

Rev. Daniel Shin and Mrs. Youngkee Shin Scholarship



Rev. Daniel Shin and Mrs. Youngkee Shin have lived lives shaped by faith, cross-cultural experience, and a deep commitment to ministry. Both immigrated from Korea to Hawai'i at the age of sixteen, learning to navigate and integrate two cultures, languages, and worldviews. Their shared journey has given rise to a lifelong vocation of bridging generations, cultures, and communities through the Christian faith.

A graduate of the Claremont School of Theology, Rev. Shin served faithfully for more than 32 years in parish ministry. Throughout his vocation, he brought together diverse congregations across cultural and generational lines and emerged as a respected leader within the Korean American United Methodist Church, particularly in the area of transgenerational ministry. In recognition of his faithful service and enduring impact, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Claremont School of Theology in 2025. He retired from active parish ministry in 2020. In 2022, he was called to serve as Dean of Mongolian Trinity Bible College, where he continues his vocation by equipping and mentoring future pastoral leaders within a developing Mongolian Christian context.

Mrs. Shin has been an essential partner in ministry. With academic training in sociology and a Master's degree in Library Science, she brings thoughtful insight, organizational wisdom, and a deep understanding of community life. She has played a vital role in shaping ministry vision and strategy alongside her husband, with a particular passion for nurturing and guiding the emerging generation within the Korean American community. Together, Rev. and Mrs. Shin raised their three daughters within the caring community of Claremont School of Theology. There, their family experienced not only academic formation but also deep relationships, spiritual growth, and a profound sense of belonging. The Shin family continues to cherish many memories from those formative years on campus.

In gratitude for God's faithfulness and with a deep commitment to future generations, Rev. and Mrs. Shin have established this endowment fund. Its purpose is to support and develop emerging leaders—particularly those called to serve in cross-cultural and transgenerational ministry contexts. Through this investment, they seek to ensure that future leaders are equipped with the theological grounding, cultural awareness, and spiritual depth necessary to serve faithfully in an increasingly interconnected world.

Their prayer is that this endowment will bear fruit for generations to come—strengthening communities of faith and raising leaders who will carry forward the mission of the Church with wisdom, compassion, and vision.

