

The Newsletter of
The Society for
the Increase
of the Ministry
and
The Fund for
Future Leaders:
A National Endowment
for
Episcopal Seminarians

FALL 2009

Stephen W. Carson

A Seminarian Profile



*Stephen with his family at the
University of the South, School of
Theology in Sewanee TN*

I know there is a desk here somewhere. Buried underneath a mountain of school work – an Ethics presentation to polish, an Ecclesiology paper to write, working on service bulletins for our student-led liturgies, a sermon to write, and then of course, all of the reading that demands my attention. I am in chapel at least 6 times a week, and make group meetings, liturgy planning meetings, weekly Catechumenate classes, and—and what am I forgetting? Oh yeah, I almost forgot, I need to spend more time with my family.

These thoughts can easily overtake you while you are in seminary. There is more reading assigned than is possible to read, the academic work can be at times overwhelming, and the time management skills you must master just keep you from drowning in a sea of busyness. All of these things could easily knock the wind out of your sail, but they don't. We all survive it. In fact in looking to the rest of this year and beyond

I am overjoyed. I feel like I am the luckiest person in the world. I have a wife and two beautiful children that love me. I am immersed in the greatest education, reading, thinking, and conversations imaginable, and surrounded by people who truly love God, and want to share God's love with the world.

Deciding to leave everything and go to seminary was a daunting decision to make. Moving over a thousand miles from friends and family is even more daunting, but we have been continually blessed from the moment we arrived. As soon as our moving van arrived we were greeted by SofT Move – an acronym for the School of Theology moving ministry. About 30 people were waiting for us, and as soon as the truck ignition was cut, the van door was opened, and the moving in began. There was a line of volunteers handing our belongings to each other and placing them in the appropriate rooms. My family and I helped some, but mostly introduced ourselves, and began to tell our story. The night culminated about an hour later when the truck was completely unloaded, and all of our beds were put together. That kind of community support has not waned and is an example of the outpouring of love and support we have from our new friends and colleagues.

So I leave you with two very different pictures – one of an immense amount of work, and the other of a community so loving and caring that it will forever lift our hearts when we reminisce about our time at seminary. It is encouraging and heartening that the community of support includes a national organization...SIM. We are thankful for both pictures which are shaping us for our future ministry. Both are well worth the trip to seminary.

Yours in Christ,
Stephen W. Carson

Please provide us
with your e-mail address
by logging on to
www.simministry.org
or e-mailing us at
info@simministry.org

From the Executive Director

Dear Friend of SIM,

General Convention 2009 in Anaheim produced historic action that highlights the importance of SIM's enduring ministry, stability and perseverance. Budget 2010-2012 for The Episcopal Church "contains \$200,000 to assist in debt relief for seminarians." (Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, July 15, 2009). General Convention designated SIM to administer these funds. Until this unprecedented vote, no central funding source in The Episcopal Church existed to support seminarians, her future ordained leaders.



This action is a significant achievement for two reasons. First SIM played a major role in raising the Church's awareness of the critical issue of the increasing levels of seminarian debt. Secondly, the action calling on SIM to administer the funds recognizes the meaningful role SIM has played on behalf of the Church in supporting her future ordained leaders.

More than \$200,000 over the next three years is needed to meaningfully stem the trend of increasing seminarian indebtedness. Yet, the significance of General Convention's decision as an affirmation of our mission cannot be overstated.

SIM's mission has remained clear since it was based on the collaborative vision of seven clergymen and one layman at Trinity College in Hartford, CT. Establishing a visionary, optimistic organization in 1857, an ominous time of divisiveness in our country and our church, was faithful and bold. Over the next century and a half, sustained by visionary supporters, SIM's mission endured through prosperous and lean times, peaceful and warring times, unified and confusing times.

SIM's bold mission of investing in the future of The Episcopal Church by supporting its future ordained leaders continues. You can join the "SIM Boldly" (one of the most popular buttons at General Convention) movement to invest in the future of the Church by supporting SIM's ministry of financial, pastoral and advocacy support of candidates for holy orders in The Episcopal Church.

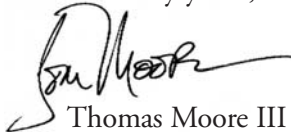
To expand our ministry we have established SIMnet to leverage one of our greatest assets, SIM alumni across the country, for help in fund raising, seminarian visitations and promotion of the Church's support for its future ordained leaders. SIMnet is an online community of SIM alumni and seminarians, providing for the sharing of resources, mutual interests and opportunities. SIMnet is a win/win approach for SIM alumni and seminarians to enlarge their world of connections and for SIM to expand our reach by providing opportunities for alumni to "pay back" and "pay forward" to today's seminarians.

You can be proud of your association with SIM's record of boldly investing in the future of the Church through support of its future ordained leaders. Like the "Hartford eight" in 1857, you can be a visionary investor in the future of the Church:

- Please make a contribution to SIM in the enclosed envelope and/or on our website www.simministry.org
- Please provide us with your e-mail address in the enclosed envelope or by e-mailing info@simministry.org
- Please join SIMnet and become actively involved by clicking on www.simministry.org/alumni

Thank you on behalf of the seminarians who benefit from your support.

Faithfully yours,



Thomas Moore III
Executive Director

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"I'm writing to express very heartfelt thanks to you and the SIM selection committee. This support allows us to remain at seminary. I'm very excited about my further studies at VTS and incredibly grateful for your generous grant during these difficult financial times." P.D., VTS

SIM's Profile Elevated at General Convention 2009

SIM's booth at General Convention 2009 in Anaheim, California was very active. Executive Director Tom Moore, Senior Consultant Rev. Canon John Mitman, retired Scholarship Program Director Rev. Jerry Carroon, and board member and Scholarship Chair Rev. Amy Fallon managed the booth over the 11 day convention in July. So many supporters stopped at SIM's booth that the stock of the popular **SIM Boldly** button was depleted within the first three days.

SIM's booth also attracted numerous supporters of the resolution calling for the national Church to budget seminarian support in light of the increasing seminarian indebtedness. In the face of severe financial challenges to support the budget for the coming triennium, the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church voted to adopt one of SIM's flagship programs as its own and voted \$200,000 for scholarship support of seminarians in need, designating SIM as the administrator of the funds over the next three years.



Mrs. Marian Randall visits with the Rev. Canon John Mitman at the SIM General Convention Booth in July. Mrs. Randall recognized the picture of her daughter, Sr. Sarah Randall, featured in the Spring 2009 issue of *The Call* being displayed in the booth. Sr. Sarah was a SIM grant recipient at EDS and former Vance Family Scholar.

This action was historically important. This is the first time in the history of General Convention that funding has been allocated in support of theological education—either in support of seminaries or seminarians. Until the 76th General Convention, the Episcopal Church was the only major denomination in the United States without a central funding source for the support of its seminarians.

This action also demonstrated what SIM alumni can accomplish. One year ago two Deputies, the Rev. Elizabeth Kaeton of Newark (a SIM alumnae) and the Very Rev. Kevin Martin of Dallas, began a diocese by diocese grass roots effort to sponsor the debt relief resolution that resulted in the \$200,000 funding from General Convention. Other SIM alumni who served on PB&F—Bishop George Councill, Bishop Keith Whitmore, and Canon John Floberg—supported this historic funding.

"Once again, I am most grateful for my scholarship check. It was a joy to see Canon Carroon, but sad that he will be retiring. He will be greatly missed – he is a true ambassador of good tidings!" M.M.H., TSM



KAMAN SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

In 2002, Charles and Robie Kaman of Farmington, Connecticut teamed with SIM to establish the Kaman Scholarship in support of deserving Episcopal seminarians in financial need. Charlie, as he is known, graduated from Catholic University in aeronautical engineering and went to work for Igor Sikorsky building helicopters. When he took a radically new rotor design concept to the boss, he was informed that there was only one innovator at Sikorsky and his name was Igor. In 1945, Kaman struck out on his own to found Kaman Corp which designs and builds helicopters and aerospace specialty components around the world. An accomplished guitarist, Charlie applied his love and knowledge of music with his fascination with the physics of sound to create the Ovation guitar. In more recent years, he and his wife, Robie, founded Fidelco, a non-profit entity which breeds, trains and places around 100 guide dogs for the visually impaired each year throughout North America. Devoted members and supporters of the Episcopal Church, the Kamans' enthusiastic support of SIM is enormously appreciated.



This year's Kaman Scholar is Stephen Carson, a senior at the School of Theology at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. Stephen, from Corpus Christie, Texas and his wife, Sandra, are the parents of two children, one and four. Stephen's background is in commercial grocery sales in San Antonio. We are pleased to feature Stephen's reflections on seminary life on the front cover of this edition of *The Call*.

2009 Society for the Increase of the Ministry Scholarship Recipients Attending a Residential Seminary

<u>Student</u>	<u>Diocese</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Diocese</u>	<u>Student</u>	<u>Diocese</u>
Michael Angell	San Diego	Lisa Hoffman	New Jersey	Clay Riley	East Carolina
Audrey Abt	Ohio	Matthew Holcombe	Pennsylvania	Christina Robertson	Eastern Michigan
Kirsten Baer	Oklahoma	Martha Horn	South Carolina	Christopher Robinson	Mississippi
Timothy Baer	Oklahoma	Deborah Hughes-Habel	Utah	Alice Rutland	Western N. Carolina
Kathleen Berkowe	New York	Harry Jenkins	Georgia	Joyce Scheyer	Nebraska
Melissa Bruckart	NW Pennsylvania	Jane Johnson	Fond du Lac	Patricia Sexton	Colorado
Stephen Carson	West Texas	Stephanie Johnson	New York	Andrew Shamel	San Diego
Kevin Caruso	Chicago	Stephen Kidd	Dallas	Benson Shelton	SW Virginia
Edwin Chinery	New Jersey	Jessica Knowles	Maryland	Terry Shields	East Carolina
Angela Cortinas	Southeast Florida	Gabriel Lamazares	North Carolina	Charles Smith	Southern Virginia
Robert Crow	Georgia	Amanda Lippe	Southeast Florida	Craig Stephens	South Carolina
Alvin Crumpton IV	Georgia	James Livingston	Central Florida	Jonathan Sy	Los Angeles
Thomas DiMarco	Upper S. Carolina	Andrew Lobban	West Texas	Marie Tjoflat	Florida
Joseph Dirbas	San Diego	Kathryn Macek	Los Angeles	Suzanne Toro	New York
Peter Doddema	Kansas	Shelley McDade	New York	Elisabeth Tunney	Western Mass.
Geoffrey Doolittle	Central NY	Gregory McIntyre	Western N. Carolina	Brian Turner	Southern Ohio
Beatrice Dwyer	Eau Claire	Julia Messer	Southern Virginia	Matthew Venuti	Massachusetts
David Erickson	Los Angeles	Stephanie Mitchell	Oklahoma	Daron Vroon	Atlanta
Heather Erickson	Los Angeles	Abigail Moon	Georgia	Seth Walley	Mississippi
Geoffrey Evans	Alabama	Hannah Mudge	Albany	Martha Watson	Nevada
Christine Faulstich	Texas	Anna Noon	Southern Virginia	Heather Wenrick	Oregon
Stephen Foisie	Olympia	Deborah Noonan	Arizona	Michael Wernick	Southern Ohio
Richard Galloway	Upper S. Carolina	Bryan O'Carroll	Southwest Florida	Ginny Wilder	Western N. Carolina
Isaias Ginson	Texas	Christine Paglinauan	Maryland	Anne Witt	Virginia
Joan Grant	Southern Ohio	Kathleen Pfister	North Carolina	Mary Wolfenbarger	Missouri
Farrell Graves	Los Angeles	Diane Pike	West Missouri	Alternative Scholarship Program Grants	
Karl Griswold-Kuhn	Albany	Amy Porterfield	West Virginia	Jordan Hylden	North Dakota
Sahra Harding	Nebraska	Josiah Rengers	West Virginia	Thomas P.H. Warren	East Carolina
				James Lee	Los Angeles

Be an active SIMnet member and www.SIMministry.org visitor

After 152 years, SIM alumni, seminarians and friends can now connect other than by the pen! SIM has launched SIMnet as its online community where SIM alumni and seminarians can share resources, opportunities and mutual interests. SIMnet exists to first serve its members (alumni and seminarians) by encouraging bonds of mutual support within the network. A self-organizing community, SIMnet will thrive on honesty, trust and a sense of mutual respect.

Additionally SIMnet will provide a channel for SIM to expand its ministry. SIMnet will advance SIM's ministry when alumni across the country download a SIM presentation and offer it to one's local parish or community. In this way SIM will reap rewards of technology: expanding its reach efficiently, innovatively, and personally with SIM's friends nationwide.

For alumni, seminarians and SIM itself, SIMnet will facilitate lead generation, cooperation, mutual brainstorming, and co-development of ideas like the grass roots effort that produced the recent positive outcome for seminarians at General Convention 2009. SIMnet provides opportunities for users to help SIM in its advocacy support role in the councils of the Church.

By offering a variety of means of engagement, SIMnet will become a positive and practical resource for its members. Please go to www.simministry.org and sign up for SIMnet.



“Thank you for the trust you have placed in me in granting me a scholarship. This academic year has been one of integration. I see threads from all my classes and my experience in my field education parish coming together in meaningful ways. I am grateful that I will be held in prayer by each of you. You will also be in my prayers.”
K.E.M., CDSP

SOCIETY GRANTS 2009-2010 GRANT YEAR

Traditional Scholarship Program (Full-time postulants and candidates attending Episcopal Seminaries)

Amount granted	\$196,700
Minimum Individual Grant	\$ 1,000
Maximum Individual Grant	\$ 4,000
Total Number of Grants	81
Average Grant	\$2,428

The Alternative Scholarship Program

(The Alternative Program supports postulants who, for whatever reason, and with the approval of their diocese, are attending accredited, alternative educational programs of study.)

Number of Grants (to date)	3
Amount Granted	\$7,500

Dioceses whose postulants have received Alternative Program Grants:
East Carolina, North Dakota, Los Angeles

Overall Statistics, Traditional and Alternative Programs

42 women

Average Age	40.5
10 under age 30 =	24%
Youngest woman	22
Oldest woman	67

24 single women
18 married women
12 women with dependent Children

42 Men

Average Age	35.4
15 under age 30 =	36%
Youngest man	23
Oldest man	56
16 single men	
26 married men	
14 men with dependent Children	

Overall

Age of men and women =	38 years
84 students	
49 Dioceses represented	

Seven years ago, the Society established the Named Scholarship Program which provides donors to the Society the opportunity to establish endowed scholarships within the Society's overall endowment. These scholarships bear the name of the donor. The minimum gift for the establishment of such scholarships is \$100,000. The Society is pleased to announce the named scholarship awards for the current academic year.

Chosen to receive the **Charles H. Kaman Scholarship** 2009-2010 academic year is Mr. Stephen Carson. Stephen is a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of West Texas and is a senior at the School of Theology, University of the South. See Pages 1 and 4 of this edition of *The Call* to learn more about both Stephen and The Kaman family.

The recipient of the **William G. Andersen, Jr., Scholarship** is once again Kathleen Hawkins Berkowe. Ms. Berkowe, a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of New York is a senior at the General Theological Seminary in New York. Kathleen received her Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University (cum laude) and her Juris Doctor from Boston University School of Law. Before entering seminary Kathleen was Vice President and Division Counsel for the Rockefeller Group in New York.

The Scholarship Committee of the Society has awarded the **Emmett Gaylord Jones Named Scholarship** to Ms. Amy E. Porterfield. Amy is a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of West Virginia and a senior attending the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria VA. She is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis with a major in religious studies and classics and also studied at the University of Queensland in Brisbane in religious studies, aboriginal studies and marine science. Before entering seminary, Amy worked in a social service agency in Philadelphia and feels called to chaplaincy ministry, exactly where remains to be discerned.

The **Vance Family Named Scholar** is Ms. Suzanne Toro. Ms. Toro is a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of New York and is a senior at the General Theological Seminary in New York. Suzanne received her Bachelor of Music Performance for Voice from the University of Toronto and a Diploma in Musical Theatre from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York. Her early career was in financial services providing private counsel to individuals and institutions. More recently, Suzanne worked at the Bowery Mission Women's Center and at the American Bible Society, both in New York.

The **Edward R. Cunningham Named Scholarship** was once again awarded to Kathleen Rock Pfister. Mrs. Pfister is senior at the Seminary of the Southwest and a postulant from the Diocese of North Carolina. Kathleen and her husband, Philip, are the parents of two children, Charles age 7 and Camille age 4. Kathleen is a graduate of The American University in Washington D.C. with a major in Psychology. Prior to entering seminary she served for seven years as the Missioner for Youth and Young Adult Ministry in the Diocese of North Carolina.

The **William N. Penfield Scholar** is Ms. Joyce Scheyer. Joyce is a senior from the Diocese of Nebraska and is attending the Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA. She graduated from Oregon State University with a Master in Soil Science, and from the University of Nebraska with a Ph.D. in Agronomy. Before entering seminary Joyce served as a soil scientist and conservationist in several states in the US, and served with the Peace Corps as Agriculture Volunteer in West Africa.

The **Canon John L. C. Mitman Scholar** for 2009-2010 is Mr. Gabriel Lamazares. Gabriel is a candidate for holy orders from the Diocese of North Carolina and a senior at the General Theological Seminary. He received a BA in Theology, from Boston College (cum laude), and was on the Chancellor's List for the Postbaccalaureate Premedical Program at the University of North Carolina. Before entering seminary he served as a Social Research Specialist at UNC/Chapel Hill, and as an HIV Health Educator with the Alliance of AIDS Services in Raleigh NC.

The **Rev. John Crocker, Sr. Scholar** for 2009-2010 is Mr. Michael Angell. Mr. Angell is a postulant for holy orders from the Diocese of San Diego and is a Middler at the Virginia Theological Seminary. He graduated from the University of San Diego with an AB (cum laude) in Theology and Religious Studies. Before entering seminary he served with of the Young Adult Service Corps in Honduras, as Campus Missioner at the University of California at San Diego and later as the coordinator of the Spanish speaking Sunday School at St. Stephen and the Incarnation in Washington, DC.



The Rev. Canon Robert G. “Jerry” Carroon, Retired Director of Scholarship Programs, paid a visit this month to SIM grant recipient Bryan O’Carroll, at Nashotah House, Nashotah, WI. Bryan is a candidate for Holy Orders from the Diocese of Southwest Florida.

“Thank you, Canon Carroon, for once again coming to Virginia Seminary to engage students in conversation about our current and future ministry in The Episcopal Church. Your visits have served as positive mile-markers in our theological education and formation.” B.C.S., VTS

“Thank you for your letter announcing my SIM award for next year. It will greatly assist me. I also feel richly blessed to learn of your continued daily prayers by the SIM staff.” B.M.D., BDS

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SIM gifts made in Thanksgiving for

The Rev. Patricia Merchant + The Rev. Nancy Miller + Mary Hirtzel + Borden Painter and Frank Kirkpatrick + Thomas Moore III, Dad + Tom and Helen Moore + The Rev. Jervis S. Zimmerman + The Rev. Adam Parsons Thomas + Ruth McElraevy + SIM's support of Fr. Tim Thaden at ETSS + The Ministry of the Rev. Canon John L.C. Mitman + SIM Support 50 years ago + 35 years of Marriage of Tom and Helen Moore + Obama Victory + My son's safe return from 6th tour in Iraq + Saints Junia and Andronicus, Apostles + Brandon Harry Dalessio + The Rev. Tracy L.M. Johnson + James Wendell Doyle's successful heart transplant + SIM support at ETS + To the Glory of God + St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga TN + The Ministry of Dr. Louis Weir + Don and Sue Armentrout at School of Theology, Sewanee + Canon Frederick H. Arterton + The Rev. Harry Woggon's 44 years of Ordained Ministry + The Rev. Kate Cullinane + The Professors at General Theological Seminary + The Rev. Richard H. Lewis's 45 years of Ordained Ministry + The Rt. Rev. John Coburn + For Friends at GTU + Many years of Ministry + Hannah Colburn on her 17th Birthday + Life and Love of Everyone + Retired Clergy of the Diocese of Central New York + Ministry and SIM's help + Seminary Education + My Wife Glenora Forbes + Friend and Loved Ones + Good Health for self and loved ones + Generosity toward me as a seminarian + Mary Stoughton, long-time Chair of SIM's Scholarship Committee + The Rev. Paul Hiyama + For the Leadership of the Rev. Canon Robert G. Carroon + The Rev. William N. Penfield + The Rev. Lucinda Laird + The General Theological Seminary + The good work SIM does! + St. John's of Lattingtown Episcopal Church + Your ministries and services + The Rev. Beau A. Farr + The Ministry of St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Arlington VA + My Education at VTS + SIM Support when in Seminary + The Rev. Robert G. Carroon +

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Fiscal Year 2009

* Denotes Parishes Contributing for the First Time

\$1,000 +

Christ Church Christiana Hundred, Wilmington DE
 ECW of Christ Church Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills MI
 Grace Episcopal Church, Holland MI
 St. John's of Lattingtown, Locust Valley NY
 St. John's Episcopal Church Outreach Committee, West Hartford CT
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 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Louisville KY
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\$500 - \$999

Church of the Good Shepherd, Baltimore MD
 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Kent CT
 *St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Tampa FL
 St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Rockport MA
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 St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, Worcester MA
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga TN
 Society of St. Paul, San Diego CA
 Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Columbia SC
 Trinity Episcopal Church, Hartford CT
 Women of St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Poway CA

\$400 - \$499

St. James' Episcopal Church, Glastonbury CT
 St. John's Episcopal Church, Pine Meadow CT
 St. John's Episcopal Church, Youngstown NY
 St. Joseph's Episcopal Church, McDonough GA

\$200 - \$299

St. Francis Episcopal Church, Menomonee Falls WI
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 St. James' Episcopal Church, Great Barrington MA
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Darien CT
 St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Chattanooga TN
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\$100 - \$199

Christ Episcopal Church, Swansea MA
 *ECW of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Vero Beach FL
 Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford CT
 Holy Trinity Church Inwood, New York NY
 St. Elizabeth Episcopal Church, Zephyrhills FL
 St. James' Episcopal Church, Potomac MD
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 *St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Durham NC
 Women of St. James's Episcopal Church, West Hartford CT

Under \$100

All Saint's Episcopal Church, Williamsville NY
 Catocin Parish Harriet Chapel, Thurmont MD
 Church of St. Elisabeth, Glencoe IL
 ECW of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Douglas AZ
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Fiscal Year 2009

July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009

\$1,000 +

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\$300 - \$399

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The Legacy Society

The Society for the Increase of the Ministry settles into its second sesquicentennial with the same bold vision of 1857: "The object of this corporation shall be to furnish means for the education of candidates for holy orders in The Episcopal Church." The need for dedicated, trained and educated ordained leaders remains. The practical aspects of the path toward ordination have changed dramatically as debt has become a primary way of financing one's theological studies. Furnishing the means for theological education calls for investments in the people called to be our ordained leaders.

Investing in those persons equates to investing in the future of The Episcopal Church for the Church is her people and the faith of her people, not her church buildings, church structures, church missions nor her church polity. It is her people who lead the shaping of her buildings, designing her structures, creating her missions, and developing her polity. SIM's enduring focus continues to be as clear as it was 152 years ago: the people called to be the future ordained leaders of The Episcopal Church.

One way to join in playing a vital role in the future of the Church is by including SIM in your estate planning. When SIM is notified of being a beneficiary of one's planned giving, the donor joins the 1857 Society, SIM's Legacy Society. There are many ways to become a member: wills, living trusts, retirement plan assets, gifts of life insurance, charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, or gifts of real estate. Distributions from estates are deposited into the Fund for Future Leaders, SIM's endowment fund for scholarships.

In August 2009 SIM was notified of a \$100,000 bequest. The benefactor was a dedicated Episcopal layman of strong faith and vision for the future of the Church. He believed it critical to the church's future to help and encourage those who feel called to serve the Episcopal Church as ordained leaders. His gift will fund seminarian needs well into SIM's new sesquicentennial.

Please consider SIM in your estate planning and join the **1857 Society**.

A Collect for Seminarians

As has been noted before in these pages, in keeping with the Society's commitment to support our students both financially and pastorally, the Executive Director, Tom Moore, and Senior Consultant, the Rev. Canon John L. Mitman, have committed to pray daily for the students and their families supported by the Society. We invite you to join us in this ministry of prayerful support by using this collect or other prayers of your choosing and on whatever schedule may be appropriate for you.

*O God of all who teach and all who learn,
bless we pray all who study to serve you as priests in your Church.
Most especially do we intercede for those seminarians who are the
recipients of your gifts given through the Society for the Increase of the Ministry.
Enable the Society to uphold these students in body, mind and spirit
in the realization of their vocation.
Watch over and support them and their families
along with the faculty and administration of their seminaries
that all may be done to your honor and glory
and that the Gospel may be advanced by their ministry in your Name,
through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

What does SIM offer?

The Society for the Increase of the Ministry awards scholarships to persons preparing for ordination to the priesthood who are postulants or candidates from dioceses in The Episcopal Church, and who are studying in one of the accredited Episcopal seminaries in this country. Students apply through the financial aid officer of their seminary by March 1st of each year. Awards are made in April by the SIM Scholarship Committee. The Alternative Scholarship Program of SIM seeks to assist those persons preparing for ordination in the Episcopal Church in programs and institutions other than the eleven accredited Episcopal seminaries.



The Society for the Increase of the Ministry

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