



Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award

*Reverend Leonard D. Comithier Jr., Pastor
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Annual Deadline: April 15

*“Say not in grief ‘he is no more’ but live in thankfulness that he was.”
~ Hebrew Proverb*



About Deacon Joseph Pedlar

Deacon Joseph Pedlar, of Macedonia Baptist Church, was a generous and inspiring contributor to the betterment of his church and surrounding community. He was a dedicated mentor, trusted friend, and a source of inspiration to all who were privileged to know him. He believed deeply in the power and responsibility of each individual to nurture and cultivate all members of the community. Throughout his life, Deacon Pedlar used his talents and gifts in the service of others. In this spirit, his family establishes the Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award.

Born on May 31, 1963, in Rockaway Beach, New York, Deacon Pedlar was educated in the Queens public school system and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from Syracuse University in 1985. He was an accomplished and respected financial planner, specializing in investment management with clients throughout the country. He served on the boards of numerous organizations, including the Albany Boys and Girls Club, the Center for Disability Services, One Hundred Black Men, the NAACP, the East Greenbush YMCA, and the Montessori School of Albany.

Deacon Pedlar embraced life with a joyful, generous spirit and an open heart. He loved nothing more than spending time with family and friends, enjoying such activities as camping, fishing, and organizing cookouts. In his quiet, yet forthright way, Deacon Pedlar nurtured his circle of family and friends with grace and love. Even during the challenges of treatment for Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in 2003, and a life-extending bone marrow transplant in 2006, Deacon Pedlar continued to be a guiding force in the community. He willingly assisted fledgling business ventures with his expertise in financial planning, and offered practical advice and support to aspiring entrepreneurs.

By establishing the Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award, the family hopes to encourage future leaders exhibiting the same qualities of character, generosity, community service, humility, and honesty that Deacon Pedlar embodied and applied to every endeavor he undertook. Deacon Pedlar believed in the potential of every person to achieve his or her highest potential. The family would like to bestow this memorial award to individuals seeking to continue the work in building strong and vibrant communities.

*And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.
~ Abraham Lincoln*

Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award

Program Overview:

The Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award is funded by the Family of Deacon Joseph Pedlar, and will be administered by the Macedonia Baptist Church Scholarship Fund Committee in conjunction with the Macedonia Baptist Church Board of Trustees.

The Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award will be awarded annually to one (1) current matriculated undergraduate student enrolled in an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university. The student **must be** in good academic standing at the time of application, and the non-renewable award amount is \$1,000 for a recipient. The Pedlar Family reserves the right to present additional memorial awards depending on the resources.

Eligibility Criteria:

The Award is open to all members of the Macedonia community (traditional and non-traditional students). The Award is available to one (1) current matriculated undergraduate student who exemplifies the following characteristics:

- Leadership - know yourself and have a vision that is well communicated.
- Academic Potential - hardworking student who exhibits potential for growth both inside and outside of the classroom.
- Character - serve as a positive role model for their peers through conduct and attitude.
- Community Service - exhibit admirable and praiseworthy qualities of good citizenship.

In consecutive years, recipients will alternate between members of the Macedonia Baptist Church community and the greater Capital District community.

Application Process:

All applications must be postmarked no later than April 15th. The application must be signed by the applicant. When all parts of the application are completed, please submit as one package to:

Macedonia Baptist Church
26 Wilson Avenue
Albany, NY 12205
Attention: Scholarship Fund Committee

Please note: Late or incomplete application packages will not be considered.

A complete application package consists of:

1. A completed, dated, and signed Deacon Joseph Pedlar Memorial Award application.
2. A sealed copy of an official school transcript.
3. Three (3) recent letters of recommendation from the following:
 - An individual who is not related to the applicant and not affiliated with the academic institution you currently attend (e.g., personal reference);
 - The applicant's Pastor or designee affiliated with the religious organization in which the applicant belongs; and
 - An Academic Advisor, School Counselor, School Administrator or Professor.
4. A resume or biographical sketch
5. An essay to address the following:
 1. Describe how you would demonstrate the qualities of Deacon Pedlar if you are selected as the award recipient (i.e. community service, faith, overcoming adversity, leadership)
 2. How will this award help you to further your goals?

In order to keep all application information together, please put your name on your essay and all other documents in the package.

DEACON JOSEPH PEDLAR MEMORIAL AWARD

Application
(To Be Completed By Applicant)

Applicant's Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Church Membership:

Name of Church:

Pastor:

Church Activities (list):

Educational Information:

College or University:

City: _____ State: _____

Major:

Date of Graduation:

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS/HONORS AND RECOGNITION

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/EMPLOYMENT

Please share additional information relevant to your application below (you are welcome to attach your resume as well)

CONDITION OF AWARD:

All recipients will receive written notification of the Scholarship Committee’s decision no later than May 30th. The recipient(s) will receive the one-time, non-renewable Award on the Second Sunday in June at the 11:00 a.m. Worship Service.

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_____ I have reviewed the application and verified that all information is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand and agree with the conditions herein.

_____I, the undersigned, hereby grant permission to the Macedonia Baptist Church Scholarship Fund Committee to publish personal biographical information submitted in conjunction with annual reports filed, newspaper articles published, and/or photographs taken that may be added to the Macedonia Baptist Church website (www.macedoniaofalbany.org) or published in scholarship literature.

Applicant’s Signature: _____

Date: _____