

LEGACY GRANT FUND

The purpose of these funds shall be to support the vision of ABCOPAD in the following three areas:

1. To build up and strengthen healthy congregations and lay leadership by:
 - updating constitutions and bylaws
 - technology training
 - stewardship training
 - identification and training in becoming a vital congregation
 - experiential and theological encounters for the missional church
 - training for Deacons, Trustees, Mission Board members, etc.
 - training in writing church position descriptions and assistance in handling background checks for those who work with children, youth and/or finances
 - congregational training in supporting a pastor, spiritually, emotionally and in ministry
 - contextual evangelism training

2. To build up and encourage pastoral leadership:
 - support participation and commitment to the Ministers Council and their activities
 - training and promoting mentoring and being mentored
 - personal finance planning
 - working through with church conflict
 - worship seminars and training
 - interim ministry
 - health of the pastor on all levels; defining our ministries
 - preaching seminars and training

3. To build up and strengthen relationships with the wider ABC family:
 - a current approach to associational life in the 21st century
 - identify positive benefits of denominational, regional and associational ties (calling an American Baptist minister)
 - training in digital formats
 - accessibility for continuing education experiences (webinar experiences)
 - connect persons and churches who are operating successful programs with persons and churches who are looking for new avenues of ministry and/or ending programs that are no longer working

Two requirements are in place for any church submitting a grant application.

- 1) Requesting churches **must** have supported the PARTNERS IN MINISTRY OFFERING in both last year and plan on supporting this year.
- 2) Requesting churches **must** also have submitted the COOPERATING CHURCH ANNUAL REPORT for the previous year.