



Date: May 10, 2021

To: Diocesan Bishops of The Episcopal Church

From: Sherri Dietrich, United Thank Offering Board President

Re: 2022 United Thank Offering Grant Process

Greetings in Christ's Friendship!

We hope this letter finds you well. The United Thank Offering Board invites you, on behalf of your diocese, to submit one grant application for the 2022 United Thank Offering annual grant cycle. The focus for 2022's grants is *"Care of Creation: Turning love into action by caring for God's creation to protect the most vulnerable—who will bear the largest burden of pollution and climate change—through justice, advocacy, environmental reparations, or the development of formation materials."*

The Board has made the decision to no longer accept companion grant applications, however, dioceses that receive funding from the General Convention budget are invited to submit two applications. Those applications must come from two different entities (for example, two parishes, the diocese, and a parish, and so forth). If your diocese is working within another diocese on a project and you would like to request funding for it, you will have to ask that diocese to apply for the program. As always, we encourage you to support your mission partners through the application process however you can.

All the materials necessary for a complete application are available at www.episcopalchurch.org/uto, including the deadline to submit drafts for review and the seven webinars scheduled throughout the year.

The diocese must submit the final applications by 5 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, February 4, 2022.

Only complete applications will be considered. Grants are for one year from the time the funds are received, May 2022. Please review applications in light of this timeline for receipt of funds if a grant is awarded. If at any time during the process you determine you no longer need or want your application to move forward in the process, please let Heather know so that we can remove it from consideration.

Please be aware that **you will not be eligible for a 2022 grant if your Diocese has an outstanding final grant report.** If you are not certain if all of your past grants have closed, please contact us at hmilton@episcopalchurch.org. And, in accordance with Canon I.4.6 (f-g), full payment of the diocesan assessment shall be required of all Dioceses, to be eligible to receive grant or scholarship funds.

Each year the United Thank Offering Board awards every penny that was placed in a Blue Box and then given at an Ingathering, as well as all accrued interest. Although we continue to receive many more grant requests than we are able to fund, please know that your grant request is carefully considered, and we appreciate the care you take to prepare your application. We encourage you, as bishop, to encourage your congregations to participate in the United Thank Offering and the spiritual discipline of gratitude by making thank offerings into Blue Boxes.

If you have questions or need assistance with the application or with final grant reports do not hesitate to contact our office at hmilton@episcopalchurch.org or call 1-917-771-3366. We are glad to help you through this process. Please note that the staff will have limited time to assist with draft applications as outlined on the helpful hints page. We wish you the best of luck with the application process, and we look forward to your ideas for creative ministries to care for God's beautiful creation around us.