

Call for UTO Training Materials and Teaching Tools

by **Birdie Blake-Reid, UTO Board Secretary**

United Thank Offering (UTO) coordinators in parishes and dioceses, through their tireless volunteer efforts, have enriched the lives of women, men, and children throughout the world. They have supported and lifted up unique and creative ministries that have opened hearts, restored hope, and brought new believers to serve as Jesus' hands and feet. This work, which dates back to 1889, has utilized a variety of methods and strategies to engage, encourage, and support others in this important work, which has grown significantly into a spiritual discipline and granting process. From the early days of letter campaigns, telephone outreach, breakfast and luncheon events, and meetings to the more recent use of electronic and social media, they have sought to cast a wide net in support of the UTO ministry.

The United Thank Offering Board is embarking upon a new project to codify the varied methods, strategies, training materials, and teaching tools used to further the mission of this ministry.

We invite you to:

- **Share** the methods and sample training materials or teaching tools to mentor young women about joining the UTO ministry
- **Share** training materials and an activity to foster the continuing development of constituents to deepen their spiritual practice of gratitude and thankfulness
- **Share** the steps including training materials or teaching tools to plan or budget a parish, diocesan, or provincial Ingathering or UTO special event/activity
- **Share** a timeline, training materials, or teaching tool to inform constituents of the annual UTO young adult and seminarian grant awards, including available resources

Through the collection of the above materials, current and future UTO volunteers will be guided by your wisdom, best practice tips, techniques, and strategies in building dynamic UTO mission focused individuals, congregations, dioceses, and provinces.

If you would like to participate, please email utoyasc@episcopalchurch.org by Monday, April 3, 2017. Include your name, parish, diocese/province, address, telephone number, and the above identified **Share** area submission(s).

Thank you for continuing to work with us to build a better, more beautiful world through unceasing prayer, service, and giving.