

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 University Baptist Church Loaves and Fishes Ministry
Affiliation with ABCUSA Our congregation is a member of the Rochester/Genesee Region of the ABCUSA
Address 1219 University Avenue, SE
Minneapolis, MN 55414
Phone 612-331-1768 Federal Tax ID# 41-0693994
Contact person Rev. Doug Donley email Pastor@ubcmn.org

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 \$1,500.00

5. Amount being requested from the ABCUSA Matthew 25 Grant \$1,500.00

6. Your other funding source(s) University Baptist Church

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.

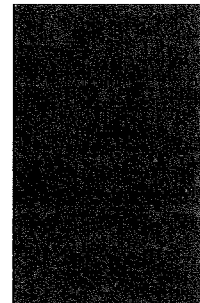
(Signed) _____

Date February 25, 2015

Printed Name/Title The Rev. Douglas M. Donley, 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.



University Baptist Church Loaves and Fishes Ministry
Minneapolis, MN

Thank you for considering our application for a Matthew 25 Grant. Our congregation has been active in a feeding ministry for the past twenty years. Every fifth Friday, 25 volunteers gather to purchase, cook, serve and clean up for a free meal for the homeless and hungry in the Minneapolis community. The feeding program is called Loaves and Fishes. Different churches and community groups take turns serving these dinners five nights per week. This fits right in with our mission statement as a congregation which is:

*To be a loving and inclusive community;
Seeking faith, joy, action;
Nurtured by the Biblical tradition,
The teachings of Christ,
And God's continuing revelation.*

This ministry is led by our congregation President, Steve Lee and takes place at St. Stephen's Church. All of the people who serve and cook the meals are volunteers. We have funded this through our church budget and donations. We know that over the years, people have put a lot of their own money into this project and have not asked for reimbursement. In a time when our budget is stretched, we are looking for better ways to fund this important ministry. Having this grant money will free us up to imagine different ministry opportunities. We were blessed to have received a \$1,000 Matthew 25 grant last year. It really helped making ends meet at our church and this ministry.

We do this ministry four to five times per year.

We have developed a fine menu that the guests really like. We serve a hot meal of chicken, corn, bread, fruit, coffee, juice and milk. In deference to health concerns, we stopped serving cookies this past year.

Here's a breakdown of our expenses for the January 30, 2015 Loaves & Fishes. The dollar amount fluctuates from time to time, but the mix of expenses is fairly stable.

| | |
|----------------------------|--------|
| Bread | 31.23 |
| Milk | 60.15 |
| Pears, corn, apple juice | 84.56 |
| Breadcrumbs, flour, butter | 60.58 |
| Chicken | 128.00 |
| Total | 364.52 |

At the University Baptist Church Loaves and Fishes Ministry, we serve a hot meal to everyone who shows up. Our long run average number of guests served is 234, over the past three years that has dipped to 193. On occasion we have served over 350 meals. If we have leftovers, people get seconds and can take some food to go.

While this program does not necessarily do anything to change systemic poverty, it does provide a hot nutritious meal for hungry people without judgment. We know that it is the only meal of the day for some of our guests. Having a full belly makes it possible for guests to have the ability to find a job or relieve the stress in their lives which accompanies poverty. This fits in with the command of Jesus, "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink." (Matthew 25:35)

Thank you very much for your consideration.