

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 Trenton
Affiliation with ABCUSA ABCNJ member since 1805 _____
Address 128-140 Centre Street, Trenton NJ 08611-2215
Phone 609-393-8810 Federal Tax ID# 21-0644459
Contact person Rev. Elizabeth B. Congdon 609-954-1450 email lizcongdon@comcast.net

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.

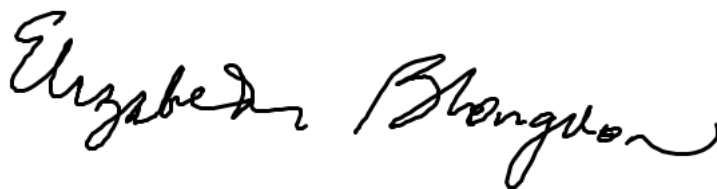
3. How do you plan to use the requested funds? How will the funds specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? (Please submit on separate sheet. Maximum of one page.)

4. Total cost of the project \$9,304

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5,000

6. Your other funding sources: FBC Trenton budget, Capital Association and other donations

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 2/27/14

Printed Name/Title Rev. Elizabeth B. Congdon, 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. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant Application Second Round

From the First Baptist Church of Trenton, NJ

This is how we plan to use the requested funds. The following describes how the funds will specifically assist individuals battling poverty and its effects.

The First Baptist Church of Trenton continues to provide translation and transportation services for poor, inner-city refugees from Burma. We are also concerned with literacy. This funding will support 1) two part time volunteer lay leaders in Trenton to translate and transport and help refugees navigate the complex housing, employment, health, pharmacy, school and social systems, and the costs of 2) *English as a Second Language* (ESL), and 3) tutoring for youth.

The needs are great. The translation and transportation helps refugees with job applications, food stamp applications, medical, dental, police and legal services, housing opportunities, parent teacher conferences, driver license tests, income tax preparation, and other social services. They help families learn where free resources are available for food, clothing, furniture, etc. And, they help transport people to work and, most importantly, to church. The translation and transportation team began in October, 2012. This funding will support ESL curricula, and stipends for tutors. Other (unpaid) volunteers provide the ESL instruction for youth which have been sustained for three years.

It was an exciting year for FBC Trenton! Two of our youth graduated from high school. Both had received tutoring. None of our students dropped out of school. This is a major accomplishment in Trenton where the high school graduation rate is only 47 percent. (It is 100 percent in Castle Rock, Lawrenceville, Princeton and West Windsor; all within a fifteen mile radius.) Two students are being tutored in SAT preparation; both are A students. Four of our students were recognized for scholarship by the Karen community at the Karen New Year celebration held at the ABCUSA Mission Center.

We continue to provide ESL, tutoring, Bible study and choir practice for our youth each Saturday during the school year. Volunteers serve each Saturday. The paid tutors meet with the students at other times during the week. Other funds supported retreats and ice skating and visits to the park for our youth. During spring break 47 youth attended a retreat held at the church. Last August *Central: Christ Centered Church of Ewing* helped us with an evening Kid's Camp where 116 attended. With *Central's* generosity we were able to provide backpacks filled with school supplies for each child. Four of our children received scholarships so they could spend a week at the Baptist Camp in Lebanon. Sixteen attended a Karen youth retreat in Virginia this past summer. The youth help with clean-up projects in the neighborhood and sing at various churches and also in the local nursing home. During 2013 six of our youth were baptized.

We serve dinner three nights a week at our soup kitchen. (In 2013 we served 11,238 meals.) The clothing closet is in use especially as the seasons change. The food pantry is available. The Praise Dance continues to minister. Free tax preparation is available for those earning less than \$50,000. We also served as a polling place. Twice monthly we offer a "poetry group" where youth can write and learn about presentation, and build confidence as well as improve grammar. This winter we began "Chess for Kids." Once again we took our youth to the Delaware Water Gap and they climbed a mountain to enjoy the fellowship and the foliage. The attached *Annual Report* includes additional information.

We appreciate your continuing support as we welcome the stranger and minister in Christ's name.

ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant Application Second Round
First Baptist Church of Trenton, NJ

Mission Statement

The mission of the First Baptist Church of Trenton is to be and make disciples in authentic community for the good of the world.

Financial Statement

	2013 Actual	2014 Request
Translators		
Stipend at \$15/hour	\$4,158	\$3,000
Travel expenses		
Tutors		
\$20 per hour for single student	\$4,350	\$1,700
\$25 per hour for group		
ESL curricula (student books)	\$ 253	
Honoraria for Karen and Karenni speakers	0	\$ 300
Lunch after am ESL tutoring and before pm Bible study	\$ 543	
Totals	\$9,304	\$5,000