

**Trust Funds Report (as of December 31, 2025)**  
**Financial Accountability, Investments and Trusts Team**  
**Division of Finance and Administrative Resources**  
**First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council**  
**The United Church of Canada**

**1. Methodist College Fund - James S. Pitts - \$230,000**

This is commonly known as "**The Pitts Fund**". The Will provides for \$1,000 in annual earnings for each of the two church purposes: General Council Office Pensions Department gets \$1,000 and Regional Council the other. Remainder of earnings to go to the NL Schools; specifically, the Eastern Education Foundation so as to benefit students.

**2. Lawrence & Ann Pelley Trust - \$750,000 (+ \$109,107 Accumulated)**

The Lawrence and Ann Pelley Trust Fund was established in memory of the late Ann Pelley and her late husband Lawrence Pelley with the income from the trust to be used primarily for the benefit of children in the work being done by The United Church of Canada, First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council through their various youth organizations. Applications that focus on youth are available on the Regional Council website.

First Visit Home: In recruiting Ordinands and Commissionands from other Regions, and to help their transition, the Lawrence and Ann Pelley Trust Fund will provide up to \$1,000 for the Ordinand/Commissionand (with a cap of \$2,000 per family) toward travel for one visit home, normally during the first year. Application is available on Regional Council website.

Retired Ministers' Fund: The Lawrence and Ann Pelley Trust Fund covers the deficit of the Retired Minister's Trust Fund Christmas Gift.

**3. Elsie M. Oldford Trust - \$2,000**

The Last Will and Testament of the late Elsie M. Oldford is meant to serve the needs of the United Church specifically within the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council with interest held in discretionary fund to be paid out at the discretion of the Board of Trusts Team.

**4. Pine Hill Bursary Fund - \$10,000**

Earnings to Pine Hill Divinity Hall to provide bursaries to United Church students at Atlantic School of Theology.

**5. Student Assistance Fund - \$84,662 (+ \$24,656 Accumulated)**

**Objectives:** To assist candidates for ministry in The United Church of Canada from First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council.

**Guidelines:**

1. Assistance to a candidate for ordained/commissioned and designated lay ministry shall be granted, upon submission of an annual budget, at the discretion of the Executive Minister and Regional Minister, in consultation with others as deemed appropriate.
2. Assistance will be in the form of a loan to a maximum of \$4,000 per year (interest free). Upon Ordination/Commissioning/Recognition, \$1,000 per year will be forgiven for each year of service in the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council up to a maximum of \$3,000. The repayment of the remainder of the loan shall begin 8 months following Ordination/Commissioning/Recognition. Students not returning to the Regional Council shall begin repaying the loan beginning 8 months following Ordination/Commissioning/Recognition. Students who discontinue the program shall begin repaying the loan 8 months following that decision.
3. Each candidate who receives a loan from the fund will be required to sign a loan agreement accepting the terms of repayment.

**6. Prince of Wales Collegiate United Church Scholarship Award Fund - \$7,400**

Three bequests comprise this fund: Marshall, William Swan and John Leamon. Payable to Prince of Wales Collegiate for awarding of \$200 scholarship to a student who has demonstrated outstanding effort and commitment.

**7. Ministers' Children Attending Post-Secondary Institutions - \$35,000 (+ \$7,788 Accumulated)**

This fund was originally \$2,500 from the **Marshall Bequest**. This bequest is available to further and support the education and nurturing of children of ministers serving within The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador. This bequest supports ministers' children who attend post-secondary institutions. The guidelines are as follows: (a) a person can receive only one scholarship award; (b) the scholarship value to be determined by the Trusts Team depending on the strength of the fund; (c) the annual deadline be October 15; (d) there be a maximum of two scholarships awarded per year; (e) include all post-secondary institutions; (f) only one Regional Council Scholarship is available per person per year.

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**8. Post-Graduate Education Fund for Ministry Personnel - \$60,000 (+ \$20,897 Accumulated)**

**Trust Objectives:** To assist United Church ministry personnel in First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council, with not less than ten years of active service, in post-graduate studies or educational travel. Guidelines for funding: 1. Maximum \$2,000 per person, maximum to be spent per year \$6,000 (if available). 2. Deadlines February 1 and October 1. 3. Applicants can apply every year but new applicants take priority. 4. Confirmation of enrollment required.

**9. Coughlan College Trust Fund - \$1,536,032 (+ \$131,268 Accumulated)**

Interest earned is to fulfill the Coughlan College Trust Fund objectives for programs and scholarships:

(1) To further and support the education and nurturing of members of The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador; and

(2) To assist candidates for ministry in The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Scholarship** - Effective 2017, Coughlan College Scholarship applications will be administered by the Board of Trusts.

**Objectives:** To further and support the education and nurturing of members of The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador. The establishment of this scholarship is for awarding of grants to students who are enrolled in a degree program or a three-year diploma program at a post-secondary institution.

**Policy:** Scholarships are open to United Church students who are enrolled in a degree program or a three-year diploma program at a post-secondary institution. The scholarships are awarded annually by the Board of Trusts of The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador. Consideration will be given to financial need, church involvement and community involvement. Minister's Evaluation form to be discussed with applicant's Minister and applicant ensures submission. If you do not have a relationship with your new minister, please take the opportunity to connect with them to get to know each other. If your church does not have a minister or if your parent is the minister, we will accept the Board Chair completing and submitting the Minister's Evaluation. Applications will not be considered without Minister's Evaluation. Application forms and information concerning these awards are available on the website or from office. Confirmation of Enrollment must accompany application. Applications will be accepted at any time during the degree/diploma program, however priority will be given to new applicants. Scholarships will be awarded at a minimum of \$500 per person to a maximum of \$1,000 per person. Maximum disbursement from the Coughlan College Trust for Scholarships will be \$8,000 per year. Annual deadline of October 15.

**Program Funding**

**Objectives:** To further and support the education and nurturing of members of The United Church of Canada in Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Guidelines:** 1. Programs must be United Church sponsored or endorsed. 2. Requests for program funding may be initiated by an individual, a congregation/pastoral charge, a recognized United Church group or committee, a Division or a Region. 3. The types of programs eligible for funding are those that develop: a) theological understanding b) leadership skills/ability c) personal faith/spirituality d) sense of ministry and/or mission. 4. Programs receiving funding may address the needs of ministry personnel and laity. 5. It is understood that funding through the Coughlan College Trust Fund will provide "seed money" or supplement the budget for a program/workshop/event and will not normally cover the total cost of an event. Please note this fund does not include support for degree programs. 6. Requests for funding are to be made in advance of the planned program or event by providing the information requested on the application and an approved budget. 7. It is required that unused portions of the grant be returned.

**10. Stella Burry Funds - \$186,000**

The principal sum of \$29,000 which previously earned income through the Board as an annuity established several years ago was redistributed after her death. Payments were made to Agnes Pratt Home (\$5,000) and the Mental Health Association (\$4,000). The balance (\$20,000) was set up to earn income for the following: Burry Heights Camp; Cochrane Street United Church (2025- now UCC) Mission and Service Fund (\$3,000); and Family Life through Emmanuel House (\$12,000). Dr. Burry's Estate provided \$10,000 for Christian Education at her home of Greenspond, administered by the Board of Trust by agreement with the Official Board of Wesleyville Charge. The sum of \$156,000 will earn income through the Board in equal shares for Burry Heights Camp (\$39,003), Cochrane Street United Church (2025-now UCC Mission and Service) (\$39,003), Agnes Pratt Home (\$39,003) and Emmanuel House (\$39,003).

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- 11. Agnes Pratt Home Fund - \$79,003**  
Interest paid annually to Agnes Pratt Board. Agreement shall remain in effect provided that all Board funds, donations, bequests, gifts, entitlements & other funds shall be and remain the property of the present owner of Agnes Pratt Home, to be used by the owner in its direction in accordance with any directions governing the giving of such funds. Stella Burry Funds-Agnes Pratt Home (\$5,000) Agnes Pratt Home (\$39,003)
- 12. Gulliford Bequest - \$600**  
All interest earned paid to the CNIB.
- 13. Cochrane Street United Church Fund - \$42,003**  
Stella Burry Funds-Cochrane Street United Church Mission and Service Fund (\$3,000); Cochrane Street United Church (\$39,003) (*Jan 28/25-interest redistributed to The United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund*)
- 14. Emmanuel House Fund - \$51,003**  
Stella Burry Funds - Family Life through Emmanuel House (\$12,000); Emmanuel House (\$39,003).
- 15. Beatrice Gear Estate - \$7,000**  
Interest earned on this fund be given annually to the Agnes Pratt Home.
- 16. Council of Social Ministries Trust - \$300,000 (+ \$88,640 Accumulated)**  
The interest from this fund is designed for people in United Church congregations who have special financial needs. Pastoral Charges may identify such needs and make application on behalf of those individuals. Priority will be given to children and young people and institutions that work with teenagers.
- 17. Retired Ministers' Fund - \$48,379**  
That interest from the Retired Ministers' Trust Fund be given as a Christmas gift. All retiring ministers or their surviving spouses who retired from service in First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council and whose membership remains with First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council qualify for the annual honorarium (Christmas gift) with any resulting deficit to be covered from the Pelley Fund.
- 18. Hant's Harbour Fund - Samuel Short - \$1,000**  
Earnings are paid to Hant's Harbour Pastoral Charge for ministerial support.
- 19. Abraham Edison and Evangeline Green - \$50,000**  
Provides \$500 annually to Carmanville congregation and the balance of earnings to Student Assistance Fund.
- 20. Curling Memorial Church Fund - Gilbert & Martha Pike Trust - \$18,041**  
Earnings are paid to Curling United Church annually.
- 21. Blackhead Historic Site Fund - \$2,600**  
Earnings are made available to the Trustee Board of Blackhead Church for care of the site and plaque commemorating the erection of the first Methodist Church in Canada.
- 22. Red Harbour (Port Elizabeth) Fund - \$200**  
The **W.S. Collins Bequest** of \$200 was for continuing support of Port Elizabeth congregation. Since that congregation no longer exists but the majority of people are now located at Red Harbour, it was decided to send the earnings on the fund to that congregation.
- 23. William Seeley Mercer Fund - \$6,600**  
Three purposes are to be served. The earnings on \$6,000 will be given to Central Labrador Pastoral Charge (60%) and Fogo Island Pastoral Charge (40%) as continuing memorial to Rev. William S. Mercer. Earnings on the amount of \$600 will provide for perpetual care of Rev. Mercer's grave on Fogo Island.
- 24. Greenspond Christian Education Fund - \$10,000**  
Stella Burry Fund - Paid to Wesleyville Pastoral Charge for Christian Education involving Greenspond Congregation.

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25. **Mrs. Annie Noel - Grates Cove United Church Fund - \$6,777**  
Interest paid annually to ensure grave site of Mr. and Mrs. Noel be maintained and remainder used to maintain cemetery.
26. **Wallace and Muriel Baker Trust – Elliston United Church - \$5,000**  
Interest be paid annually (to a maximum of \$150) to the Cemetery Committee of Elliston United Church to provide annual care and upkeep of the Baker family plot in Elliston.
27. **Holy Land Visit Fund - \$32,000 (+ \$18,420 Accumulated)**  
The Holy Land Visit Trust Fund was created many years ago by the MacPherson family of St. John's. This trust fund is open to United Church ministers in Newfoundland and Labrador who wish to visit the Holy Lands and qualify as per below guidelines. It is the wish of the MacPherson family that those who are awarded would use it to enhance their ministry in Newfoundland and Labrador. Each year, the successful applicant can avail of \$3,000 from this trust fund to contribute to their trip. Applications available on Regional Council website.  
**Guidelines**
1. Those considered for election include only those ministry personnel who have completed the required training for the stream of ministry in which they serve in Newfoundland and Labrador.
  2. One person selected per year.
  3. Application deadline is April 15 each year submitted to Executive Minister, who will check to ensure that applicants qualify for election, and submit the names of those qualified to Regional Council for selection.
  4. Retired persons and those within one year of retirement are not eligible.
  5. Each successful applicant will normally be expected to complete the trip within 12 months of being elected.
  6. Candidates will be introduced to the electing court so that members will have information on which to base their voting.
  7. A Minister shall not be ineligible because he/she is not in the active pastorate.
28. **Loon Bay Camp Fund - \$1,000**  
**Elizabeth French** bequeathed \$1,000 for purposes related to Loon Bay Camp. The annual earnings are paid to the Camp Committee.
29. **Burry Heights Camp Fund - \$44,003**  
Stella Burry Fund - Burry Heights Camp (\$5,000); Burry Heights Camp (\$39,003)
30. **The Rev. John Murphy Fund for Burry Heights Camp - \$50,544**  
Interest income will be used to provide campership attendance at Burry Heights Camp. The funds, if not needed each year by campers, may be used to provide for capital expenses, i.e. painting, repairs, equipment purchases.
31. **Captain & Mrs. Leslie Winsor Fund - \$10,000**  
Earnings on which are to be used by VOWR.
32. **New Church Development Fund - \$30,060**  
Provide financial assistance to two or more congregations in the designated area that wish to come together to share or combine worship and/or other facilities, with some of the cost of studying and investing the physical and financial implications of doing so. Eligible projects include initial concept studies, congregational opinion surveys, preparing cost estimates and preliminary designs/drawings of new or combined facilities, and related activities.
33. **Compassionate Assistance Fund - \$99,500**  
Originally the Disability Fund, the Compassionate Assistance Fund is used to assist needs that are out of the pockets of clergy. Examples are travel assistance, alleviate financial strain with a move, assist with significant unexpected expenses during hospital stays, assist with significant unexpected expense due to a serious illness. To respect the privacy of clergy, applicants' names and amounts will not be released. Applications, found on the Regional Council website, will be reviewed by the Regional Minister who will need to support the request.