



**The Kennedy kids**



**The Silbers**



**Jonah and his kids**

# Priest Child Education Fund

How to Donate? ***Click here, then hit the PayPal button***  
(Be Sure to choose Priest Child Education Fund from the drop down menu)

Checks can be made payable to The Christian Community in North America, memo line Education Fund. Send checks to:

*The Christian Community in North America*

*Attn: Melissa Kay  
906 Divisadero St.  
San Francisco, CA*

# THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

MOVEMENT FOR RELIGIOUS RENEWAL

November 2022

Dear North American congregations, dear friends,

As our country and the world work its way back into a state resembling normalcy, we remember to give thanks for the many blessings that we enjoy, and recognize anew that our well-being is very much connected to that of our fellow human beings throughout the world. The challenges of the past two years have shown us our resiliency and also the places where we need to grow. This is true across all of the congregations in our Region as well as the Seminary for North America which has continued to grow and prosper despite limitations due to health and safety requirements, travel restrictions etc. With the success of the Seminary and the influx of new priests, as a Region we are now actually posing the question, “Where will all of these new priests work once they are ordained?” This seemed unthinkable just a few years ago. The possibility for founding new communities while continuing to fully support the congregations that we have is real and immediate. The blessing of these new priests also brings the corresponding responsibility for our congregations to support them and their families. One aspect of that support is our Priest Child Education Fund.

### **Why do we need this fund in our region?**

Our priest families are supported through the freely given donations of their congregational members that cover the basics of housing, food, utilities, transportation, health care, etc. One key expense that is not typically included in the priest support is the cost of educating their children. A good education, particularly a Waldorf education, is expensive, often too expensive for our priest families, even if the priest’s partner works, and even if they receive financial aid from the school.

The education of our priests’ children is a movement issue, not a congregational one. We are all supported through the collective work of our priests and the health of any individual congregation is also tied to the health of the entire North American Region. Your current priest may be single, or without school age children, but that could change at any time. As you have no doubt at some point experienced, priests move. As the number of new priests grows and new communities potentially come into being, the need for this kind of support across the Region may also need to grow. So, this fund is critical to our movement’s future in North America.

### **How does the fund work?**

First, the priest’s congregation is asked for their help as part of the ongoing support of their priest; second, the priest’s family gathers as much as they can from their own resources; and finally, the Education Fund will supplement these resources, to the extent of the need and the funds available. Each link in the fundraising chain will only be expected to cover a portion of the overall tuition, with the Education Fund coming in at the end to hopefully fill any remaining need.

We realize that some of you individually and perhaps as a congregation may have been impacted financially by the pandemic. And yet many of you have continued to give generously to the Christian Community, and that support is greatly appreciated. In the past, some of our congregations through their local Boards have opted to donate to this Fund as a group, and of course, there has always been generous donations from individuals who have recognized the need and contributed as well. If you are able to do something more to help support our priests and their families so that they can continue to do their essential work in the world, please do so today. Without your generous support this fund cannot exist.

You may contribute to this fund [by going to the regional website and clicking the PAYPAL button](#) and choosing Priest Child Education Fund from the drop-down menu.

Our priests and their children thank you!

In deepest gratitude,  
Bruce Chamberlin, For the Regional Board