

UTO awards grants to 36 dioceses

— *Board prepares for Offering's 125th anniversary*

The United Thank Offering Board has had a busy granting year. In June, 48 grants were awarded for a total of \$1,525,407.78 for the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Church and the Anglican Communion. These grants were awarded to projects in 36 domestic and overseas dioceses. Known worldwide as UTO, the United Thank Offering grants are awarded for projects that address human needs and help alleviate poverty, both domestically and internationally.

A total of 83 grant applications were received and reviewed by the United Thank Offering Grants Committee. The 48 grants which met the criteria were then read and rated by each of the

board members. The grants ranged from \$2,500 to the Diocese of Iowa to \$124,750 to the Diocese of California and their companion diocese, Malawi.

Nine grants, totaling nearly \$330,000, were awarded in Province IV. The following dioceses received grants: East Carolina, Companion Dominican

Republic; Florida; Florida, Companion Cuba; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi; Mississippi, Companion, Panama; Southeast Florida, Companion Haiti; Upper South Carolina, Companion, Haiti.

In honor of the 125th Anniversary of the United Thank Offering, the UTO Board is Offering ten special Bishops' Grants of \$12,500 each. One grant will be awarded to a diocese in each of the nine provinces, and to the Presiding Bishop for a worthy recipient of her choice. The board read each grant received from the provinces and based on the individual rating, the grants will be awarded. The timeline for the grants is as follows: October 23 the Executive Council approves grants; October 27th the grants will be announced and checks sent to recipients; May 1st the final reports and photographs due; June 2015, grant recipients presented at General Convention.

Continuing the celebration of the 125th anniversary of its ministry as a part of The Episcopal Church, the UTO Board has created a special \$1,250 grant for Young Adults as part of this celebration. Each diocesan bishop is being asked to select one application for submission per diocese. Of those submitted, one



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of the diocesan grants will be chosen per province for a total of nine (9) grants. Each awardee will receive \$1,250 to carry out their ministry.

The timeline for the grants is as follows: December 1, Young Adults Grant application posted online; February 15, deadline the grants have to be submitted; May 8 grant recipients will be notified; June 2015 the three top-ranked grant recipients will be brought to Triennial and honored at the UTO dinner. This coming Triennial/General Convention should be very exciting with much to celebrate.

We really appreciate every Episcopalian in the pew and their thankful coins. Please continue your Spring and Fall Ingatherings, as without the change from every Blue Box there would be no money to give in grants. I am challenging every church to give 25 percent more in this fall/spring Ingathering than last year, and for the churches that did not participate last year to give \$125 in Ingathering donations. Remember our logo "Our Change Changes Lives"! Thank you.

**— Marcie Cherau, Prov. IV Representative
and Vice President, United Thank Offering Board**