

We are sponsoring **Operation Christmas Child** (Christmas Shoe Box) again and invite you to take part in this unique mission's project.

**Operation Christmas Child** is one way you can make a difference in a young person's life. Since 1993, this Samaritan's Purse project has shared the Good News of God's love with hurting children through the simplest of gifts--shoe boxes! Filled with school supplies, toys, and personal items that are packed by caring people, these boxes help introduce children to Jesus Christ. Local believers follow up with evangelistic programs, and many precious boys and girls later receive Jesus as their Savior.

**This is just a reminder that the Christmas Shoe Boxes need to be in church by the week of November 17.**

The Drop-off location has changed this year. It is now in Canajoharie.

Look for the display in the back of the sanctuary. All the information will be there for you to fill a box for some deserving child.

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations worldwide through gift-filled shoe boxes and the Good News of God's love. Here are some ways you can make a difference in the lives of those children:

**PRAY.** Please pray that God will touch the heart of every child who receives a shoe box gift and that He will bring many children and families to faith in Christ.

**PACK A GIFT.** A shoe box filled with small toys and other gifts can open hurting hearts to God's love. Please remember to specify on label whether its for a BOY or GIRL.

**GIVE.** Please remember to give \$7 per box to cover shipping and other project costs.

**VOLUNTEER.** Make a difference in the lives of children by volunteering with Operation Christmas Child! You can serve year-round on teams, promoting the project through the local church and community. Or beginning in November, serve short-term at a local drop-off site or at one of six Processing Centers around the country.

If you are unable to shop for items for a shoebox, you can make a donation and either the church school children or youth group members will do the shopping and wrapping for you. This will be a good experience for them as well.

## **GIFT IDEAS LIST**

### **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**

pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.

### **TOYS**

small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, small Etch A Sketch, toys that light up or make noise (with extra batteries), slinky, etc.

### **HYGIENE ITEMS**

Toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in plastic bag), comb washcloth, etc.

### **OTHER**

Hard candy and lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, t-shirts, socks, ball caps, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries).

### **A PERSONAL NOTE**

In a separate envelope, you may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself or your family. (If you include your name and address, the child may write back).

### **DO NOT INCLUDE**

Used or damaged items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-dat candy; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

***Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."***

***—Matthew 19:14, NIV***