



## Giving to Funding Future Leadership

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It is expensive to train ordained clergy. Sadly, as time has gone on the burden of paying for education has shifted from the denomination to the student, leaving many seminary students and pastors deeply in debt. This isn't a sustainable trend that will lead to a healthy future for our UCC congregations.

I'd like to share with you something we're doing in Iowa to address this issue. We have a new Iowa-exclusive special offering that will go to creating direct scholarship aid for our seminary students. This offering is called **Funding Future Leadership: Scholarships for Ministry Preparation** (Abbreviated: FFL). The recommended offering date is Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup>, however churches are free to set a date that works for them. The Funding Future Leadership Oversight Committee does require all funds to be returned to the Iowa Conference Office by Friday March 9<sup>th</sup>. Any money received after this date will be saved for the FFL scholarships the following year.

Aspiring leaders are taking big financial risks so they can serve the needs of the church, so we as a church should do more to help them in their time of need.

Think about this: There are 168 churches in the Iowa Conference. If every church donated \$100 to Funding Future Leadership, we would have \$16,800 in scholarship aid to give away. If every church donated \$250 we would have \$42,000, and if we had seven applicants and all were given the same award each student would get \$6,000! In 2017 we raised a total of \$8,507. 64. 22 churches donated along with 20 individuals. Our goal for 2018 is to have 12 additional churches give and break the \$10,000 barrier.

When we all come together for the common goal of taking care of tomorrow's leaders today there are many great things we can do. I invite all churches to please do what they can to support this offering. Thank you!



**Taking Care of  
Tomorrow's Church  
TODAY!**

