

## GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY

**Girls' Friendly Society (GFS) provides ministry to girls in a safe and accepting environment where Christ's love is evident. GFS-USA is a community within the Episcopal Church and a member of the World Council of GFS.**

**Through local GFS branches, the GFS-USA Month of Service, and GFS World Projects, we strive to respond to human need by serving others and seek to transform unjust structures of society, particularly for women and children.**

**Currently there is only one active branch in Western Massachusetts but many past members, sponsors and supporters.**

**This year has been a trying year for all of the branches throughout the USA and the world. We were scheduled to have our World Conference in South America but due to the pandemic, it has been postponed to July 2021.**

**Our activities for the year were also very limited in nature. We were able to have our Annual Tea Party.**

**In keeping with our motto of "Bear Ye One Another's Burden and so Fulfill the Law of Christ, Galatians 6:2, we made cards for essential workers at Baystate Medical Center, participated in a zoom meeting with other branches throughout the USA on social injustice, and participated in GFS Annual World Day of Prayer also by zoom with an inspiring message on love from our Presiding Bishop Curry.**

**Earlier in the year we also had the pleasure of participating in a workshop "The Art of Change, Building a Beloved Community" along with other USA Branches and some women Abuja, Nigeria. This workshop, led by Yewandi Austin, focused on the value of diversity, creative problem solving, social organizing and using our privilege to do good.**

**We are looking forward to continuing to do as much as we can by zoom until we can safely congregate as a group.**

**Donna Christian  
Western Massachusetts, President**

