

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 Trenton

Affiliation with ABCUSA Since 1805

Address 128-140 Centre St, Trenton, NJ 08611

Phone 609-393-8810 Federal Tax ID# **21-0644459**

Contact person Rev C Nadir Powell email nadirstop@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 \$5,285

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

6. Your other funding source(s) 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 2/10/15

Printed Name/Title -Reverend C Nadir Powell- 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.



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

Mission Statement

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

Financial Statement

2015 Proposed and Request

Translators

Travel expenses	\$ 560
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Tutors

\$20 per hour for single student	\$1,375
\$25 per hour for group	

ESL curricula (student books)	\$ 350
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Honoraria for Karen and Karenni speakers	\$500
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Lunch after am ESL tutoring	\$ 2,500
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Totals	\$5,285
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ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant Application Second Round

From the First Baptist Church of Trenton, NJ

The following will describes how the funds will assist our individuals who are battling poverty.

The First Baptist Church of Trenton continues to provide needed services for poor, inner-city refugees from Burma. We are also concerned with literacy. This funding will support our part time volunteer lay leaders in Trenton as they help our needy by translating language when needed. They help our refugees when they need translation for employment, health facilities or health issues, school, filling out applications of any sort such as 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. This funding will also support ESL curricula and stipends for tutors. Other (unpaid) volunteers provide the ESL instruction for youth which have been sustained for four years.

They also provide transportation for our refugees from Burma to these different sites. In addition the funding will help as we continue to teach (ESL) English as a Second Language to help empower our refugees as they seek to one day become whole and healthy citizens of the United States. We also provide tutoring for youth.

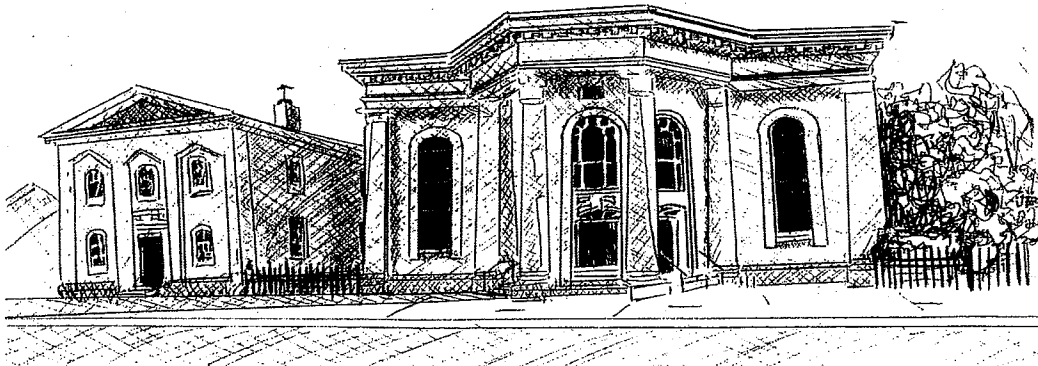
It was an exciting year for FBC Trenton! Some of our youth graduated from high school. Tutoring was a great part of their success. This is a major accomplishment in Trenton where the high school graduation rate is low. Furthermore, this is a great accomplishment because more of our refugees are seeking to go to college. This being the case, we are tutoring and preparing them for the SAT; Presently, one of our refugees through tutoring and mentoring has done well in high school where she has now been accepted to Eastern University. It's truly a blessing.

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 65 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 86 attended. With *Central's* generosity we were able to provide backpacks filled with school supplies for each child. Six of our children received monies so they could spend a week at the Baptist Camp in Lebanon. The youth help with clean-up projects in the neighborhood and sing at various churches and also in the local nursing home.

We serve dinner three nights a week at our soup kitchen. (In 2014 we served 11,350 meals.) The food pantry is available. The Praise Dance continues to minister. Free tax preparation is available for those earning less than \$58,000. 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.

The First Baptist Church
of the
City of Trenton



Trenton, New Jersey 08611

Our Ministers – Every Member of the Church

In the Sanctuary we are the Church gathered for study, fellowship and worship.

As we leave the Sanctuary, we are the Church scattered to

witness and serve the world.

Annual Report 2014

Travel the Road

No one knows what the future withholds
For it's still a story untold
Yet, we still press on as we travel its rocky road
Holding on to our faith as we go

There are times when the unexpected takes place
Events that seek to sabotage our faith
In those moments of not knowing our fate
We still must hold on to He who is Great

For we've experienced the ups and downs of life
But no matter what we at FBCT continue to fight
There were times when what we faced brought a feeling of strife
In those moments we still must hold on to the Most High

Always remember when the hailing winds of doubt begins to blow
Buckle up, press forward and hold on as you go
Keep the faith in God who is our Hope
That's what we'll do at FBCT as we travel the road

Written by

Reverend C Nadir Powell

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF THE CITY OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY

ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2015

2014 REPORTS OF

Officers, Boards and Groups

Pastor – Rev. C Nadir Powell

Minister/Youth - Emily Davis

Board of Deacons

Board of Trustees

Board of Christian Education

Superintendent and Sunday School Statistics

Church Clerk

Official Board

Choir

Financial Reports

Deacons Fund

Financial Secretary

Treasurer

Benevolence

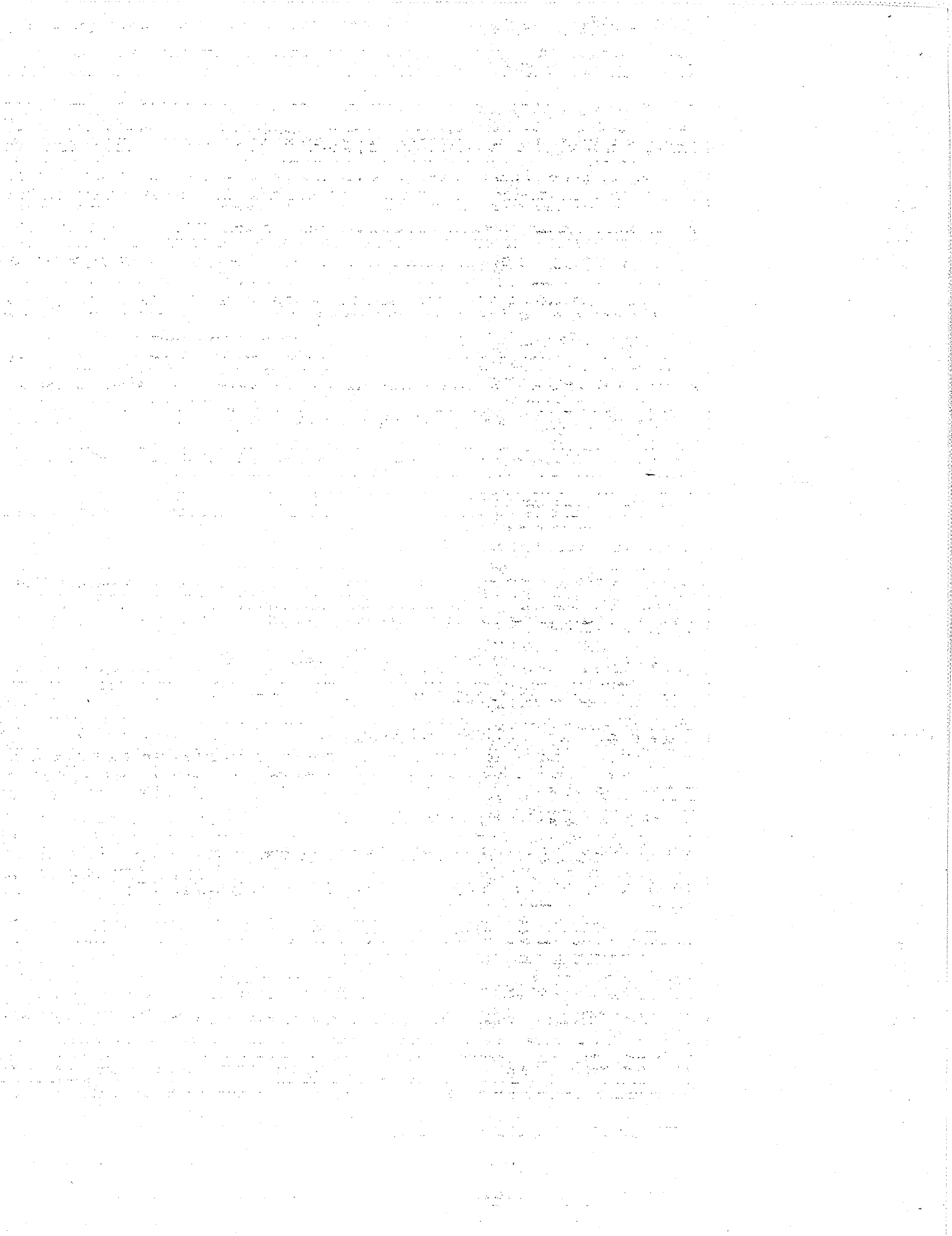
Reports Requiring Action

Ways and Means Committee

Proposed 2015 Church Budget

Proposed 2015 Benevolent Budget

Nominating Committee



2014 Annual Report from the Rev. C Nadir Powell, Pastor Interim

"Tend my sheep." John 21:16b

We are a diverse congregation with people from Uganda, Liberia, Nigeria, Jamaica, Haiti, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Burma/Myanmar and America! We serve dinner in our soup kitchen three evenings a week. Between 800 and 1000 meals were served each month during 2014 for a yearly total around 11,350. The food pantry serves at other times during the week. Free tax preparation is available for those earning less than \$50,000. We also served as a polling place.

In 2014 four (4) members joined: Emily and Tyler Davis; Saw Htu and Mikhine Htu on 12/28. We grieved the loss of long time member Clarence Landsparger, Helen Spiegel, and Par Reh. I along with Pastor Liz officiated Clarence's home going. I officiated Helen's home going. I also officiated member Philip Wilson's sister Victoria Wilson Cooper's memorial service. Member Linda Wea lost her beloved husband this year. We dedicated baby Brinton Marije Nwokomah on 6/15. Our congregation is blessed with fifty five (55) members. We have 53 Burma Karen families, (20) adults and (33) children from our Burma Karen and Karenni families. There's been a decline in membership because we have witness more than ten families moved out of state since 2013.

English as a Second Language (ESL) continued on Saturdays through January ending in May 2014 for summer break. The program restarted in the fall from October to December 2014. On a whole we averaged between 10-12 youth that participated in our (ESL) classes. We provided individual tutoring for students. Nick Travers and volunteers from the Bonner center from TCNJ teach ESL. Emily Davis supervises it. We are also helping two girls with SAT preparation so they will be prepared for college after high school.

Outreach continues at FBCT. We continued our poetry ministry to help empower youth in our community. We use poetry as a means to help give them confidence in themselves, but also to help them in their speech. Once their skills improved we gave a poetry/talent showcase on May 10 so they could share what they had learned. We partnered with Verses of the Soul and the Boys & Girl Club to put on this event. Our youth from FBCT participated and shared their talents as well. Our Karen dancers shared their cultural dance. Many came out to support this event. We had a sign/banner made to promote the church. In addition, we had promotion cards made to promote FBCT. We gave a church/community picnic/cookout on church grounds. We were blessed to have a few people from the community to come out. Our youth teamed up with CareTrenton to help cleanup Columbus Park in September.

Under the leadership of Rev Kang, sixty (60) youth attended a retreat held at church during Spring break. Rev Kang took (9) youth fall hiking. This past summer six (6) of our youth enjoyed a week at the Lebanon Baptist Camp in Lebanon, New Jersey. I coordinated a field trip for our youth with Leotyne Anglin of Beyond Expectations to go to Riverview Studios in Bordentown. Together Rev Kang and I took fourteen (14) youth to Riverview Studios to learn about Speed crewing. They learned how to use studio cameras. In addition they wrote and produced their own shows to be recorded at the studio. They had a great time and they learned so much about studio work. We also partnered with Next Generation

church November 22nd. Our youth joined them to pack food bags to give to the needy for Thanksgiving. They also provided praise music and song at the fellowship.

I met with Pastor Gilmore of *Central Christ Centered Church of Ewing* in order to partner for our VBS camp. I appointed Minister Emily Davis to be lead person. She attended meetings at Central to see how they ran their camp. We both managed the church during the nights of VBS camp. We were blessed to have 86 youth attending VBS in August. All the youth received backpacks and school supplies. We also partnered with Catholic Charities and gave away back packs and school supplies to refugees and those who were impoverished.

Thanks to Kharmia Powell and the Board of Christian Education, we have been able to provide *Chess for Kids*, ages 5 – 12. The class has been taught by Alexandra Jain and her son Nicholas. Mrs. Jain teaches beginning chess to young children at the Princeton Day School. Her son Nicholas and Bryce Powell assist in the classes. Both of these boys are rated US Chess Federation players and have participated in chess tournaments. This new chess club has been very popular and will continue to meet in 2015.

Kharmia Powell also leads our second hour that takes place during worship service. Second hour is a ministry that seeks to teach our youth about the bible. She shows them how to apply the word of God to their daily lives. Through her teachings, she is helping them to develop into disciples for the kingdom of God. She also uses our church handbook to teach them what it means to be a Baptist. They've had their own children church service where each of them had the opportunity to bring forth the word of God in their own way. We thank Kharmia Powell for serving as an instrument of God who seeks to empower and equip our youth for ministry.

We rejoice in having the 'Angels of God' Praise Dance group minister to us at "Hanging of the Greens." We thank Mrs. Kharmia Powell for making this happen. We had our annual Christmas dinner. In addition the Pluckermine Handbell choir blessed us with Christmas songs. We collected toys at our pre-Christmas dinner. We donated them to Crisis Ministry for the under privileged. We also hosted a Karen/ Karenni Christmas celebration on Christmas Day. It was truly a blessing. They touched my heart by providing me with gifts. At their celebration, I was able to give gifts to all of our youth provided by our donors Carl Stoltenberg and the Stoltenberg family.

It has been a year of transition because our Senior Pastor Elizabeth Congdon suffered severe injuries from a bad fall. In response to this unfortunate accident, the official board met and asks me if I could fulfill the $\frac{3}{4}$ time that Pastor Liz served. I agreed and they made me pastor interim. From March to the present, I've been serving $\frac{3}{4}$ time and it's truly been a blessing to lead such a loving people. Ministry is still going forward and we haven't missed a beat. We also give God the praise because Pastor Liz is now healed. However, after much prayer she decided to retire from the pastorate in August. She preached her retirement sermon in September and we gave her a retirement celebration in which she was overjoyed. All in all, the 2014 year still went well. We added Minister Emily Davis to our staff. She's done an excellent job. I had the pleasure of licensing her April 13. Emily assists in Sunday worship, teaches children Sunday school, preaches quarterly, work with our youth, and coordinates ESL.

Our Karen/Karenni continues to meet for service Sunday mornings. Time to time, they've had visitors that preached at their services time to time. They had a special service where Rev Lasing from Philadelphia Burmese Baptist Church preached. Reverend Lasing also fellowshiped with us at our general service on December 7th. Our Karen youth continues to bless us with music at our general service.

Most of the year, Rev. Kang met with our Karen/Karenni youth on Saturday afternoons. Furthermore, he led our prison ministry. Unfortunately, due to a family situation, he had to move out of state to help family. He is truly missed. I now head our prison ministry where I preach at Trenton State Prison once a month. I, also with the help of Minister Emily provide a worship service at *Hamilton Grove Care Facility* for senior citizens. Last year we continued our fellowship with joining *Sacred Heart* and other churches on Good Friday to participate in the walk of "The Way of the Cross".

My *teaching* included new member's class, mentoring our new minister, Sunday worship service, and counseling. I continue to speak in other churches. I served on an ABC ordination council. I also serve as a mentor for Joyce Kilmer School.

During 2014 I provided pastoral care for sixty (60) persons. This included home, hospital, long term care facilities visits, and care at the church.

Sunday school continues to meet. Teaching is provided by Abigail Amutah, Philip Wilson, Emily Davis, Tyler Davis, and Kamiyah.

Sunday worship continues under my leadership. Emily Davis shares in the service.

Christian Education, Trustees, and the Deacon Board continue to meet monthly.

Thanks to grants from the ABCNJ, I was able to help our two seminarians to get 2 separate scholarships a piece for continuing education from American Baptist Home Missions. We also received the Matthew 25 grant from ABCUSA. In addition, I was able to write a proposal for the Anti-Poverty grant which we received at the ABCNJ Annual Session 2014. Abigail Amutah, James Kang, and Philip Wilson were our voted delegates for the session. Capital Association blessed us with a donation. We also continue to receive endorsements from private donors. The donations that we've received helped us to provide help to our Karen and Karenni members.

I continue to serve on the steering committee board of the *United Mercer Interfaith Organization* (UMIO).

I serve on the advisory board at Joyce Kilmer School.

I'm a member of the Trenton Stakeholders.

I continue to work with Capital Association.

God has blessed us to continue our ministries. Again, it's been a year of many transitions, but all in all, the latter turn out better than the rest. Truly we are blessed at the First Baptist Church (FBC) of Trenton!

2014 Annual Report from Emily Davis

"God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good." Genesis 1:31a

God has truly blessed our community. It has been an amazing year of ministry. Many of us provided **leadership** and service, including our many youth who continue to take on more active roles in serving, singing, and leading worship. I provided leadership, preaching, and pastoral care throughout the year, especially during times when Rev. Powell was on vacation. I was **licensed to preach** by FBCT in April. **Pastor Liz's retirement** worship service and luncheon were held in September. Many people came out for a time of celebration and thanks for her five years of ministry at FBCT.

Throughout the spring, **children's Sunday school** was taught by Tyler Davis and me. In October and in Elizabeth Kang's absence, Tyler Davis, Kahmiya Htoo, and I joined together to teach both children's worship and Sunday school. The children were honored and received award certificates in the worship service in December.

There were many **youth fellowship events** and Christian education. In February, many of us went ice skating. Sixty-five people participated in a two-day youth retreat held at our church in June. Rev. Kang continued to teach youth Bible study through the summer. In July, I did Christian education with the female youth on the documentary *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide*. Nick Travers organized a youth field trip to go kayaking. Twenty-three of us participated. With Rev. Kang and Rev. Powell, the youth went to Riverview Studios in Bordentown to learn about the television industry. The youth went hiking with Rev. Kang in October, and we partnered with Next Generation Church to have a joint youth fellowship in November.

English as a second language, or **ESL**, for youth continued each Saturday from January to April and October to December. We had an average attendance of sixteen volunteer teachers and youth each Saturday. We had twenty-four students from the Bonner Foundation at The College of NJ volunteer through the fall. Our Karen/Karenni families prepared the lunches. A special thanks to Martha Hla, Jack Soe, and Mi Khine Htu for the delicious meals. Private tutors, Nick Travers and Brian Daly, continued to do **tutoring** with several of our youth. The youth practiced English and studied for the SAT. In June, we had two students graduate from high school. During the fall, I helped two students with college applications.

I led a **women's ministry** that ran through the fall and then was opened up to all adults. This ministry was based around the documentary *Half the Sky* about the oppression and opportunity of women. The final event included twelve people.

Many of us participated in **Karen/Karenni community** events. Many of us attended the Karen New Year celebration that was held at the ABCUSA Mission Center in Valley Forge in January. We continued to stay connected to those Karen/Karenni families who had moved away. Nick Travers and a group of youth attended the wedding of Sai Shwe and Saymo in Syracuse in October. The Karen/Karenni community coordinated regularly in worship and fellowship with Philadelphia Burmese Baptist Church.

We continued our partnership with Central Church in Ewing to put on **Kids Camp, or Vacation Bible School**, at our church in August. We worked closely with their camp directors in order to make Kids Camp at FBCT a success. There was an average attendance of eighty children and volunteers each night.

First Things, our **church newsletter**, continued to run each month with regularly contributed articles and announcements. Thanks to Alicia Johnson for developing the newsletter throughout the year.

We celebrated **Christmas** with our Hanging of the Greens event, a Christmas Eve service, and a Karen and Karenni celebration on Christmas morning. Hanging of the Greens included decorating, dinner, dancing from the Karenni youth and the Angels of God, and the Pluckemin Bell Choir. The Karen and Karenni celebration included worship, lunch, presents, and dancing.

We continued our **outreach** ministries. An outreach committee met through the spring, and the church picnic was held in June. We continued to lead worship and preach at the chapel service at Hamilton Grove Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center. Many of us, including the youth, continued to promote the church and the ministries.

Let us give thanks to God for a year of blessings in ministry. Let us continue to worship God as we continue to witness the ways that God has done and is doing good things.

Deacon's Report- 2014

Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God. For God is love (1 John 7:8). The most amazing thing about the deacons meetings this year is meeting with new prospective members. In 2014 the deacons met with four persons seeking membership in our church. They were Saw Htu, Mikhine Htu, Emily and Tyler. They later joined the church. Mrs. Emily Davis is serving as a minister of the church. On December 28, 2014 Abby made a motion, and second by Tom Johnson. All was in favor to extend their right hand of fellowship to Saw Htu and Mikhine Htu. The deacon's fund is managed by the deacon's board, we try to assist the members of our congregation in the time of their needs we also gave help occasionally to people outside of our immediate church family.

During the Christmas season, the deacons agreed, -to appeal to the congregation to send contributions to the Baptist home in South Jersey, to purchase gifts for those residents who could not afford it, we also send help to disaster victims at home and other parts of the world. This is our twelfth year working along with the Trenton area soup kitchen feeding program of South Trenton, we provide food and other assistance to our neighbors, who have fallen on hard times due to the current economic crisis, the members have also contributed food, clothing and personal items to those in need, in December we received new coats from the state coats drive and from other congregations that have given other needed items to help the growing needs of our community. This year our senior pastor. Ms. Elizabeth B. Congdon retired due to health reason, the members had a luncheon in her honor, and it was well attend by her family and friends. The associate pastor Calvin Nadir Powell is serving as our interim pastor.

For many years, the First Baptist women have always supported the ministry of the White Cross mission. By sending items to mission sites around the country and to other countries. The refugee ministry was once again identified as a White Cross mission site this year. Contributions were received from other congregations in New Jersey and from ABW ministries groups. ESL ministry with the Bible camp, and other refugee assistance will be greatly helped by these contributions, we would like to thank God and ABC for this very rich blessing. When our food pantry goes low or wiped out, it is replenished by several congregations in the capital association.

First Baptist still provided translation and transportation ministry to refugee families who needs help navigating to school and health programs. This is the fifth years of our ESL ministry, the ministry helps our high school students improve their English and math skills, our two seminary students assist, also, some members of our congregation and members from other congregations and ABC churches. In addition, we are assisted by students from the College of New Jersey and members of the Bonne program. The deacons usually send packages to our youth, attending college to remind them that, they are in our thoughts. At Christmas time and Easter, we the deacons try to visit members of our congregation, who are unable to attend church, due to health and old age. Flowers and cards are sent to them as a reminder that First Baptist Church still cares, and is praying for them. We had two seminary students last year with us. Emily and Tyler Davis, have brought fresh new ideas to our congregation it a privilege and joy to be part of their ministry training experience. Unfortunately, we had three death this year. Par Reh, Clarence Landsparger and Helen Spiegel. Clarence and Helen were long serving dedicated members. They will all be greatly missed. It has been a pleasure to have served this great congregation of First Baptist Church as your deacons, thank you.

Respectfully submitted by

Philip T. Wilson and Mary L. Mild

Co-chairs

Report of the Board of Trustees

The Board met regularly during the 2014 calendar year to handle the financial and real property concerns of the First Baptist Church. Insurance was kept up to date. Payroll and monthly bills were paid and reports on budget status were reported at each meeting. Any building concerns such as electrical work, roofing, plumbing and building security were handled by Jim Russo and also reported on a monthly basis to the board.

During the year there were several major items of maintenance or repair done on the building. Of note is the refurbishing of the main Sunday school room ceiling and carpet. The 2x4 tiles were replaced after painting of the grid work was done. This gave a fresh and bright appearance to the ceiling. While that was being done the ceiling fixtures were refurbished to make them more energy efficient and up to date. The final ceiling treatment was the installation of two large ceiling fans so that the air could be circulated and provide for a cooling breeze during summer months while giving the ability to bring some of the heat down in winter. The main SS room, Vanest hall, church offices and Landsparger lounge received new carpeting during the summer. This was a huge undertaking as so much needed to be moved in order to do each area. Thanks to the many volunteers who came out to help with that effort.

We mourned the loss of long time member and trustee Clarence Landsparger who passed on in 2014. His contributions to church life were tremendous and his tireless leadership of this board as member and chairman was exceptional.

The board wishes to again recognize Jim Russo for his tireless care of the facilities we call our church home.

Respectfully submitted by Thomas Johnson

Board Christian Education

The Board of Christian Education has met regularly on the first Sunday of each month to discuss curriculum, plan for Sunday school classes, recruit teachers and plan special events.

Sunday School Classes began in January with a 9:00 Children's Worship with Elisabeth Kang. In September Emily Davis took over the Children's Worship and Sunday school class with Kahmiya Htoo and Tyler Davis assisting. The class was held from 9:30 to 10:30. The adult Sunday school class was taught by Abigail Amutah and Philip Wilson. Kharmia Powell continues with a very well received 2nd hour program.

The Wednesday night poetry group is still active with Rev. Powell and Mrs. Butler coordinating. They met regularly every first and third Wednesday. In August Kids Camp with Central Christ of Ewing was a popular week of learning and fellowship. Five youth attended Camp Lebanon this year.

ESL classes were held every Saturday during the school year. There were 5 TCNJ Bonner scholarships students that came and helped in the ESL classes. Tutoring classes also took place on Saturdays. Thank you to all the people that work so hard to make this program possible.

Kharmia Powell continued the chess club for students and Alexandra Jain taught the classes. It is still very successful.

Other activities and programs for the year were:

Easter pot luck breakfast and egg hunt for the children after morning worship. A wonderful picnic and cookout in the backyard was enjoyed by many on June 21st. A purple banner was made to hang on the fence advertising worship service and help invite passerbies in the community to our service. There were a few clean up and work days on Saturdays to take care of the yard before the picnic and to clean out furniture before the new carpet was laid. Thanks again to all the faithful helpers.

Hanging of the Greens was held on Dec. 7th. The Karen and Karenni Fellowship purchased a beautiful tree and gold decorations for the sanctuary. A delicious pot luck dinner was enjoyed by everyone and the youth shared special dances for the occasion. After gifts were brought for children at Crisis Ministry the Pluckemin Bell Choir presented a joyous concert in the newly decorated sanctuary.

The Board of Education gives thanks for a successful year of Christian fellowship and study for both our youth and adults. As always, there is much enthusiasm and commitment.

Respectfully submitted: Carolyn Wood

Sunday School Superintendent Report

Sunday School classes met regularly each Sunday during the school year. All of our dedicated teachers and assistants have been faithful in their attendance and participation.

Averages for Sunday School attendance were 3 teachers, 5 adults, and 8 youth. The adult class had as many as 8 and as few as 2. The youth class had as many as 11 and as few as 3. The offering taken during that hour totaled \$438.51 which represents 41% of the cost of books, supplies, and other materials for 2014.

Respectfully submitted: Carolyn Wood

Membership Report 2014

On roll January 1, 2014	73
Added by Baptism	2
Mi-Khine Htu	
Saw-Tow Mua Htu	
Added by transfer of letter	2
Emily Davis	
Tyler Davis	
Passed on to Glory	3
Charles Sears	
Clarence Landsparger	
Helen Spiegel	
Transfer of membership	1
Eileen Kelty	
On roll Dec. 31, 2014	73
Abigail Amutah	
FBC - Clerk	

2014 - FBC Monthly Average Attendance

Adults (A) = 54, Youth (Y) = 11, Children (C) = 9

JANUARY (A=49) (Y=10) (C=7) TOTAL = 66

FEBRUARY (A=50) (Y=13) (C=8) TOTAL = 71

MARCH (A=58) (Y=11) (C=9) TOTAL = 78

APRIL (A=45) (Y=10) (C=9) TOTAL = 64

MAY (A=42) (Y=10) (C=7) TOTAL = 59

JUNE (A=47) (Y=21) (C=9) TOTAL = 77

JULY (A=26) (Y=7) (C=11) TOTAL = 44

AUGUST (A=33) (Y=7) (C=12) TOTAL = 52

SEPTEMBER (A=44) (Y=10) (C=9) TOTAL = 63

OCTOBER (A=45) (Y=10) (C=10) TOTAL = 65

NOVEMBER (A=40) (Y=9) (C=12) TOTAL = 61

DECEMBER (A=46) (Y=14) (C=9) TOTAL = 69

September 7th, 2014 we had total of 117 people

*****17 people attended the Christmas Eve Worship
Service*******

OFFICIAL BOARD by Mary Mild

The Official Board met several times this year. The Official Board examined the minutes of the 2014 annual meeting and approved the minutes as corrected.

In September, after the resignation of Pastor Liz, the O Board met and asked Rev. Powell to be our interim pastor. We also met with Emily Davis and asked her to assume the part time position previously held by Rev. Powell.

In early January the Board met to appoint a Search committee for the Senior Pastor position. We recommend to the congregation the following search committee:

Abigail Amutah
Martha Hla
Jeanne Johnson
Tom Johnson
Mary Mild
James Russo
Jack Soe
Philip Wilson
Lyn Wood

REPORT OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHOIR 2014

The First Baptist Choir rehearsed each Thursday evening and sang at the Sunday morning services under the direction of Jeanne Johnson, organist/director.

Special thanks are given to Clair Andreas who substituted at the organ during Jeanne's vacation and played for the Christmas Eve service.

We have enjoyed many forms of special music during Sunday services. The Karen Singers, under the direction of James Kang and Jack Soe, have continued to learn and sing selections each Sunday. The Karen guitarists, along with Christal Hla and Jack Soe, accompanied the songs. Both Christal and Precious Hla enthusiastically performed piano solos throughout the year which were greatly enjoyed by the congregation. Particularly inspirational are vocal solos by Martha Hla that are accompanied by her daughter. First Baptist Church is blessed to have so many talented youth in the congregation who are willing to contribute to the service through song.

Christmas music this year was enhanced by the Johnson/Aderhold children who brought their musical talents to the choir loft with a vocal selection. Christian, Alexander and Emma Johnson also shared a violin duet piece and a violin trio piece with the congregation. The choir thanks all for the work that went into preparing these special numbers.

It is always nice to start Sunday services with praise to the Lord. We thank Rev. Nadir Powell for the opening praise songs and the many solos that add a special touch to worship.

Finally, the choir would like to sincerely thank all in the congregation for the many ways in which they encourage and support the entire music program.

2014 - Report of the Deacon's Fund

Balance on Hand, January 1, 2013	\$2,018.90
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Receipts **\$2,138.99**

TOTAL	\$4,157.89
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Disbursements **\$2,472.71**

Balance on Hand, December 31, 2014 **\$1,685.18**

Respectfully Submitted

Abigail N. Amutah

Treasurer

REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL SECRETARY
12/31/14

OFFERINGS:

Church envelops	\$33703.22
Sunday School:	500.00
Plate Collections:	3016.00
Help:	962.00
Thanksgiving	100.00
Easter:	441.00
Christmas:	1035.00
Initial:	47.00

MISCELLANEOUS:

ESL/refugee:	8692.17
White Cross:	200.00
Koren Fellowship:	928.00
Chess Club:	150.00
Mercer Cty. Elections	400.00
Precious Scholarship	1952.00
Youth Fellowship:	200.00
Baptism:	<u>100.00</u>

TOTAL:	\$52426.39
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FIRST BAPTIST Final BGT Dec 2014

2014 BUDGET REPORT

LINE	DESCRIPTION	2014 PROPOSED	YEAR TO DATE
PERSONNEL			
A1	PASTORAL PACKAGE	41,600.00	42,500.00
A1A	ASSOCIATE PASTOR	16,175.00	22,244.00
A2	PROFESSIONAL EXPENSE REIM	3,800.00	647.88
A3	PULPIT SUPPLY	500.00	300.00
A4	SEXTON	7,500.00	4,204.50
A5	MUSIC DIRECTOR /ORGANIST	14,700.00	14,541.00
A6	CHURCH SECRETARY	14,600.00	5,574.39
A7	SOC SECURITY / MEDICARE	9,000.00	7,337.83
A8	SEMINARY STUDENTS	3,000.00	1,544.00
A9	STUDENT EXPENSE REIMBURSI	0.00	0.00
A10	CONVENTION EXPENSES	1,550.00	1,299.01
A11	CONTINUING EDUCATION	400.00	0.00
A12	MISC PROFESSIONAL EXP - PAS	300.00	0.00
A13	ESL PAYROLL	500.00	2,992.70
A14	BOOKKEEPER	2,800.00	1,955.00
A15	KAREN PAYROLL	500.00	862.50
	TOTAL PERSONNEL	116,925.00	106,002.81
BOARDS			
B	DIACONATE	250.00	0.00
C1	OFFICIAL BOARD -	100.00	0.00
C2		0.00	0.00
	TOTAL BOARDS	350.00	0.00
PROGRAMS			
D1	CE/CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAI	500.00	453.00
D2	CE/PROGRAM AND TEACHING	1,500.00	1,022.08
D3	CE/CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS	4,000.00	1,755.00
D4	CE/HANGING OF THE GREENS	1,000.00	662.97
D5	CE/BYF AND FAMILY MINST	2,000.00	2,071.52
D6	CE/V.B.S	800.00	0.00
D7	KAREN MISSION/ESL EXPENSES	0.00	1,843.81
D8	White Cross	0.00	0.00
	TOTAL PROGRAMS	9,800.00	7,808.38

FIRST BAPTIST 2014 BUDGET

FINAL

LINE	DESCRIPTION		
E1	MAINTENANCE	100,000.00	55,846.70
E2	ELECT,GAS.WATER.SEWER	20,000.00	18,996.48
E3	INSURANCE	17,000.00	9,901.00
E4	ADVERTISING	600.00	176.55
E5	MUSIC	500.00	133.02
E7	ORGAN MAINT	4,000.00	620.00
	TOTAL BUILDING & GROUNDS	142,100.00	85,673.75
SUPPLIES			
F1	CHURCH AND OFFICE	7,000.00	7,437.42
F2	SEXTON SUPPLIES	1,200.00	443.47
	TOTAL SUPPLIES	8,200.00	7,880.89
MISC			
			0.00
G1	MISCELLANEOUS	1,000.00	686.84
G2	IN/OUT	0.00	1570.00
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	1,000.00	2,256.84
	GRAND TOTAL	278,375.00	209,622.67

Report of the Benevolent Secretary

12/31/2014

Escrow:	\$1857.00	
Offerings: Church envelopes	4301.50	
Legacy:	3500.00	
America for Christ:	401.00	
World Mission:	42.00	
		<u>\$10301.50</u>

Disbursements:		
United Missions:	2900.00	
NJ Baptist Conference Ctr.	500.00	
Baptist Home South Jersey:	1000.00	
Mobile Meals:	800.00	
TASK:	200.00	
Habitat for Humanity:	200.00	
Boys & Girls Club:	200.00	
Interfaith Caregivers:	200.00	
BIM	200.00	
America for Christ	401.00	
World Mission	42.00	
Purchase checks & binder	158.50	
From Legacy:		
United Missions:	1000.00	
Lebanon Campaign:	1000.00	
Baptist Home Endowment Fund:	1000.00	
Cedars of Lebanon	500.00	<u>\$10301.50</u>

THE REPORT OF THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

The Ways and Means Committee met in January and reviewed the final budget of 2014.

Considerations were given to projected income and state of finances as anticipated for the 2015 calendar year.

Salaries were reviewed and acted upon as appropriate.

The Benevolence portion was reviewed with a note that it was difficult to meet the 2014 obligations. Special attention will be given to the four ABC-USA mission opportunities this coming year.

We respectfully submit the Budgets for the year 2015.

Committee Chair

Thomas J Johnson

FIRST BAPTIST 2015 PROPOSED BUDGET

TRENTON

LINE	DESCRIPTION	2015 PROPOSED
PERSONNEL		
A1	PASTORAL PACKAGE	45,000.00
A1A	ASSOCIATE PASTOR	16,175.00
A2	PROFESSIONAL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT	3,800.00
A3	PULPIT SUPPLY	500.00
A4	SEXTON	7,500.00
A5	MUSIC DIRECTOR /ORGANIST	15,100.00
A6	CHURCH SECRETARY	14,600.00
A7	SOC SECURITY / MEDICARE	8,100.00
A8	SEMINARY STUDENTS	1,500.00
A9	STUDENT EXPENSE REIMBURSE	100.00
A10	CONVENTION EXPENSES	3,600.00
A11	CONTINUING EDUCATION	400.00
A12	MISC PROFESSIONAL EXP - PASTOR USE	300.00
A13	ESL PAYROLL	3,000.00
A14	BOOKKEEPER	2,500.00
A15	Karen Payroll	500.00
	TOTAL PERSONNEL	122,675.00
BOARDS		
B	DIACONATE	250.00
C1	OFFICIAL BOARD -	500.00
	TOTAL BOARDS	750.00
PROGRAMS		
D1	CE/CHURCH LEADERSHIP TRAINING	1,000.00
D2	CE/PROGRAM AND TEACHING MATERIALS	2,000.00
D3	CE/CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS	2,500.00
D4	CE/HANGING OF THE GREENS	1,000.00
D5	CE/BYF AND FAMILY MINST	2,200.00
D6	CE/V.B.S	500.00
D7	KAREN MISSION/ESL EXPENSES	1,000.00
	TOTAL PROGRAMS	10,200.00

FIRST BAPTIST

2015 PROPOSED BUDGET

LINE	DESCRIPTION	
MAINTENANCE		
E1	MAINTENANCE	100,000.00
E2	ELECT,GAS.WATER.SEWER	20,000.00
E3	INSURANCE	14,000.00
E4	ADVERTISING	600.00
E5	MUSIC	500.00
E7	ORGAN MAINT	4,000.00
	TOTAL BUILDING & GROUNDS	139,100.00
SUPPLIES		
F1	CHURCH AND OFFICE	7,000.00
F2	SEXTON SUPPLIES	1,000.00
	TOTAL SUPPLIES	8,000.00
MISC		
G1	MISCELLANEOUS	1,000.00
G2	IN/OUT	0.00
	TOTAL MISCELLANEOUS	1,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL	281,725.00

**Proposed Benevolent Budget
2015**

United Missions:	\$ 900.00
N.J. Baptist Conference Ctr.	500.00
Baptist Home South Jersey:	1000.00
Mobile Meals:	800.00
TASK:	200.00
Habitat for Humanity:	200.00
Boys & Girls Club:	200.00
Interfaith Caregivers:	200.00
Crisis Ministries:	200.00
America for Christ:	
One Great Hour of Sharing:	
World Mission:	
MMBB:	
From Legacy:	
United Missions:	1000.00
Lebanon Campaign:	1000.00
Baptist Home Endowment Fund:	1000.00
Cedars of Lebanon:	<u>500.00</u>
Total	\$7700.00

REPORT OF THE 2014 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee presents the following nominations

CHURCH OFFICERS (1 YEAR TERM)

Church Clerk.....Abigail Amutah
Assistant Church Clerk.....Jeanne Johnson
Financial Secretary.....James Russo
Treasurer.....Thomas Johnson
Secretary Treasurer of Benevolence.....James Russo

BOARD OF DEACONS (3 YEAR TERM)

Nominations for term expiring Dec 2017

Richard Perto, Martin Wilson, Abigail Amutah, Alan Musoke, So-Tu-Mu, Mi Kie

Already Serving:

Term expiring December 2015

Minnie Juah, Philip Wilson,

Term expiring December 2016

Bella Nwokoma, Martha Hla , Linda Wea

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (3 YEAR TERM)

Nominations for term Expiring December 2017

Bella Nwokoma, Jim Russo

Already Serving:

Term Expiring December 2015

Jack Soe, Thomas Johnson

Term expiring December 2016

James Kang and Carolyn Wood

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (3 YEAR TERM)

Nominations for term Expiring December 2017

Richard Petro, Saynoh Wilson, Eh Eh Win, Mi-Kie, Linda Wea

Already Serving:

Term Expiring December 2015

Robyn Kay

Term expiring December 2016

Carolyn Wood, Joanne Collins

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE Members-at large (3 year term)

Nominations for:

Term expiring December 2016

Alan Musoke

Term expiring December 2017

Philip Wilson. So-To-Mu

Already Serving:

Term Expiring December 2015

Martha Hla

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Nomination for term expiring December 2016

Jeanne Johnson, Abigail Amutah

Already Serving:

Term expiring December 2015

Linda Weah, Jack Soe

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDANT

Carolyn Wood

Respectfully Submitted:

Abigail Amutah, Martha Hla, Philip Wilson
Nominating Committee