

Shannon Forest Christian School

2010-11 SFPC DEACON SERVANT AWARD APPLICATION

In the fall of 2009, the deacons of Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church (SFPC) set out to establish an award to recognize a rising junior or senior who will be attending Shannon Forest Christian School (SFCS). The award honors students for their Christ-like service to their school, church, family, and community around them. Christ-like or Christian service is the selfless giving of one's time, resources, and energy to help and benefit those around us with the hope that they, the beneficiaries, may praise our Father in heaven with us. The quantity of awards is a function of funding and the number of qualified applicants. It is the desire of the deacons to recognize at least one applicant each year; however, awards will not be granted to unqualified applicants.

Objective

The SFPC Deacon Servant Award supports the mission of the SFCS to empower students for passionate Christian service by:

- Encouraging academic excellence by supporting students who attend SFCS
- Preparing students for serving Christ now and in their future profession and career
- Providing financial assistance that promotes Christ-centered education
- Promoting education which integrates Christian character and a biblical worldview
- Recognizing students of excellence who represent the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the school as demonstrated by their Christian service to the world around them
- Providing Christian mentoring for the student during the school year of the award

The SFPC Deacons seek students who are prepared for the challenge of serving as outstanding ambassadors of Christian love and goodwill. If you receive a scholarship, you will be expected to participate in the following activities:

- Serve as a volunteer for SFCS activities
- Maintain full-time academic studies with diligence
- Be actively involved in a local Christian church
- Submit required updates to Deacons of SFPC describing your academic progress and activities

Sponsors

Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church provides all funds for the award. The SFPC deacons provide all administrative services needed and provide mentoring for recipients.

Value

The SFPC Deacon Servant Award is a \$2,000 scholarship for tuition assistance to attend SFCS. All funds are paid directly to SFCS. Half (\$1,000) is paid to the school for the fall term in August while the remaining half (\$1,000) is paid to the school for the spring term in January. In the event of the recipients withdrawal any scholarship shall be returned pro rata to the Deacon Scholarship Fund.

Eligibility

All applicants must:

- Be a confessed follower of Christ Jesus
- Be a rising junior or senior who will be attending at SFCS
- Be an active member of a local Christian church
- Express a heart, and present evidence of a desire for Christian service to the world around them
- Be willing to be mentored by a member of the SFPC deaconate, or in the case of a female recipient, by a female member of SFPC as appointed by the deaconate. The mentoring program will be developed in concert with the student, the student's guardian and the deaconate.

If for any reason a recipient fails to adhere to the above eligibility requirements, future funding distributions will be terminated.

Instructions

The application and additional information are available online at www.shannonforestministries.com. To receive an application by mail, please call the church office at (864) 678-5100. To apply for the SFPC Deacons Servant Award, applicants must complete the following:

1. **Application form**
2. **Declaration of Applicant and Photo Release form**
3. **Service Record forms**
 - a. Church
 - b. School
 - c. CommunityReport all service activities occurring from the summer after the freshman year.
4. **Letters of Reference**

Use the Request for Reference Letter forms in this application packet to request each of the letters of reference. Each letter should be returned to you in a sealed envelope from the author. Submit the letters of reference with your completed application packet. *Do not mail them separately.*

 - a. from your pastor or church leader
 - b. from a teacher or coach
 - c. from a supervisor at any place of community volunteer work
5. **Essay**

Please prepare the following documents with your name in the upper right-hand corner of each page. Each essay should be typed and double-spaced.

 - a. In 500 words or less describe your Christian experience. Please include:
 - Your acceptance of Christ
 - Life milestones where you have seen God's grace in your life (read Joshua 4 and reflect on the stone memorial)
 - Christian service activities and how they have shaped your character
 - b. Read the scripture passages from Mark 10:42-45 and Philippians 2:3-11. In 500 words or less, explain what this scripture passage means to you and how it affects your life. Share personal experiences of how loving others has helped to make you more Christ-like.
6. Mail or deliver completed application packet to:
SFPC Deacon Servant Award
Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church
830 Garlington Rd
Greenville, SC, 29615

This award will be reviewed annually for a Junior recipient.

Selection Process

All complete applications submitted by the deadline will be carefully reviewed by the SFPC Deaconate. Select applicants may be invited to an interview with representatives of the SFPC Deaconate. Interviews will be held in late April at Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church. The recipient(s) will be selected after a careful and considerable evaluation of each interview and all elements of each application. Award recipients will be notified no later than May 30. SFPC Deacon Servant Award recipients will also be honored and recognized before the congregation at a church gathering, date to be determined.

Deadline

Completed application packets, including all required documents must be post marked by March 17. There are no extensions or exceptions. Incomplete or late application packets will not be accepted. Submitted materials will not be returned. Applicant may confirm receipt of application packet by contacting the church office at (864) 678-5100.

Award Application

Applicant Information

(Please type or print all information)

Student Last Name

First Name

Home Street Address

City & State

Zip Code

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone or Alternate Phone Number

Male Female

Email Address

Date of Birth

Spring of
Anticipated Graduation

Academic Information

Name of High School

Years of Attendance

Street Address

City & State

Zip Code

School Phone Number

School Fax Number

Principle or Guidance Counselor Name
Address

Principle or Guidance Counselor Email

Guardian Information

Father (Guardian 1) Last Name

First Name

Home Street Address

City & State

Zip Code

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone or Alternate Phone Number

Mother (Guardian 2) Last Name

First Name

Home Street Address

City & State

Zip Code

Home Phone Number

Cell Phone or Alternate Phone Number

Declaration of Applicant and Photo Release

Student

I have read and understand the instructions and declare that all information provided is true and complete. I understand and agree that:

1. My personal information pertaining to my current admission status and future admission status may be exchanged by and between Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church and Shannon Forest Christian School; and
2. My personal information may be released and exchanged by and between Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church and any entity required to verify the information I have provided.

The undersigned student and legal guardian of student:

- Hereby grant permission to Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church and its agents or employees to use photographs, videos, interviews, and/or voice recordings taken of me for any and all promotional and informational materials such as brochures, newsletters, advertisements, magazines, and websites and to use such in electronic versions of the same publications and/or other electronic forms of media, without further notification to or consent from me.
- Authorize the use of my name, as well as my likeness and voice, with or without my name. This consent is given without expectation of compensation to me, and with the understanding that all photographs, videos, and recordings shall become the property of Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church. Student and Legal Guardian waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product.

I authorize Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church to release my name, application information, and photos/videos.

Student Signature

Guardian Signature

Printed Student Name

Printed Guardian Name

Date

Date

Request for Pastor/Church Leader Reference Letter

Dear _____,

I am applying for the Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church Deacon Servant Award. This award applies toward tuition at Shannon Forest Christian School. The primary criterion for this award is the demonstration of Christ in my everyday life through Christ-like service to my school, church, family, and community around me. I would greatly appreciate you taking a moment to compose a typed, one or two page letter of reference for me. In your letter, please include the following:

- the name of our church
- that I am active at this church
- the capacity in which you know me and for how long
- how I demonstrate Christ-like service to our church
- the number of hours per week/or month that I serve, if known
- any comments which you feel would be helpful to the awards committee
- your contact information

Please return your letter of recommendation to me in a sealed envelope with my name on the front. Please sign your name across the seal of the envelope. If you have any questions or comments, please go to www.shannonforestministries.com or contact Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church at (864) 678-5100 or info@shannonforest.com.

I am most grateful for your assistance.

Student Signature

Student Phone Number

Printed Student Name

Date

Student Street Address

City & State **Zip Code**

Request for Teacher/School Leader Reference Letter

Dear _____,

I am applying for the Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church Deacon Servant Award. This award applies toward tuition at Shannon Forest Christian School. The primary criterion for this award is the demonstration of Christ in my everyday life through Christ-like service to my school, church, family, and community around me. I would greatly appreciate you taking a moment to compose a typed, one or two page letter of reference for me. In your letter, please include the following:

- the name of our school
- that I am active in the school
- the capacity in which you know me and for how long
- how I demonstrate Christ-like service in our school
- the number of hours per week/or month that I serve, if known
- any comments which you feel would be helpful to the awards committee
- your contact information

Please return your letter of recommendation to me in a sealed envelope with my name on the front. Please sign your name across the seal of the envelope. If you have any questions or comments, please go to www.shannonforestministries.com or contact Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church at (864) 678-5100 or info@shannonforest.com.

I am most grateful for your assistance.

Student Signature

Student Phone Number

Printed Student Name

Date

Student Street Address

City & State **Zip Code**

Request for Community Service Reference Letter

Dear _____,

I am applying for the Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church Deacon Servant Award. This award applies toward tuition at Shannon Forest Christian School. The primary criterion for this award is the demonstration of Christ in my everyday life through Christ-like service to my school, church, family, and community around me. I would greatly appreciate you taking a moment to compose a typed, one or two page letter of reference for me. In your letter, please include the following:

- the name of our community organization or group
- that I am active in our community
- the capacity in which you know me and for how long
- how I demonstrate Christ-like service in our community
- the number of hours per week/or month that I serve, if known
- any comments which you feel would be helpful to the awards committee
- your contact information

Please return your letter of recommendation to me in a sealed envelope with my name on the front. Please sign your name across the seal of the envelope. If you have any questions or comments, please go to www.shannonforestministries.com or contact Shannon Forest Presbyterian Church at (864) 678-5100 or info@shannonforest.com.

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