

Kansas West Conference Seminary Scholarship Endowment Sunday



Jeff Slater's call to ministry came early. He said that he had always thought about going to seminary, but had opted instead to be a part of the music ministry at East Heights United Methodist Church, where he grew up in Wichita. Like his musical parents, he offered his talents to the church on Wednesday nights and weekends, all the while pursuing a career as a television meteorologist. Still, Slater said he kept hearing that call to ministry and to enroll in seminary.

"God wanted me to be a pastor. It's a big job and scary. I also knew that seminary was vitally important," he recalled.

Thanks to a scholarship from the Kansas West Conference Board of Ordained Ministry and some of his grandfather's inheritance, Slater left his high-profile career to pursue God's calling and is now part of a four-year Master of Divinity program.

Through his seminary coursework, Slater has started to gravitate toward ministry areas like local church leadership and evangelism. Also, he recently took an independent study course on post-modern evangelism and has found himself giving a great deal of consideration to the future of the church as he enters the profession.

God calls all Christians to be ministers.
God calls a few into ordained ministry.

In the Kansas West Conference, the need for leaders is great. Financial obstacles place roadblocks in front of the called, but you can help.

Only 24 people age 39 and younger are now serving churches in the Kansas West Conference.

Nearly one-half of the people now serving churches in the conference will be eligible for retirement within the next 20 years.

How can the Kansas West Conference prevent the coming leadership crisis? One way is to raise the funds needed to begin offering full-tuition grants for seminary students from the conference. These grants will be forgivable loans for students who complete service requirements in the conference upon graduation from seminary.

The Board of Ordained Ministry and the Kansas Area Foundation have each pledged to raise \$2 million toward a \$4 million endowment. Only \$250,000 must be raised before the board can begin offering scholarships. Please give generously to the Seminary Scholarship Endowment. Your gift can make a difference!

Yes, I/we support the Seminary Scholarship Endowment Sunday offering to open doors to opportunity for ministry through seminary education. My check is made payable to my church, and I've written "Seminary Scholarship Endowment" on the memo line.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Amount: \$20 \$30 \$50 \$100 Other \$_____

