



THE BIXBY FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2018

The Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson
Memorial Scholarship
and
Remembering Janet
are “doing business as” names for
The Bixby Foundation,
a 501(c)(3) private foundation

inspired by One to influence many

The Bixby Foundation was established to promote the gospel of Christ; to make charitable donations; and to commemorate the life of Rev. Dr. Janet A. Noble-Richardson. We rely on God to inspire us and to bestow ways and means of sharing our faith with the world. He’s blessed us with friends, family, and other donors who are interested in what we do and generously partner with us in providing scholarships to Christian ministry students. In this report, we show you how we manage finances entrusted to The Bixby Foundation, and we share highlighted moments from the year.

Greg and Kelly Bixby
Founders



DEAR DONORS:

Years ago, a well-known and loved young man from our neighborhood died from meningitis. Despite having been inoculated against the bacterial disease, he had contracted a strain of it during his first year away at college. The tragedy awoke fears throughout our community, and hundreds of us rallied around the bereaved family. Support continues to this day through an annual golf outing that the young man's high school coach organized. Thousands of dollars are raised from the outing each year and used for golf and football scholarships. But none of the money is tax deductible, because a nonprofit charitable organization was never created to manage the fundraising activities.

When Greg and I established The Bixby Foundation three years ago, we had you in mind. We wanted to make sure you could benefit from a tax deduction when donating to our organization. Also, believing you shouldn't have to dig for answers to any of your questions, we were motivated to earn your confidence through clear communication and transparency.

WE ARE GLADLY ACCOUNTABLE TO YOU, and we realize our actions also reflect on our Lord and Savior. Hoping not to disappoint Him or you, we incorporate high standards you should expect from a Christian nonprofit.

What drives charitable giving?

Providing scholarships to Christian ministry students doesn't tend to be at the top of charitable giving lists. There are a seemingly endless number of other worthy causes to give to: discovering new cancer treatments, finding hope for Alzheimer's victims, feeding and clothing the hungry and needy. Dire circumstances tug on people's heartstrings—including Greg's and mine, and most likely yours too.

Knowing you have options makes Greg and me ever more thankful for your support. We value your trust and interest in what we do. We **LOVE** being used by God to promote our faith in Christ, commemorate our deceased pastor through scholarships, and share our resources with other charities too. We pray you'll always see the merit in helping train and equip gifted and inspirational spiritual leaders to influence generations of believers and draw people closer to Christ. Your donations to the Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson Memorial Scholarship are never used for any other purpose than supporting Christian ministry students.

You are treasured by us.

We cherish you, your partnership with us, and the responsibility you've placed in us as stewards of God's provisions. We've prepared this annual report so you will know exactly how we manage your money. You'll hear directly from your scholarship recipients, and in between all the lines of text, we hope you'll see **HOW GRATEFUL WE ALL ARE** that you care about what we do.

Thank you for choosing us,



Kelly Bixby
Cofounder

The Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson Memorial Scholarship



EXPRESSIONS OF GRATITUDE

from Our Scholars of 2018 to Our Treasured Donors

"I am so beyond grateful to be a recipient of the Remembering Janet Scholarship for the last two years. While this scholarship has helped me financially, I've been blessed in more ways than just money. The relationships I've built through receiving this have been incredible. I was able to connect with the other recipients and board members. We still stay in contact and lift one another up in prayer. While the Remembering Janet Scholarship relieved a heavy financial burden, it also brought me a community that will be with me and support me as I continue in ministry."



Mandi Ressler

2017 & 2018 recipient

Concordia University Ann Arbor



Hajin Jang

2018 recipient

Hope College

"I remember giving up. There weren't any scholarships for international students out there, especially for missionary kids. But through my professor, I was introduced to this opportunity—a small bright light/hope that shone for me amongst my worries! This scholarship helped me lessen the burden of tuition, allowed me to keep fighting on and study at Hope, and connected me to amazing people. I'm forever grateful to God and to the scholarship organization that a scholarship does exist for students like me struggling to finish my degree in the states!

Thank you and God bless!"

"The Remembering Janet Scholarship was absolutely vital to my time in college. It provided me with greater financial stability and freed me from taking more loans than I already had to. Even more than that, however, the Bixby Foundation provided me with a great community of prayer and support to help me along the way."



Joel Werner

2018 recipient

Concordia University Ann Arbor



Kiersten Garrett
2018 recipient
Hope College

"Thank you very much for investing in this scholarship program. I can't express just how meaningful this foundation is to me as a student. I am a first-generation college student and have to pay for my own education. With this being the case, your donation means that I am able to continue attending the college of my dreams and pursue higher education that might not have been possible otherwise. I am very grateful for you and for this foundation as I get to pursue my youth ministry minor and share the gospel with others. Thank you, again, for the financial sacrifice you've made to invest in me and my education."

"As a full-time college student, I am working three jobs in order to attend the school that I love, Hope College. Without the Remembering Janet scholarship, my goal would not have been achieved without large amounts of debt. You may look at the price tag of the school your recipients are at and wonder, 'Is this even making a difference?' From someone who is doing everything in their power to attend the school of her dreams, it makes a world of difference! I am able to pursue the call that God has placed on my life and know that I have people supporting me, which means more than anything!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! More than I can ever express!"



Lauren Kimes
2018 recipient
Hope College



Riley Weaver
2017 & 2018 recipient
Spring Arbor University

"Deciding to major in Camping Ministry at Spring Arbor University has been the best decision of my life. But when I first decided to go to college, my parents made it very clear that I was going to pay for it all by myself. Throughout the last two years, the Remembering Janet scholarship committee has provided me with financial stability and peace of mind. I am so thankful and grateful for this scholarship and all it has done for me. I have been able to bring people to Christ and show them His love without stressing about money. Therefore, this scholarship has impacted lives for Christ. Thank you so much for investing in my life."

“After three years of receiving your scholarship, I owe you a huge thank you. Yes, you gave me money, but you really gave me so much more than that. For me, this scholarship has represented hope in God’s plan and provision. It has been affirmation that I am where the Lord has asked me to be. It has been encouragement to keep going when I was certain I was coming up short. It has been a family which cares deeply for me as more than just a student, but as a child of God and a friend. Through the Pastor Janet Scholarship, I was able to leave behind commitments that were taking me away from what the Lord had asked of me. I was able to pursue, instead, the things He was calling me to. Thank you for being an answer to my prayers.”



Shyanne Fox

Formerly: Shyanne Savage
2016, 2017. **2018** recipient
Spring Arbor University

GRADUATES GIVE THANKS TOO:



Nora Gorman

Formerly: Nora Scahel
2017 recipient
Concordia University Ann Arbor

“I attended and recently graduated from Concordia University Ann Arbor with a degree in Family Life Ministry. This scholarship not only helped me complete my degree, but it enabled me to do so without taking out as much in student loans. Since completing my degree, I have gotten married and anticipate starting at Concordia Theological Seminary Fort Wayne for their Distance Deaconess Program. I am so grateful for being given the opportunity to apply and receive this scholarship, and I know that it will be a great blessing for many others in years to come. Christ’s blessings on all that you do.”

“God is moving in magnificent ways through the Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson Memorial Scholarship. Without the financial aid of this scholarship, I never would have been able to stay at Spring Arbor University and finish my degree. Spring Arbor is the place where I first heard about A Christian Ministry in the National Parks—the ministry I now work for. SAU is the place where I grew in the confidence that would allow me to make the move to Denver and the place where my story became forever combined with the legacy of Pastor Janet. Thank you for your generosity. You’ve invested in my life and ministry for the Lord.”



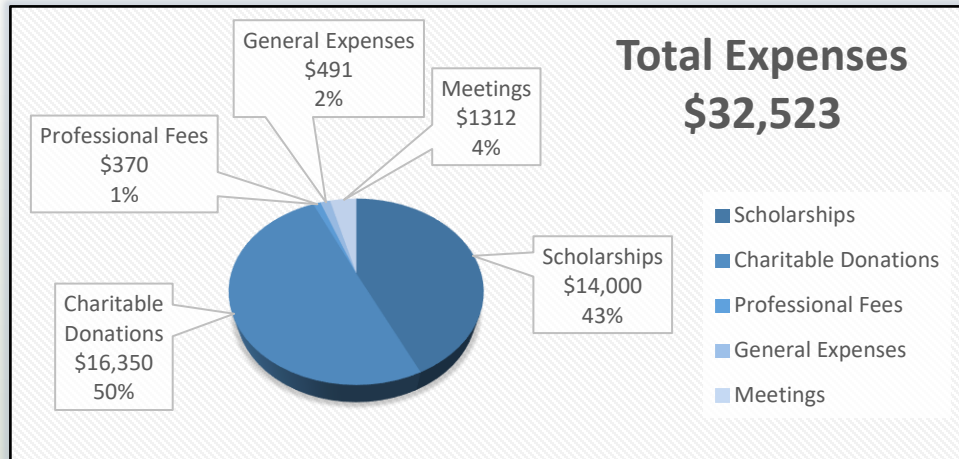
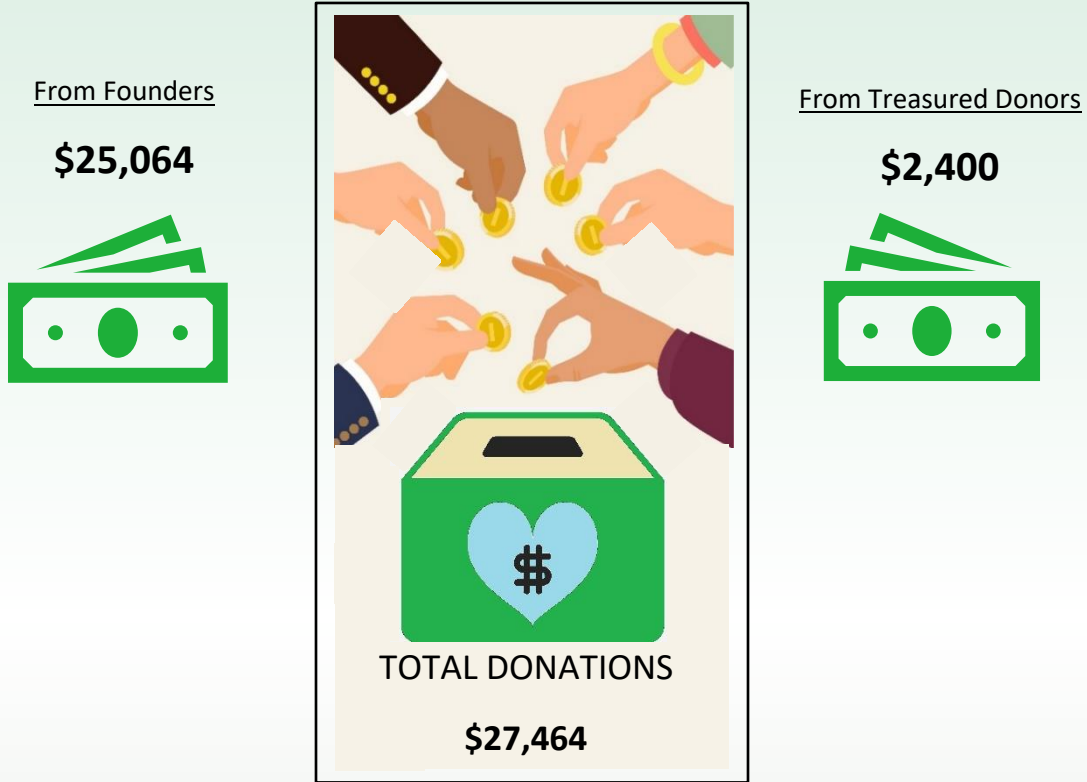
Quinn Colvin

2016 & 2017 recipient
Spring Arbor University

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2018

**100% OF YOUR DONATIONS ARE GIVEN AS SCHOLARSHIPS
TO CHRISTIAN MINISTRY STUDENTS**

Founders' contributions cover all other expenses. It's that simple.



Inspired by friends and other loved ones, we support a variety of charitable organizations. As you read through the following page, please know that Treasured Donors' funds were only used for scholarships to the seven carefully selected students, as listed. If you would like to support the additional charities we do, you may find further information online on their respective websites.

In 2018, we showered these favored organizations and students with love.

CHARITABLE GIVING*

AAA PRC \$800

Capuchin Soup Kitchen \$750

Cure Alzheimer's Fund \$250

Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries \$750

First Tee of Eastern Michigan \$500

Focus on the Family \$1,000

Gary Sinise Foundation \$750

Livonia Goodfellows, Inc. \$250

Mt. Hope Congregational Church \$8,500

Special Olympics Michigan \$250

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital \$500

Supply and Multiply \$200

Truth for Life \$500

Turning Pointe Autism Foundation \$250

University of Michigan-Dearborn \$1,000

Bill Lynn Prize in Fiction

Wounded Warrior Project \$100

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Amanda Ressler \$2,000

Hajin Jang \$2,000

Joel Werner \$2,000

Kiersten Garrett \$2,000

Lauren Kimes \$2,000

Riley Weaver \$2,000

Shyanne Fox \$2,000



*"For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also." Matt: 6:21*

*The Bixby Foundation's support of other charitable organizations is attributed to the financial contributions of its founders. All other donations made by all other donors to The Bixby Foundation, The Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson Memorial Scholarship, and Remembering Janet directly benefit Christian ministry students who are selected to receive a Pastor Janet Noble-Richardson Memorial Scholarship.

OUR SEVEN-MEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Greg Bixby



Greg feels blessed in faith, love, family, and career. Competitive, analytical, and a planner, he enjoys the outdoors, the water, and being active, playing golf and traveling with Kelly.

Katrina Bixby



Katrina is naturally artistic & enjoys just about any craft. She works as a customer support representative, lives with a recently rescued Greyhound, and would like us all to "Be excellent to one another."

Kelly Bixby



Devoted to Greg and family, Kelly is technically a stay-at-home mom who volunteers a lot at church and in her community. She's passionate about writing, is an aspiring author, & blogs at RememberingJanet.com.

"Guiding our thoughts and actions is our desire that God, first and foremost, finds our work pleasing and honorable to Him. We hope Janet would have been happy to be associated with our efforts too. Joyfully, we share our vision with and receive direction from people who care as much as we do."

Founding members: Greg, Katrina, Kelly

Linda Houghtby



"I love working with children at my church and at work."

Linda is a wife, mother, and paraprofessional working with special needs students. For sixteen years, she was blessed with Janet's friendship and love.

Tom Noble



"I'm the proud brother of Pastor Janet. My two sisters and I were born and raised in Pakistan, where our parents were missionaries between 1947 and 1975. I currently reside in Florida with my wife and two teenage kids.

I'm thankful to Kelly and Greg for the honor they have bestowed on my sister."

Margaret Ruppert



"I seek to serve my Lord and Savior each and every day."

Janet's sister, Margie, is a teacher who finds joy and passion in learning something new and sharing it with her students and anyone who will listen. She loves chocolate . . . doesn't everybody?

Rev. Steve Schafer



After a thirty-five-year pastorate in Livonia, Michigan, Rev. Steve Schafer is currently the interim pastor at First Congregational Church in Wayne. He is also the founder of and chief writer for TheEulogyWriters.com. He is married to Sue and they have two daughters, one grandson, and another grandchild on the way.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR TIME TOGETHER



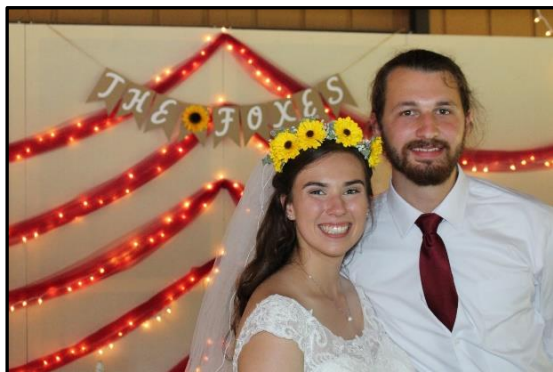
This past August, Greg and I were honored to attend the wedding of one of our scholarship winners, Shyanne Savage. The bride and her groom had chosen an outdoor venue on the grounds of [Michindoh](#) Conference Center, where the two had first met during their freshman year at Spring Arbor University. Greg and I didn't think we would know anyone else. But before the afternoon was over, we had the pleasure of connecting with many of Shyanne and Paul's guests. Among them were Riley Weaver—another scholarship winner from SAU; and a retired pastor and his wife who had invited us to sit with them during the reception.

If you've ever attended a party or celebration where you didn't know more than one person, you may understand the awkwardness that Greg and I initially felt. Before the ceremony began, the groom moved throughout the seating area to greet each guest. I was glad he did, because it was then obvious whom Shyanne would be marrying. But I wondered if Paul was attempting to weed out wedding crashers, which he could have had us pegged for.

It's just not common practice to invite strangers to an intimate gathering of family and friends. Paul wasn't familiar with Greg and me, who had come to know Shyanne through scholarship offerings, phone conversations, and shared meals. Since the day of the wedding and through other times spent together, I'm happy to say that Greg and I now know Paul and he knows us.



Shyanne was one of our first two scholarship winners. What a blessing it was to be with her on her wedding day.



Getting to know more people of faith is one of the most enjoyable experiences Greg and I have in running our foundation. When we gather together with our advisors, scholars, and other guests for lunch or dinner, there's a natural curiosity about one another and a feeling of friendship and peace that runs throughout our interactions. We ask lots of questions and answer several. By the time our meals are finished, we understand and like one another even more than we had before.



We had hoped that Riley would be a guest, as well, at Shyanne's wedding. And of course she was! The two had roomed together at Camp Michindoh. They're close friends.

THEY DEVOTED THEMSELVES TO THE APOSTLES' TEACHING AND TO FELLOWSHIP,
TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD AND TO PRAYER. ACTS 2:42

Pastor Janet modeled for us the behavior of one who lived to please the Lord. She used to annually open her home to our entire church family for food and fun. Certainly, it was crowded; but we felt welcomed and wanted. Through the years, moments together turned into fond memories. We learned to value the time spent with fellow believers and loved ones.

Greg and I like to sit at a table, surround ourselves with dear friends and family, pray, talk, relax, and of course: eat.



We make it a priority to meet with our scholarship winners for a congratulatory meal and celebration. Here we are at **Anna's Porch Café** in Jackson, Michigan with **Riley Weaver**, **Shyanne Fox**, and **Paul Fox**. One of our advisors, Rev. Dr. Steve Shafer, and his wife Sue were with us too, but sadly that photo didn't turn out very well.



Hajin's first Pixy Stix was on the house.

I didn't realize until after seeing these pictures of our Hope College recipients that a plaque on the wall lists the fruit of the Spirit, just like the landing page on our Remembering Janet website. Being at **Salt & Pepper** in Holland, MI was a good choice to treat **Lauren Kimes**, **Kiersten Garrett**, and **Hajin Jang** to lunch.



Paesano Restaurant in Ann Arbor was busy in the days before Christmas, and the scholars were focused on wrapping up their fall semesters. But the promise of good Italian food enticed us all. Pictured above, left to right, are Greg and me, bride-to-be, **Adele**, standing next to her fiancé, **Joel Werner**. On his other side is **Mandi Ressler**, who will be traveling to South Africa in 2020. And our nice picture includes **Sue** and **Steve Schafer** too.

Living Lives and Making Memories that Glorify God



Quinn spends time recruiting for A Christian Ministry in the National Parks . . . and we see one example of the intrinsic benefits that go along with working in the great outdoors.



First a graduation for Nora and then a wedding. She knew some of the plans God had in store for her. But He has more in mind for our lovely Deaconess-to-be.



Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, like men waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him.

Luke 12:35-36

To support Christian ministry students, please visit <https://rememberingjanet.com/donate/>