



## The Charles E. Manuel/Ethelind Simmons Stroud Scholarship



**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**  
**THE CHARLES E. MANUEL/ETHELIND SIMMONS STROUD SCHOLARSHIP**

Brother Charles E. Manuel and Sister Ethelind S. Stroud were long time members of Beaver Creek A.M.E. Zion Church (now known as Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church) from the 1920s through 1988.

Brother Manuel was a Christian whose devotion to the welfare of this church knew no boundaries. He was employed as a civil service worker at Fort Bragg and also worked as a custodian at MacPherson Presbyterian Church on Cliffdale Road.

He served in several capacities within our church, including such positions as: Chairman of the Trustee Board, Superintendent of the Sunday School Program, President of the Usher Board, President of the Booster Club, Program Committee Director, and was a member of the Men of Distinction Club. His daughter, Romalia (Bonnie) Manuel Young, is still an active member here at Simon Temple.

Sister Stroud served as the only pianist (and choir director) for our church for many years. She served as a Girl Scout leader and a Youth Director. Sister Stroud was an educator for more than 40 years and retired from teaching at William H. Owen Elementary School, located on Raeford Road in 1973.

During the early integration era, she advocated for the African-American teachers at her school. These teachers had never been previously selected to serve as a member on any of the school committees. However, Sister Stroud's enduring work brought about a change in that process. African-American teachers were able to become committee members and some even became chairpersons. The old directory on the left side of the front of the church bears her name and is a lasting memory of who she was as a person.

Brother Manuel and Sister Stroud have transitioned from labor to reward and Simon Temple A.M.E.Z. Church is proud to have a scholarship that bears the names of two such dedicated Christians.

## **The Charles E. Manuel/Ethelind Simmons Stroud Scholarship**

The Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church recognizes outstanding academic achievement, leadership potential, service to community, and the desire to pursue higher education through its annual scholarship awards. Scholarships are awarded to church members who are currently enrolled in a traditional high school, private school, military academy, early high school college programs or FTCC. Recipients of the scholarship must pursue a post-secondary education at a community college or a four-year college/ university. Members are eligible to apply up to age 21. However, students that are currently enrolled in college are not eligible. You must be entering your 1<sup>st</sup> semester or quarter of college.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

1. Individuals who have been active members of the Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church for two full years at the time of application. For individuals who are from military families and have been at Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church for less than a year, a letter from your previous church can be submitted. Please note, this information will be verified through our church office. All information that is submitted will be verified.
2. Must consistently attend worship services.
3. Must currently be an active participant in a minimum of two (2) ministries in addition to regular worship service attendance (i.e. Acolyte Ministry, Youth Choir, Steward Board, Usher, District Activities, Youth (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday) Service Participant, Drama Ministries, VBS Volunteer, Outreach, Parking Lot Ministry, Media, Mime, Praise Team, etc.). Information will be verified.
4. Applicant(s) must submit letters of verification for each of the respective ministries they actively serve in as well as letters of their participation in community organization(s) or verification of any completed community service work. (Activities that have been ongoing will better benefit your score).
5. Applicants must have a G.P.A of 2.5 or greater.
6. All applicants must be a member in good standing (all new members classes have been completed)
7. All applicants are required to participate in an interview on June 16, 2019. Please come professionally dressed and allot at least 30 to 40 minutes for the process. You will receive a

designated time for your interview on June 16, 2020. So make sure your contact info is correct and you arrange your schedule accordingly.

8. Applicants must place all application materials in a **sealed** envelope. All required documents must be submitted to [v.alford89@gmail.com](mailto:v.alford89@gmail.com) by Noon **ALL COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKETS, ALONG WITH ALL REQUIRED**

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION ARE DUE BY**

**Noon on June 10, 2020**

Late or incomplete application packets will not be considered.

Additional Scholarship applications with instructions and forms are available in the main office or online.

### **The Selection Criteria**

#### **An applicant must:**

- Earn a high school diploma or GED and be accepted to a post-secondary institution.
- Have consistent participation in church activities/auxiliaries. Applicant must submit one letter of recommendation signed by a ministry leader who is familiar with the individual's participation.
- Be involved in community organizations or activities. Letters of recommendation from each community organization/activity must be submitted on official letterhead.
- Submit a typed essay that reflects the topic given. It must be a well written essay that will also exhibit your understanding of grammar, syntax and the overall mechanics/format of an essay.
- Must be degree seeking and enrolled for a minimum of six (6) credit hours. The scholarship *does not* pay for Continuing Education classes.
- Must submit all final grades from previous semester or quarter to Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Scholarship committee to qualify for second disbursement in the spring semester. A GPA of 2.0 or higher is required to receive second disbursement.
- Must submit a copy of your post-secondary institution (college) acceptance letter.

*Note: This scholarship is a one (1) time award (Fall/Spring).*

*Delayed entry into college after high school forfeits the scholarship.*

**A complete application packet must include the following:**

- ✓ The scholarship application with all sections completed
- ✓ An official copy of high school transcript in a sealed envelope or an official copy of the GED certificate. Due to COVID-19 you can have your transcript emailed to Dr. Alford @v.alford89@gmail.com.
- ✓ A letter of acceptance from a post-secondary institution
- ✓ A letter of recommendation documenting participation and involvement in church/youth department activities.
- ✓ Letter(s) of recommendation documenting participation and involvement in community organizations/activities.
- ✓ Typed essay

**Transcript/ GED certificate**

An official copy of a high school transcript or an official copy of the GED certificate must be submitted via email to Dr. Alford at v.alford89@gmail.com.

**Letter of Acceptance from a College/University**

A copy of the letter of acceptance from the post-secondary institution where you plan to attend must be attached with your application.

**The Essay**

Please attach a typewritten essay on the following topics:

**1. We have all heard that experiences make us stronger and that often times it is not the actual event that occurs that has the greatest impact but it is the lesson(s) we learn from that experience. Reflect on a time when an experience caused you to question or challenge your belief about God. What prompted your thinking? What lesson(s) did you learn? How has this experience shaped or molded you spiritually?**

**2. The events of the last two months associated with the pandemic have been unprecedented in recent history. They have forced many of us to adapt to a situation that is clearly outside of our control. They also provided the opportunity for us to learn about**

**ourselves and the world around us. What have you learned during this time? If you were an elected official (e.g. mayor, city council, etc.), how might you have handled the situation differently? Why?**

The essay must contain 500- 1500 words, double spaced, with numbered pages and 1-inch margin, using Times New Roman or Arial 14 font. In addition, a cover page must be included.

Essays will be evaluated according to these categories: grammar usage and mechanics, clarity and coherence, adherence to theme, and inclusion of adequate details.

The Pastor, Executive Trustees, Associate Pastor(s), Senior Elder(s) and Scholarship Committee reserve the right to make any changes deemed necessary to the proceedings and determination of awarding this scholarship. If and when changes are made, applicants will be notified.



2. Please list all church ministries, or activities in which you participate.

Ministry/Activity	Date (If Applicable)
Ex. Daughters of Excellence – Back to School Seminar	August 23, 2014

\*A letter of recommendation

3. List the name(s) of the institution(s) where you have applied.


4. Have you been accepted by an accredited institution?    Yes\_\_\_    No\_\_\_

If yes, please list the institution(s).


5. List the name and address of the institution you plan to attend this fall.

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Name of Institution

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City

State

Zip

6. List the community organizations/activities that you are a member of or have participated in. For each organization/activity include a letter from the organization detailing the amount of hours and your participation.


**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS APPLICATION IS TRUE AND ACCURATE.**

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Applicant Signature

Date

Application Deadline:

Noon, June 10, 2020

Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Scholarship Committee

### **Applicant Checklist**

Thank you for applying for a scholarship offered by Simon Temple A.M.E. Zion Church. Please submit the completed application package to the Office of Youth Development no later than June 10, 2020 by Noon. Please email your completed packet to v.alford89@gmail.com

Please complete the checklist below, ensure you have submitted all required materials.

- Completed application WITH signature
- Official high school transcript or copy of GED certificate in a sealed envelope
- Letter of acceptance to an institution of higher learning
- Letter of recommendation from the Ministry Leader indicating your consistent participation in church activities, including length of time
- Letter(s) of recommendation from community organizations/activities
- Typed essay that is consistent

**Please include this form with your application materials.**

I have submitted all required materials above as part of my scholarship application being submitted.

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Applicant Signature

Date