

ABCUSA MATTHEW 25 GRANT APPLICATION - 2018



A generous donor has given a sum of money through American Baptist Churches USA Office of the General Secretary, 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. Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that includes non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church for work being done directly by that church.

Only one application per church will be considered within a 24-month period.

Grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions, rainy day funds, church benevolent funds, regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance), repairs, or for capital improvements or repairs to facilities. Grant awards will be sent to the ABC church that is applying for the grant; checks will not be made payable to an individual or ministry.

Tab through the document to fill in all the fields below.

1. Applicant Information

Name of Church: First Baptist Church

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 307, South Berwick, Maine 03908

Phone: 207-384-6320

Federal Tax ID#: 106011829

Name of Region: American Baptist Churches of Maine

Contact person (person completing this form): Scott McPhedran

Email of contact person: swmcphebran@gmail.com

Does your church contribute to United Mission? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you previously been awarded an ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, have you submitted your report on the use of the funds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

2. What ministry or group will use these funds?

Church Council - community outreach

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Please include a very brief and specific statement on how the money will be spent. For example: to purchase school supplies for 100 elementary school children; to provide summer camp scholarships for 10 children from low-income families; purchase diapers and wipes for single mothers. You are encouraged to attach a longer description (no more than one page) of the ministry or project.

See Attached

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects? What impact do you hope to make on the target group or community?

See Attached

5. Total cost of the project: \$5000.00 Annually

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant: \$5000.00 to be used over two years

7. List other funding source(s): Community donations and support of Sister City Project; support of participating local churches in both communities.

8. Please submit along 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.

By submitting this application on behalf of (church name) First Baptist Church, I certify that all the information submitted with this application is true and correct. We agree to use and/or disburse any grant funds awarded for the sole purpose as described within this application. We will supply a 1-page report on the use of the funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant.

Application submitted by (name of person): Scott McPhedran (your name typed here is your electronic signature)

Date: August 28, 2018

Please note:

- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Recipients agree to share their stories via the ABCUSA website.
- Application deadline September 1. Grants will be distributed no later than October 15.
- Only electronic submissions of completed applications and supporting documents will be accepted. Completed applications should be sent via email to Tina.Turner@abc-usa.org.
- Please review the instructions that follow and initial at the bottom to indicate you have read this information.

Instructions and information for completing the 2018 ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant application

1. General information

Awards will be granted only to ministries of an American Baptist church in good standing with their Region. This is a change from previous grant cycles. We will no longer award grants to organizations affiliated with churches such as a cooperative group that include non-ABC churches; applications must be submitted by an ABC church in good standing.

When determining Grants awards, the following criteria will be considered: whether the church is in good standing within the region; whether the church contributes to United Mission; number of and amounts of previous Matthew 25 Grants received; sustainability of ministry beyond Matthew 25 Grant funding; description of ministry and needs addressed by funding; and the budget submitted along with this application.

Checks will be made payable to the church. Checks will not be made to an individual or ministry.

3. Specifically, how do you plan to use the requested funds?

Briefly describe what will be purchased with the grant funds if awarded. Be specific with the expected use of these funds. This should be a very short and specific statement on where the money will be spent, do not include a lengthy narrative of the ministry project.

You are encouraged to provide a longer description of the ministry but this additional information must be limited to no more than one page in length and submitted as an attachment.

Please note that grant funds may not be used to fund staff positions and salaries, for capital improvements to church facilities, to pay for regular ongoing church operating expenses (i.e. utilities, insurance) or repairs, or to maintain a "Rainy Day fund" or church benevolent fund.

4. How will the funds assist individuals battling poverty and its effects?

Describe how the Matthew 25 grant funds will benefit those less fortunate. What effect and impact do you hope to have on individuals battling poverty or the community you are hoping to serve?

5. Total cost of the project

List the total amount of this project or ministry need.

6. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant.

One application per church will be considered per 24 month period. The maximum amount awarded is \$5,000. If you have previously been a Matthew 25 grant recipient, you must have submitted a follow-up report in order to be eligible to reapply.

7. Your other funding source(s).

List all other sources providing funding for this ministry.

8. Please submit with your application a copy of:**- Your mission statement**

Include as an attachment a copy of the church or ministry's mission statement.

- A financial statement for this ministry

This budget or projected budget must include itemized expenses and income for the ministry applying for the Matthew 25 grant funding. Church budgets are not acceptable.

Other information and requirements

By submitting an application,

- You certify that all information submitted is true and correct;
- You agree to use and/or disburse any awarded grant funds for the sole purpose as described within this application;
- You agree to supply a one page report on the use of funds and a photo/photos within six months of receipt of the grant;
- You give ABCUSA permission to share your story via the ABCUSA website or newsletter;
- You give ABCUSA permission to use the photograph(s) submitted for printing and/or posting.

I have reviewed the instructions provided. (initial here) swm

Your typed name and initials are your electronic signatures on this document.

Explanation for Question 3:

The Matthew 25 Grant funds would be used to **defray some of our costs to present local church conferences in South Berwick, Maine and Tuskegee, Alabama.** Our intention is to present the concepts of Faith, Forgiveness and Reconciliation through our churches and for our communities over the next two years. Use of the funds would include **conference speakers, and exchange opportunities for church leaders.**

First Baptist Church of South Berwick, Maine is involved with a local, community initiative to develop Common Ground - a Sister City relationship with Tuskegee, Alabama. South Berwick, in its community discussions, is working to understand why race matters to a community that is approximately 97% white. It is now working in partnership with Tuskegee, a community that is approximately 96% black. Both communities are approximately the same in total population. We have already enjoyed some community exchanges through visiting delegations to and from each community and seek to continue building friendships and welcoming open discussions.

We have learned that faith is a part of our cultures – more so the South, than in the North. As the Pastor of First Baptist Church, we see that our churches (and denominations) have played historical roles as well. My discussions with pastors of both communities see that there is an important role that churches can play in teaching about faith, forgiveness and ultimately reconciliation. It is thought that this cultural growth is foundational to greater futures through positive, diverse interactions and relationships for our communities and our churches.

We hope to lead others in our faith communities in learning experiences as across the miles. Our hope is to offer conferences to promote Faith, Forgiveness and Reconciliation. We can build relationships, explore cultures as we teach these ideas.

As we seek to finalize our formats for interaction, we seek funding to provide the groundwork for learning as well as a forum that continues the conversations that have begun. We look forward to experiences that bring healing from that which has separated people for decades. The churches can be leaders in this movement.

Explanation for Question 4:

It is our hope that the influence of Churches can add to the relationships of people in both communities as we learn of the **historical practices that have affected the community of Tuskegee – and how that differs from the experiences of South Berwick.** Tuskegee offers a rich history leading up to the Civil Rights Movement. Tuskegee has struggled economically in recent decades and is attempting to rebuild for the future. South Berwick is learning and understanding (and teaching) history with relational examples and personal interactions with those who share rich experiences.

Mission Statement of the First Baptist Church of South Berwick:

- (Church Bylaws, Article 1, Section C) **Statement of Purpose:** We are members of the Body of Christ chosen through grace and confessing Jesus Christ to be our Lord and Savior. Guided by the Word and the Spirit, we are committed to being and making disciples through: glorifying God in Worship, believing and living, going and growing, sharing and caring as active witnesses of Christ throughout the world.
- **Mission:** "Together, Helping People Know, Live and Share the Good News."

Description of the Common Ground Project (from their Facebook page) The goal of the sister city project is to promote exchanges between two enthusiastic, proud communities - one in the north, one in the south; one predominantly Caucasian and one predominantly African American. The two communities are similar in size and both family-oriented. They both have proud histories. South Berwick is one of the oldest communities in Maine with a history in education and manufacturing. Tuskegee is widely known as the seat of the Civil Rights Movement and is the home of Tuskegee University and of the Tuskegee Airmen.

The mission of the project is "to afford the opportunity for the citizens of two communities, one predominately black and the other predominately white, to talk with each other, listen to each other and share with each other with the goal of broadening understanding between people."

A proclamation declaring local government support for these efforts was approved unanimously in early 2017 by both the Tuskegee City Council and the South Berwick Town Council.

Annual Conference Budget

First Baptist Church of South Berwick, Community Churches of South
Berwick and Tuskegee, AL

Keynote Speaker Honorium	\$ 1,500.00
Travel Stipend for Community Delegates	\$ 1,000.00

Other Expenses

Local Music / Talent	\$ 500.00
Local Arrangements ar	\$ 1,000.00
Local Advertising	\$ 500.00
Misc. Tech Support	\$ 500.00

TOTAL	\$ 5,000.00
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