

GLOBAL WOMEN'S PROJECT
ADVENT CALENDAR

GWP

December is full of "consume more!" messages but Jesus comes to show us abundant life. Let's turn, together. While meditating on the day's theme, color in the shapes labeled with the day's number and the color listed in the reflection (or pick your own colors). With gratitude for the luxuries in your life, send your taxes to GWP c/o Church of the Brethren, 1451 Dundee Ave., Elgin, IL 60120 (write checks to GWP).

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

2 (DARK TEAL) 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 GREEN) The poorest households are more likely to have access to mobile phones than to toilets or clean water (World Bank). Around 1,000 children under five years old die every day from unsafe water/hygiene (UNICEF). **Tax: $.31 for each cell phone in your house.** $_____ Jeremiah 31:15

4 (LIGHT TEAL) We celebrate Mary's courage to bear God-in-flesh, even though she was young and unmarried. Girls in sex slavery can be under ten years old. **Tax: $.25 for each year you haven't been enslaved.** $_____ Isaiah 1:13-17

5 (GOLD) Cultural Academy for Peace (CAP) initiated a program to distribute vulnerability kits to the families of Korangotta Island, an island surrounded by surplus water while there is scarcity of drinking water. **Tax: $.25 for each glass of water you drank today.** $_____

6 (ORANGE) 74.8% of rural women in India are agricultural workers, but only 9.3% own the land. **Tax: $5 if you've ever owned property.** $_____ Jeremiah 31:15

7 (DARK GREEN) In India, underaged marriage has appeared as a prominent cause for girls not attending school. 13% of girls are married before they turn 17. **Tax: $2 for each member of your family with a high school degree.** $_____

8 (ORANGE) Travel has a potent impact on climate change, which disproportionately impacts countries close to the equator—like India. **Tax: 1% of the cost of your last trip.** $_____

9 (SKIN) CAP offers a short stay home to help women in distress and need. The shelter includes a safe and secure stay for women and girls below the poverty line. **Tax: $0.05 for each year your household was above the poverty line.** $_____

10 (PINK) MKerala, where CAP is located, is the best performing state with 96.6% of urban poor children attending school (UNICEF). **Tax: $0.10 for each year you attended school.** $_____

11 (SKIN) If you're buying presents this Christmas, **support women-owned businesses in your community.** 2 Corinthians 9:6-12

12 (GOLD) 3.4% of live births in India result in death before the age of five. **Tax: $1.50 for each fatality-free birth in your family.** $_____

13 (SKIN) Babies are beloved and bring hope, though pregnancy and child-raising are a burden for many women, families, communities – and our planet! **Look for a way to support a local shelter for women and kids.** Psalm 139:1-18

14 (BLUE) 32% of girls in urban India ages 15-17 work as unpaid family laborers (UNICEF). **Tax: $0.10 for each year pre-18 that you did not work to support your family.** $_____

15 (ORANGE) CAP has an initiative training women to be autorickshaw drivers, empowering them to support their families financially with a steady income. **Tax: $0.50 for each year pre-18 that you did not work to support your family.** $_____

16 (BROWN) The US leads the Americas in supply of calories per person (Our World In Data). **Tax: $0.50 for each indulgent food/drink you enjoyed this weekend.** $_____

17 (DARK PURPLE) In India, a country with more than 1.2 billion people, one in every three children is malnourished. If you do the math, that's 46 million kids exhibiting symptoms of malnourishment, such as anemia and stunted growth. (World Food Program). **Tax: $.10 per item in your fridge.** $_____

18 (LIGHT GREEN) 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. **Tax: $1.80 if you've ever gotten a loan from family, friends or a bank.** $_____ Luke 18:1-8

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

21 (DARK TEAL) 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 (GOLD) Women produce 80% of the developing world's food, yet still make up about half of the world's poor (Heifer Int'l). **Learn about CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture) in your community.**

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

24 (PURPLE) Pause for a moment of stillness to reflect and remember our journey through this Advent calendar and season. **Pray once more for the person/group you chose on Dec 1. Do you feel moved to take any action?** Isaiah 55:3-8

25 (GOLD) Celebrate God-with-us, in yourself, your family, and community. **Merry Christmas from Global Women's Project!** Isaiah 55:12-13

Total tax $_____