

**The John and Norma Nomura DeSaegher
Scholarship Fund for Divinity Students**

HISTORY:

Col. John DeSaegher served in the U.S. Army Chaplaincy Department for 20 years. He served in Hawai'i at Tripler Army Hospital and Schofield Barracks. In Viet Nam, Germany and at several California military bases. After retirement, he attended UCLA for his doctoral studies. He served in several United Church of Christ Churches in California and Hawai'i. He received his B.S. from UCLA, two Masters Degrees from USC, and Virginia Theological Seminary and his Master of Divinity from The American Baptist Seminary of the West.

Rev. Dr. Norma DeSaegher, a native of Kauai, Hawai'i, was called to ministry after a corporate career. She received her B.A. from California State University, her Master of Divinity from Claremont School of Theology and her Doctor of Ministry from California Graduate School of Theology, a School of Haven University in Southern California. Before her Call into Ministry, Dr. DeSaegher was an executive in the Environmental Industry and served as the first Asian American Mayor Protem of the City of LaPalma, California. She currently is a member of The Board of Directors for The Retirement Housing Foundation (RHF).

Both DeSaeghers worked long and hard to receive several scholarships to make their dream of Christian Ministry come true. They are honored to help students on their journey to serve God.

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- 1. A member in good standing in a United Church of Christ (UCC) or affiliated denomination (eg Disciples of Christ, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, etc).**
- 2. A Member in Discernment in the United Church of Christ (or an equivalent designation in an affiliated denomination).**
- 3. Accepted or enrolled in an accredited seminary; or accepted or enrolled in a regional theological education program which leads to authorized ministry.**
- 4. A 3.0 GPA or better in the last two semesters of academic work.**
- 5. A 1-2 page Statement of Ministry which documents your sense of calling into ordained ministry.**
- 6. It is desired that applicants have an inclusive and Christ-centered theology. Applicants who can demonstrate a strong prayer life and acceptance of the Holy Spirit's guidance will be given preference.**
- 7. Applicants who desire a pastoral call to serve the people of Hawai'i will be given preference.**
- 8. Documented financial need via the Need Assessment Worksheet.**

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

- 1. Three (3) Letters of Reference (eg professors, pastor, employers, etc.).**
- 2. Academic transcripts from the most recent school attended.**
- 3. Completed Need Assessment Worksheet.**

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT: \$5,000.00 annually while the DeSaegher's are living. Once trust received by Central Union Church, no more than 4% of trust (corpus) to be used annually.

***Students may be awarded twice in the matriculation of their degree.**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

- A. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted to the Deacon Scholarship Committee (DSC) of Central Union Church.**
- B. Applications and all supporting documentation must be submitted or postmarked between January 1 and March 31 for consideration of grant for the following academic year. Upon receipt of a completed application, representatives from the Diaconate at Central Union Church will send a message of acknowledgement.**
- C. Each approved candidate will have a personal interview with a least two members of the DSC. Other pertinent parties (eg pastoral staff, DeSaegher family members) may also participate in the interview.**
- D. The DSC, in consultation with other pertinent parties, will recommend scholarship recipients to the full Diaconate Board for final approval.**
- E. Scholarship recipients will be notified no later than May 31 of the same year.**
- F. DeSaegher Scholarship recipients are encouraged to stay in contact and share updates with the Diaconate of Central Union Church.**