



Lent 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>For every item I have on this list, I commit to placing:</p> <p>In my UTO Blue Box.</p>		<p>Mar 6 Ash Wednesday Give thanks today for the journey of Lent.</p>	<p>7 Spain # of times you exercise per week</p>	<p>8 Kenya # of water faucets in your house</p>	<p>9 EMM # of non-"American" restaurants in your town (eg. Mexican, Hungarian, Italian)</p>	<p>10 1st Sunday of Lent Give thanks today for the ways your church community has blessed you.</p>
<p>11 Arizona # of houses you've lived in as an adult</p>	<p>12 Connecticut # of camps/retreats you've attended in your lifetime</p>	<p>13 Convocation of Churches in Europe # of cabinets in your kitchen</p>	<p>14 Alaska # of jobs you've held</p>	<p>15 Dallas # of refrigerators and/or freezers in your home</p>	<p>16 El Camino Real # of bridges in your town</p>	<p>17 2nd Sunday of Lent Give thanks today for the ways your home blesses you.</p>
<p>18 Idaho # of schools in your town</p>	<p>19 Iowa # of faith groups in your town</p>	<p>20 Iowa COMP # of rooms in your house</p>	<p>21 Lexington # of cleaning products in your house</p>	<p>22 Louisiana # of performances (theater, concerts) you've attended in the last 6 months</p>	<p>23 Maryland # of locks on your house</p>	<p>24 3rd Sunday of Lent Give thanks today for the ways your family bless you.</p>
<p>25 Massachusetts COMP Tanga # of people who can fit around your table</p>	<p>26 Newark # of years you attended school</p>	<p>27 North Carolina # of Christian churches in your town</p>	<p>28 ND COMP SD # of vehicles you own</p>	<p>29 Northern MI # of podcasts or radio stations you listen to</p>	<p>30 Rhode Island # of lights in your house</p>	<p>31 4th Sunday of Lent Give thanks today for the ways your friends bless you</p>
<p>April 1 Rochester COMP Costa Rica # of appliances in your kitchen</p>	<p>2 South Dakota # of books you own in your native language</p>	<p>3 Southern Ohio # of outreach ministries you support</p>	<p>4 SWVA # of community centers in your town (library, town hall, aquatic center)</p>	<p>5 SW FL # of varieties of vegetables in your fridge</p>	<p>6 Upper SC # of young people in your life</p>	<p>7 5th Sunday of Lent Give thanks today for the meaningful work you have in your life.</p>
<p>8 Utah # of pairs of shoes you own</p>	<p>9 Virginia # of bathrooms in your house</p>	<p>10 Southern Ohio # of loved ones who have died in the last year & give thanks for the ways their life blessed yours</p>	<p>11 New York # of friends who attend a different church than yours</p>	<p>12 Virginia # of times you've gone to church this year</p>	<p>13 Vermont # of peace poles or parks in your town</p>	<p>14 Palm Sunday Give thanks today for your life, and your journey.</p>
<p>15 W.NC # of National Parks you've visited in the last five years</p>	<p>16 Haiti # of garden beds or pots in your yard</p>	<p>17 Central Florida # of people you'll invite to church on Easter</p>	<p>18 Maundy Thursday Louisiana # of faith formation groups at your church</p>	<p>19 Good Friday Navajoland # of tables in your house</p>	<p>20 Tamale, Ghana # of musical instruments or speakers in your house</p>	<p>21 Easter Day</p>

2019 United Thank Offering (UTO) Lenten Devotional Calendar

Welcome!

Welcome to our second year of the UTO Lenten Devotional Calendar! This calendar will help introduce you to the recipients of the 2018 UTO Grants and 2018 Young Adult and Seminarian Grants. This year, some of the items for you to count have expanded out to include your town. We hope that this will be a fun internet search or scavenger hunt to help you get to know your community better. Just like last year, we invite you to prayerfully consider how much you will donate for each item that you have counted in your house or in your community. It is like making a pledge for each mile walked in a fundraiser. Consider giving a dime or dollar for each item, and write this amount at the top of the calendar. Beginning on the day after Ash Wednesday, you are invited daily to read about one 2018 UTO grant site and maybe go explore its webpage to learn more. Then, you are asked to look around your house or community to count the specified items, which relate to the request being met by that day's grant. (In 2018, we gave more grants than there are days in Lent, so unfortunately, we are not able to feature all of the grant sites.) After you've counted, you can write the number on the calendar to make one thank offering at the end of Lent, or simply place the number of coins (or dollars) you committed to into your Blue Box. On Ash Wednesday and on Sundays, we simply invite you to consider an

area of your life and reflect on how it blesses you. We hope you see this as a weekly reminder of the blessing of hope found when our community gathers together to celebrate the Eucharist to remember the promises of our faith.

I hope you enjoy this Lenten Devotional opportunity. Please let me know that you've used it and feel free to share ideas you might have to help deepen our spiritual discipline of gratitude during Lent.

Wishing you all the best for a Holy and Sacred Lent,
The Rev. Canon Heather L. Melton
Staff Officer, the United Thank Offering of The Episcopal Church

Helpful Links:

If you need to order UTO materials, please visit shima-of-navajoland.myshopify.com/collections/united-thank-offering

To learn more about the United Thank Offering, please visit episcopalchurch.org/uto.

2019 UTO Lenten Devotional Grant Sites by Date with Website Links

Thursday, March 7, 2019

Spain

Jonathan Myrick Daniels Center

\$90,000

This project will purchase a building in Reus, Spain to house a center for young refugees. The Jonathan Myrick Daniels Center will meet the growing needs of young refugees entering Spain by providing shelter and support from the church through hospitality, language skills, job training, and sport.

anglicancentresantiago.org

Friday, March 8, 2019

Kenya, Diocese of Southern Nyanza

Provision of Water Tanks for Improved Health

\$30,000

The project is aiming to improve the capital base of the Women and Youth Micro-Finance Trust Foundation, an initiative of the Southern Nyanza Diocese to loan water tanks, on a revolving basis, for harvesting, treating, storing, and dispensing water to at least 4,500 starved people who often suffer from preventable waterborne diseases.

Saturday, March 9, 2019

Episcopal Migration Ministries

Presiding Bishop's Award: Partners in Welcome

\$62,000

Expanding beyond its public-private partnership in refugee resettlement, Episcopal Migration Ministries (EMM) is creating the Partners in Welcome program, a network that supports congregations, dioceses, and organizations as they welcome and seek right relationship with their immigrant and refugee neighbors. This grant will provide for staffing and equipment to launch this program.

episcopalchurch.org/emm

Monday, March 11, 2019

Alaska

Companion with Navajoland

Practicing the Way of Love in Navajoland

\$20,000

This project will fund a new full-time position to create stability within and expand the scope of a growing ministry within the diocese. This position will be "practicing the way of love" by helping create economic opportunities for more Navajo and by introducing Navajo culture to more people outside of the Four Corners Region.

ecofnavajoland.org

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Arizona

Bridges Reentry

\$26,000

Our project will provide long-term, rent-free housing; addiction recovery; emotional and spiritual healing; and economic sustainability for formerly incarcerated women. As a Sister Organization of Magdalene House of Thistle Farms, we will develop a safe housing community based on its successful models.

prison.azdiocese.org/Programs/beyond-the-gates

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Connecticut

Bridging the Racial Divide

\$7,000

Saint James Episcopal Church of New London will hold Community Conversations with area churches and nonprofits addressing racial discrimination, racism, and strategies to support those impacted by racism. The project includes a five-day camp for young people to discuss identity, culture, ethnicity, and racial justice issues.

stjamesnl.org

Thursday, March 14, 2019

Convocation of Churches in Europe

Support for Community Refugee Events to Fight Racism & Xenophobia
Against Refugees and Migrants

\$15,512.77

This project will renovate our kitchen and provide us with essential equipment so that the Joel Nafuma Refugee Center is able to host monthly community events to promote cultural diversity, bridge divisions between locals and newcomers, fight racism against migrants, and move us toward becoming the Beloved Community.

jnrc.it

Friday, March 15, 2019

Dallas Food Ministry – San Francisco de Asis Iglesia Episcopal

\$5,400

San Francisco de Asis Iglesia Episcopal serves a large Hispanic immigrant and refugee community in the surrounding low-income apartments of East Dallas, Texas. This project will expand our current food program through the purchase of a commercial refrigerator and freezer to accommodate a growing, hungry East Dallas community. In offering food to our East Dallas neighbors, we bring racial healing and reconciliation.

sfadallas.org

Saturday, March 16, 2019

El Camino Real

Project Bridge

\$68,000

This grant will hire one staff person to lead Project Bridge and implement strength-based reentry case management that targets incarcerated men and women within 30 days of their release, utilizing the church as a strategic support provider. A social justice structure will be put into place that advocates for systemic reform.

realepiscopal.org

Monday, March 18, 2019

Idaho

Connecting Cultures by Becoming a Beloved Community

\$4,000

The Lillian Vallely School strives to be a beloved community. This grant will increase a part-time teacher's schedule to include a new class. She will begin teaching daily classes on racial healing, reconciliation, and justice to help challenge cultural stigmas.

lvschool.org

Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Iowa

Beloved Community Initiative (BCI)

\$20,800

Hiring a staff person to lead The Beloved Community Initiative will help our diocese serve as a resource working for racial justice, healing, and reconciliation within communities where our congregations are located. This brand-new initiative is bringing together people from multiple faiths and cultures and includes many community partners.

iowaepiscopal.org

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

Iowa

Companion with Nzara, South Sudan

Beyond the Mango Trees: St. Timothy's School Classroom Buildings

\$44,372

This project will help Repair the Breach by building six classrooms at St. Timothy's School in Nzara, South Sudan, which will move groups of students in the world's newest country into year-round, sheltered classrooms. This will provide 450 children per year a dignified, safe, and stable environment for their education.

sttimothy.org.uk/index.php/projects/schools/

Thursday, March 21, 2019

Lexington

Clean Start: A Social Justice Enterprise

\$29,000

Clean Start is a social justice enterprise affiliated with The Well, a two-year residential program modeled on Thistle Farms. Clean Start offers cleaning services to businesses and residences to provide women with employment opportunities, job experience, and financial autonomy, alleviating the poverty that is at the root of human trafficking.

thewellexington.com

Friday, March 22, 2019

Louisiana

Healing the Next Generation: Relationships, Resiliency, and Social/Emotional Learning

\$48,000

Kids' Orchestra (KO) will implement a structured mentoring program delivered by 134 music artists/teachers and 10 support staff as an intentional strategy to strengthen relationships and cultivate social/emotional training for 800 elementary children attending a quality after-school orchestra program predominately serving students of color from under-resourced neighborhoods and low-performing schools.

kidsorchestra.org

Saturday, March 23, 2019

Maryland

Gilead House

\$14,420

To fund new staffing in order to offer a place of refuge, welcome, and community connection for asylum seekers and to install safety and security features at the home. Episcopal Refugee and Immigrant Center Alliance (ERICA) will provide housing, cross-cultural education, and deep engagement with volunteers at Gilead House, the rectory of St. Mark's on-the-Hill Church.

stmarksonthehill.org/program-a-ministry/outreach-and-mission.html

Monday, March 25, 2019

Massachusetts

Companion Diocese with Tanga, Tanzania

Creation of Kitchen and Dining Areas for Hegongo Holy Cross Secondary School

\$66,668.13

To expand enrollment and add two new grade levels, this grant will provide for the creation of a kitchen and dining area. This new capacity will equip us to expand our common work of alleviating structural poverty through education as together, across borders, we seek to become the Beloved Community.

anglicanalliance.org/project/hegongo-holy-cross-high-school/

Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Newark

All the Way Up: Adult Education Center

\$43,000

All the Way Up is an Adult Education Center in downtown Newark that is ready for its next phase of development: seeking nonprofit incorporation and creating new staff positions to help meet the demands of program growth, supporting students and tutors, and continuing to build new relationships in the community.

allthewayupnj.org

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

North Carolina

Training for Racial Justice and Reconciliation

\$31,681

This project, focused on racial equity and justice and involving six partnering churches, proposes a multi-angle, long-term approach for addressing issues of racial injustice and inequities in one local community, with the ultimate goal of unity with God and each other in Christ.

dionc.org

Thursday, March 28, 2019

North Dakota

Companion with South Dakota

Thunderhead Episcopal Center Transportation

\$43,230

More than 60 percent of the Diocese of South Dakota are Lakota/Dakota and Sudanese. Thunderhead Episcopal Camp has proven exemplary for racial reconciliation, bringing youth of all backgrounds together to build relationships of healing and to explore other cultures. A van would increase camp accessibility and expand youth ministry access on reservations.

episcopalchurchsd.org/thunderhead-episcopal-center

Friday, March 29, 2019

Northern Michigan Walking Together: Finding Common Ground Through Racial Reconciliation

\$30,000

Walking Together: Finding Common Ground Through Racial Reconciliation is a project that focuses on discussing our Church history, holding Listening and Learning sessions, and building positive relationships with our Native American communities, including developing a traveling exhibit that tells the truth about our Church and our dream for a Beloved Community.

upepiscopal.org

Saturday, March 30, 2019

Rhode Island Center for Reconciliation

\$44,000

Reopening our Cathedral provides a home for the Center for Reconciliation (CFR), which offers programs for learning, sharing, and discussing America's history of slavery, the slave trade, and its legacies. New heating and lighting will significantly improve the Exhibit Hall and meeting space for this work.

cfrri.org

Monday, April 1, 2019

Rochester

Companion with Costa Rica

Lego Love: Construction of a School/Community Center in Cartagena

\$61,875

This project will build a school/community center in Cartagena, Costa Rica, including a meeting room for community gatherings, a kitchen for proper food handling, and four classrooms with resources to educate 80 children ages 6-18, in order to help restore dignity to an impoverished community suffering too long from racism and injustice.

episcopalrochester.org

Tuesday, April 2, 2019

South Dakota

Niobrara Prayer Book in Lakota

\$45,000

This project will create a Book of Common Prayer in the Lakota language that will be usable for all nine of the tribes in South Dakota. This book will contain translations from the 1979 English Book of Common Prayer as well as some liturgies that are unique to the Diocese of South Dakota.

episcopalchurchsd.org

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Southern Ohio

Beloved Community Centers – Communities of Practice

\$31,200

To fund a Becoming Beloved Community Coordinator who will develop 5-10 pilot Beloved Community Centers in neighborhoods throughout the diocese, together with church and community members. These communities of practice will be trained and will engage in missional community projects. They will become teaching centers for congregations and faith communities.

diosohio.org

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Southwestern Virginia

**Building the Community Room: Grace Episcopal Church, Lexington
\$46,905**

Constructing a physical “home base” for planning and creating a Beloved Community in our area by renovating the long-neglected Undercroft of our 1883 church into a dedicated Community Room with versatile adjacent spaces for community events to serve as catalysts for healing relationships among disparate local communities throughout our county.

graceepiscopallexington.org

Friday, April 5, 2019

Southwest Florida

**The Farm at St. Augustine’s
\$63,600**

The Farm is a partnership between two Episcopal churches, one historically black (St. Augustine’s) and one historically white (St. Thomas’). The purpose of The Farm is to provide fresh produce to an area considered a food desert and to engage a racially diverse group of people in helping the needy.

staugustines.dioswfl.org

Saturday, April 6, 2019

Upper South Carolina

**Voorhees Scholars Program
\$7,700**

Fifteen middle school students, recommended by school counselors, will participate in a summer program at Voorhees College. The curriculum will expose them to the college environment with emphasis on team-building, self-expression, and environmental and social justice issues. The Scholars will also attend monthly Saturday sessions through the following year.

voorhees.edu

Monday, April 8, 2019

Utah

**Justice Through Transportation
\$18,945.46**

We seek reliable transportation for the Sudanese refugee members of our congregation. This will facilitate attendance at church worship, link congregants to community resources, and ensure children can attend Sunday School and enriching youth offerings. This project will bring together families throughout the 807 square miles of Salt Lake County.

episcopal-ut.org

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Virginia

**Charis Hospitality Expansion Project
\$30,000**

Charis is an intentional community of young adults living at McEllhany Parish, seeking to follow Jesus through prayer and social action. Our church is intending to declare public sanctuary for people facing deportation, and this grant would allow us to add three bedrooms and a bathroom and make our home more hospitable to welcoming the stranger.

chariscommunityville.wordpress.com/about/

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Andrea Foote

**Camp RISE: Remember, Inspire, Strengthen, Empower. A Summer Camp for children and youth grieving a relative’s death from drug use.
Diocese of Southern Ohio
\$2,500**

Camp Rise, in Southern Ohio, will create a space for young people to grieve a relative’s death from drug use. This program will allow participants to experience the joy of unconditional acceptance at summer camp, amongst peers who share their experience. Professional therapists and camp counselors will facilitate healing through art, therapy, nature, community building, and play.

diosohio.org

Thursday, April 11, 2019

Anne Marie Witchger
Developing Allies in Reconciliation
Diocese of New York
\$2,500

This grant will allow for the design and implementation of a six-week discussion-based curriculum focused on being an ally to people experiencing societal oppression. The goal is to provide a positive, theological framework for parishes to explore “ally-ship” through different issues of racial, political, religious, and economic reconciliation.

dioceseny.org

Friday, April 12, 2019

Grace Aheron
New Church Community at Good Shepherd Episcopal Church
Diocese of Virginia
\$2,500

Coming out of a summer of tumult and resistance in Charlottesville, many people in separate corners of the community have begun longing for a worshipping community that gives strength for the journey as activists of faith. The Charis Community hopes to answer that longing by starting a weekly worship service at an underused chapel.

chariscommunityville.wordpress.com/about/

Saturday, April 13, 2019

Jack Karn
Fostering a New Generation of Peace Builders in the Holy Land
Diocese of Vermont
\$2,500

This project requests support from United Thank Offering to help establish two in-school leadership and peacebuilding programs for youth and their families at Christ Anglican School of Nazareth, Israel and St. John’s Anglican School of Haifa, Israel. The programs will run the length of Spring 2018 semester and include 14 class sessions.

diovermont.org

Monday, April 15, 2019

Kathryn Florack
Wilderness Wanderings
Diocese of Western North Carolina
\$2,500

This project seeks to create opportunities for small, intimate groups of 10-14 to experience the intrapersonal and interpersonal spiritual and emotional growth provided by spending time backpacking in wilderness areas. In addition to teaching expeditions skills, the program will teach spiritual disciplines and skills for loving God and our neighbors more fully.

diocesewnc.org

Tuesday, April 16, 2019

Schneider Chancy
Environmental Agriculture Program for St. Paul’s Students in Petit Trou de Nippes, Haiti
The Diocese of Haiti
\$2,411

This project will reinforce and expand access and knowledge of environmentally friendly agricultural practices in rural Haiti. Leveraging the success of a UTO-funded existing agricultural education program at St. Paul’s School, the program will launch a summer gardening and environmental awareness program for youth in Petit Trou de Nippes.

coloradohaitiproject.org

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

Sarah Oxley Catalyst
Nashotah House
Diocese of Central Florida
\$2,500

A catalyst is a reagent added to a chemical reaction to help the reaction to go faster and better. Catalyst is an educational project to provide Christian education that will act as a catalyst for people to grow in the Lord and spread the reaction of God’s Kingdom to others around them.

Nashotah.edu

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Caroline Carson

Introducing Pastoral Care for Refugees in Egypt Sewanee

Diocese of Louisiana

\$2,500

Cairo, Egypt is home to thousands of refugees from Africa and the Arab world. The organization Refugee Egypt is under the auspices of the Episcopal/Anglican Church. A needed ministry is interreligious pastoral care. This project aims to fund religious materials for meetings, translation, counsel, and prayer to refugees in Cairo.

sewanee.edu

Friday, April 19, 2019

Leon Sampson

Back to the Kitchen Table

Virginia Theological Seminary

Navajoland Area Mission

\$2,500

“Back to the Kitchen Table” is a movement that would create food gardens in Episcopal church communities with teachings of harvest preparation focusing on strengthening families through the lessons of caring for God’s creation in a family setting, back at the kitchen table.

vts.edu

Saturday, April 20, 2019

Norbet Ayeebo

Musical Instruments and Public-Address System Virginia Theological Seminary

Anglican Diocese of Tamale, Ghana

\$2,500

The project is designed to meet the needs of youth. The youth constitute the majority of the membership of the church. This project aims to create a contemporary music ministry. There is no doubt that the procurement of musical instruments will attract young people in the church. This will afford the priests an opportunity to counsel and teach the word of God to them.

vts.edu