



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

SAMARTIAN'S PURSE

The Power of a simple gift!

We participate in the world's largest Christmas project of its kind, Operation Christmas Child, uses gift-filled shoeboxes to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children around the world in need. As you are going about purchasing or making items and while packing for the shoebox, please **pray** for the child who will receive it.

First, you get a "Operation Christmas Child" shoebox from the church office or a plastic box.

Second, decide if the box goes to a girl or a boy. Select the child's age.

Third, fill the shoe box with age appropriate gifts. Attach a label stating boy or girl and age the box is for, labels will be provided.

Gift ideas:

"Wow" Item: Start with a medium to large item that will capture the child's attention the instant the box is opened.

Ideas include: Soccer ball with pump and needles, stuffed animal, toys (puppets, trucks, etc), Doll (baby, Barbie, etc.), musical instrument, outfit, shoes

Toys: Include items that children will immediately embrace such as toy cars, yoyos, jump ropes, balls, toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries), blocks, blankets (for younger children) etc.

School Supplies: pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, stickers, etc.

Older Children: small tools, tape measures, sewing kits, fabric squares, deflated balls with pumps and needles, rulers, etc.

Non-liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, combs, washcloths, etc. Be sure toothpaste has at least a six month expiration date.

Accessories: T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (with extra batteries),

Crafts: Make your own items such as hair bows, finger puppets, and friendship bracelets.

For great ideas with pictures and instructions for crafts go to www.samartianspurse.org. At the top of the website page select What we do, select Operation Christmas Child, select Gift Selections, scroll down to Age and Gender-Specific ideas, select gender and age. There is a ton of info for each age.

INFORMATION FOR 2018:

Sunday, November 11th, is the last day for turning in shoeboxes. Pastor Dan will bless the boxes during the service. So be sure and have your box there on Nov. 11th for the Blessing of the boxes. You can turn in your boxes anytime before that. As the boxes come in, we will take them to the sanctuary. Hopefully, we will have a big pile of them! Right now we have 16 boxes.

Tags for the shoeboxes are in the office. You can designate if your box is for a boy or girl and the age of the child.

We have \$360 for shipping! Enough for 40 boxes!

Thanks to everyone for participating in making this a successful ministry for Salem Lutheran Church.

De Colores!