundation chose instead to expand and live into their mission and purpose of ensuring that pastors can receive the education they need. The foundation's desire to find new and impactful ways to support ministerial students speaks volumes as to their dedication and faith. Wesley College students and staff are forever grateful to the Stegall Foundation's donors for this gift - a gift that is equipping and sending out pastors for ministry in the world."

More information about Wesley College is available at:
www.wesleycollegetzfoundation.com

Have you considered making a bequest to the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation?



Course of Study Students: Apply Today!

Since 2018, the Stegall Foundation has supported Course of Study students from the Alabama - West Florida (AWF) Conference. Both full-time and part-time local pastors are now eligible for scholarships to help offset the cost of the basic and advanced program. Applicants for full-time scholarships must be enrolled in an on-campus program and serve a full-time pastoral appointment within the AWF Conference. Qualifying students are eligible for up to \$1,500 per year in cash reimbursement upon successful completion of coursework.

Part-Time Local Pastors attending course of study classes and serving a part-time pastoral appointment within the AWF Conference are eligible for a \$200 per course cash reimbursement upon successful completion. The scholarship is available for up to four classes per year to qualified students for a maximum annual award of \$800 (or \$1,000 for five classes, only with special approval).

Applications are reviewed by the Stegall Foundation Scholarship Committee on a regular basis and may be found online at stegallscholarship.com. We are proud to continue supporting these ministerial students seeking to live a life of service and witness.

2020-2021 Seminary Students

Our current seminary students attend the following seminaries: Asbury Theological Seminary, Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Duke Divinity School, Gammon Theological Seminary, Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University, Wesley Theological Seminary, and Yale Divinity School. We also support full and part time local pastors attending the Course of Study program.

Chris Ackerman	Lynn Haven, FL
Megan Benson	Molino, FL
Haley Bethea	Shalimar, FL
Hunter Bethea	Shalimar, FL
Kevin Blair	Midland City, AL
Lauren Cowan	Coosada, AL
Molly Cross	Dadeville, AL
Austin Davis	Niceville, FL
Misty Dixon	Eutaw, AL
Tom Fanning	Lynn Haven, FL
Casey Ferrell	Prattville, AL
Melanie Foust	Pensacola, FL
John Fuller	Panama City, FL
Amanda Garnier	Pace, FL
Anna Grace Glaize	Fairhope, AL
Jesse Guffin	Montgomery, AL
Tripp Gullede	Mobile, AL
C.J. Harvey	Dothan, AL
Brian Hasty	Panama City Beach, FL
Josh Hillyer	Auburn, AL
Matthew Jordan	Enterprise, AL
Shadreck Kagoro	Theodore, AL
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Anne Louise Pass	Prattville, AL
Dani Peele	Fort Walton Beach, FL
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Sarah Roberts	Prattville, AL
Bria Rochelle	Mobile, AL
Victoria Scofield	Grand Ridge, FL
Nathan Sell	Destin, FL
Steven Shumate	Auburn, AL
Clay Smith	Mobile, AL
Cheryl Stevenson	Opelika, AL
Terry Tatum	Southport, FL
Christopher Varnson	Pensacola, FL
Libby Varnum	Marianna, FL
Debbie Woodham	Abbeville, AL



STEGALL SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION
P. O. BOX 241661
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36124

STEGALLSCHOLARSHIP@GMAIL.COM

WWW.STEGALLSCHOLARSHIP.COM

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To God be the Glory, Great Things He Hath Done

One of my favorite hymns down through the years has been the great hymn written by Fanny Crosby entitled, "To God Be The Glory, Great Things He Hath Done." I dearly love the chorus, "Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He hath done!"

I have been humming the tune of that great hymn in recent days for two specific reasons. First, in the midst of this terrible pandemic, I find strength in the knowledge that the words to this great hymn were written by Fanny Crosby who was totally blind. In her despair, she could have easily drowned herself in self-pity, but she focused on the great strength that she found in Jesus Christ. That is why she chose to write another great hymn, "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine."

However, there is a second reason that I have been humming that tune in recent days, and that is because in the midst of our pandemic, God has continued to do great things through each of you! Because of your generosity, we are now not only giving a minimum of \$10,000 annually in a cash scholarship to each full-time seminary student, but we are now supporting all of our course of study students, most of which are serving small membership churches throughout our Conference. While our No. 1 priority will always be that of supporting seminary students who will return to serve churches within our area, I am so excited that we have recently fulfilled the Great Commission "to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Several months ago, our Conference established a



BRENDA AND KARL STEGALL

partnership with the Methodist Church of Tanzania. Because of your great generosity, we are now able to go the "second mile" and support all 30 of the ministerial students at Wesley College in Tanzania.

For 13 consecutive years during the month of August, we have been privileged to host a giant seminary scholarship banquet with approximately 450 guests to hear the personal stories of our seminary students and their words of thanks for your generous support. We were not able to do that this past August, but we do want you to know of our deepest sense of gratitude. As I think of each of you as donors today, I wish I could sing enthusiastically to you, "To God Be The Glory, Great Things He Hath Done!"

Karl K. Stegall