

Dear Fredericksburg United Methodist Church,

I would like to first offer a sincere thank you to everyone for your love and support during my time in seminary. Every word of support, whether spoken or unspoken are felt as I move forward in my coursework. The scholarship that I was recognized for at the beginning of December was from the Global Board of Higher Education and Ministry. It is reassuring to receive financial support from our denomination. In addition to the GBHEM scholarship, I recently received word from The United Methodist Heritage Foundation. I submitted a \$1,000 scholarship given to me by the Fredericksburg UMC Bazaar Committee. I am pleased to share with you that I was selected for a matching grant and the \$1,000 scholarship has turned into a \$3,000 scholarship. The GBHEM, UM Heritage Foundation grant, and my merit scholarship from Wesley, combined will cover 100 percent of my tuition for the spring 2017 semester. I cannot thank you all enough.

I am currently working towards completing my candidacy process. Once completed, I will be eligible for additional funding through the Virginia Annual Conference. This funding will help cover my final year at Wesley Theological Seminary.

One of my graduation requirements is to attend a cultural immersion. I will be going with a group of students from Wesley Theological Seminary from June 17, 2017 to June 28, 2017. We will explore major historic sites of Methodism in England including Epworth Chapel and Kings College, Cambridge and London. Against this historic backdrop, we will experience the current expression of Methodism in England and explore the challenges and opportunities facing the Church and communities. The total cost of the trip is \$5,150.

I am asking you, my church family, to play an active role in my immersion. First is through prayer. Be in prayer for all of us attending this trip that we might gain knowledge and bring it back to our homes and ministries. Secondly, is through your financial support. Fredericksburg UMC has established an immersion fund to help offset the cost of the immersion. If you are able to help in this arena, please know that you will be making a significant impact in my life and in my call to ministry. If you wish to give monetarily, please make your check out to Fredericksburg UMC and on the "Memo" line write: Lamb/Immersion. All donations are tax-deductible.

Thank you all again for your prayers and support as I journey through Seminary and ordained ministry.

In Christ,

Brian C. Lamb