



The Diocese of Fond du Lac

The Episcopal Church in northeast Wisconsin



The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter, Bishop

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Bishop's Annual Appeal 2020

*Being a people of God's mercy and delight through
vital congregations, prayer and worship, and missionary church*

Dear Friends in Christ,

A year ago, we launched the Bishop's Annual Appeal. You were generous giving over \$56,000 for vital congregations, a successful Revival and a training center in our companion Diocese of Masvingo. What a blessing, **to receive more than twice the goal** of that initial appeal. Our diocesan ministry is rich in hope and possibility. Appeal plans this year were to support new, worthy causes. God wants us to give beyond ourselves, doing the work of the Kingdom. Then the Covid-19 pandemic struck. Our lives have changed. The appeal changed, too.

Prayer is the most significant thing we can do, so I appeal for you to pray daily for the diocese and congregations. I appeal for you to give, not through the diocesan structure, but directly to your congregation. On a national and international level (and local, too), I encourage you to support needs through gifts to United Thank Offering.

In my years as your bishop, I've come to understand *we are all called to give – our giving can transform lives*. Please prayerfully consider making a generous gift for the spread of God's Kingdom, of whatever amount, in response to this Bishop's Annual Appeal. Pray daily for the diocese and our ministry.

Under the Mercy,

The Rt. Rev. Matthew Gunter
Bishop of Fond du Lac

Ways to respond to the **Bishop's Annual Appeal 2020**

1 Vital Congregations – *give for the support of local ministry*

You are invited to give your congregation more than you had planned. Some people may have difficulty fulfilling their pledge. Others may be able to give more. Bishop Matt's appeal is that you give 10%, 25% or even 100% more than planned. When giving this additional gift, please note it is a response to the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Supporting our congregations supports everyday ministry.

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2 Prayer and Worship – *pray daily for the diocese*

You are invited to pray daily for the people in congregations of the diocese. These might be prayers of thanksgiving or supplication. Bishop Matt’s appeal is that you pray around the diocese. The enclosed Prayer Card may guide your prayer. by praying for everyone each day or maybe one congregation each day.

There is comfort and strength in knowing we act together. Bishop Matt asks you to visit diofdl.org where you’ll see “I prayed for the diocese today”. Simply mark the checkbox and click submit. You are encouraged to do this not just once, but every time you remember the people of the diocese in prayer.



Why not pull out your church directory and pray through the names? Don’t have one? Then make a list of everyone you can think of from church and pray for them. More prayer is better than less.

3 Missionary Church – *give to support broader ministry*

You are invited to give to the United Thank Offering. UTO is a ministry of the Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church designed to nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God. Bishop Matt’s appeal is that you give as much as you are able.



With UTO, 100% of the collected funds are distributed to support innovative mission and ministry throughout The Episcopal Church and Provinces of the Anglican Communion. Overhead is covered through an endowment or gifts given for that purpose and the dedication of hundreds of volunteers across the Episcopal Church that make UTO happen. Almost all funds collected come from the generosity of individual givers, often through a congregational Ingathering each Spring and/or Fall.

We are thankful of what we have contributed in the past but can do better. Bishop Matt wants to increase support of the wonderful ministry that is UTO. Only a dozen or so of our 36 worshipping communities participate. This is the opportunity to get our participation to 100%!



Visit diofdl.org/uto and click the button. You decide how much and how often to give. Please do provide your diocese and congregation’s name and city so we can track the 100% goal. You may use credit/debit card or directly give from your checking or savings account. You may also send a check to the Diocesan Office to UTO, 1051 N Lynndale Dr, Ste 1B, Appleton, WI 54914-3094. Make sure you write your congregation and city, especially if you are from St. John’s, St. Paul’s or St. Peter’s!

Please respond to the
Bishop’s Annual Appeal 2020

<p>Vital Congregations <i>GIVE</i> to your congregation. Please notate gifts with “Bishop’s Annual Appeal”</p>	<p>Prayer and Worship <i>PRAY</i> for people of diocesan congregations with the enclosed Prayer Card.</p>	<p>Missionary Church <i>GIVE</i> to UTO at diofdl.org/uto. Please provide diocese and congregation!</p>
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