Philoptochos

The Greek Orthodox Ladies Philoptochos Society, Inc., is the duly accredited women's philanthropic society of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America. The mission of the Society is:

- To help the poor, the destitute, the hungry, the aged, the sick, the unemployed, the orphaned, the imprisoned, the widowed, the handicapped, the victims of disasters, to undertake the burial of impoverished persons and to offer assistance to anyone who may need the help of the Church through fund raising efforts; and
- To promote the charitable, benevolent, and philanthropic purposes of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America, through instructional programs, presentations, lectures, seminars and other educational resources;
- To preserve and perpetuate Orthodox Christian concepts and the Orthodox Christian Family, and through them, to promote the Greek Orthodox Faith and traditions, in accordance with its doctrines, canons, discipline, divine worship, usages and customs;
- To promote participation in the activities of the Greek Orthodox community, with the cooperation of the Parish Priest and the Parish Council.

Our local chapter donates thousands of dollars annually--over \$25,000 last year--to local, national, and Orthodox charities, including:

- Cooley's Anemia Foundation
- Crossroad Program at Hellenic College
- Down Syndrome of Alabama
- Faith Tree: Orthodox Teen Intimacy Project
- Firehouse Shelter
- Good Shepherd Camp for Special Needs Children
- My Sister's Place
- Orthodox Christian Prison Ministry
- Prescott House
- Retired Clergy Widowed Presvyteres Fund
- The Well-House
- Unless U
- You Are Not Alone (YANA)
- Zoe for Life
- Ionian Village Scholarships

Philoptochos Society is the largest women's charitable organization in the United States, and we warmly welcome the participation of both men and women. We gather monthly for presentations, inspirational speakers and fellowship. We also sponsor the annual Parish Lenten Retreat and travel to South Carolina for a Metropolis Lenten Retreat every March. In August, we will be cooking for the 2017 Greek Food Festival. Please see the weekly Church Bulletin or monthly Koinonia Newsletter for details.

For more information or to get involved please contact: Stephanie Dikis <u>4stephstuff@gmail.com</u> or Hala Fawal <u>hfawal4024@att.net</u>.