



United Methodist Foundation

for the Tennessee-Western KY Conference

Rev. Dr. David Weatherly

President

To Donors, Supporters, and Friends:

You are receiving this letter as a means of sharing current information about, expressing gratitude for, and providing assurance regarding gifts relating to Martin Methodist College (“MMC”). MMC’s journey has been filled with change, anticipation, and ultimately...HOPE!

As many of you know, in 2021, MMC entered into an agreement with the University of Tennessee (“UT”), whereby UT acquired most of MMC’s physical assets and began to operate the University of Tennessee-Southern (“UTS”) on the former MMC’s campus. This arrangement allowed the beautiful and historic campus to maintain its foundational presence as a part of the fabric of Pulaski, while providing a dynamic option for degree-seeking students in the South Central Tennessee region and beyond.

While substantially all of MMC’s physical assets were transferred over to UT during this transition, MMC retained all of its endowment assets, including gifts and scholarship funds previously established by its donors. While MMC ceased to operate as a college, it has continued to exist in order to faithfully steward these remaining assets. In recognition of this continued work, MMC changed its name to Martin Methodist Foundation (“MMF”).

Many endowment assets contained donor restrictions that were specific to MMC’s college operations. Because MMC ceased to operate as a college, and because UTS is not affiliated with the United Methodist Church, it became impossible or impracticable to administer these funds in accordance with their original restrictions. Accordingly, following the transition, MMF began to collaborate with UTS, the United Methodist Foundation for the Tennessee-Western Kentucky Conference (the “Foundation”), and the Tennessee Attorney General on modified uses for its endowment funds.

In April 2024, with the approval of the Davidson County Probate Court, MMF and the other parties agreed to a plan wherein MMF’s endowment funds were repurposed in largely two ways: First, funds containing expressed faith-based restrictions (e.g., scholarships for church-specific majors) were combined and modified so they could be used to provide scholarships for certain United Methodist students and students attending United Methodist-related higher education institutions. Second, funds not containing expressed faith-based restrictions (e.g., scholarships based on grades) were combined and modified so they could be used to provide scholarships to students attending UTS. Following these modifications, after ardent prayer and careful fiduciary consideration, MMF voted to delegate the management, investment, and distribution of its endowment to the Foundation.

These actions have enabled MMF to better invest its endowment funds and to make them more available for student support. MMF aims to continue to support higher education in such a way that honors MMC’s legacy and community.



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In conclusion, we want to offer these important and sincere expressions. First, thank you for your patience and grace during this arduous process. Completing the legal and practical tasks to reach this point took much longer than any of those involved desired or expected. But through due diligence and best practices, the funds you originally gifted to MMC will continue to bless and empower current and future students. Of that you can be sure! Lastly, thank you for the spirit of generosity which motivated you to support higher education. Your gifts will continue to create opportunities, remove obstacles, and inspire a future with hope for generations to come.

If you have any questions about MMC's continued existence as MMF, bequests made to MMC, or the modification of any particular endowment gift, please do not hesitate to contact Sara Finger, Director of Finance & Administration for the United Methodist Foundation, by calling 615-259-2008 or by email at sara.finger@umftwk.org. You may also visit our website at umftwk.org.

Forward in Faith,

[Rev. Dr. David O. Weatherly \(Apr 12, 2025 11:51 CDT\)](#)

The Reverend Dr. David O. Weatherly

President/CEO

United Methodist Foundation for the Tennessee-Western KY Conference

[Richard F. Warren \(Apr 8, 2025 16:54 CDT\)](#)

Richard F. Warren

Former Board Chair

Martin Methodist Foundation






Final MMF Donor Letter-signed RFW

Final Audit Report

2025-04-12

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