

THE REFORMED CHURCH OF THE

Ascension

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



Ascension United Church of Christ GSA Scholarship Program

February 1, 2018

Dear Student:

On behalf of Ascension United Church of Christ, Jeffersonville PA, we are pleased to offer to you information and application materials for the Annual Ascension UCC GSA scholarship. We will be awarding at least one scholarship for academic year 2018-2019. The chosen student will receive:

Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship - \$500.00

While parental support of, or consent to, the submission of an application to the Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Program is desirable, it is **not** a requirement of the program. Special consideration may be given to students in need.

This scholarship is open to current high school seniors who are active members in a Gay/Straight Alliance at their school or similar organization hosted outside (as confirmed by signature of an adviser of the GSA club) who will be pursuing higher education in a 2 or 4 year institution or trade school. The scholarship committee will also consider students attending Montgomery County Community College or granted transfer admission to 4 year institution and will be attending in the 2018-19 academic year (as confirmed by your MC3 student id or a letter of acceptance as a transfer student to a 4 year school) and who is an active member of the Montgomery County Community College Gay/Straight Alliance (as confirmed by signature of an adviser of the GSA club). Other requirements are set forth in the enclosed materials. Application packets should be mailed to the following address postmarked no later than April 30, 2018.

Ascension United Church of Christ
Attn: ONA Scholarship Committee
1700 West Main Street
Jeffersonville PA 19403

If you have any questions about the program, please contact the scholarship committee chairperson at 484-686-4524 or lizbrunton2462@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Brunton
Chairperson
ONA Scholarship Committee

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O F C H R I S T



Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Program Application Instructions

Dear Applicant:

Ascension United Church of Christ, Jeffersonville PA is pleased to offer the following scholarship for academic year 2018-2019. The chosen student will receive:

Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship - \$500.00

While parental support of, or consent to, the submission of an application to the Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Program is desirable, it is not a requirement of the program. Special consideration may be given to students in need.

In order to be eligible for these funds, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a senior student at a high school, and intending to enroll in a 2 or 4 year institution of higher education or trade school in Fall 2018 **OR**,
2. Be a student at Montgomery County Community College or accepted as a transfer student from MC3 at a four year institution of higher education in Fall 2018 **AND**,
3. Identify as a gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender student **OR** a straight ally who can demonstrate an interest in service to and/or support of the LGBTQ community.

You must provide the following documents:

1. Completed Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Application Form.
2. One letter of recommendation from a teacher, professor or advisor. Letter must be from someone other than a relative and must be submitted in a sealed envelope.
3. An essay (no less than 500 words) discussing either your life as an LGBTQ student, or how you have been involved with and supported the LGBTQ community. In this essay you should discuss how you have demonstrated leadership, scholarship and support.
4. Signatures of Guidance Counselor, GSA Adviser and, if willing (not required) your parent.

The completed application packet must be sent to the following address no later than April 30, 2018:

Ascension United Church of Christ
Attn: ONA Scholarship Committee
1700 Main Street
Jeffersonville PA 19403

All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their applications by June 15, 2018. The check for successful candidate, payable to the student, will be disbursed by August, 2017. For additional information, contact the Liz Brunton at 484-686-4524 or lizbrunton2462@gmail.com.

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Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Program Application Form

Before completing this form, please read the attached letter to ensure that you meet the eligibility requirements and can agree to the conditions of this award.

All information provided on this form will be treated with confidentiality.

Please PRINT or TYPE your responses to the following questions.

APPLICANT'S GENERAL INFORMATION

(First name) (MI) (Last name)

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Preferred phone number: _____

E-mail address: _____

Date of birth: _____ Date of graduation ceremony: _____

Do you identify as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender (LGBTQ)

Straight Ally of the LGBTQ community

APPLICANT'S HIGH SCHOOL and/or COLLEGE SERVICE INFORMATION:

Please list any school honors or recognitions:

What school clubs or extracurricular activities are you involved with?

APPLICANT'S COLLEGE INFORMATION:

____ I will be attending Montgomery County Community College in Fall 2018. I hold academic status of
____ Freshman ____ Sophomore

____ I will be attending _____ as a transfer student in Fall 2018.

____ I will be attending _____ in Fall 2018.

Confirmed by: X _____
Academic Advisor

APPLICANT'S COMMUNITY SERVICE INVOLVEMENT, AND/ OR ANY EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

Please briefly describe community service activities that you have been involved with. You should describe only those activities which have been of the highest importance to you. Be sure to mention any activities in which you played a leadership role.

What jobs, if any, have you held? Please list both volunteer and paid positions as appropriate: (Please use a separate sheet of paper if necessary)

Employer's Name	Job Title	Dates of Employment

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

Please describe any achievements or accomplishments of which you are especially proud:

CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURES

All of the information provided on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of applicant: _____ Date: _____

I certify that (applicant) _____ is an active member of
_____ Gay/Straight Alliance Club

Signature of GSA Club Adviser: _____ Date: _____

If you wish, you may ask your parent or guardian to sign below. (*Parent/ Guardian's signature is desirable, but not required.*)

Signature of parent/ guardian: _____ Date: _____

Checklist for documents to enclose with application:

- Essay (see cover letter for details)
 - One letter of recommendation (must be submitted in sealed envelopes).
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HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE ASCENSION UCC GSA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

- Ascension United Church of Christ website
- The Times Herald
- School Guidance Counselor
- Other LGBTQ Resource
- Other

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Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Scholarship Reference Form

Ascension United Church of Christ Jeffersonville is a congregation of the United Church of Christ, a national denomination with historical roots tracing back to the first settlement of the United States. Ascension is designated as Open and Affirming since May 2010. This means we welcome, affirm and recognize all people regardless of age, race, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. Ascension UCC is pleased to offer a scholarship program to students active in a Gay Straight Alliance organization and enrolling in an institution of higher education for the academic year 2018-2019.

You have been given as a reference by: _____

(Student: please write your name here before handing to your referee.)

It will help us to evaluate this student's application for a scholarship if you would please complete the following form. Please give the completed form to the student to submit with his/her application. You may seal the form in an envelope if you wish. The student's application package must be submitted to Ascension UCC, postmarked no later than April 30, 2018.

The Scholarship Committee understands that it takes time to consider what you would like to tell us about this student, and we appreciate and thank you for the valuable time and effort to take in completing this form,

Your name: _____

Your address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone number: _____ Email: _____

How long have you known this student? _____

What is your relationship with this student? (e.g. parent, guardian, family member, teacher, friend, minister, school counselor, school administrator, coach, etc.):

Please answer the questions on the following page. Feel free to approach your answers in a conversational way, as though you were visiting with us. Attach additional pages if you wish.

Reference Form, Page two:

What do you know about this student that identifies him/her as a person able to set goals and pursue them to completion?

What else do you think we should know about this student? This is your chance to help us to know this student as you do.

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Brunton, ONA Scholarship Committee at lizbrunton2462@gmail.com or 484-686-4524 or write to Ascension UCC, Attn: Scholarship Committee, 1700 West Main Street, Jeffersonville PA 19403.

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Ascension UCC GSA Scholarship Program Release Form

Please complete this form and return with your application. Please be assured that whether you grant or deny these permissions does NOT affect the outcome of your application. This is an administrative form that is not sent out to reviewers.

On the ____ (day) of _____ (month), _____ (year), I make the following five (5) statements of my own free will.

Signature: _____

Print name: _____

(Please delete as appropriate and sign by each deletion).

I grant do not grant (sign here: _____)
permission to Ascension UCC to approach my high school principal regarding recognition of my scholarship award at the schools scholarship awards program.

I grant do not grant (sign here: _____)
permission to Ascension UCC to publish an announcement of my scholarship award in the local news media.

I grant do not grant (sign here: _____)
permission to Ascension UCC to release information about my scholarship award to the UCC Coalition on GLBTQ Concerns.

I grant do not grant (sign here: _____)
permission to Ascension UCC to use my photograph in their publicity releases about my scholarship award.

I grant do not grant (sign here: _____)
permission to Ascension UCC to use my scholarship essay in an anthology of stories to be compiled for publication.