

St. Andrew's Disburses Scholarship Funds to Youths
By Edwin N. Swaray

On Sunday, March 17, the Mattie-Mae Nebo Abdullai Scholarship Foundation of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church disbursed the second installment of scholarship funds to three youths of the church. Each of the recipients including Naomi Cargeor, Nadia Mitchell and Alban Cooke received \$500 for the spring 2019 semester. The recipients had previously received the initial amount of \$500 each for fall 2018.

The funds were received by the recipients' parents because they currently live on campus. Naomi and Nadia are both sophomore students at North Dakota State University studying psychology and business administration respectively. Alban is also a sophomore majoring in IT at Mesabi Range College in Virginia, MN.

During the ceremony, Nadia's mother Sohnma Greenfield said that as a single parent the scholarship means a lot to her. "Nadia had to move out of the dorm after freshman year and the scholarship helps to pay for off-campus expenses. This helps to alleviate some of my financial responsibilities."

Naomi's father Smith Cargeor said, "We are very grateful for the scholarship because we were able to purchase textbooks and other school accessories for our daughter."

Alban's mother Jackie Cooke said that the funds were received at a time when she was trying to find money to pay for his Macbook computer. "Receiving the check was a great help and relief," she said. Jackie added that Alban is expected to obtain his associate degree from Mesabi Range College in May 2019 and will transfer to the University of Minnesota in the fall.

The MMNASF was established in 2017 in honor of Sister Mattie-Mae Nebo Abdullai, a parishioner who died in 2016. The goal of the scholarship is to provide financial support to the youths of the church and to help them continue their spiritual path as they pursue their career goals. The aforementioned recipients are the first beneficiaries of the scholarship.

Bro. Tony Nwonye, chair of the scholarship committee said the 2019-2020 fundraiser is scheduled for July 13, 2019 and the goal is to raise \$5,000. "We want to expand scholarship opportunities to more youths of the church. The strong spiritual foundation we have built for our youths must also be supported by financial assistance as they pursue their career goals."

This year's fundraiser will be a raffle draw. Prizes will include a large flat screen TV, gift cards from Target, Cub Foods and restaurants. The event will also include silent auctions on a hotel suite for a two-night stay for a couple, art works and variety of African dishes prepared to feed 4-5 people.