Melody Clapp was a ministerial student from Casper, Wyoming who attended NNC 1975—1979. Melody was killed in a car accident during spring break of her senior year. This scholarship has been funded in her memory by family and friends. C. S. Cowles shares these thoughts and memories about Melody's time here on campus:

Melody was one of our teaching assistants in the department. I saw her daily and worked with her closely. She was also a student in several of my classes. At a time when women were not necessarily encouraged to pursue a preaching ministry, I believed that God would open up to her a large place of service, including preaching, in the Church of the Nazarene. She had served very effectively for two previous summers as a youth pastor in Montana and as an intern with Dr. Tom Nees in Washington, D.C. Furthermore, she had the gifts and the grace for preaching ministry.

Melody entered the Sanner Senior Sermon contest that I administered. Just before spring break, Melody burst into my office with the good news that her pastor back home had invited her to preach. It would be her very first sermon in a church from behind the pulpit. She was elated! Melody used the sermon she had submitted for the competition and preached to a full house. The parents, relatives, and people who had watched her grow up crowded the little church. All I heard were raves about her preaching. Early the next morning, the car in which she was riding back to NNC hit an antelope and rolled. Melody was killed. I was devastated, almost as if my own daughter had been taken.

Two weeks later, I received back the sermons for the contest from the seven judges. Imagine my surprise and delight when I saw that out of more than 30 entrants, Melody's sermon had tied for first place! She would have been one of the three finalists preaching in chapel, and I have no doubt that had she lived, she would have won.

Melody's text for that sermon was from Habakkuk 3:17-18. Though the fig tree should not blossom, and there be no fruit on the vines, though the yield of the olive should fail, and the fields produce no food, though the flock should be cut off from the fold, and there be no cattle in the stalls, yet I will exult in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.

Criteria for the Award

1. This scholarship is for students who participate in a summer ministry approved by the General Church of the Nazarene:
2. Funds are to be provided by earnings from the endowment fund.
3. Recommendations are to be made by the sponsors of the qualifying ministries.
4. The general requirements for full-time student status and a 2.00 minimum GPA apply.