Created in 2009 by United Black Christians (UBC), in covenant with the UCC’s Local Church Ministries, the fund seeks to honor the ministry and person of the Rev. Joe Evans and celebrate his distinguished career in ministry by awarding African-American seminary students scholarships to continue their pastoral education.

‘To those who’ve been given much, much is required.’
— Carol A Brown

Your generous gift honoring the ministry and person of Dr. Evans reaffirms the Fund’s commitment to provide financial support to a justice advocate pursuing ordained ministry in the UCC.

There is a critical shortage of ordained African-American ministers in the United Church of Christ. Now, more than ever, there is an extraordinary need for ordained African-American ministers in our local UCC congregations and in the world.

God calls us to be in a community that honors each other, serves others with joy, and shares our love and material possessions. Let us give with our whole hearts. “To those who’ve been given much, much is required,” says Carol A. Brown, 13th National UBC President.

Please give generously to support this important work.

Donations to the Joseph H. Evans Scholarship Fund may be made by check, money order, or credit card, and via matching funds from employers. Gifts of stock are also welcome.

ucc.org/scholarships
scholarships@ucc.org
216.736.2166

A scholarship fund for African-American seminary students established by United Black Christians in covenant with the UCC’s Local Church Ministries.

The Rev. Dr. Joseph Henry Evans
Designated Fund for African-American Pastoral Scholarships
The Rev. Dr. Joseph Henry Evans was the first African-American president of the United Church of Christ (1976-1977), elected following the untimely death of the Rev. Robert Moss. He also served as national secretary of the church (1967-1983) and was a beloved local church pastor in Cleveland, New York City, New England, and Chicago area churches.

Throughout his ministry, he demonstrated a passion for justice-making and peace-keeping.

“He [built] bridges across the barriers of race and spiritual ancestry, across the suspicions of youth and age, across the tensions of church and world,” said the Rev. Dr. Yvonne V. Delk. “As pastor, prophet, priest, and healer, he [gave] us the love, faith and courage we need to face the joys and sorrows of our time.”

Evans Scholar candidates are:

- African-American students in their second or third year of seminary
- Members of a United Church of Christ congregation
- Members in discernment of an Association Committee on Ministry
- Justice advocates who have proven leadership through a history of service in the church and in the world.

Evans Scholars will serve in justice settings upon completion of their seminary education.

Evans Scholars will emulate Dr. Evans’ legacy. They will promote diversity and social justice within the United Church of Christ and will give African-American people a larger presence and voice within the church.

Organized in 1966 and formally launched in 1970, United Black Christians (UBC) continues to lift a prophetic voice that keeps before the church the needs and concerns of its Black constituency and the Black community.

In honoring Rev. Evans with this scholarship fund, United Black Christians seeks to raise an initial $100,000 so that deserving students can apply for these much-needed scholarships.

“I just want the United Church of Christ to be a ‘great’ church … For me [great] means being a relevant church; being an open church; to be a concerned church; to be a church that is involved in the community, wherever it is.”

— The Rev. Joseph H. Evans