

St. Andrew's Awards Scholarship to Three College Students

By: Edwin N. Swaray

The Mattie Mae Nebo Abdullai Memorial Scholarship Foundation of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church awarded scholarships to three youths of the church on Sunday, August 19. Nadia Mitchell, Naomi Cargeor and Alban Cooke, each received \$1,000. The chairman of the scholarship committee, Bro. Tony Nwonye, said that \$500 was disbursed for the fall term and the second disbursement of \$500 will be disbursed for the spring term, as long as they continue to meet criteria as outlined in the scholarship guidelines.

Both Nadia and Naomi are sophomore students majoring in business administration and biology respectively at North Dakota State University. Alban is also a sophomore student majoring in IT at Mesabi Range College in Virginia, MN.

Naomi said that as a first generation college student, she is pleased that her home church was stepping in to alleviate the financial burden of attending college. Nadia said that she and her younger brother live in a single-parent home with their mother and the financial support will ease the burden on her mother.

Bro. Tony said the scholarship was launched on May 19, 2018, to provide financial support to the youths of the church and to help them continue on their spiritual path as they pursue their career goals. The aforementioned recipients are the first to benefit from the scholarship.

“We have seen our youths’ church attendance and participation consistently drop over the years as they head to college. Therefore, we are using the scholarship as a means for them to remain engaged in the church by being mentors to their younger brothers and sisters and by volunteering in the church whenever they are home for vacation.”

Bro. Tony said that the scholarship was named in honor of Sister Mattie Mae Nebo Abdullai, a parishioner who died in 2016.

“Sister Mattie Mae was a passionate advocate for education and a staunch member of St. Andrew's Youth Ministry and we are pleased to memorialize her with this scholarship” he added.

Bro. Tony said that the scholarship committee will continue to raise funds annually to help the youths of the church and to keep the legacy of Sister Mattie Mae alive.