

# YOUR PARTNER IN MINISTRY



A publication of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation | Summer 2026

## Foundation Lowers Fees

As many of you already know, the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation Board of Directors approved a 10% reduction in our management fees, effective May 1st, 2026, as part of our ongoing commitment to those we serve.

The Foundation assesses annual accounting and administrative fees based on the following organization's cumulative balances:

- .90% on the first \$500,000
- .675% on the next \$250,000 (\$500,000 to \$750,000)
- and .45% on balances exceeding \$750,000

The accounting and administrative fee is deducted monthly (1/12 of the annual amount) from each account. The accounting and administrative fee helps underwrite all Foundation services (e.g., Gift Planning Workshops and Presentations, Donor Consultations, Endowment Fund Development, and other Foundation services) provided at no cost to congregations or the Conference.

*"We always strive to be good stewards of the resources that have been entrusted to us, and we believe that reducing fees for all our investors is another step towards faithfully carrying out our mission."*

*Marci Logsdon, Executive Director*

## Congratulations!



The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is proud to announce that Sharon Schmidt, Director of Stewardship, has earned the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy (CAP®) certification from The American College of Financial Services.

Through this graduate-level program, Sharon has gained specialized expertise in charitable tax strategies, legacy and estate planning, and personal and family dynamics that shape philanthropic decisions.

*"One of the most rewarding aspects of the program was learning how effective philanthropy often begins with listening. Every donor has a unique story, set of values, and vision for his/her legacy. Helping individuals translate their goals into meaningful action requires both practical knowledge and curiosity about what matters most to them."*

*Sharon Schmidt,  
Director of Stewardship*

*(continued on next page)*

## **Congratulations** *continued from page 1*

Sharon's achievement reflects her deep commitment to serving donors and congregations with excellence and integrity. Her expanded knowledge will strengthen the Foundation's ability to help individuals and families create lasting charitable legacies that support ministry and community impact for generations to come.

"This experience has challenged me and strengthened my commitment to help those in the United Methodist church create meaningful impact," says Sharon. "One of the most rewarding aspects of the program was learning how effective philanthropy often begins with listening. Every donor has a unique story, set of values, and vision for his/her legacy. Helping individuals translate their goals into meaningful action requires both practical knowledge and curiosity about what matters most to them."

Please join us in congratulating Sharon on this significant professional achievement and on the expertise she brings to the Foundation's mission and the people we serve.

## **Fall Stewardship is Just Around the Corner**

As you prepare for fall stewardship season, the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is ready to partner with your church. We would welcome the opportunity to speak during Worship, Administrative Council meetings, or Finance Committee meetings about stewardship, legacy giving, endowment development, and ways that can help strengthen your congregation's future.

Contact us to schedule a presentation and learn how we can support your ministry.

## **Conference Connections**

The Nebraska United Foundation was honored to take part in this year's Great Plains Annual Conference. Executive Director Marci Logsdon and Director of Stewardship Sharon Schmidt connected with clergy, laity, and ministry partners from across Nebraska and Kansas.

Throughout the event, they welcomed familiar faces and new visitors who were eager to learn more about the Foundation's work, ask questions, and share their own ministry experiences. These conversations created meaningful opportunities to strengthen existing partnerships and build new relationships.

During the conference, Sharon attended the Methodist Federation for Social Action dinner, and she also had the privilege of presenting at the 37th Annual United Methodist Men's 100 Club Dinner and Auction. Each event offered valuable opportunities for fellowship, service, and deeper ministry connection.

## **Raffle Basket Tradition**

One favorite Conference tradition is the Nebraska United Foundation raffle basket drawing. This year's winner was Rev. Jeff Goetzinger, who will soon begin serving the communities of Republican City and Alma, Nebraska. The Nebraska-themed basket served as a warm welcome as he begins this new chapter of ministry.

The Foundation is grateful to everyone who visited our booth and took time to share in conversation throughout the conference. The relationships formed and renewed during Annual Conference continue to strengthen our commitment in being Your Partner in Ministry.



# The Foundation Awards over \$40,000 in Spring Ministry Grants

The Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of its 2026 Spring Ministry Grants. These grants support ministries and programs that are making a meaningful impact in their communities through service, outreach, discipleship, and faith-based initiatives.

The following churches and organizations were selected to receive Spring Ministry Grant funding:

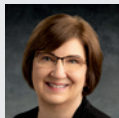
- Adams First UMC
- Broken Bow UMC
- Camp Norwesca
- Lincoln Christ UMC
- Columbus First UMC
- Connection Point - Lincoln
- Cozad UMC
- Ericson UMC
- Fremont First UMC
- Fullerton Community UMC
- Hopewell UMC - Sterling
- Lincoln Horizons Community UMC
- Palisade UMC
- Ponca First UMC
- Wahoo First UMC

We are honored to support these outstanding ministries and the important work they are doing. Funding will help recipients expand programs, reach new audiences, and continue providing essential services within their communities.

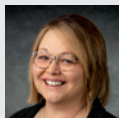
Congratulations to each grant recipient and thank you for your commitment to ministry and service.



## Foundation Staff



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## Board Members

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## Reminders

### Fall Grant Programs Open

July 1st

For more information, please visit our website at [www.numf.org](http://www.numf.org) or contact Sharon Schmidt, Director of Stewardship, at 402-323-8841 or [sschmidt@numf.org](mailto:sschmidt@numf.org).

## The Mission

of the Nebraska United Methodist Foundation is to support the ministries of the local church and the Great Plains Conference through the development of gifts and stewardship of resources entrusted to the Foundation in support of God's work.

## Gifts from the Heart

The Foundation's Gifts from the Heart program provides a meaningful opportunity to support one of five key areas that are vital to the future of the United Methodist Churches in Nebraska:

**Missions**  
**Youth & Camping**  
**Greatest Needs**  
**Church Leadership**  
**Facilities Upgrades**



With a gift to one of these endowments, donors can direct their generosity to the ministries they care about most, creating a lasting impact for future generations. Each gift strengthens the mission of the Church and helps ensure that vital ministries continue to transform lives, nurture faith, and serve communities across Nebraska.

If you would like more information on our Gifts from the Heart program or if you would like to contribute to one of these funds, please contact our office at 402-323-8844.