

UNITED THANK OFFERING



2026: Giving Thanks and Giving Back

WEEK ONE: Give Thanks for Learning

This week we will:

1. Use summer camp as a way to give thanks for places and ways we learn
2. Hear the story of Solomon praying for wisdom and receiving a blessing
3. Learn about Black Horse Ranch in the Diocese of South Dakota
4. Make backpack tags for school



canva.link/wk1-uto

WEEK TWO: Give Thanks for Healing

This week we will:

1. Give thanks for doctors and all those who help us heal
2. Hear the story of healing and the faith of those who asked for help
3. Learn about Ras Morbat Eye Clinic in the Province of Cyprus and the Gulf
4. Make worry stones and a friend to help us when we are afraid



canva.link/wk2-uto

WEEK THREE: Give Thanks for Water

This week we will:

1. give thanks for access to clean, fresh water
2. Hear the story of Jesus' baptism
3. Learn about a water project in the Province of Southern Africa
4. Decorate Baptismal Shells as a reminder to give thanks for water and baptism



canva.link/wk3-uto

WEEK FOUR:

Give Thanks for Food

This week we will:

1. Give thanks for all of our favorite (and not so favorite) foods
2. Hear the story of Jesus feeding the 5,000
3. Learn about a grant to give access to food to those in need
4. Make bread together and think about the Eucharist



canva.link/wk4-uto

WEEK FIVE:

Give Thanks for Church

This week we will:

1. Give thanks for all of the ways we love our church community
2. Hear a letter from Timothy about the church
3. Learn about a UTO grant site that is making church accessible to others
4. Help the adults at your church practice gratitude in a new way



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Use the QR Codes to Access the Presentations for each week
and then use the "notes" section for the lesson plan in the presentation.

UNITED THANK OFFERING



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WEEK ONE: Supply List for Optional Craft:

This week we will make Backpack Tags:

1. luggage tags
2. markers
3. Color Your Own Blue Boxes
4. Sissors



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WEEK TWO: Supply List for Optional Craft:

This week we will make worry stones:

1. 2 rocks per student
2. acrylic markers
3. googly eyes



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WEEK THREE: Supply List for Optional Craft:

This week we will decorate Baptismal Shells:

1. one shell per student
2. a variety of paper napkins
3. modge podge
4. old paint brushes
5. gold or silver paint (optional)



canva.link/wk3-uto

WEEK FOUR: Supply List for Optional Craft:

This week we will bake bread:

1. English Muffin recipe and supplies
2. Griddle for cooking muffins
3. A batch of pre-made dough to cook
4. Optional: cream, salt, small containers to make butter



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WEEK FIVE: Supply List for Optional Craft:

This week we will make a special UTO display for our congregation:

Note: this week, we're encouraging you to get creative and make a display about UTO for your congregation to share what you've learned or take on a gratitude practice where the children can lead the adults in sharing what they are grateful for.



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Use the QR Codes to Access the Directions for Each Week

UNITED THANK OFFERING



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WEEK ONE: More About the Grant Site:

The Cheyenne River Episcopal Mission @ Black Horse Ranch (Šungšapa Othi) offers community Equine Programs for the whole family all year long.

We can be reached at:
Black Horse Ranch: Revs. Kurt & Ellen Huber
16450 Tower Hill Road 552
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

cheyennerivermission@gmail.com

For donations via Pay Pal: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=MUXRS5KYZS9VW

WEEK TWO: More About the Grant Site:

Ras Morbat Eye Clinic is a ministry of the Anglican Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf and is located in Yemen. They have a fantastic website you can visit here:

<https://rasmorbatclinic.org/>

Perhaps the best page to learn more about this important work is here:

<https://rasmorbatclinic.org/history/>

WEEK THREE: More About the Grant Site:

Thakabanna School, Butha-Buthe, Lesotho is a primary school run by the Anglican Diocese of Lesotho. Prior to receiving a UTO grant, the school relied on rainwater collection to supply the needs of the students, staff, and teachers. Now, the school is able to support their community having access to clean water. Additionally, the school now teaches agricultural practices and water conservation.

WEEK FOUR: More About the Grant Site:

St. John's Episcopal Church and Lynchburg Grows are working together to grow food to feed their community, with an emphasis on justice, parishioners will work alongside people with disabilities in growing, cooking, and selling/giving away the food they grow. This collaborative effort will impact the community through food, connection, and time spent together. www.lynchburggrows.org

UNITED THANK OFFERING



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WEEK FIVE:

More About the Grant Site:

Our Spanish speaking churches in the Merrimack Valley in Massachusetts have begun La Colaborativa, a project that is designed to help our churches thrive together as they share resources and confront the same challenges. The Collaborativa came out of our realization that our churches have so many needs in common. We all have a need for consistent culturally and linguistically competent leadership, pastoral care and sacramental presence. We also could benefit from shared resources including trainings to develop lay leadership, and a shared support network in the face of the immigration crisis as well as the economic challenges our congregations are facing, being in poor, working class and immigrant communities. We also share a commitment to being Latinos Epsicopales; churches that fully own both their Latino spiritual traditions and their identity as Episcopalians who strive to be welcoming and inclusive of all, especially those who have been made to feel unwelcome in the church traditions they grew up in.

At this time the most helpful way to support our ministry would be through our Diocese's Immigrant Legal Emergency Fund. This fund has helped many families directly affected by the immigration crisis and it is in dire need of funds. You can make your donation here, and be sure to check the box specifying that it is going to the Immigrant Legal Emergency Fund: <https://www.iatspayments.com/saaura/PA23CD72F566BC524E>

thank you!

We hope you've enjoyed our Fall 2026 Faith Formation Series on UTO grant sites. We hope you'll consider our Vacation Bible Camp materials for at your congregation.

You can learn more at <https://unitedthankoffering.com/vbs/>

**Year One: Waves of Gratitude:
focusing on water and Baptism**

**Year Two: (Coming winter 2026) Gratitude Rocks:
focusing on Geology and the Eucharist**