

Advent Activities Guide

Advent is a wonderful time to engage your children, youth and church communities in the **ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE** campaign and Episcopal Relief & Development's work to nurture children to reach their full potential. Here are some fun and creative ways to learn, share and give this Advent season.

HOST AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET



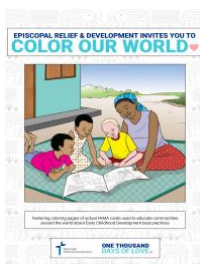
A gift market is a wonderful way to share all the blessings we have been given in this world. Use our special Christmas *Gifts for Life* catalog to offer your congregation dozens of ways to give tangible donations to those who need it most. This year we are highlighting gifts that help nurture children to their full potential. Give the gift of clean water, mosquito nets, vitamins and medicine or help educate children with special needs. Look for the gifts with the **ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE** logo.

CREATE A FUNDRAISER



Create a social media fundraiser through our fundraising site. Your church can become a fundraising team to purchase impact items to help children reach their full potential. **IT'S EASY!** You can create your own personalized page, set a goal, invite friends, add a team of supporters and see the generosity flow. All the *Gifts for Life* items that support children are already on your fundraising page to make it easy for people to select a giving level. [Click here for instructions to set up your fundraiser.](#) You can easily share your fundraiser on Facebook and send a link to your emails or newsletters.

SEND A COLOR OUR WORLD CHRISTMAS CARD



Did you know that our [new coloring book](#) features images used in the field to teach families about Early Childhood Development best practices in places like Kenya, Zambia and Ghana? Share this book with all of the children in your congregation and encourage families to use the colored in drawings as [Christmas Cards](#) for family friends! Add sweet messages as well to give the cards a personal touch.

To: *Grandma*

From: *Baby Jack*

Thank you for playing games with me, I love you.

SHARE ACTS OF LOVE



Performing random acts of love and kindness humanize us; it lifts us spiritually and it is good for us. [Download](#) our Acts of Love [toolkit](#) to help children, teens or your outreach committees plan simple and safe ways to share Acts of Love. We have [ideas](#) to share an act of love at home, in your community and the world.

SEND A ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE ZOOM VIRTUAL BACKGROUND



When someone donates to *Gifts for Life*, send them this [ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE virtual background](#) to use during virtual coffee! And make sure to use this background during all of your Zoom meetings as well. Not sure how to change your background? In the bottom left corner of Zoom you should see "Stop Video". Click on the upward arrow to the right of this button and "Choose Virtual Background". On the right side of the new screen that pops up, you should see a small plus side that you can click on to upload the new photo.

REQUEST AN ALTERNATIVE GIFT



Ask your friends and family to [make a donation](#) through *Gifts for Life*, as your Christmas gift this year. The tax deduction they will receive may enable them to contribute a larger gift. Look for the gifts with the **ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE** logo to support our work with children.

Have fun and be creative! Then share your Advent activities on social media with our hashtag #1000Days of Love. Be sure to inform us of your activities, so that we can share and publicize your work. 1000DaysofLove@episcopalrelief.org