

Advent Jar of Gifts

I am sure you have seen mason jar gifts before. Sometimes they are filled with the makings for cookies, brownies or even soups! We are taking a new look at the Gift Jars 😊 Club 56 Students are invited to think about gifts they have in their lives AND how they can gift others.

As a family, please join your student in recognizing our gifts as an Advent activity. First, choose an organization that you can share your gifts with. A local food shelf, [the ELCA Good Gifts program](#), or another one close to you.

Next, think of things that you are grateful for, 24 things for now. This might mean the big stuff like, friends and family, or the simple stuff like beds and clean water, or the silly stuff like video games and Lego's. We are surrounded by gifts that bring us comfort, ease, and joy! Remember how grateful we were to find toilet paper in March of 2020? Make your list with every day in mind.



Now that you have your list of 24 gifts, what next?

- Next, you'll need 24 wooden tongue depressors, a mason jar and stuff to decorate the jar and tongue depressors. This may be ribbon, glue and craft gems, paint, glitter, whatever you have on hand!
- Write each gift on a tongue depressor.
- Decorate each with the glitter, ribbon, paint the tops – use your imagination!
- Place all your decorated tongue depressors in the jar.
- Starting on December 1st, pull one out of the jar and then count how many of those that you have. Is the gift beds? Count the beds in your home. Is the gift clean water, how many faucets do you have?
- For each item you count add a penny in the jar (or more if you would like) 😊
- On the 24th, Christmas Eve, donate the money you collected over the month to the organization that you choose at the beginning of the month. Thus, in the recognition of our gifts – we can gift others.



We are surrounded by gifts and I believe that we honor those gifts, each other and God in the recolonization of those gifts and how we can gift others. It is my hope and prayer that you and your family can enjoy this Advent season!