



Alyce Peiffer
United Thank Offering Coordinator
Diocese of Central Pennsylvania
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UTO website: <http://www.episcopalchurch.org/page/united-thank-offering>

United Thank Offering dates to remember

Applications Available for UTO grants: Late fall (November) 2015

Suggested Spring Ingathering – Sunday following Ascension Day – May 17, 2015

Suggested Fall Ingathering – the Sunday closest to All Saints Day – November 1, 2015

Remittance to Diocese to be included in 2015 Granting – Deadline December 1, 2015

March 6, 2015

Dear Friends of United Thank Offering:

2015 is going to be a very special year..... For our Diocese we will have the selection of a new Bishop. For UTO a celebration of 125 years of service and the opportunity to meet together on a national level at Triennial in Salt Lake City, Utah in late June/early July. I will represent you at Triennial and will share more information about my experience with you in the fall. Meanwhile check the website: www.ecwnational.org for more information about UTO and our parent organization ECW.

NOW is the time to begin promoting donations to UTO. Our ingatherings provide a designated time to gather the funds from our little Blue Boxes, but in our hectic lives, it is easy to forget to drop coins in the little box sitting on our table or counter. It is good to remind the members of our congregations to drop something in their little Blue Box when they feel especially blessed or thankful for God's ever loving care. "Did someone do something nice for you today?" "Did you hear from an old friend recently?" "Did someone shovel your sidewalk just to be nice?" "Did you see the first signs of spring today maybe a new green shoot or the first daffodil?" So many things in our lives are an opportunity to thank our Lord for His many blessings. As an outward sign of our thankfulness dropping coins in our Blue Boxes becomes an excellent way to share your faith with your family; especially children.

Put a little notice in your church Newsletter and/or Sunday Bulletins to remind everyone to give to their little Blue Box. Host a coffee hour using a blue theme. Be creative in how you encourage your congregation to say, "THANKS". If you would like a visit from me, please feel free to contact me. I have a short Power Point talk on UTO and sometimes hearing the message from a new face can make a difference. Don't wait until May 17th to talk about UTO.

Make all ingathering checks payable to: Diocese of Central Pennsylvania/UTO and send them to me: Mrs. Alyce D. Peiffer, Diocesan UTO Coordinator 63 E. Crestlyn Drive, York, PA 17402

All contributions and investment income earned on them are made available as grants. None of these funds are used for any other purpose.

Ordering Materials: If you need additional materials (envelopes, boxes, etc.) the quickest way to obtain them is via the UTO website: <http://episcopalmarketplace.org/Products/United-Thank-Offering> or by calling 1-866-937-2772. I do have a supply of UTO boxes available for a donation for shipping since ordering a small number of boxes isn't cost effective from National. I will also have a supply of items with me at Diocesan Convention in the fall. The UTO website (www.uto2014wordpress.com) also offers many other resources for spreading the UTO message and showing the impact of our combined giving in the lives of those less fortunate.

PLAN Ahead to submit an application for a 2016 UTO Grant. The actual time line to submit a grant is very tight; about 6 weeks. So there is sufficient time to gather the necessary paperwork I recommend beginning the process of gathering information in the early fall. Looking at the application for the 2015 grant at www.uto2014wordprocess.com provides "working" guidelines for the advance preparation for 2016. Only one application for a 2015 grant was submitted and that was by St. Luke's in Altoona. Grant recipients will be announced at Triennial this summer and we are hopeful our grant application will be one of those selected. In 2014, \$1,525,407.78 was awarded to 40 grant recipients. Every penny from the monies from the 2013 offering was given back in grants, and this tradition continues with all the money raised from our Little Blue Boxes.



UNITED THANK OFFERING – SPRING INGATHERING

Make checks payable to: "Diocese of Central Pennsylvania/UTO
Mail to: Alyce Peiffer utocentralpa@gmail.com
63 E Crestlyn Dr. 717-515-2768
York, PA 17402

Date: _____ Grand Total \$ _____

Parish _____

Address _____

UTO Coordinator _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Comments:

PLEASE provide a name, address, phone number and if possible an e-mail address. I am trying to build a complete file on the **Parish UTO Coordinators** in our Diocese. By sharing an e-mail address we can save the cost of postage for future communicationsThanks, Alyce