

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH  welcomes you

2nd Week of September, 2017



UTO, One Penny at a Time

by the Rev. Canon Heather L. Melton, Staff Officer for the United Thank Offering

This week I wanted to share some math with you from one of our UTO coordinators. There are roughly 2 million Episcopalians in the United States alone. If every American Episcopalian put one penny in a UTO Blue Box every day, there would be more than \$7 million to grant each year. It adds up fast if we all contribute, and I bet we all have something each day we can give thanks for.

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Dear People of God in the Episcopal Church

from the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings, President of the House of Deputies of the Episcopal Church

I love a good party, so I'm glad to have an excuse to throw one on September 24 when the Episcopal Church celebrates the 165th birthday of Julia Chester Emery, the founder of the United Thank Offering.

Miss Julia, as she was called, is one of my favorite Episcopal saints. She led the Women's Auxiliary of the Board of Missions for forty years—that is a very long time to hold a job—and she was unstinting in her devotion to the church's mission. In 1889, she founded the United Thank Offering, and today we still fill blue boxes with coins to mark our gratitude for God's gifts. Miss Julia was so devoted to her work that, when a priest proposed marriage to her, she refused because she knew that she would be expected to give up her work. Among the things for which I am most grateful is that women in today's church are not forced to choose between ministry and family.



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A Little More About Julia Chester Emery

by Elizabeth Campbell, Province VI Representative to the UTO Board

We ask you to join us in celebrating the 165th birthday of Julia Chester Emery this fall. She was born September 24, 1852 in Dorchester, Massachusetts, and died January 9, 1922, in New York City. Julia served 40 years as secretary of the Woman's Auxiliary to the Board of Missions of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society (the legal name of our Episcopal Church). Surrounded and supported by family, friends, and clergy, she was one of the beloved early leaders and role models of laywomen in the Church. In 1997, Julia Chester Emery was honored by the entire Church and is now remembered in the Liturgical Calendar on January 9.

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Young Adult and Seminarian Grant Applications Now Available

by Caitlyn Darnell, UTO Grant Committee Chair for Young Adult and Seminarian Grants

On September 1, the UTO Board released the Grant Focus and Criteria for the 2018 Young Adult and Seminarian Grant application process. We hope you'll share this information with your network!

The UTO Board will continue to award up to 10 grants of \$2,500 each to young adults and up to 10 grants of \$2,500 each to seminarians regardless of age. The purpose of these grants is to provide start-up money for new projects. There is a separate application form for young adults and seminarians, but the deadlines, criteria, and focus are the same.

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