PUTTING THEIR FAITH IN ACTION:

FEATURED CONGREGATION
St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, Corona CA

SHARE GIFTS FOR LIFE WITH COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

Every year, congregations and schools across the church find creative and inspiring ways to support Gifts for Life. We’re excited to share one of these incredible success stories with you – and hope you will share your story with us next year!

Each Advent, Karen Chavez, Deacon at St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church in Corona CA, chooses a project that will raise awareness in her congregation about a need in the community or the world. Then she sets out to raise funds for that cause.

Her choice for 2019 was Episcopal Relief & Development’s ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE, our grassroots campaign to expand our global programs to improve the lives of children through age six. Karen introduced the Advent Challenge during a sermon on Christ the King Sunday, setting an ambitious goal of $6,000, their highest fundraising goal ever.

She met with a group of volunteers to form a team. They created a display board, asked the choir director to teach children “Jesus Loves the Little Children” and handled the logistics of donations. She also enlisted a talented parishioner named Mary to make ornaments for those who made a donation.

During the offertory on Epiphany Sunday, three children presented a gift of just over $6,000 to the baby Jesus lying in the manger.

MAKE EVERY DAY OF ADVENT COUNT

Hang the calendar on the reverse in your church or school to serve as inspiration throughout the Advent season. Each day offers a new opportunity to empower people worldwide.

How will your congregation take part in ONE THOUSAND DAYS OF LOVE?

Share your story at info@episcopalrelief.org
**2020 GIFTS FOR LIFE ADVENT CALENDAR**

**SUNDAY**

29 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus.”

—1 Corinthians 1:4

30 | DID YOU KNOW?

A child’s first 1,000 days are foundational in their capacity to grow, learn, and thrive for life.

**MONDAY**

1 | DECEMBER TUESDAY

GIVE COVID-19 RELIEF KITS

Give communities the resources and knowledge to respond to the novel coronavirus. $45 for one kit / PH1201

2 | DIY ADVENT WREATH

Set aside time each day to light the candle, pray and learn how you can make a change in children’s lives this Advent.

**TUESDAY**

3 | DID YOU KNOW?

Around the world, one out of every five children lives on less than $1.90 a day.

**WEDNESDAY**

4 | GIVE A BICYCLE

Help community volunteers spend more time with children and their families.

$95 per bike / PH0403

**THURSDAY**

5 | WORDS TO LIVE BY

“Life’s most persistent and urgent question is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”

—Martin Luther King

**FRIDAY**

6 | SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“A voice cries out: ‘In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.’”

—Isaiah 40:3

7 | DID YOU KNOW?

Water, sanitation and hygiene are essential to prevent spread of infectious diseases including COVID-19.

**SATURDAY**

8 | DID YOU KNOW?

“High quality early childhood education improves a child’s chances for success later in life.”

—Isaiah 61:1

10 | DID YOU KNOW?

Stable, caring relationships with adults benefits healthy brain development in young children.

**WRITE YOUR GOAL BELOW**

Use the thermometer to gauge your progress throughout the month!

**OUR GOAL:**

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1.855.312.4325

**FOR MORE WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:**

[episcopalrelief.org/advent](http://episcopalrelief.org/advent)