

# United Methodists at Work: Seminaries help pastors affirm, strengthen call to ministry

Morgan Whitaker's work week takes her from the church pulpit to the classroom and back again. As part of the ordination process, she attends seminary classes at Saint Paul



School of Theology in Kansas City, Mo., while serving as pastor for Wetmore and Goff United Methodist churches in northeast Kansas.

A self-proclaimed seminary “newbie,” she says she is embracing all aspects of the experience.

She also has found the seminary community to be very supportive, especially in a recent time of need.



“I found out during class that a friend of mine had died. The professor stopped class, and we all prayed. We probably prayed for at least 15 minutes ... and not just the professor. The whole class prayed together.”

The United Methodist Church has long been dedicated to providing a educated pastors to serve local churches. One way the denomination has done this is through 13 United Methodist seminaries located across the country. Through these institutions, today's pastors are trained for ministry in the local church. Your local church participates in this process through payment of its Mission and Ministry commitment to the conference and the denomination.



In addition to supporting United Methodist seminaries, the money you give for Ministerial Education Fund is used to provide scholarships to seminary students, helping future pastors like Morgan Whitaker attend school. These scholarships are administered by the conference's Board of Ordained Ministry.

## **Board of Higher Education & Ministry:**

<http://www.gbhem.org/ordmin2.html>

**United Methodist seminaries:** <http://www.gbhem.org/gbhem/seminaries.html>

**Saint Paul School of Theology:** <http://www.spst.edu>

## **Kansas West Pastor Recruitment website:**

<http://www.called2kansas.org>