

# Diocese of Western Massachusetts Episcopal Church Women Report to the Diocesan Convention 2025

## Episcopal Church Women

ECW in the Diocese of Western Massachusetts acts as a liaison between parishes, the diocese, and Province 1 ECW. A useful resource is the Province 1 ECW Website: <a href="https://www.province1ecw.org/">https://www.province1ecw.org/</a>
The National ECW website is: <a href="https://ecwnational.org/">https://ecwnational.org/</a>

Our Diocesan ECW networked with other ECW's in the Province and around the country through Zoom meetings. The meetings allowed us to pray for one another, share stories, and keep up-to-date on current church and world events.

### **United Nations Comision on the Status of Women: Beijing +30**

I attended The United Nations Comision on the Status of Women in New York City in March. I was part of the



un-official delegation of the National Episcopal Church Women. We attended many parallel events listening to and networking with women from around the world. Read reflections here:

https://www.provincelecw.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/69th-United-Nations-Commission-on-the-Status-of-Women.pdf
For 2024-2027, National Episcopal Church Women have discerned to advocate for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, Human Trafficking, and Sacred Ground (Racial Healing and Reconciliation).

Episcopal Church Center, 815 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave New York City. L-R: Lois Frankforter, Province 1 ECW president, Laura Olcott, Lisa Bortner, National ECW president, Ginny Guzman-Walsh, NECW board Province 8, Susan Howland, Annie Jacobs, NECW Social Justice,

Our available funds were used in 2024-2025 to:

- Support Province I ECW with dues
- Set aside money to send a delegate to Triennial Meeting 2027
- Our outreach funds went to:
  - o \$500 to Human to Human, in thanksgiving for Bishop Fisher's ministry
  - o \$500 to The Episcopal Migration Ministries
  - o \$200 to Our Little Roses, Honduras
  - \$200 to Thistle Farms (A ministry serving women survivors of prostitution, trafficking, and addiction. https://thistlefarms.org/pages/our-mission)
  - o \$200 to the Mampong Babies Home (Change the Babies)

If you have questions or need information/advice about the Episcopal Church Women contact Susan Howland at <u>ECW.wma@gmail.com</u> or call Susan Howland at: 508-612-3198. We can email or mail you information about ECW.

In Gratitude, Susan Howland, Diocese of Western Massachusetts ECW President September 26, 2025

United Thank Offering

United Thank Offering (UTO) is a ministry of The Episcopal Church for the mission of the whole church to nurture the habit of giving daily thanks to God and offering coins in a "Blue Box." Tangible offerings are then shared with people all over the world in the form of grants for grassroots, self-determined need.

Our Combined 2024 United Thank Offering was \$6,423.32 With 11 Churches participating. Every penny collected goes out for a grant! Thanks be to God!

#### If you don't already have a United Thank Offering Ministry in your church, starting one is easy!

- Information for coordinators available here: https://unitedthankoffering.com/ingathering/
- Material available to order or download are available here: https://unitedthankoffering.com/resources/
- I am available to answer questions ECW.wma@gmail.com or 508-612-3198 Susan Howland.
- More UTO information Here: <a href="https://unitedthankoffering.com/">https://unitedthankoffering.com/</a>

### **Ingathering Information**

After your parish ingathering: suggest Spring (planting) and Fall (harvest), make a check to: The Episcopal Diocese of WMA, with UTO in the memo, and mail to: The Episcopal Diocese of WMA, ATTN: Kristina Cincotta, 37 Chestnut St., Springfield, MA 01103.