



- ❖ Holy smokes, Christmas is about 3 weeks away. If you're like me, you still have lots to do. It's OK, you have time, but planning is required. Take a look at your calendar and schedule with yourself the tasks that need to be done (cooking, baking, wrapping, cleaning, family traditions to keep, etc.). Make sure to actually put those to-do's on your calendar otherwise, time may get away from you.
- ❖ It's wonderful to donate gently used items to your favorite charity, but please be mindful of what you are donating. No one wants a broken or dirty item. Of course, a shirt with a tiny stain is better than no shirt at all, but a shirt covered in stains or with many tears is of no use to anyone.
- ❖ Need to make phone calls and can't find the time? This is the one-time I feel like multi-tasking works. Even I can empty the dishwasher or put on a load of laundry while making a call.
- ❖ The day before trash/recycling day, review and purge any magazines or newspapers you have around. Get them out in the recycling. As a guideline, any magazine over 3 months old and any newspaper over 1 day old, should go.
- ❖ Plan your day in such a way that you do the toughest projects during your strongest times. For me, that's first thing in the morning. After 5pm, other than making dinner, I'm pretty much useless.
- ❖ Do you worry about disposing of stuff because you don't want it going into a landfill? A lot of townships bring the trash to incinerators with technology that also takes care of many air pollutants. So, no more worrying about landfills and the length of time it takes for something to break down.
- ❖ A load or two a day keeps the piles away. Laundry can get overwhelming very quickly. Be sure to do a load or two a day and it will keep this quickly growing beast under control. Enlist family members to help as soon as they are old enough.
- ❖ Your time to share...  
What's your favorite way to keep track of your to-do's at this crazy busy time of year?

- ❄️ Pay it forward today. Hold a door for someone, buy someone's coffee, check in on an elderly neighbor. It's a win-win; everyone will feel better for it.
- ❄️ I started to panic about being less than 2 weeks from Christmas, then I remembered that if 4 different types of cookies don't get baked or gifts are bagged instead of wrapped, or you name it isn't done, the world will not come to an end. Besides, that's not even what Christmas is all about.
- ❄️ If you ordered something for someone for Christmas and you're not sure it will arrive on time, just print out a picture of it and wrap that up instead. They'll still have an item to unwrap and will be happy to know a present is coming.
- ❄️ If at all possible, make traditions with your children that will last a lifetime. It could be something as simple as watching a favorite Christmas movie together every year or something as elaborate as a ski vacation every New Year's Eve. It doesn't matter what it is, it's the tradition of doing it every year with one another that counts. What are your family traditions?
- ❄️ Clear the clutter, even the clutter in your head.
- ❄️ Block out time with your family, they truly are all that matters.
- ❄️ Tomorrow is Christmas Eve. Don't sweat it; what you haven't gotten done won't end the world. I still haven't done my outdoor decorations and they just may not happen this year. I think the world will still keep spinning.
- ❄️ This year is coming to a close. Take some time to review this year, the ups and downs, and what you want to accomplish in 2020.
- ❄️ Having trouble putting the new gifts away? Maybe some other items need to go to donation to make room for the new stuff. Get a last minute tax write-off and get some items to your local donation center.
- ❄️ Tomorrow closes out 2019. What's your favorite memory/event of the year?
- ❄️ Happy New Year's Eve everyone! Be safe and enjoy!