



Episcopal Church of All Saints and Ascension

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Parishioners of All Saints and Ascension,

The month of November is here again and is a reminder for us to emphasize our feelings of gratitude. As the parish coordinator of the United Thank Offering (UTO), this is the month in which many churches distribute the little blue coin boxes for collecting donations, which are turned in on a designated in-gathering Sunday. The box is a way for us to demonstrate the counting of our many blessings. I will plan to have these boxes available, upon our return to the building.

We are entering into a very busy, sometimes frantic, time of the year with the upcoming holidays. However, we are in receipt of blessings on a daily basis and we can express our gratitude each and every day. The basis of UTO is **gratitude!**

UTO encourages gratitude, as a discipline in our daily life in Christ. Every Sunday, we offer prayers of thanksgiving for our blessings. But, in November, how about taking the time each day to write down at least **one** thing for which you are thankful? This can be on a piece of paper, a journal, a calendar, or whatever you have available. The act of writing it down is essential to feeling the gratitude. It sounds so simple; but, it is often overlooked in the midst of a busy day or extraneous circumstances.

The documentation of your gratitude can be followed up with a coin or bill in the blue box, at the end of the day or week, whichever is best for you. Some parishioners make a donation at the end of the month; but, whatever you decide, the experience of expressing your gratitude is the key.

For the month of November, I will be including a message and/or prayer of gratitude each week in the email blast. I hope you will check it out.

If you have any questions about the United Thank Offering, please let me know.

Respectfully,

Margarett Williams

UTO Coordinator, All Saints and Ascension

Our Mission: *To be the Light of Christ that builds relationships in our congregation, our community, and with our God.*

Our Vision: *Finding Christ in relationships.*