Venita Needham established this ministerial scholarship in memory of her husband, Marion L. Needham, who went home to be with the Lord in May 2002, six weeks short of celebrating their 52nd wedding anniversary.

Marion grew up in the Princeton area of northern Idaho, attended Northwest Nazarene College (now university) for two years, served in the U.S. Marine Corp for a period of time, and then returned to NNC and graduated in 1956.

He served fourteen years as a pastor in the church of the Nazarene on the Rocky Mountain District and resigned as full-time pastor for health reasons. He continued to serve in many areas of the local church as well as a supply pastor on both the Rocky Mountain District and on the Northwest District after returning to his home district. He often laughed that he conducted more funerals and weddings during this time in his life than when he was a full-time pastor. After being away from Idaho for 40 years, Marion returned to help care for his elderly mother.

Marion was an avid Snoopy fan, liked western-style clothes, and enjoyed his radio-control airplane hobby. He had a terrific sense of humor and loved and related to people of all ages; but his passion was working with children and teens desiring to help them become established in a faithful, committed walk with the Lord.

It is Marion and Venita's desire to help enable worthy students with an education in the field of ministry. They struggled financially most of their lives and understand those pressures. God blessed them in recent years, and this scholarship is presented in thanks and honor to God along with a prayer that the recipient will continue to build the Kingdom of God through upholding the doctrine of holiness in the Church of the Nazarene.

**Criteria for the Award**

Recipients are to be students who are preparing for lives of service in ministry.

Recipients are to be students with a minimum GPA of 2.5 who meet the additional criteria of the Ministerial Scholarship Fund Program.

Financial need shall be a consideration in the awarding of this scholarship.

Nominations for this award are to be made through the School of Theology and Christian Ministries and the Office of Financial Aid.