

## **MISSION MOMENT**

**November 17, 2019**

Next Sunday, November 24 is United Methodist Student Day Sunday. Churches are asked to take up a Special Offering to support scholarships nationally like the Gift of Hope Scholarship, and to also assist campus ministries. An example of what your donation might do comes from Frostburg University.

Starting college can be a stressful time in any young person's life, but for a small group of students at Frostburg University, last fall took on new challenges, which they were able to meet only with the assistance of the Campus Ministry there. These students are the ones aging out of foster care. National statistics show that each year, more than 23,000 children in the United States age out of the foster care system, and 20 percent of them are instantly homeless.

When they arrived on campus last fall, the checks that these students would receive for doing work study didn't start for a month or so. So they, and others, were forced to figure out how to get enough money to eat and for other expenses.

The Campus Ministry at Frostburg maintains a small student assistance fund, which they try to keep at \$300, and churches and individuals donate \$25 gift cards to share with the students. But last fall, five students came looking for help in affording meals when there are rarely more than one or two. Through the assistance they received from Student Day offerings at local churches they managed to assist all in need.

Campus Ministries are hopeful that local churches will remember students in need who live so close to them, and give an annual Student Day offering or any other donation at any time for student emergency funds that local campus ministries may have in place.

When you give generously on United Methodist Student Day, you are supporting students as they prepare for life in uniting faith with knowledge.