

## ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION

A generous donor has given a sum of money through American Baptist Churches USA to be used for programs that address “housing, feeding, education and health with regard to the less fortunate.” A panel will select recipients for grants of up to \$5,000 largely based on the degree to which the funds will be used to directly assist persons in poverty. Ministries must be in relationship with American Baptist Churches USA to be eligible to apply, and only one application per church or ministry will be considered per year. Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions.

1. General Information:

Organization Name: First Baptist Church of Olean, NY

Affiliation with ABCUSA: American Baptist Churches of New York State

Address : 133 S. Union Street, Olean, NY 14760

Phone: (716) 372-5151 c Federal Tax ID# EX – 130-180

Contact person: Pastor Dan McDowell email: bigbaldpastor@yahoo.com

2. Please submit with your application a copy of:

- Your mission statement
- A financial statement FOR THIS MINISTRY. This can be a budget or projected budget, and should not exceed 2 pages. Church budgets are not acceptable.

3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? (Please submit on separate sheet. Maximum of one page.)

4. Total cost of the project: \$4070

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$2500

6. Your other funding source(s): Congregational giving

I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct, and that we will use any granted funds as described. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a photo within six months of receipt of the grant.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_ Date May 20, 2014

Printed Name/Title Rev. Dan McDowell, Senior Pastor

**Please note:**

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline is March 1 for grants distributed on April 15; Sept. 1 for grants distributed on Oct. 15
- Completed applications should be sent via email to [beth.fogg@abc-usa.org](mailto:beth.fogg@abc-usa.org). Only electronic submissions will be accepted.

**Mission Statement:** “The mission of the First Baptist Church of Olean is to share the faith, hope and redeeming love of Jesus Christ with all people”



**Financial Statement:** The “We are His Hands Fund” was created to provide assistance to supplement that of the local food pantries and other ministry venues. Under the auspices of our Board of Christian Mission, this fund is implemented by the church staff (the Pastor and Secretary) and provides needy people in our community (who are first screened and “case worked” by the local homeless shelter) with food (and sometimes other things such as prescription drugs, gasoline and partial utility payments) that the local ministry venues cannot provide. We do this primarily through a food voucher arrangement with a local grocery store. These vouchers do not apply to alcohol, tobacco products or “junk food”. Arrangements for other assistance varies but cash is never given to any recipient.

Food vouchers are normally given out in \$25.00 increments. Our yearly budget currently for the We Are His Hands Fund is \$1570. We divide these funds into monthly dispersals (\$130 per month) and when funding runs out we turn people away for the remainder of that month (which almost always happens – often by mid-month). Occasionally we get a larger request for something like a bus ticket or a hotel room. We weigh these requests against the regular demand for food and make a judgment call. Often the local homeless shelter is full and cannot accommodate the referrals we send their way.

Given the rising cost of food and the rising number of requests for assistance our goal is to raise the food vouchers from \$25.00 to \$40.00 and to offer assistance to a greater number of people each month. Your grant would allow us to meet this goal. Thank you for your consideration!