



The Mustard Seed

All Saints' Episcopal Church

United Thank Offering----UTO

The United Thank Offering is a ministry of the Episcopal Church. . . . An affiliated organization of the Episcopal Church Women (ECW).

Through the United Thank Offering, men, women, and children nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. These prayers of thanksgiving start when we recognize and name our many daily blessings. Those who participate in the United Thank Offering have discovered that thankfulness leads to generosity.

A short prayer of thanksgiving leads to an offering in the United Thank Offering box (the Blue Box). All

offerings are used to support grants for ministries at home and overseas as an outreach of the Episcopal Church. Prayers and offerings make it possible for the UTO mission to stretch in unexpected ways.

From its inception as the United Offering in 1889 until the 1920's, the thank offering was gathered at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church every three years.

During the 1920's, the United Offering became the United Thank Offering and the first offering boxes were designed.

Today congregations are encouraged to hold an ingathering twice a year dur-

ing the spring and fall when people can bring their thank offering to be collected and joined with others' offerings. All Saints has not yet set aside these dates.

Our parish forwards the local ingathering offering to the Diocesan Coordinator. The Diocesan Coordinator records our local offering and forwards it to the national UTO office in New York.

UTO Mission is to expand the circle of thankful people. To achieve this mission we encourage daily prayers, offerings, and awareness of the abundance of *God's Blessings*.

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Special points of interest:

- ☺ Sharing our Blessings
- ☺ ECW Diocesan Board Breakfast
- ☺ 75th Anniversary
- ☺ Holy Baptism
- ☺ Happy Birthday
- ☺ Special Worship Service
- ☺

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UTO getting started. . . .Time Line

1871 The Women's Auxiliary to the Board of Mission was authorized by General Convention.

1886 Julia Emery, sec to the Women's Auxiliary and Ida Soule, who counted the missionary offering, inspired women to pray and give coins with the idea of building a new church in Anvik, Alaska, as well as supporting Miss Lisa Lowell as a missionary to

Japan. The offerings reached \$2,188.64.

1889 The first Missionary offering was collected.

1967 The Triennial voted to grant the offering annually rather than every three years.

1970 The UTO Committee was formed.

1982 Memorial & Gift Trust Fund established.

1989 UTO celebrated their Centennial Anniversary & funds available for granting topped three million for the first time.

2001 UTO began the new millennium by granting over \$3 million and by offering face-to-face training to diocesan coordinators.

Sharing Blessings with Thanksgiving and Love

Episcopal Church Women ECW

Dianne Ivie and Shirley Figley traveled to Springfield, Christ Church, for an ECW Diocesan Board breakfast. The food was yummy and the faces unfamiliar to us except for Mary Howe. The theme of the breakfast was "Women Sharing" within the West Missouri Dioceses (some men were included), each congregation was well represented.

Judy Turner, St. Philip's, Joplin gave an "Opening Welcome" and short report on Diocesan ECW.

A sing-along song was sung as a group (our voices need some training). The song was *All Creatures of Our God*

and King. Shirley has the words if anyone is interested.

Many groups reported on their "sharing" within their communities. Some donated and worked food banks, soup kitchens, after school programs for children, helping the homeless and donating to women in crises. Dianne gave a wonderful report on All Saints' ECW. Explaining about our mission of making "Prayer Shawls" for the shut-ins, new mothers, weddings or celebrations. Dianne also reported on our "Welcome Bags" and "Pocket Crosses" as continue work in progress.

Shirley Bolden, St. Augustine's, K. C., put on a skit, "Noah's Wife" and Liturgical Dancers, St. Augustine's, K. C., entertained with a dance of veils.

Tina Forbes Seeley gave a good presentation on the Maison de Naissance an orphanage in Haiti.

Sue Taylor, St. George, Camdenton and Mary Howe are co-coordinators of the 2009 Fall Conference that will be held in Clinton, Missouri.

Many door prizes were given out and Shirley Figley was one of many whose name was drawn; a beautiful green flower candle in a clay pot.

Did you know?

The first issue of the *Forward Day by Day* was started in 1935. Honoring the 75th Anniversary a tour of English cathedrals and sacred sites is being offered in 2010. For more information call 800-543-1813 &/or visit the newly redesigned website; www.forwardmovement.org.

I visited this site and it is awesome! One can enter a chapel, light a candle,

and offer up a prayer if one wishes; a quiet time. It is beautiful. It reminded me of many years ago when it was encouraged by the Church to have a prayer corner in your home; a quiet place to offer prayers of Thanksgiving, healing or just to visit God. A good place to have your *UTO Blue Box*.

This site also offers the devotional

and Bible readings of the day. There is also a store to purchase periodicals and the history of the Forward.

It is worth the visit.

By Shirley Figley



Clergy Schedule

Leading our Services:

- Aug 2- - -Mike
- Aug 9- - -Mike
- Aug 16- - To be announced
- Aug 23- - Mike
- Aug 30- - Mike

Mike's away days:

- August 13, 14, 15 and 16
- Don't forget summer schedule; every Friday Mike is off; September will be a very busy month, watch for these dates as they are announced.

Travels:

Deacon Craig visited China in July with the College; more of his trip will be in the September Issue.

Reminder.....

Check/sign up for reader's schedule for both 8:30 am & 10:30 am services

Tid Bits

We are green -happy to report many of us are using the recycle bins in the kitchen, let's keep our environment healthy for now and generations to come.

Vacation Bible School -will be held August 3rd, 4th & 5th at 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at All Saint's Church co-hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church, Grace Community Church (UCC), and First Presbyterian Church.

ECW -bring your love and prayers on Saturday August 15 at 10:30 am. At our July meeting we discussed and planned the "Welcome Bags" with the materials provided. Dianne Ivie discovered our Prayer Shawls have all been given out and need more for "on

hand" in the storage box. Etta will be coordinating receptions after the Baptismal on Aug 2 and Aug 23. Amy Jett gave a good insight to the VBS and requested donations for folders for the children's journals.

Music -bring your voices praising God every Sunday at 10:30 Worship Service. Nursery provided.

Cook Book -bring your favorite recipe to help fill the pages of an All Saints' Cookbook and place them in the mailbox folder marked ECW.

Wednesday Gathering -fix that favorite recipe and share it with us on every Wednesday at 6:00 pm following a Worship Service at 5:30 pm.

Bring a friend and enjoy the fellowship, **students eat free.**

School Starting -be watchful for the children as they travel back to school. Many busses will be out on the roads stopping for and loading our precious ones.

Baptism -The Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be administered at the 10:30 am service on August 2 and on August 23. Join us in receiving these new members into the household of God.

Pentecost

Color
Green

Honoring All Celebrations

Birthdays

Anne Marie Morrison-1
Dusty Shaw-1
Cindy Morrison-4
Hannah Morrison-8
Lucas Plocher-8
Roger Shaw-12
Ambsey Mapes-19
Sherry Lockett-21
Corliss Schaeffer-25
Dedie Moore-27
Terry Jett-27

Special Worship Service will be held August 2, 2009 at 4:30 pm at the Walnut Tower Apartments with Mike Kyle leading the service. Special music and sing along will be provided by Sherry Lockett on the piano. Set this time and date aside and join us and the residents at Walnut Tower.



Music fills our hearts

Vestry News

Vestry Meeting for August was moved to Wednesday August 19 at 6:30 pm.

May 5% giving went to Ozark Action in West Plains. If you have any ideas of local groups that could use our help, please notify Fr. Mike or a Vestry member.

Any urgent news that you might have concerning a family or church member

that you wish to share, please contact Fr. Mike at: michaelkyle@aol.com or Anne at: anne@allsaintswestplains.com

We have had one church member step forward to donate a new tree, thank you so much, our church family has always been so very giving. We still have one more tree needed to com-

plete our church beautification project. If you would like to participate in this living memorial, you may talk to a vestry member or Fr. Mike.

All Saints' Episcopal Church

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The little white church with
the red doors

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