

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 Springfield

Affiliation with ABCUSA: A Local ABC Congregation in ABC Central Pacific Coast

Address 1175 G Street, Springfield, Oregon 97477

Phone 541-746-6031 Federal Tax ID# 93-0504196

Contact person Jeffery L Savage email JLSav1957@gmail.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 \$5000

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$5000

6. Your other funding source(s) The FBCS Budget covers all staffing costs, and contributions by Individuals fund the current snacks and supplies.

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) Jeffery L Savage Date 2/26/15

Printed Name/Title Jeffery L. Savage, 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 Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org. Only electronic submissions will be accepted.



First Baptist Church Springfield (FBCS) is located directly across the street from Two Rivers-Dos Rios Elementary School (TRDR) in Springfield, Oregon. TRDR opened in 2012, following renovation of a former middle school to accommodate students grades K-5 from two former neighborhood schools that subsequently closed. This large school serves a distinct population of lower and lower-middle class, mixed English and Spanish speaking students. 53.6% of their student population lives below the poverty line, giving TRDR a higher rated of child poverty than 93.8% of U.S. neighborhoods. More than 90% of the students qualify for its free and reduced lunch program.

Next door to TRDR, Brattain House was established by the school district to offer some services to neighborhood residents. Children benefit greatly from its provision of used clothing, winter jackets, and backpacks and school supplies each Fall. Across the street and next to FBCS stands Catholic Community Services, which offers a food pantry and limited other services on-site, as well as financial aid for community residents with housing, utilities, and other needs. FBCS has collaborated for many years with the school, Brattain House, and Catholic Community Services to serve this neighborhood at its point of need.

When TRDR opened in fall, 2012, FBCS celebrated its staff by hosting a reception to officially welcome them to the neighborhood. Since then, we have assisted with small projects at the school, promoted literacy via volunteers who work weekly with individual students, and offered the CATS afterschool and summer Eco-Explorers program. FBCS funds these two programs.

Our CATS (Church Across The Street) initiative offers an afterschool program. Each year we adapt our foci depending on changes at TRDR. The school eliminated its art program in Fall 2014, and offers an after-school program focusing on science that serves children in grades 4 and 5. Last Spring, the district's Native Youth Center opened in TRDR. These circumstances are opportunities for CATS' stronger connection to the school, and its children and families.

CATS and our summer program, Eco-Explorers, are designed to serve children in a smaller and more intimate setting, where children are deeply known. Staff also relate daily and directly with their parents. We serve children (K-5) in an afterschool and summer program that has three main goals: 1) use cross-grade, interdisciplinary, theme-based curriculum; 2) extend and elaborate hands-on learning activities in social science/world cultural studies and the visual and performing arts; and (3) develop students' pro-social skills in a caring and protective environment. The CATS and Eco-Explorers programs are led by a retired teacher educator (unpaid), who guides paid adult and youth staff who in turn provide activities, support academic skills, and encourage and support the children who attend. The Eco-Explorers program focuses on exploring life science/habitats in the world, rather than in a classroom alone.

Our limitations are many-fold: 1) lack of adequate financial support; 2) handicapped by very limited access to on-line resources; 3) summer program, Eco-Explorers, lacks funds to travel outside the local area; 4) inadequate number of paid staff to assist in activities; 5) limited supplies for activities; and, 6) rely solely on donated snacks.

FBCS's outreach ministries have a passion for the students at TRDR. FBCS includes Christ honoring people who are on "The Way" to helping the vulnerable in our community. With this grant, it allows FBCS to continue to share God's love to our neighbors, the students at TRDR. Thank you for considering our request and possibly entering into partnership with us as we serve the neighbors in our community.

CATS Afterschool and Summer Program Mission Statement

Our mission is to offer activities for at-risk children to actively explore the natural and cultural landmarks of our community and the larger world, and express their learning through the visual and performing arts, technology, and service learning.

FBCS Mission Statement

As friends and followers of Jesus Christ, we are committed to:

Growing Our friendship with Christ and one another through worship, prayer, study, partnership, and service.

Reaching Out to others in our community with the living and joy-giving message of Christ.

Training Those in this congregation for ministry and leadership in the church and the world.



MATTHEW 25 GRANT BUDGET
CATS Community Initiative
First Baptist Church - Springfield, OR

\$2000	to purchase 5 android tablets for supervised teaching of technology skills and student-selected activities. We are handicapped by very limited access to on-line resources, as are children at TRDR. This prevents children from acquiring even rudimentary skills in researching information about cross-cultural topics and developing their own learning activities on those topics in the social studies and related art, music, dance, and games. This offers development of technology and research skills, as well as general knowledge of the world more readily available to high socioeconomic status children.
\$600	to purchase materials for various activities for students' active learning service projects. For example, purchasing a rain barrel for the church, installing an outdoor pond, creating a model labyrinth. Our focus is on projects that benefit the church and neighborhood in a permanent, environmentally friendly way.
\$1400	to cover Eco-Explorers Summer Program's travel expenses to expand our exploration of the natural world to include the lava fields, the Oregon coast, Crater Lake, and other memorable locales near enough but more costly to visit.
\$1000	to supplement the donated snacks and meals from FBCS folks, allowing the children to experience the snacks from a perspective of "abundance," rather than "scarcity." While continuing to accept donations for snacks and meals, we would supplement with purchases of fresh fruit, vegetables, and varied sources of fresh protein and dairy in the afterschool (\$400) and summer (\$600) programs. This will also enhance the cooking curriculum recently added to the program, which is designed to promote cross-cultural understanding and nutritional knowledge, while developing the ethic of service to others and teaching food preparation skills.
\$5000	Total Request for Matthew 25 Grant