

2020 Advent Calendar




Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel

The season of Advent is a time of celebration of Christ's birth and expectant waiting of His second coming. This practice allows us to daily reset our hearts to HOPE in God's promises, PREPARE ourselves for His return, experience the PEACE and JOY that His birth brought, and give our ADORATION to Him through the action of loving our neighbors. We hope you'll join us as we practice this intentionality and care every day this Christmas season.



Build Something Special Together

Simply print and cut out the 25 cards below, and reveal a new Advent activity each day to the children in your life. Bonus points for keeping the cards and displaying them by using the guides at the bottom of this PDF, constructing one building or structure each day, in order to end up with your own small city by the end of Advent - a reminder that together we can build a better city by helping our community's most vulnerable residents and by ending the cycle of social injustice and severe poverty, one person at a time.



O Tannenbaum, O Tannenbaum, how lovely are thy branches

Spend some time decorating the Christmas Tree and getting the house festive and cozy.



Long live snail mail!

Make Christmas Cards to snail mail to your school friends.

2



Always leave a note

City Care's Night Shelter opens this winter and they'd like every guest to have a handwritten note on their pillow when they arrive. Send a note or two to someone who could use a friend.

3



Cookies aren't just for Santa!

Help bake cookies for a special treat tomorrow...
And the next day...
And the next...

4



Dress up and have a special Christmas Tea Party!

(read as: Hot Chocolate Bar and Cookie Party)

5



Random Act of Kindness

Galatians 6:10 says, "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone..."

How can you do good for someone today?

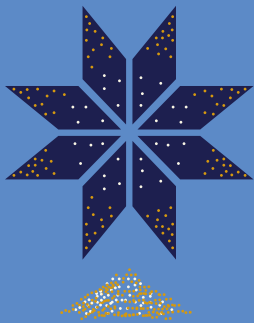
6



Get your game face on

Tonight have a game night in your pajamas.

7



No tree is quite complete without a homemade ornament.

Try your hand at some crafty ornaments to add to the tree today.

8



You know who works extra hard at the holidays? (hint: it's not Santa and his elves) The mailman!

Today, do something kind for someone else and leave a nice note and a treat out for one of the hardest workers around.

9



Too chilly for a backyard campout?

No problem. Tonight, camp out...inside!

10



Jesus said to love your neighbor

Though many people are neighbors, today love on your **ACTUAL** next door neighbor - pick out some beautiful blooms to deliver next door

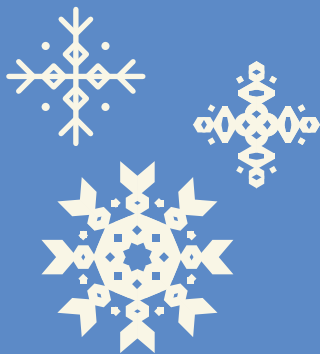
11



It's not bedtime, yet!

Throw on some sneakers and take a driving tour to find the city's brightest Christmas lights.

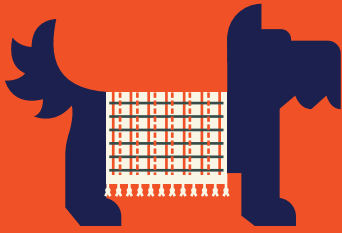
12



Have you ever heard that no two snowflakes are alike?

See if it's true as you make your own paper snowflake garland.

13



Dogs are a man's best friend

That's definitely true for some of our neighbors sleeping on the streets. Today donate a new blanket, toy, or treat to City Care's Night Shelter Pet Hotel so these friends get to love on their best friends.

14



"I will eat a piece of the roof and you can eat the window..."

Today, decorate (and eat!) a gingerbread house.

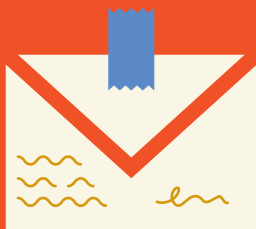
15



"I thank God for you because..."

At every meal today, write down one reason that you thank God for each person at their table setting. It's so important to tell other people about Jesus and what better way to do that than to tell them just why they're so special in His eyes?

16



Random Act of Kindness

Remember how we're supposed to do good to everyone? Today, surprise a stranger and tape some happy notes and an envelope of change at some vending machines.

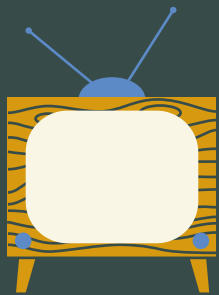
17



So many children don't have the opportunity to read from one of their own books at night.

Today, buy and mail your favorite book to Whiz Kids so that they can help build personal libraries for their students.

18



Movie Night!

Grab every blanket and pillow you can and watch your favorite Christmas movie in a holiday fort.

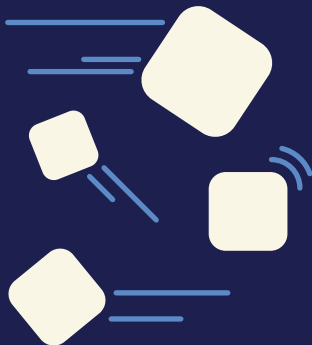
19



Random Act of Kindness

2 Corinthians 9:7 says that God loves a cheerful giver. Today, cheerfully leave an anonymous gift at a neighbor's front door.

20



Ready or not... Indoor snowball fight!

(Marshmallows)

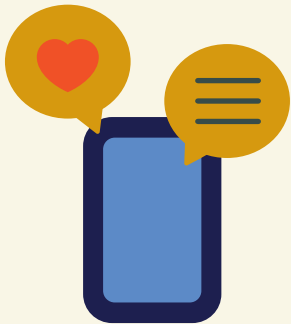
21



There are at least two more months of cold weather.

Today, buy a coat and keep it in your car so that you can give it away when you see someone who needs it.

22



A Japanese Proverb says, "One kind word can warm three winter months."

Download City Care's Samaritan app today and send a warm note to someone who needs it.

23



Read the Christmas story in Luke chapter 2

Spend the day praising God for the good gift of His Son. And thank Him for your many blessings, including your family, friends, and warm house.

24



"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:11 – MERRY CHRISTMAS

25

