

September, October, November, 2013



STEGALL
SEMINARY
SCHOLARSHIP
ENDOWMENT
FOUNDATION

The Church Builders





Colby Leonard
Coker, Alabama
Duke Divinity School

I HOPE TO MAKE YOU PROUD!

“In a small rural town a young man sweated as he and others labored on the new church building. The church was important, and everyone contributed either by labor or by funds. This young man, Roy Pate, was an industrious man. Although he was never able to finish high school, he, nonetheless, understood the value of an education. His wife, Floy, also, was unable to finish high school. They were good country people, hoping to make enough money to provide for their six children.

The youngest of the six was a girl, Merle Pate. Growing up, she had always wanted to be a nurse. After completing high school, she entered into the Druid City Hospital Nursing School. It was hard work. Her time was divided into either studying or working to pay for school. She soon married a young mechanic named Gene Leonard. They had four children.

And this is where I come into the story. Like my grandparents, my Mom and Dad knew how important education was. They worked many long hours, taking extra shifts. They instilled this value into each child. After a long, hot day of manual labor, I often heard my Dad say, “Son, I want you to be able to go to college and have greater opportunities.” By my parents’ hard work and God’s grace, we were all able to attend college.

I was at Huntingdon College when I discerned a call into ordained ministry. Yet, this calling presented an obstacle. I had to go to seminary. Graduate school. The thought of getting the money was a daunting one. Yet, I learned about the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation. I quickly found out that Dr. Stegall, like myself, had grown up in rural west Alabama, and walked some of the same steps into ministry as I had.

The Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation has made it possible for me to attend seminary. I have thought about how my grandfather would feel about his grandson, not only attending college, but also being called into ministry. The two things he valued most were the church and education. My grandfather worked with his bare hands to help build the church, so that his children would have a place to worship. I see people like you each day that share my grandfather’s hope. I see people like you who want to help build the church by providing scholarships to help educate your future ministers. I thank you for your generous gifts that are giving me the opportunity to attend Duke, an opportunity that my grandfather and grandmother never had. With whatever gifts I have for ministry, I hope to make you proud.”

FOUNDATION HOLDS ANNUAL DINNER OF CELEBRATION

On Thursday, August 1, 2013, the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Endowment Foundation held its annual Dinner of Celebration at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Montgomery. Nearly 400 supporters – a foundation record – gathered to hear words of thanksgiving from representatives of the 17 seminary students in attendance that evening.

Each year, two extravagantly generous foundation donors underwrite the entire cost of the banquet, ensuring that donations made to the foundation only go directly toward student scholarships.

The highlight of each year’s banquet is the ability for donors to hear firsthand from current seminary students and alumni. This year, four students and one alumna spoke on behalf of the 38 seminary students the foundation currently supports.

Dr. Paulette Thompson, on behalf of the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation board, presented the third annual “Spirit of the Foundation” Award to Temple Millsap. “This award is designed to give a special recognition to someone whose insight, guidance, and support have furthered the foundation’s capacity to respond to student needs,” said Thompson.

To read more about the banquet and view pictures of the evening, please visit our website at www.stegallscholarship.com.

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.

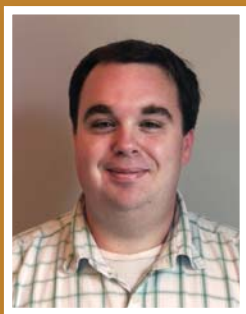
MEET SOME OF OUR NEW SEMINARY STUDENTS!



Brady Baird
Jackson, AL
Emory



Rhett Butler
Eclectic, AL
Duke



Bradley Chamblee
Hartford, AL
Asbury



Tara Chamblee
Hartford, AL
Asbury



Jonathon Collins
Gallion, AL
Asbury



Emily Hagan
Mobile, AL
Asbury



Austin Rogers
Lynn Haven, FL
Duke



ANDALUSIA FUMC TRANSFERS SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO FOUNDATION

Andalusia First United Methodist Church, in Andalusia, Ala., established a scholarship fund many years ago with the intention of supporting seminary students from the local church. After many years of assisting students with expenses related to both seminary and traditional university education, the church's administrative board recently voted unanimously to transfer the balance of the scholarship fund to the Stegall Seminary Scholarship Foundation.

"As we evaluated the original purpose of Andalusia FUMC's scholarship fund, we felt that there was no better thing we could do than combine it with the Stegall Foundation," said Rev. Timothy Trent, pastor of Andalusia FUMC.

So, on August 29, Rev. Trent presented Dr. Karl Stegall with a check for a little over \$18,192.56. "On behalf of the Foundation, I am grateful for the generous and connectional spirit of the good people of Andalusia First United Methodist Church," said Dr. Stegall. "This Foundation is only able to thrive through the outstanding support that our clergy and local churches provide. These funds will go toward the continuing support of our future United Methodist ministers."

Dr. Stegall is available to come to local churches within the Alabama-West Florida Annual Conference to share the mission and ministry of the Foundation. If your church would like to hear more about how you might be able to respond similarly, please contact us at stegallscholarship@gmail.com.



STEGALL SEMINARY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION
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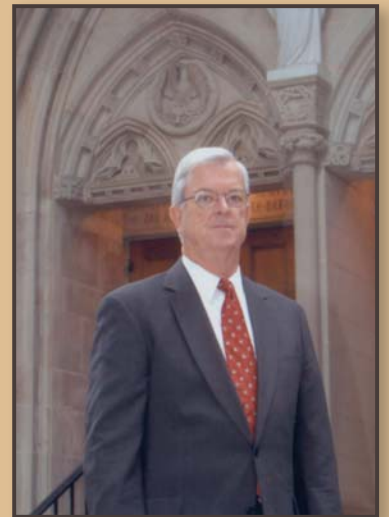
“SEPTEMBER SONG”

Frank Sinatra and Willie Nelson are among those that produced famous recordings of the love song, “September Song.” The song contains those familiar lyrics, “Oh, it’s a long, long while from May to December, but the days grow short when you reach September. When the autumn weather turns the leaves to flame, one hasn’t time for the waiting game.” One of the simple messages of that love song is that life is short and each of us needs to take advantage of the opportunities of every single day.

Thirty-eight of our seminary students are doing exactly that this September. From Eclectic to Lynn Haven, from Notasulga to Niceville, from Montgomery to Milton, from Gallion to Pensacola, from Livingston to Gulf Shores, our seminary students have enrolled in their respective seminaries to take advantage of a great opportunity to prepare themselves for a lifetime of service to Jesus Christ and the church. Some are single, others are married; some have one child; several have two children; others have three children; and one has four children.

While September brings a fresh new group of students, our mission remains the same. It still costs approximately \$40,000 a year for a full-time student living on campus to attend seminary. Although we have made a significant difference by increasing our cash scholarships to a minimum of \$6,000 a year for each full-time student, we still have seminary students graduating with accumulated loans from four years of college and three years of seminary in excess of \$75,000 a year.

Our task is not finished! It has only begun! With your great encouragement and generosity, I am now dreaming of the day, in the not too distant future, when we might be able to provide a minimum of \$10,000 as a cash scholarship for each full-time student, sharply decreasing what they have to borrow. Our Foundation operates on very simple mathematics. The more you give, the more each student receives. Thanks for your great generosity! You are truly making a difference!



Karl Stegall