

First Baptist Church



SCHOLARSHIP FUND **“2025”**

Kim D. Eason, Chair
First Baptist Church
5 Hilton Avenue
Vauxhall, New Jersey 07088

Rev. Dr. Nichole R. Drakeford, Senior Pastor

The Scholarship Committee of the First Baptist Church, hereafter referred to as the Scholarship Committee, shall be responsible for the selection of the scholarship recipients. All information obtained during or required to aid in the selection process is strictly confidential. The selection shall be made between May and June of 2025. All completed applications should be submitted directly to the Committee. The Committee shall establish and oversee the application process. **There is no residency requirement unless otherwise specified by a donor family.**

Applicants will be interviewed as part of the application process. The applicant's skills and experience will be formally assessed during the interview; additionally, the applicant's appearance and behavior during the interview will be taken into consideration during the selection process.

Please return application by **May 25, 2025**, to churchoffice@fbcvauxhall.org:

To ensure that you receive the highest possible rating, it is important to meet all the requirements of the checklist below. Failure to follow the guidelines will disqualify you from competition. All applications must be received no later than **May 25, 2025**.

If you have any questions regarding this application, please feel free to call one of the persons listed below for assistance:

Michael Jones (732) 752-1675
Kim Eason (908) 377-2108

If you would like an electronic copy of the application, please email the church office at: churchoffice@fbcvauxhall.org.

Please tear off this portion and return to the Scholarship Committee along with the completed application.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date _____

Telephone Number _____

Received by _____

Time _____

Date _____

Checklist

Official Sealed Transcript

Three (3) Current Letters of Reference (**within the past 6 months of April 2025**)
See Page 11

Essay

Completed Personal Statement All

Questions Completed

Community Service Form* **See Page 12**

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VAUXHALL NJ SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

J. G. BRYANT/LILLIAN CARTER/H. LESLIE CAREY SCHOLARSHIP FUND

RATIONALE: Rev. James G. Bryant was the spiritual leader of First Baptist Church from 1913 -1952 (thirty-nine years). He was supportive of everyone particularly young people in search of higher education.

Lillian Carter was active both in the community and First Baptist Church. She was a nurse during World War I and with her background and expertise she assisted in the development of the first nurses unit of the church. She believed in nurturing the mind as well as the body.

H. Leslie Carey was the chairperson of the First Baptist Church Scholarship Committee for over 25 years. As an educator, she worked tirelessly to provide educational opportunities to the youth of the Vauxhall area and surrounding communities,

In memory of these dedicated individuals for their lifelong dedication to Christ and the uplifting of the minds of young adults, First Baptist pays tribute by establishing the J. G. Bryant/Lillian Carter/H. Leslie Carey Scholarship Fund.

J. G. Bryant/Lillian Carter/H. Leslie Carey Scholarship Award

- The scholarship monies are funded annually by First Baptist Church under the auspices of the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarship funds are only available to residents of the Township of Union, Union County, NJ.
- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 rating scale or its equivalent.

TRUSTEE GREGORY SNELL MEMORIAL AWARD*

RATIONALE: In 1985, Trustee Gregory Snell made history by becoming Maplewood's first African-American firefighter. He was a proud member of F.M.B.A. Local 25 where he served on many positions for 19 years before his retirement in 2004. Gregory was also named Firefight of the Year in 2004.

Gregory loved his First Baptist Church family and was active in his community. Gregory was a proud charter member of the Concerned Citizens of Vauxhall and Vicinity Civic Association, in addition to being a faithful member of many church auxiliaries.

Trustee Gregory Snell Memorial Award

- Funded by donations from the family of Gregory Snell.
- Available to all Township of Union residents.

- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 2.5 or better on a 4.0 rating scale or its equivalent.
- Must have 100 hrs. or more of community service during high school.
- For this scholarship, the \$500.00 check will be made payable to the student.

REV. DR. MARION J. FRANKLIN, JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

RATIONALE: Rev. Dr. Marion J. Franklin, Jr, was the 7th and longest tenured pastor in the history of the First Baptist Church of Vauxhall. A life-learner and scholar, Dr. Franklin demonstrated his personal commitment to education by obtaining his Doctorate of Ministry (D. Min) degree and his more than 23 years of teaching young adults at various New Jersey Colleges and Universities to include St. Peter's University where he served on faculty for over 20 years.

Dr. Franklin's dedication to education reached beyond the First Baptist Church and Vauxhall community. His influence and commitment to excellence touched the lives and ministries of preachers and pastors across the states where he is known as a "pastor's pastor". Selflessly, he continued to mentor, teach and train those entering ministry and pastorates. Dr. Franklin was a living example and consummate leader, who encouraged those under his tutelage to pursue accredited seminary degrees and beyond, making them better equipped to lead the people of God.

In honor of Pastor Franklin's legacy in ministry and dedication to Christ, the Church, Community & education, First Baptist pays tribute by establishing the Rev. Dr. Marion J. Franklin, Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund

Rev. Dr. Marion J. Franklin Memorial Scholarship Award

- The scholarship monies are funded annually by Rev. Dr. Nichole R. Drakeford and family under the auspices of the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarship funds are available to First Baptist Church of Vauxhall members and non-members.
- The scholarship will be awarded in pursuit of undergraduate, graduate and doctoral studies.
- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 rating scale or its equivalent.

FRIZZELL LEWIS, SR. /SYDNEY HAYES/JENKIN W HARRISON, SR. COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD*

RATIONALE: This scholarship is presented by the First Baptist Church Men's Ministry in memory of our brothers who over their lifetimes went above and beyond in service to God, First Baptist Church and the Men's Ministry.

Awarded to a college bound or trade school high school student who has shown exemplary Community/Volunteer service.

\$650.00 award (As of 2025, this is the annual minimum for college or trade school textbooks. This will be made payable to the student.)

Frizzell Lewis Sr. /Sydney Hayes/Jenkin W. Harrison Sr. Community Service Scholarship Award

- Minimum 52 hours community/volunteer service as of date of application
- Community service examples are Food Bank/Pantry, school sponsored tutoring, hospital, nursing home, church ministry. Caring for home bound relative is also applicable.
- Service must be verified in writing on letterhead by supervisor, coordinator or in the case of a home bound relative the parent is to verify service in writing.
- Minimum 2.0 GPA

**JOHN/EARTHELL/HAROLD EVERETT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD**

RATIONALE:

John and Earthell Everett were dedicated parents who loved God, their family and community. They demonstrated their servant's heart by working tirelessly to be agents of change spiritually and practically, not only in the lives of their own children, but by investing in the future of so many others. They believed that God's Word and Education are the keys to open the door to endless opportunities.

Harold Everett their eldest son, was the recipient of his parent's spiritual guidance, wisdom, and "dare to be attitude." He emulated their example of activism, and quest for higher education, leaving a legacy of making a difference for his children to pursue.

In consideration of John, Earthell, and Harold Everett's benevolence and commitment to education, their family established this memorial scholarship, to create opportunities for other young people to further their education.

John/Earthell/Harold Everett Memorial Scholarship Award

- The scholarship monies will be funded annually by the family of John, Earthell, and Harold Everett under the auspices of the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarship funds are available to First Baptist Church members and non-members.
- Scholarship monies are available to Union Township residents and residents not living in Union Township.
- Scholarship will be awarded in pursuit of undergraduate degrees.
- Student must be attending a HBCU or accepted into a HBCU.

- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 rating score or its equivalent.

ELMIRA ALSTON MEMORIAL AWARD

RATIONALE:

Elmira Alston was an active member of First Baptist Church of Vauxhall. During her 60-year membership, she served in the Pastor's Aide Club, as a Sunday School and Vacation Bible School teacher, a trustee and a financial secretary. Elmira was also Mother-of-the-Church. In the early 1960s, along with other community members, Elmira helped lead the charge to end de facto segregation that existed at Jefferson School in Vaux Hall and, in turn, integrate the Union school system. She was also the first African-American to serve as president of the Union High School Parent-Teachers Association (PTA). Her dedication and love for her family and church family was endless. This scholarship is offered as a way of honoring her benevolent spirit, which is her legacy.

Elmira Alston Memorial Award

- The scholarship monies are funded annually by the family of Mother Elmira Alston under the auspices of the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarship funds are available to First Baptist Church of Vauxhall members and non-members.
- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 rating scale or its equivalent.

VERNELL VIRGINIA HAYES WRIGHT AND ANTHONY JEROME WRIGHT MEMORIAL AWARD

RATIONALE: Following his untimely death on August 15, 1992, the family established the Anthony Jerome Wright Memorial Award in his memory. Since that time, the family has continued to sustain the scholarship at First Baptist Church, so that other young people may have the opportunity for the bright and successful future that was wished for Anthony Jerome Wright. No one wished that future for him more than his beloved mother, Vernell Virginia Hayes Wright. In the years following his death, she continued to work as an educator and community leader committed to providing opportunities for the young people of this community. Her passing on December 23, 2023, has dealt a significant blow to her family, but they strive to sustain her memory through the recently renamed Vernell Virginia Hayes Wright and Anthony Jerome Wright Memorial Award, which is a beacon of light to the Wright Family and a valued tribute to their memories.

Vernell Virginia Hayes Wright and Anthony Jerome Wright Memorial Award

- The scholarship monies are funded annually by the family of Vernell Virginia Hayes Wright and Anthony Jerome Wright under the auspices of the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarship funds are available to First Baptist Church of Vauxhall members and non-members.
- Applicant must be a graduate of Union High School, Union, NJ.
- The minimum grade point average (GPA) must be a 2.3 or better on a 4.0 rating scale or its equivalent.

ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION:

- Applicants must be accepted to study at or enrolled in an accredited college, university, or accredited professional trade school. The acceptance letter must accompany the application for applicants not yet enrolled in an academic or professional program. Each application is rated on a point system. The awardees are selected based on total points received.
- Priority for awarding scholarships will be given to individuals pursuing full-time (minimum of 12 credits per semester) undergraduate degrees. However, graduate applicants may be considered.
- **Completed typed applications must be received by 11:59 PM on May 25, 2025 and submitted electronically to the email address of: churchoffice@fbcvauxhall.org. Applications received after the above stated date and time will not be accepted. Handwritten applications and handwritten responses to any question will not be accepted**
- Applicants must be a student in good standing while pursuing their accredited college, university or accredited professional trade school career.
- **Sealed official academic transcripts** for all academic institutions of record must accompany the application or be mailed directly to the First Baptist Church, to the attention of Kim Eason, Scholarship Chairperson. **There are no exceptions to the transcript requirement. The church office must receive all mailed transcripts by the application submission deadline.** Applicants enrolling in their first semester of an undergraduate or professional trade program should submit their official high school transcript. If a transfer student, we need the last 2 semesters of the last college attended.
- Applicants must submit three current letters of reference dated within 6 months of April, 2025. At least one letter of reference must be from an academic teacher or professor. Letters of reference from an applicant's family member will not be accepted.
- *A minimum award in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) will be made to each scholarship recipient except for the Gregory Snell Memorial Scholarship which is five hundred dollars (\$500.00) and the Frizzell Lewis Sr. /Sydney Hayes/Jenkin W. Harrison Sr. Community Service Scholarship Award which is six-hundred fifty dollars (\$650.00) with a community service requirement.
- Scholarships will be awarded at a special Scholarship Sunday Service to be held on **June 8, 2025 at 10:00 am.**
- The check in the specified amount shall be mailed to the school of the recipient's choice, unless otherwise noted. It is the sole responsibility of each student to investigate the possibility of conflicts in situations where penalties may exist because of previous financial assistance from a college or university. If these conditions cannot be altered through the school, the Scholarship Committee will offer a deferred payment to the institution upon the applicant's request.
- **Each recipient will only be eligible to receive one scholarship/award.**

SCHOLARSHIP FUND APPLICATION

(Please Note: The applicant must complete all questions in order to be considered for an award.
ALL PARTS OF THIS APPLICATION AND RESPONSES TO ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE TYPED. HANDWRITTEN APPLICATIONS AND RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WILL BE REJECTED.

PERSONAL DATA:

1. Name: _____
Last First Middle

2. Address: _____
No. and Street City State Zip Code

3. Telephone Number: _____ 4. Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____

5. Parents/Guardian:

Last First

Last First

6. High School of Record: _____

Address City State Zip Code

7. A. Grade Point Average (if attending high school) _____

B. Grade Point Average (if attending college) _____

EDUCATIONAL DATA:

8. High School Student:

Colleges applied to or accepted for admission: Estimated Cost (One Year)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

College Student:

College presently attending: _____

Annual Estimated Expenses: _____

Expected year of graduation: _____

9. Have you received other scholarships? Yes ☐ No ☐

10. Are you employed (i.e., summer employment, part-time job)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Occupation _____

ESSAY QUESTION – Please prepare your response to the essay topic listed below.

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate essay responses for content (thesis and support) and form (structure, style, mechanics, wording, citations), but also at how the essay works as a whole.

SUBMIT YOUR TYPEWRITTEN ESSAY RESPONSE WITH THE APPLICATION PACKET. Minimum 250 words – Maximum 350 words (Double-spaced)

The 22 Amendment to the Constitution says, "no person shall be elected to the office of the President more than twice." The current Executive Branch has socialized the idea of running for a third presidential term. Where would you stand if this were to happen? Please be specific in your position and why?

PERSONAL ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS:

1. How will your education help you to be competitive for a career in the 21st Century?
(Please specify the response in less than 50 words)

2. To help the Scholarship Committee get to know you, please write a personal statement about yourself. Please include a description of your school activities, your favorite classes, community or extracurricular activities, and your church involvement. Please write about your plans upon graduation and any other pertinent information (i.e., hobbies, special accomplishments, and awards.)
(300-word limit)

3. What role does God and His teachings play in your life? *(Please use a scripture to support your position.)* (150-word limit)

PERSONAL REFERENCES: (One must be an academic teacher) and (Within the past six months of April, 2025)

1. Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

2. Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

3. Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

COMMUNITY SERVICE FORM*

Date(s) of volunteer service:

Hours Served in the Community TOTAL

Service organization/location:

Organization contact person (if known):

Name _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

Please indicate if this service was associated with any of the following

Student Organization

☐

Community Organization

Personal commitment/initiative

OTHER _____

First Baptist Church of Vauxhall

5 Hilton Ave, Vauxhall, New Jersey 07088

Email: churchoffice@fbcvauxhll.org.com

Phone: 908.687.3414

Fax: 908.687.0019

May 2025

Dear Recipient:

Please indicate below the name of your school and mailing address so your award can be processed and forwarded accordingly.

Please return this form to First Baptist Church to the attention of the Scholarship Committee.

The award will not be processed without this information.

Name of recipient: _____

Name of school and address: _____

Name of contact person and office: _____

Date money needs to arrive at school: _____

First Baptist Church of Vauxhall

5 Hilton Ave, Vauxhall, New Jersey 07088

Email: churchoffice@fbcvauxhall.org

Phone: 908.687.3414

Fax: 908.687.0019

May 2025

Dear Recipient:

Please provide to the Scholarship Committee a photo that can be displayed with members of the church and the church's various social media networks. Please send the photo to churchoffice@fbcvauxhall.org. Please address the email to the First Baptist Church Scholarship Committee.

Please sign the below to give to the First Baptist Church of Vauxhall permission to share the photo during Scholarship Sunday and for any announcements the church may make via social media regarding Scholarship Sunday and the recipients.

Name:

Signature: _____

Permission to share