

*Resolution for Adoption of:*

**CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS  
ADMINISTRATION POLICY**

**I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The First United Methodist Church of Eaton Rapids (FUMER) strongly believes in the positive impact that church camp can have on children and youth in their faith journey and their relationship with Christ. Over the years its members and constituents have generously donated to its “Church Camp Fund” to support camp scholarships for children and youth.

In 1994 an endowment fund was created and named for one of its long-time members, grade school teacher Helen Perkey, who funded it with a \$5,000 gift from her estate following her death in 1993. In 2017 the “Helen Perkey Camp Scholarship Fund” was consolidated under the church’s new Endowment Fund Charter. In keeping with Helen Perkey’s expressed wishes, the income from this endowment “shall provide funds based on need for scholarships for children and youth to attend church camp.”

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the administration of camp scholarships by FUMER from these two funds and any other sources from which monies for camp scholarships may become available.

**II. ADMINISTRATION OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS**

- A. Fund Administrator. The pastor, or another church staff member who the pastor designates, shall be responsible for administering camp scholarships.
- B. Amount Available for Disbursement. At least annually the Fund Administrator shall consult with the church treasurer to discuss the amount of money available from all funds for disbursement for scholarships, what monies might be available in the future, and what a prudent total disbursement amount for the year would be considering the long-term need for scholarships.
- C. Number and Amount of Scholarships. The Fund Administer shall have the discretion to annually determine the number of camp scholarships to make available and the amount of each individual scholarship to offer based on the following criteria:
  - a. The amount of monies available for disbursement considering the present and future need for scholarships;
  - b. The costs to attend camp;

- c. The financial needs of the potential recipient;
  - d. The number of potential recipients; and
  - e. Such other factors the Fund Administrator deems appropriate.
- D. Church Membership Not Required. Neither the recipient nor any members of their family need to be members of FUMER for that person to receive a camp scholarship.
- E. Multiple Awards Permitted. The same person or persons from the same family may receive multiple camp scholarships in the same year and in successive years.
- F. Conflicts of Interest. Family members of church staff, including the pastor and the Fund Administrator, may not receive camp scholarships without the prior written approval of the Staff Parish Relations Committee.
- G. Scholarship Payments. Whenever possible, camp Scholarship payments should be paid directly from the church to the camp. However, the Fund Administrator has the discretion in rare circumstances to direct that a camper's cost of camp be reimbursed from paid receipts.
- H. Failure to Use a Scholarship. If after receiving a scholarship the recipient does not attend camp or elects to leave camp early (other than for a reason beyond the recipient's control such as an illness or family emergency) then the scholarship must be refunded. If the scholarship is not refunded, the Fund Administrator may choose to not award future camp scholarships to the recipient.
- I. Annual Report to Church Council. The Fund Administrator shall provide an annual written Camp Scholarship Report to the Church Council or its equivalent for the preceding year. The report shall cite the number of recipients, the amounts of the scholarships granted, and the balances remaining in the camp funds available for distribution for the following year.

*Adopted by the Church Council of First United Methodist Church of Eaton Rapids on*

*Date: May 28, 2025*

Samantha Carroll

*Secretary of the Council*