



“Pause and Reflect”

Campaign Case for Support

“But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children—

Deuteronomy 4:9 (NRSVUE)

UNC Wesley - A Lifelong Endeavor, A Lifelong Partner

For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSVUE

Dear Friend of UNC Wesley,

We are inviting you to consider whether this is the time for you to join the UNC Wesley Legacy Giving Society by including UNC Wesley Campus Ministry in your estate plans.

Just as there is an arc to the formation we offer students as they grow from first-years into seniors (See pp. 4-5), so too, is there an arc to your relationship with UNC Wesley as an alum or a friend of our ministry.

Just as the prophet Jeremiah purchased a field in Anathoth, amid the uncertainty and threat of being taken off his land into exile, as a sign that God would again be worshiped in that land, our Legacy Giving Society is a prophetic sign that God will always be worshipped by United Methodist students in Chapel Hill and that these students—as well as those who grew up in in other traditions or apart from the Church—will be disciplined in the Wesleyan way.

This is work that United Methodists have done faithfully at Carolina for twelve decades, beginning with the Senior Epworth League of 1906, and continuing with the establishment of the Wesley Foundation (now Wesley Campus Ministry) in 1945.

In a moment of uncertainty in American Christianity and the United Methodist Church, including uncertainty in the level of ongoing support we will receive from the North Carolina Annual Conference,¹ we are asking you to “Pause and Reflect” on the arc of your own relationship with UNC Wesley and consider whether the time is right for you to remember UNC Wesley in your estate plans to ensure that the good work of UNC Wesley will continue for the foreseeable future.

Big Wesley Love,



Ryan Spurrier

Campus Minister & Executive Director

Brenda Cook

Director of Development

¹ Financial support for UNC Wesley Campus Ministry from the North Carolina Annual Conference is no longer secure, due to declining participation in the United Methodist Church, both due to the general decline of American Christianity and the disaffiliation of churches from the UMC over issues of human sexuality. Annual Conference support exceeded \$120,000 in FY2024, an amount that represented 37% of all income. We are anticipating \$17,000 reduction in support by FY2026, with the possibility of future reductions in subsequent years.

What is UNC Wesley? Core Values and Where We Are Going

Since our founding in 1945, UNC Wesley has consistently provided students the opportunity to pause and reflect. In the midst of busy college schedules, Wesley students navigate their Spiritual journeys, discerning and following God's call on their lives.

In the Fall of 2024, the student members of UNC Wesley's Board of Directors identified four core values which guide the ministry:

- Home & Family - From weekly "family dinners" before worship, to small groups and study breaks in the Wesley Building, to mentoring relationships among the class years, UNC Wesley fosters deeper relationships than commonly available in student organizations.
- Discipleship & Vocational Discernment - From our Freshley Small Group for first-year students, to Upper Class Small Groups, Weekly Worship, and Retreats, to leadership formation offered by our ministry staff, UNC Wesley teaches holistic discipleship and gives students opportunities to put their faith into practice.
- Valuing Diversity & Inclusion - UNC Wesley seeks to offer a balance of identity-based and diverse spaces. Identity-based spaces include Small Groups designed for first-year students, men, and students of color. Diverse spaces include Dinner & Worship, Retreats, and Mission Trips. The goal is to create a ministry that embodies unity without expecting sameness.
- Student Leadership & Staff Mentorship - By promoting a culture without competition around roles and titles, UNC Wesley offers a leadership structure that is rather unique at Carolina, in which overlapping layers of staff and student mentorship develop and unleash our students' gifts.

Even as our work of discerning these core values has started anew this academic year, these values have been formed by the faithful work of generations of Wesley Students. This continuity and legacy are expressed by our alumni who testify to the same values being present in their Wesley experience:

At Wesley I encountered so many ways to deepen my faith as I sought understanding. Wesley in general, and campus minister Bob Johnson in particular, gave consistent reminders to seek God with our hearts and with our minds as well.

—Joe Mann, Class of 1969



Empowering Emerging Adults to Love God, Love Others, and Change the World

Wesley Bridges a Significant Gap

What makes Campus Ministry unique and worthy of a significant investment is that we bridge a significant gap in our students' lives. Cade Barefoot, a Wesley Alum, Class of 2016, and ordained United Methodist Minister provides this insight: "I've come across too many Christians whose faith peaked in high school. Their most formative moments happened in youth group and then faith formation went on hold in college."

But, Cade's experience was different because of UNC Wesley: "Wesley became the stepping stone I needed to continue discerning my call to ministry and growing in my faith. Campus ministry keeps faith formation, vocational discernment, and deep questions about theology at the heart of students' growth and self-discovery."



In short, we empower students to love God, love others, and change the world. For over 60 years, our alumni have pursued seminary on an annual basis, and many more have become leaders in their local churches and communities.

Whether a student comes to us with a strong foundation for their faith or no foundation at all, we meet them where they are and tailor our formation to their needs.

Hear from our students about how our formation adapted to each year of their college experience.

First-Year: *When I arrived at UNC, I was hoping to find a Christian community because both of my parents' college experiences were shaped by their church group. The first time I attended Wesley Dinner & Worship, I was worried if I would find people to connect with, but the second I walked in the door, I met two other first-years with similar fears, and we bonded immediately! I am so grateful for the community of thoughtful and intentional Christians I have found at Wesley. I have better accepted myself and my faith because of this ministry!*

-- Lenore Pratt, Class of 2028



Sophomore Year: *As I returned to campus for my sophomore year, one thought stuck out most: “I can’t wait to go to Wesley Dinner & Worship.” Little did I know, this year would be all about “Learning to Lead”--as a small group leader, mentored by an upperclass student--and “Learning to Love”--strengthening the Wesley “fam” by being a friendly face to all. In the process, my bond with God has gotten stronger.*

-- Bray Guest, Class 2027



Junior Year: *Alongside growing in my faith, Wesley has shaped me as a confident leader in more ways than I can count. With every new event I’ve planned--with the help of lots of students and staff--I have gained more faith in myself and, most importantly, I’ve gained faith in how the Lord is moving through me as we grow the Wesley community.*

-- Molly Fahy, Class of 2026



Senior Year: *When I needed to be challenged and stretched in my faith, Wesley provided small group communities where I could learn and teach others about the true character of God. When the world has looked bleak and I haven’t been sure about this whole religion thing, Wesley’s interns and pastors have inspired me to have faith despite injustices and despair in this world and helped me claim that I’m invited to do the Kingdom work that can make our world one step closer to holy perfection. When I desperately needed a space to feel welcomed as my full self, Wesley was home. Wesley is home. Without this ministry, I would have a lot less hope for the future.*

-- Marisa Romanat, Class of 2025



Considerations for Your Planned Gift

According to the United Methodist Foundation of North Carolina's Planned Giving Handbook, one needs to prayerfully consider four aspects of a planning gift:

- How much to give
- To what cause
- When to make your gift
- How the gift(s) can best be made

How Much To Give:

Gifts of every amount are vital to UNC Wesley's long-term sustainability. Making arrangements can be as simple as allocating a specific amount or percentage of your estate to benefit UNC Wesley through your Last Will and Testament.

You might begin by considering how much it would take to endow your current level of annual giving. If you currently give \$1,000 per year, your support could be sustained by a one-time gift of \$25,000 from your estate. This amount of your gift can then be modified as your intentions are further refined.

To What Cause:

Your vision for your planned gift can be as simple as general support for UNC Wesley Campus Ministry or as specific as student mission trips, worship development and planning, staffing support, community-building and social events, and other areas.

Your gift can be made either as current-use income, to be used immediately for Wesley expenses, or an endowment gift, either to one of our existing endowments (listed in Appendix A), or you could create a new, named endowment for a minimum gift of \$25,000.

Our Director of Development and the Campus Minister welcome the opportunity to speak with you to best align your gift's impact with your goals.

When to Make the Gift:

Our Legacy Giving Society is for those who desire to support UNC Wesley through their Last Will and Testament and estate planning. We have additional opportunities to make an immediate gift, a series of gifts, or an immediate gift that is paired with an estate gift. If you would like to discuss these opportunities, please contact our Director of Development.

How Your Gift Can Be Made:

Mechanisms for making your gift are valuable in determining the timing of your gift. Options include:

- Giving Cash
- Giving Appreciated Securities
- Giving Through Your will
- Giving Real Estate
- Giving Personal Property
- Giving Through Life Insurance
- Giving through Life Income Plans
 - Charitable Gift Annuities
 - Deferred Payment Gift Annuities
 - Charitable Remainder Unitrusts
 - Charitable Remainder Annuity Trusts
- Giving Income Gifts
 - Charitable Lead Trusts
- Giving Through Retirement Plans
- Giving Government Bonds

Benefits of Legacy Giving Society Membership

The benefits of legacy planning are many and profound. They are part of striving to create community and values for now and the future. Some are intangible, but the UNC Wesley Legacy Giving Society channels the energy of the community and provides a mentoring tool as well.

- A mentoring network among donors will be established as necessary to convey meaning and value of legacy giving among donors and prospective donors.
- An annual Legacy Giving Society luncheon for members will be planned and members celebrated.
- Legacy donors will be profiled in Newsletters and other UNC Wesley materials.
- The Director of Development and Campus Minister will meet with prospective Legacy Giving Society members to facilitate their understanding of the impact of their legacy.

Available Resources:

In addition to consulting UNC Wesley's Director of Development, there are various vehicles or tools to accomplish your mission of planning your legacy. There is a wealth of information provided on the United Methodist Foundation of North Carolina, Inc. (UMFNC) website at www.umfnc.org. You can download their Christian Wills Guide PDF to your computer. This is an important guide to the various considerations you have in developing your legacy plan. You may consider consulting your attorney to identify your best approach.

Appendix A: UNC Wesley Endowments

With the inception of the Endowment Fund in July 2017, UNC Wesley has taken seriously the work of building a framework for sustainability so that United Methodist Campus Ministry will thrive in Chapel Hill for the foreseeable future.

Beginning with our first named endowment, honoring Bill and Rosalie Olsen, which was opened in January of 2019, UNC Wesley now benefits annually from six endowments.

You may designate your Legacy Gift for current-use or to one of our existing endowments. Or, for a minimum investment of \$25,000, you may create a new, named endowment.

Robert Troy “Bob” Barrett Fund for Student Mentorship

Ministry Supported: Staffing Support



Established in loving memory of Bob Barrett’s life-long dedication to college students, Methodism, and the University of North Carolina, this fund will ensure that Methodist students at UNC Chapel Hill receive the mentorship they need to discern God’s call upon their lives and develop the requisite Christian character and leadership skills to align their lives with God’s purpose in the world. In addition to his lifelong career in higher education, Bob is the son of Rev. Troy and Robbie Barrett of the North Carolina Annual Conference.

This fund was established by a gift from Bob’s wife, Marcia Barrett.

Photo: Bob and Marcia Barrett (seated) with their children and grandchildren

The Laura Gallo Fund for Student Programming

Ministry Supported: Community Building and Social Events



In recognition of over 22 years (1999-2021) of caring for the students, staff, alumni, and friends of Wesley, this Fund was established upon Laura’s retirement in 2021. As Laura was instrumental in making sure students were well fed and that all details of events were well organized, the available income from this Fund will go directly to student programming, including dinners and retreats.

Photo: Laura Gallo (left) with Campus Minister Jan Rivero

Fund for the Worship Arts in Memory of Wilson Hayman and His Parents, Mary Helen and Donald Hayman

Ministry Supported: Worship



Wilson, Mary Helen, and Donald were all instrumental in Wesley becoming the ministry it is today. Their caring, guidance, and support will never be forgotten. Wilson cared deeply for Methodist liturgy and worship music. He was an accomplished cellist and also sang in the Hayes-Barton United Methodist Church Chancel Choir. This Fund was started in 2021 with memorial gifts made upon Wilson's untimely passing in 2020.

Photo: Wilson Hayman playing cello at Hayes Barton UMC

Reverend Robert L. Johnson Fund for a Diverse Wesley

Ministry Supported: Staffing and Programs to Increase Diversity at Wesley

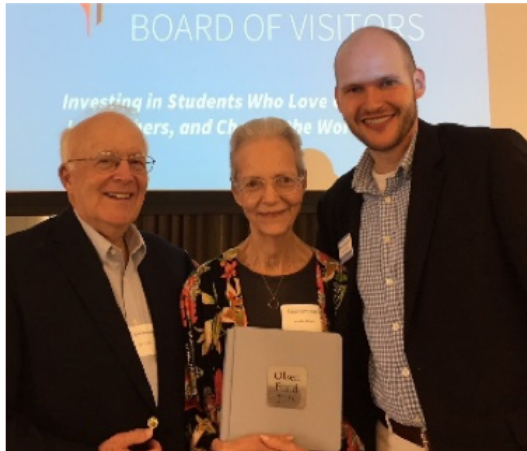


Bob Johnson served as Campus Minister from 1957-1975, impacting hundreds of UNC students during a very turbulent time. This Fund was started in 2020, in honor of Bob's 90th birthday and in support of projects that promote diversity and help Wesley welcome all students into the ministry.

Photo: Bob Johnson (lower right) with Wesley students

Bill and Rosalie Olsen Endowment

Ministry Supported: General Support to All Wesley Needs



Begun following Bill's death in 2017, this Fund honors Bill, a Wesley Alumnus, Class of 1951, and his wife, Rosalie. Life-long Methodists, Rosalie continues to be an active participant in University United Methodist Church. The available income from this Fund is for general operating expenses, with particular attention to providing a gathering space for students.

Photo: Rosalie Olsen (center) with Jim Kocher (left) and Campus Minister Ryan Spurrier (right)

Woodfin Family Fund for Student Wellness

Ministry Supported: Programming and Capital Expenses that Support Student Wellness and Well-Being



The Woodfin Family Fund was established in December 2025 by a gift from Terry Woodfin. In addition to being a lifelong Methodist who was a member of the Wesley Foundation at Middle Tennessee State University, where she served on the Fellowship Committee, and an early member of Christ UMC in Chapel Hill, Terry is an accomplished interior designer who has dedicated her career to designing spaces that provide Spiritual nurture and refreshment. She offered these gifts to Wesley by designing the student lounge and office spaces at The Loft, opening her home to students, and through this

endowment which provides for programming and capital expenses that support student wellness and well-being.

Photo: Terry Woodfin & Family

Manuel and Karen Wortman Fund for Student Missions

Ministry Supported: Student Mission Experience



Student missions were central to Manuel's leadership as UNC Wesley's Campus Minister from 1975 to 1998. These mission experiences, both within the U.S. and internationally, profoundly influenced Wesley students to commit their lives to serving others. Over 50 of Manuel's students became United Methodist pastors, and many hundreds of others are leaders in their churches, workplaces and communities.

Karen and Manuel raised their three children (Kristen, David, and Justin) during the years that Manuel was at UNC Wesley. Karen and the children frequently interacted with Wesley students, and the entire family was also active in the life of University United Methodist Church.

Photo: Manuel & Karen Wortman, with their children