

THE *Episcopal* CHURCH  welcomes you

3rd Week of September, 2017



UTO Changing Lives

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

This week you get to hear from the Presiding Bishop on why he thinks the United Thank Offering is so important. The story that he tells (the transcript and video below) makes me think about a school on the banks of a river in Liberia – Bromley Mission and its main building, Julia Chester Emery Hall.

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Presiding Bishop's Video and Transcript

from the Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

For 125 years, The Episcopal Church, the United Thank Offering, has supported the work of mission, both throughout the world and in the domestic United States. That missionary offering has been one of our greatest missionary offerings, and it is a great tribute to one woman, who was born 165 years ago, whose name is Julia Chester Emery. She was born in September, 165 years ago, and in September the United Thank Offering will celebrate her birth through educational opportunities and programs that highlight the good and important work of the United Thank Offering. I was in a country that had been in civil war for a number of years; much had been destroyed, much of the landscape; the city where I was had been destroyed and was barely recognizable as an urban community. There was one building that stood among the rubble, and at the top of that building were the words “Peace House.” I found out later that that building was built in the 1960s with funds from the United Thank Offering. That building is used to this day as a place where people who differ and disagree gather together for conversation and to work out their problems. The work of the United Thank Offering makes a difference. It makes a difference around the world; it makes a difference here in the United States. It makes a difference because through the United Thank Offering, and our offerings to it, we can follow in the footsteps of Jesus who came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many. God bless you, Julia Chester Emery, and God bless the United Thank Offering.



[WATCH VIDEO >>](#)

Did you know?

by Kayla Massey, Associate Staff Officer for the United Thank Offering

While learning about Julia Chester Emery over the summer, the staff learned some interesting things that we didn't know about our predecessor and we wanted to share them with you.

Most people know that every weekday Morning Prayer and the Eucharist are held in the chapel at the Episcopal Church Center in New York. But did you know that the tradition of noontime worship began in the old Church Center building in Julia Chester Emery's office?

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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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