



Through *Operation Christmas Hope*, we partner with community agencies, homeless missions, transitional living facilities, and domestic abuse shelters to mobilize volunteers in serving children facing hardship during the holiday season.

You can spread the joy and hope of the Christmas Spirit with at-risk children in our local and regional area.

Pack shoeboxes with Christmas gifts for children affected by domestic violence, homelessness, transitional living, parental incarceration, financial insecurity, and other adverse childhood situations. **Return filled shoeboxes to our lobby or church office no later than Sunday, December 11.** This is a simple way for individuals, families, or small groups to share Christmas joy with kids in crisis.

HOW TO PACK A SHOEBOX

- 1. Take a Shoebox.** Please do not wrap shoeboxes, simply tape gift tag to the outside of the top lid.
- 2. Girl or Boy?** Decide whether you will pack a box for a girl or a boy, and age category: 5-9 or 10-13. Indicate this by taping the gift tag to the outside of the shoebox top lid.
- 3. Fill with Gifts.** Select a quality “wow” toy such as a doll, soccer ball with pump, or stuffed animal. Then add other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.

YOUNGER CHILDREN GIFT IDEAS:

- Any toys (except guns/violent toys) and extra batteries for toys that need them
- Educational board games or puzzles
- Legos/building blocks
- Sports Gear: Nerf footballs, soccer balls, etc.
- Clothing and Accessories: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries), new socks, pajamas, underwear, etc.
- Dolls and action figures
- School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, etc.
- Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, bath sets w/ combs and brushes, etc.
- Crafts: Make your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets, and friendship bracelets.
- A personal note.

OLDER CHILDREN GIFT IDEAS:

- Art kits
- School supplies
- Books
- Electronics (MP3 players, portable CD/DVD players)
- Sports equipment (footballs, basketballs)
- Perfume/bath and body products
- New clothes in season (jeans, sweatshirts, hoodies)
- Journals
- DVD movies (PG or G only)
- Nightgowns/robes
- Hygiene items (soaps, gels, lotions, body spray, cologne)
- Gift cards (retail stores and fast food chains)
- Movie tickets or theme park/zoo passes
- Watches



Do Not Include: Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; out-of-date candy; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

4. Pray. Most importantly, pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo.

5. Return filled shoeboxes to our lobby or church office no later than Sunday, December 11.

Want to give but can't pack your own shoebox? You can make a tax-deductible donation. Give online or make checks payable to MBC with notation "Christmas Missions."

Sponsor a child today and give
a Christmas blessing they will never forget!