

Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship
Policy and Guidelines
Returning Student Application
Policy and Guidelines

General Principles

The Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship (hereinafter “the scholarship”) is in memory of Jerry Higginbotham and shall be administered in accordance with the terms of this document, which may be amended by the Church Council of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Virginia (hereinafter “the Church Council”).

Purpose of the Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to active, contributing members of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Virginia, who are enrolled or will be enrolled in the upcoming semester as full-time students (defined as at least 12 credit hours per semester) in an undergraduate, graduate or technical degree program. All applicants must hold a GPA of 2.0 or higher of the current or previous year, and all applications and corresponding documents must be received by the date designated by the scholarship committee. The scholarship will be awarded on an annual basis and may be used for expenses in any accredited two or four-year college, university, business school, trade or technical school approved by the scholarship committee.

The scholarship award may be used for any legitimate higher education expenses, including but not limited to, tuition and/or books. Scholarships may be awarded each year to returning students, as long as they are enrolled as a full-time student in an undergraduate, graduate, or technical degree program. Payment of this scholarship will be made in the form of a check co-payable to the recipient and the approved school.

This scholarship program does not cover higher education expenses for those students that are pursuing a ministerial degree at a seminary as there is a separate scholarship fund for that purpose – Ministerial Scholarship Fund.

Procedures

The Church Council shall oversee the financial and legal aspects of the scholarship administration. The Church Council will annually set the amount of the scholarship funds. In 2004 it was \$1,000.00 per individual. This will assist in maintaining an adequate corpus to sustain future scholarship awards.

The Church Scholarship Committee shall oversee the annual process for awarding the scholarships, including but not limited to publicizing the scholarship, developing a scholarship application, overseeing the scholarship application process, selecting scholarship recipients, and notifying the Church Council of scholarship recipients.

The Church Council will notify scholarship recipients of their selection for the scholarship award, announce the recipients to the congregation, and arrange for payments of the scholarship awards.

Church Scholarship Committee

The Church Scholarship Committee shall consist of at least three members of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship

Gerald (Jerry) Jacob Higginbotham

11/5/1948—12/22/2015

Jerry Higginbotham was born in Savannah, GA in 1948. He was a lifelong Lutheran and served on several different Lutheran Church Councils during his life.

Jerry grew up the Roanoke Valley and graduated from Cave Spring High School where he played football, basketball, and ran track. He continued his love for football at Samford University in Birmingham, AL where he found the love of his life, Doris Jean Powell, and they were married in 1973.

In 1963, his parents started Corrugated Container Corporation in Roanoke, VA. Jerry and his brothers grew the company and even expanded to three additional localities, including Piney Flats, TN, Winchester, VA and Holly Springs, NC.

Jerry's love and passion for Doris and their three children (Jacob, Joseph, and Lindsay) was evidenced by his community contributions to the Roanoke Valley. He supported the SW Roanoke County Soccer Club as a pioneer in the growth of youth soccer. Through his vision, planning, and tireless efforts, the Merriman Soccer Complex was built and has been enjoyed by countless youth soccer players. Jerry was a supporter of the Roanoke Symphony, Mill Mountain Theater and The Foundation for Roanoke Valley. He was a member of Cave Spring Masonic Lodge No. 230, Roanoke Scottish Rite, and Kazim Shriners of Roanoke, VA.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be an active contributing member of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Virginia.
2. Currently be enrolled or will be enrolled in the upcoming fall semester as a full-time student (defined as at least 12 credit hours per semester) in an undergraduate, graduate, or technical degree program.
3. Provide documentation of a GPA of 2.0 or higher for the current or previous year.
4. Fully complete the Scholarship Application and participate in all aspects of the selection process, as may be determined by the Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church Scholarship Committee.
5. Provide documentation of acceptance of admission to an undergraduate, graduate, or technical school within one month of notification of scholarship award. The scholarship will not be awarded if this documentation is not provided in a timely manner.

Application Forms:

1. The scholarship committee will annually publicize scholarship application information, requirements, and deadlines. Applicants must submit all application materials by the publicized deadlines to be considered for scholarship award.
2. Two application forms are available – one for first time students and one for returning students. All required materials must be submitted each time an applicant applies for the scholarship award.
3. Completed application forms must be submitted to:
Fiona Schulz, Church Office Administrator at secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org.

Application Deadline for both First Time and Returning Applicants is March 14, 2025.

Jerry Higginbotham Memorial Scholarship Returning Student Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE – March 14, 2025

Please note that all parts of this application should be submitted as one electronic document to secretary@christlutheranroanoke.org

1. Student name: _____
2. School Address: _____

3. Applicant's email address: _____
4. Applicant's parents/guardian's email address if applicable: _____
5. Date of Birth: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ Age _____
6. Gender: Male _____ Female _____ Non-binary _____ Prefer not to answer _____
7. Parent/Guardian's Name(s) _____
8. College you are attending. _____
9. Please attach your grades/college transcript for the most recently completed semester or prior year.
10. Please attach to this application a typed, double-spaced essay, between 500 to 1,000 words, which covers the following prompts:
 - a. Describe a situation that challenged your faith at college.
 - b. How has your college experience made you think about your faith differently?
 - c. Please describe what you have done to maintain or grow in your faith while in college.
 - d. Is there any other experience you would like to share with the committee?
 - e. List any honors or special recognition you received both in and out of school.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Printed Name: _____