



# Annual Christian Women's Retreat

[www.acwretreat.org](http://www.acwretreat.org) Email: [acwretreat@gmail.com](mailto:acwretreat@gmail.com)

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January 10, 2026

Dear Friends:

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

It is our pleasure once again to announce that the Annual Christian Women's Retreat will be offering a \$1,000 scholarship in 2025 to ladies who are part of the "Retreat Family". This is our way of encouraging our ladies to pursue higher education, which is so important in our world today, but also very expensive. The Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship may be used at any college; it is not limited to Bible colleges since we know that Christians are needed in every walk of life.

Additional information and an application for the Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship is enclosed (additional copies may be made). Please help us by making the ladies of your congregation aware of this scholarship and by having applications available for those who are interested.

Applications must be sent to: [acwretreat@gmail.com](mailto:acwretreat@gmail.com) with Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship in the subject line. **The deadline for the application is May 9th, 2026.**

We thank you for sharing with us in our ministry to women. We also give special thanks to those individuals and churches (ladies' groups, etc.) who contribute each year to this scholarship fund. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. If you are interested in supporting the MJW Scholarship please send checks to: ACWR Treasurer @4013 Wycliff Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23456 or Donate online at: [acwretreat.net/donate](http://acwretreat.net/donate). Please specify MJW scholarship in the Specific Purpose section.

Yours in Christ,

Charlene Jones  
ACWR Scholarship Committee

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## ACWR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FROM M. JANET WILSON MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND

**Sister Wilson** was an advocate for higher learning which started back to her life in Brooklyn, New York with the rearing of eight children. When she moved from New York to Pennsylvania her thirst continued, and it was there that she was introduced to the New Testament Church of Christ by the late Brother Roldo Cook.

Her newfound faith had her searching for other African Americans within the Christian Church/Church of Christ congregations. She was then directed to the work in Pittsburgh, PA at the Brushton Church of Christ where she meets Susie Jenkins (Doswell) who would later help start and lead the ACWR organization. Even then the desire continued for her to better equip herself to reach and teach others.

After much prayer she was encouraged by her husband, the late William Daniel Wilson Sr along with other family members and friends to enroll at the College of the Scriptures (COS) in Louisville, KY. God allowed her to earn her GED (General Education Diploma), Bachelors' Degree and then her Masters'.

In her years at COS, she travelled extensively raising funds and bringing awareness about the school by doing speaking engagements, VBS, and or women's retreats. To her dismay she discovered that African American women were not given the same opportunities to teach and speak. Out of this observation the idea of the Annual Christian Women's Retreat was born in 1979 which would give African American Christian women an opportunity to come together for fellowship, spiritual strengthening, and empowerment and to have a forum for training and education.

Sister Wilson worked diligently with the retreat alongside other women until she answered the call to foreign missions' full time. She did this from 1986 until her death in 2001. Her greatest joy came when she was teaching others of God's Word and His saving grace!

### The Legacy Continues

The first ACWR retreat was held in 1980 and has continued faithfully every year since its inception. Four years after the retreat was founded, an organizational structure was put into place to operate the retreat organization in an orderly fashion. Bylaws were established, officers elected, and positions were added as the retreat experienced growth. For the retreat to benefit women in many geographic locations, the retreat is held in various locations each year.

The first Mattie Janet Scholarship was given in 2008, and a total of eight scholarships have been given to date.

## Scholarship Fund

The Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship was established to provide educational scholarships and/or support services for deserving young ladies who are faithfully involved in the church community and seeking higher learning.

Scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded to assist with a portion of tuition and/or materials, books, or other financial need the student might incur to attend an institution of higher learning.

## Why Should I Contribute?

Sister Wilson was an advocate for higher education and believed that the world (secular community) should not be able to offer our Christian young ladies more than we, (the Church Community) could. She would encourage us to support them in their dreams and aspirations to obtain an education and be better stewards in every way.

- To see the message of God, go forth to reach all people - Matt 28:16-20
- To honor the memory of Sis. Janet Wilson and her commitment to education.

## How Can I Contribute?

- A one-time gift
- A monthly, quarterly, or annual contribution
- A gift in honor of Sister Wilson acknowledging her legacy.

Send checks to: ACWR Treasurer @4013 Wycliff Ct., Virginia Beach, VA 23456 or Donate online at: [acwretreat.net/donate](http://acwretreat.net/donate)

## Who Should Apply

The Annual Christian Women's Retreat (ACWR) offers a \$1,000 educational scholarship to a woman (any age) who is seeking higher learning beyond high school. The applicant must meet the following requirements and return the application form to the Scholarship Committee of the ACWR by the deadline established.

- 1) The recipient must be a member of the Christian community.
- 2) The recipient must have attended the Annual Christian Women's Retreat.
- 3) The recipient must have been accepted by an educational institution.
- 4) The recipient must commit to serving the retreat in some capacity for one year before or after graduation from college. The ACWR will determine the area of need – could be in area of ministry (music/dance; program help, etc.)
- 5) Recipient must be a racial minority.

An application for the Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship is enclosed (additional copies may be made).

**Applications must be sent to: [acwretreat@gmail.com](mailto:acwretreat@gmail.com) with Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship in the subject line. The deadline for the application is May 9th, 2026.**



**ACWR EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP**  
**FROM M. JANET WILSON MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND**  
**REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION**

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- 1) The recipient must be a member of the Christian community.
- 2) The recipient must have attended the Annual Christian Women's Retreat.
- 3) The recipient must have been accepted by an educational institution.
- 4) The recipient is encouraged to serve the retreat in some capacity for one year before or after graduation from college. The ACWR will determine the area of need – could be in area of ministry (music/dance; program help, etc.)
- 5) Recipient must be a racial minority.

**PLEASE SUBMIT A LETTER OF REFERENCE FROM TWO OR THREE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- Minister or Church Leader (Required)
- Teacher, Principal or Counselor (Required)
- Family Member
- Other (employer, friend, etc.)

**PLEASE WRITE A BRIEF ESSAY WITH A PARAGRAPH ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- How are you involved in your church/community?
- Why do you feel you should be considered for an ACWR Scholarship?
- Considering your career goal, how do you feel you can use your college education in your service of the Lord?

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PH#: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME CHURCH: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND: \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU BEEN ACCEPTED? [ ] yes [ ] no

CAREER GOAL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL APPLICATION TO: [acwretreat@gmail.com](mailto:acwretreat@gmail.com)**  
**with Mattie Janet Wilson Scholarship in the subject line.**