GLOBAL WOMENS PROJECT
ADVENT CALENDAR

global women's project
connecting women since 1978

DEC 1 (DARK BLUE) Advent=coming. Jesus comes to set the oppressed free! Who is oppressed in your community? Pick a specific person/group to pray for during Advent. Luke 4:16-21

2 (LIGHT BLUE) GWP is rooted in the Church of the Brethren, with volunteer Steering Committee members sharing leadership since 1978. Not all in the US are rich (and not all rich live in the US), but GWP's education about luxuries is focused on the US as our own social and cultural context. Our empowerment is intrinsically linked to that of women and men around the world. Send a thank-you to a woman in your life. 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

3 (LIGHT BROWN) The poorest households are more likely to have access to mobile phones than to toilets or clean water (World Bank). About every 19 seconds a mother loses one of her children to a water-related illness (Charity:Water). Tax: $.19 for each cell phone in your house. _____ Jeremiah 31:15

4 (DARK BROWN) We celebrate Mary's courage to bear God-in-flesh, even though she was young and unmarried. Girls in sex slavery are as young as 5 years old. Tax: $.50 for each year you haven't been enslaved. _____ Isaiah 1:13-17

5 (DARK GREEN) A women's sewing cooperative in Nimule, South Sudan, asked GWP to send their next grant to neighboring Narus to start another sewing cooperative. Women buy food, medicine, soap, and send their daughters to school with their earnings. Check the labels on everything you're wearing. Tax: $.25 for each item made outside the US. _____

6 (LIGHT GREEN) "Everything they owned was held in common….There was not a needy person among them" Acts 4:32-37. Check your Christmas lists: what could you borrow/lend rather than buy?

7 (LIGHT BLUE) When the Nimule sewing cooperative asked GWP to send funds to Narus, they were thriving with eight (non-electric) sewing machines shared among 100 women. Tax: $.10 for every appliance in your house (garage, attic and basement). _____

8 (DARK BLUE) Girls in South Sudan often marry at age 12 to men with enough cattle to offer as a bridal price (New Community Project). The average US wedding in 2017 cost $33,391 (The Knot WorldWide). Tax: 1% of your wedding cost. Not married? 10% of what you spent on the last wedding you attended. _____

9 (LIGHT BLUE) How young was Mary? Likely as young as 12. In many US states, girls as young as 12 are legally able to marry with parental & judicial consent. Tax: $1.20 for each member of your family who didn't marry before 18. _____

10 (LIGHT BLUE) More girls in South Sudan die in childbirth than graduate from high school (UNICEF). Tax: $2 for each member of your family with a high school degree. _____

11 (DARK RED) If you're buying presents this Christmas, support women-owned businesses, found at womenownedlogo.com. 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

12 (LIGHT RED) Complications in pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death among adolescent girls in most countries. Tax: $1.50 for each fatality-free birth in your family. _____

13 (LIGHT BROWN) Babies are beloved and bring hope, though pregnancy and child-raising are a burden for many women, families, communities – and our planet! Meditate on this complexity. Psalm 139:1-18

14 (DARK BROWN) The Dept of Labor defines a sweatshop as a factory violating 2+ labor laws. Tax: $.10 for each year pre-18 that you did not work to support your family. _____

15 (SKIN) Women are 90% of sweatshop laborers, the majority between 15 & 22-years-old (Feminists Against Sweatshops). Tax: $.25 per closet containing clothes possibly made in sweatshops.

16 (DARK GOLD) The US leads the world in calories, protein and fat per person. Tax: $.50 for each indulgent food/drink you enjoyed this weekend. _____

17 (DARK RED) 1/2 of South Sudanese are chronically hungry. Poor families spend most of their money on stomach-filling food such as sorghum, maize & millet, missing key proteins & vitamins (World Food Program). Tax: $.10 per item in your fridge. _____

18 (LIGHT RED) If women farmers had access to the same resources as men, 150 million more people would have enough food to eat. (Heifer Int'l) Matthew 13:33

19 (DARK BROWN) People without privilege have to creatively persist to feed their families. Luke 18:1-8 Tax: $1.80 if you've ever gotten a loan from family, friends or a bank. _____

20 (LIGHT BROWN) Check your kitchen, pantry, basement, and freezer. Estimate how many days' worth of food you have on hand. Matthew 6:25-34 Tax: $.30/day _____

21 (DARK GOLD) Does your state pay restaurant workers minimum wage + tips? (Only 7 do.) Tax: $.75 for each time you tipped less than 25% in the past week. _____ Jeremiah 7:1-7

22 (LIGHT GOLD) Women produce 80% of the developing world's food, yet make up 70% of the world's poor (Heifer International). Research Community Supported Agriculture in your community & consider buying a share offered by a woman.

23 (DARK GOLD) Have you celebrated a holiday with an empty stomach? Be thankful with each bite you eat today. Tax: $.50 per meal you ate distracted yesterday (in the car, with a screen, at your desk…) _____ Isaiah 55:1-2

24 (LIGHT GOLD) Even after an elaborate feast, we get hungry again. Savor the mindfulness and spiritual practice you've feasted on with this Advent calendar, and know that you will be hungry for more. Isaiah 55:3-8 Did you pray for that person/group all month? What now?

25 (LIGHT GOLD) Celebrate God-in-flesh with your own body, family and community. Isaiah 55:9-13 Merry Christmas from Global Women's Project!

TOTAL _____