

Applicant must submit a letter stating past experience of service and community involvement, school-related activities, and educational goals.

Applicant must submit two letters of recommendation from:

- 1) a teacher who has worked with the student and
- 2) a member of the community.

Approved by the Administrative Council of GUMC on Feb. 27, 2017, and updated on March 23, 2025.



Grace United Methodist Church  
311 2nd Ave West  
Spencer, Iowa 51301  
(712) 262-5970

The  
**HILDA  
JOSEPHINE  
BLABAUM  
SCHOLARSHIP**



Grace United Methodist Church of Spencer is pleased to be the agency for the Hilda Josephine Blabaum Scholarship, made possible by a bequest from her estate. We are indebted to her, her husband Allan B. Blabaum, and her family. Currently, Hilda's great-niece Carol Vosberg is a member of Grace UMC.

Hilda's intentions were spelled out in her will, which follows. (From the "Last Will and Testament of Hilda Josephine Blabaum")

C. 2. One-fourth of said residue to the Grace United Methodist Church of Spencer, Iowa to be used as a scholar-ship fund on the terms and conditions set forth below.

a. The income from the fund shall be used to provide a scholarship each year to the member of Grace United Methodist Church of Spencer, Iowa, who is graduating from high school with the highest academic average and who plans to receive further formal education.

b. The scholarship shall be made on such terms and conditions as the governing board of the said church shall determine. It shall not be a condition of any scholarship that it be repaid. Further, the scholarship may be renewed to the same student from year to year as determined by the governing board, in addition to the annual scholarship in item v (2) (a.).

c. The amount of each scholarship shall be at the discretion of the governing board of the church.

d. It is not necessary that the scholarship be awarded on financial need nor that it be used for college purposes only. Rather, it is my intent that the scholarship be made available for formal education as determined by the governing board of the said church.

e. If the governing board of the said church shall determine that the scholarship fund has become reduced in size to the point that the continued administration of it has become unduly expensive, or that the administration of it has become unnecessarily burdensome and not in the best interests of the church, then it may make application to the district court having jurisdiction of my estate for the termination of the scholarship fund. In that event, the remaining assets shall be distributed to the Grace United Methodist Church of Spencer, Iowa, for capital improvements.

f. To the extent it shall be prudent, the said church shall invest the scholarship funds in interest-bearing tax-free municipal bonds. The church, in the administration of the scholarship fund, shall have all powers necessary for the proper administration of this fund. In extension but not in limitation of any power otherwise possessed, I grant to the governing board of the said church, without the necessity of notice to or approval of any court or person, the powers to sell, exchange, borrow or otherwise dispose of any asset of the fund.

## APPLICATION PROCESS AND SCHEDULE

All scholarship applications, available from the office of Grace UMC, and any required information must be post-marked by May 15, 2025. Late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted.

Submit all required materials by May 15, 2025 to:

### **Blabaum Scholarship Committee**

Grace UMC 311 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Ave. W., Spencer IA  
51301

- Applicant must be a member of Spencer Grace UMC.
- Applicants of all ages and levels beyond high school shall be considered but first year post high school will be given preference.
- Applicant must disclose a realistic financial plan.
- Applicant shall furnish most recent transcript.
- Applicant must provide name and address of Financial Aid Officer at the school they will be attending.
- Recipient of Blabaum Scholarship funds is required to report to GUMC Financial Secretary if they are attending college by the following January 1<sup>st</sup> and the address of the Financial Aid Office in which to send the scholarship funds.

