**Reverse Advent Calendar**

Each day add an item to a box at home. On Christmas Eve (or the Sunday prior) bring the collected items to the Hospitality Center at St. John’s to be donated to Silver Horizons.

**December 1 – box of cereal**

* As you place a box of cereal in your box, say a prayer for the people of Albuquerque who hunger (a feeling of discomfort or weakness caused by lack of food, coupled with the desire to eat).

**December 2 – peanut butter**

* As you place a jar of peanut butter in your box, say a prayer for Silver Horizons whose mission is to see low-income seniors living safe and secure, in their own homes, with enough food to eat.

**December 3 – stuffing mix**

* As you place a package of stuffing mix in your box, say a prayer for the organizations that provide a hot Thanksgiving meal for low-income and homeless individuals and families who might otherwise have no opportunity to celebrate the holiday.

**December 4 – boxed potatoes**

* As you place boxed potatoes in your box, say a prayer for The Storehouse that is committed to help New Mexicans solve their food insecurities.

**December 5 – macaroni and cheese**

* As you place a box of macaroni and cheese in your box, say a prayer for the 1 in 4 children in New Mexico who go hungry each day.

**December 6 – canned fruit**

* As you place a canned fruit in your box, say a prayer for the 14.4% of New Mexicans who don’t know where their next meal will come from.

**December 7 – canned tomatoes**

* As you place canned tomatoes in your box, say a prayer for HopeWorks (St. Martin’s) that provides hope and meals to those experiencing homelessness.

**December 8 – canned tuna**

* As you place canned tuna in your box, say a prayer for the fishermen who have chosen that career to provide us with fish to eat.

**December 9 – dessert mix**

* As you place a dessert mix in your box, say a prayer for Roadrunner Food Bank that constantly works to create solutions to end hunger in New Mexico.

**December 10 – jar of applesauce**

* As you place a jar of applesauce in your box, say a prayer for orchard owners everywhere who provide apples for all sorts of food items.

**December 11 – canned sweet potatoes**

* As you place canned sweet potatoes in your box, say a prayer for those farmers who grow potatoes for our consumption.

**December 12 – cranberry sauce**

* As you place a can of cranberry sauce in your box, say a prayer for those faithful volunteers from 1st United Methodist Church in Albuquerque who serve a meal on Mondays to over 300 people.

**December 13 – canned beans**

* As you place canned beans in your box, say a prayer for The Rock at Noon Day that offers a small corner of peace, a place of brotherhood, and a promise to fill a void of nutrition in Albuquerque.

**December 14 – box of crackers**

* As you place a box of crackers in your box, say a prayer for our St. John’s Mobile Food Pantry volunteers and participants and that all will be blessed in some way through the serving and receiving.

**December 15 – package of rice**

* As you place a package of rice in your box, say a prayer for rice farmers who provide this staple for our meals.

**December 16 – package of oatmeal**

* As you place an item in your box, say a prayer for the farmers who grow oats and make oatmeal possible.

**December 17 – packaged pasta**

* As you place packaged pasta in your box, say a prayer for the residents of New Mexico that they will become passionate about feeding hungry children and taking us out of the #2 position across the nation of hungry children.

**December 18 – spaghetti sauce**

* As you place a jar of spaghetti sauce in your box, say a prayer for the Rio Grande Food Project that provides emergency food to the most vulnerable in the Albuquerque metro area.

**December 19 – chicken noodle soup**

* As you place a can of chicken noodle soup in your box, say a prayer for health and wellness of those facing hunger and / or homelessness as hunger impacts overall health of our community.

**December 20 – tomato soup**

* As you place a can of tomato soup in your box, say a prayer for University Heights UMC, Asbury UMC, and St. John’s UMC Breaking Bread ministry which feeds a community meal on the first Sunday of each month to the hungry and homeless of Albuquerque.

**December 21 – canned corn**

* As you place a can of corn in your box, say a prayer for Joy Junction that helps homeless men, women, children & families in Albuquerque by providing food, clothing, shelter & safety.

**December 22 - canned mixed vegetables**

* As you place a can of mixed vegetables in your box, say a prayer for Steelbridge (Rescue Mission) that provides long-term housing, residential recovery programs, food, clothing, counseling and other resources that offer men and women the opportunity to transform their lives, and at no cost to them.

**December 23 – canned carrots**

* As you place a can of carrots in your box, say a prayer for University Heights Gilbert Chavez ministry which gives out lunch bags to the homeless and hungry every Sunday morning.

**December 24 – canned green beans**

* As you place a can of green beans in your box, say a prayer that God will show you where you can become involved to end hunger in New Mexico.

*Adapted from passionatepennypincher.com*