

This year First Pres Moultrie will again participate in Operation Christmas Child

What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child is a project of Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization. Our mission is to provide local partners (pastors) around the world with shoeboxes filled with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of reaching out to children in their own communities with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We ship these simple gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations in the U.S.

Shoeboxes can be from home, cardboard or the Missions Committee has purchased plastic ones you can use available at the church. Box and lid need to be wrapped separately (a fun time for children and adults).

Decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and the age category: 2–4, 5–9, or 10–14.

Pack the shoebox

Items not allowed (Note some previously recommended are no longer allowed) Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans. Toothpaste, liquid glue or paint, matches.

Allowed items: Most items are allowed – some you may wonder about are Playing cards, little toys like spiders, bugs, , scissors, toolkit with nails, screws, screwdrivers, and hammers but **no saws or pocketknives**, squirt guns that are obviously toys and fake camouflage (**cannot look like soldier**), glow sticks, wet wipes, lip balm or lipstick (**not gloss**), compact mirrors if glass is contained in case it breaks. Many other items are allowed. Although CDs are allowed, keep in mind that the children may not have a DVD player or CD player available. See the pages attached for suggestions for age groups and boys/girls.

Pray for the child who will receive your box

Donate \$9 online and receive a label to [Follow Your Box](#) and discover the destination of your shoebox gift. Go to <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/> to make the \$9/box donation and print a label. Bring the wrapped, filled, labelled boxes to the church no later than November 22.

FPC will deliver shoeboxes November 16-23 to a dropoff center location available first week in October

Suggested Items

Girl age 2-4

- **1. WOW item** such as Doll, Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear OR Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder)
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils
(Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.)
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress), Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Tote bag/purse, Friendship bracelets (woven with yarn or embroidery thread)
- **Crafts and Activities** such as pencils, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, coloring pads/books, picture book, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, dry (not liquid) watercolor paint and brushes, paper, playdough with plastic cookie cutters, stickers, jumprope, finger puppets

- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), Slinky, Etch A Sketch, Interactive toys that include push buttons, lights, noise (include extra batteries – tape battery ends if loose)
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

*Samaritan's Purse encourages Operation Christmas Child shoebox donors to include a **personal note** in each shoebox gift to encourage the recipient child in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Some donors also include photos and addresses. Occasionally, pen-pal relationships have developed over the years between shoebox packers and the recipient.

Samaritan's Purse encourages donors who include their mailing address to be cautious of correspondence from shoebox recipient countries, especially letters written to children. Correspondence from a stranger should be treated with caution and awareness. Samaritan's Purse does not encourage shoebox recipients or ministry partner churches around the world to solicit support from our donors.

Suggested Items

Boy age 2-4

- **1. WOW item** such as Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear OR Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder)
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils
(Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as combs, markers, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.)
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses,
- **Crafts and Activities** such as pencils, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, coloring pads/books, picture book, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, dry (not liquid) watercolor paint and brushes, paper, playdough with plastic cookie cutters, stickers, building blocks, finger puppets

- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), Slinky, Etch A Sketch, tennis ball, play cars/trucks/boats, plastic tools, plastic dinosaurs, Interactive toys that include push buttons, lights, noise (include extra batteries – tape battery ends if loose)
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

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Suggested Items

Girl age 5-9

- **1. WOW item** such as Doll (consider doll clothes, doll bed as well), Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder) OR backpack
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils
(Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.), Non-liquid lip balm, Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank; if battery operated, be sure to include extra batteries of the type needed), Compact mirror
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress), Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Tote bag/purse, Friendship bracelets (woven with yarn or embroidery thread)
- **School supplies** such as pencils, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, blank index cards, solar powered calculator, scissors, ruler, protractor
- **Crafts and Activities** such as, coloring pads/books, dry (not liquid) watercolor paint and brushes, and paper, puzzles, playdough with plastic cookie cutters, stickers, jumprope, finger or hand puppets, chalkboard and chalk, binoculars, tic-tac-toe board
- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), Etch A Sketch, costume dress up items (crowns, jewelry), plastic toys/figures, yo-yo, frisbee, kite (small enough to fit in box)
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

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Suggested Items

Boy age 5-9

- **1. WOW item** such as Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Toy truck or boat, Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear OR Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder), backpack
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Non-liquid lip balm, Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank; if battery operated, be sure to include extra batteries of the type needed), Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils. (Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as combs, markers, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.)
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Wristwatch
- **Crafts and Activities** such as coloring pads/books, dry (not liquid) watercolor paint and brushes, and paper, puzzles, playdough with plastic cookie cutters, stickers, chalkboard and chalk, binoculars

- **School Supplies** such as pencils, erasers, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, glue stick, adhesive tape, blank index cards, solar powered calculator, scissors, ruler, protractor
- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), Etch A Sketch, tennis ball, toy cars/trucks/boats, plastic tools, plastic dinosaurs, animals, action figures (not war-related), baseball and mitt, hacky sack (whatever that is!)
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

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Suggested Items

Girl age 10-14

- **1. WOW item** such as Doll (consider doll clothes, doll bed as well), Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder) OR backpack
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Pillowcase dress (loose-fitting sundress), Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Tote bag/purse, Decorative hat, wristwch, bead jewelry/kit, hair clips/ribbons/elastic bands
- **School supplies** such as pencils, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, blank index cards, solar powered calculator, scissors, ruler, protractor
- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), Etch A Sketch, yo-yo, frisbee, kite (small enough to fit in box), kaleidoscope, marbles
- **Crafts and Activities** such as puzzles, , chalkboard and chalk, binoculars, compass, gardening kits with trolvel & gloves (no seeds) , kaleidoscope, Sewing kit, fabric (1-2 yards), and ribbon, Laminated decorative pictures with looped ribbon attached as a picture hanger, playing cards, jumprope
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils
(Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as hair bows, bracelets, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.), Non-liquid lip balm, Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank; if battery operated, be sure to include extra batteries of the type needed), Compact mirror, Nail clipper and file, Stick deodorant, Washable/reusable cloth menstrual pads
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

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Suggested Items

Boy age 10-14

- **1. WOW item** such as Soccer ball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated.), Toy truck or boat, Stuffed animal, An outfit of clothing to wear Small musical instrument (such as a harmonica or woodwind recorder), OR backpack
- **Personal Care Items** such as comb, hairbrush, toothbrush, washcloth, bar soap (in package or container), colorful bandaids, blanket, Non-liquid lip balm, Nail clipper/file, Flashlight (solar-powered or hand-crank; if battery operated, be sure to include extra batteries of the type needed), Reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl, blunt-edged utensils. (Consider filling an empty container with non-liquid items such as combs, markers, sunglasses, or washcloths to maximize the space.), stick deodorant
- **Clothing such as** Shirts and pants, Underwear, Shoes and socks, Flip-flops, Hat/scarf/mittens, Sunglasses, Wristwatch, bandana
- **Crafts and Activities** such as puzzles, toolset with work gloves (no saws/pocketknives), chalkboard and chalk, binoculars, compass, fishing kit, gardening kits with trowel & gloves (no seeds) , magnets, kaleidoscope, brightly colored rope or twine

- **School Supplies** such as pencils, erasers, hand pencil sharpener, colored pencils, pencil case, crayons, markers, pens, notebook, glue stick, adhesive tape, glue stick, adhesive tape, blank index cards, solar powered calculator, scissors, ruler, protractor
- **Toys** such as Foam ball, Kickball (Make sure to include a manual air pump so that the ball can be reinflated), tennis ball, toy cars/trucks/boats, baseball and mitt, hacky sack (whatever that is!)
- **Personal Note.** You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family, or group. If you include your name and an address, the child may be able to write back.

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