November 8 • 10:30a
3 year olds - 6th grade

JAM CITY Shoebox Packing Party

Dear JAM City Families,

Our shoebox packing party is a tradition that was started even before I took over as the director of JAM City. I know how busy life can be and the last thing I want is for this to be simply one more thing to do in your schedules. I wanted to share a few reasons I personally love shoebox packing and the opportunities it gives us in the discipleship of kids. Shoebox packing provides our kids a personal and tangible way to be involved in sharing Christ around the world. It provides opportunities to discuss and practice prayer, giving, and the leading of the spirit. When we involve our kids in the process, it allows them an opportunity to be sensitive to the spirit leading their lives. Allow your kids to choose some of items for their box. Pray together before you take them shopping and ask God to help them choose the perfect toys for the child that will receive their box. This allows them to take ownership in their shoebox giving. Start praying now with your child for the boy or girl that will receive your child's box. Our packing party should be the culmination of our time in discussion at church and your discipleship at home. And fyi, we have pillowcase dresses to add to the boxes for girls.

If packing a shoebox is a financial burden to your family, let the church body cover the shipping. We have an ABF that donates funds each year. If you are unable to purchase items, please email me at aedem@whbc.org and I will make sure your child has items ready to pack that morning. Please let me know ahead of time, so that I can plan accordingly. I plan to pack 5 or so extra bags just in case we have visitors or someone forgets.

Alia Edem, JAM City Director

BOX SIZE: (11.5L x 4.375H x 7W)
A sample box will be available at the Checkpoint Desk if you want to see if your items will fit.
DO **NOT** TAKE BOXES FROM THE FOYER—CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE THEIR SHOEBOX AT THE PACKING PARTY.

OUR PACKING PARTY: During our packing party we will watch video testimonies from Samaritans Purse, have a devotional, pray, decorate and write letters, and pack our shoeboxes.

GETTING STARTED!

Who are you shopping for?
- ☐ boy ☐ girl

What age are you shopping for?
- ☐ 2-4 year old
- ☐ 5-9 year old
- ☐ 10-14 year old

Items to shop for:
- ☐ School Supplies
- ☐ Small Toys
- ☐ Hygiene Items (no soap)
- ☐ Clothing/Accessories

Optional
- ☐ A photo of you (4x6 or smaller)

Last step
- ☐ Place all items in a shopping bag
- ☐ Use included label to put your name on bag.
- ☐ Bring your bag to church Sunday, November 8.

DO NOT INCLUDE

Soap, 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.

FOR SPECIFIC ITEM SUGGESTIONS GO TO:
https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/what-goes-in-my-shoebox-suggestions/

Extended Families and Friends, you can also participate!

NOT for JAM City Families--these instructions are for our extended families and friends who wish to participate at home. If you are part of JAM City, you should have received an email and mailer with specific instructions. JAM City kids need to go shopping and bring their items on November 8, to our annual OCC Packing Party!

Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes.
Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever! Delivered by our local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

TO PARTICIPATE FROM HOME

1. **Grab a Shoebox**
   We have provided boxes for you in the foyer.

2. **Get Your Label**
   Whichever you choose, use the label to indicate on your shoebox whether it was packed for a boy or girl and which age category: **2–4**, **5–9**, or **10–14**.

3. **Fill with Gifts**
   Select a medium to large "wow" item such as a soccer ball with pump or stuffed animal, then fill with other fun toys, school supplies, and personal care items. Don't forget to also include a personal note and photo—sometimes these are the child's favorite things to receive!

4. **Pray**
   Most importantly, "pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5:17) for the child who will receive your shoebox gift.

   Please also pray for:
   - Their family to also be receptive to the Good News of Jesus Christ.
   - The pastor of the church who delivers your shoebox gift.
   - Their community to be transformed by the Gospel.

5. **Donate $10 Per Shoebox**
   A donation of $10 per box is critical to cover evangelism materials, shipping, and **other project costs**. The labels we've provided on the table are unpaid. Follow the instructions to donate online or provide cash or check. Make check payable to WHBC if you want WHBC to take care of dropping off your box with our JAM City boxes. If you use an online option, you can follow your box and discover the destination of your gift.

6. **Drop Off**
   All boxes must be at WHBC no later than Sunday, November 15, if you want WHBC to handle the drop-off. Or take your shoebox gift to a local drop-off location during **National Collection Week, Nov. 16–23, 2026.**

Girl Shoebox Gift Suggestions

A gift-filled shoebox can be the first present a child ever receives, so it is important to uniquely pack each gift and make it **FUN**, **FULL**, and **PERSONALIZED**—praying for the child and adding a photo and personal note.

A "WOW" ITEM

- Small backpack or purse
- Doll
- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Jewelry making or hobby kit
- Large toy

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Comb and brush
- Nail clipper and file
- Water bottle
- Flashlight

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils, sharpener, and erasers
- Pencil container
- Pens
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape
- Drawstring bag

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Flip-flops or shoes
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Costume jewelry
- Hair accessories
- Clothing and undergarments
- Winter cap, scarf, and mittens

GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolor set
- Binoculars and compass
- Musical instruments
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Jump rope
- Stickers
- Games

TOYS

- Small ball
- Building blocks or LEGO® sets
- Slinky® or yo-yo
- Plastic animals
- Magnets
- Finger puppets
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures

DO NOT INCLUDE

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
- Used or damaged items
- Scary or war-related items
- Wearable traditional camouflage
- Seeds or organic matter
- Liquids
- Medication
- Money
- Breakable items
- Matches, fire starters, or aerosols
- Knives, saws, or razor blades

Wondering if an item will fit in an Operation Christmas Child preprinted shoebox?

Cardboard dimensions: 12 x 7 x 4.38 inches
Plastic dimensions: 13 x 7.5 x 4.7 inches

For more shoebox packing suggestions, the latest resources, and Follow Your Box labels, visit **samaritanspurse.org/occ**

VIEW SOLICITATION DISCLOSURE INFORMATION FOR SAMARITAN'S PURSE ONLINE AT SAMARITANSPURSE.ORG/DISCLOSURE.

Boy Shoebox Gift Suggestions

A gift-filled shoebox can be the first present a child ever receives, so it is important to uniquely pack each gift and make it **FUN**, **FULL**, and **PERSONALIZED**—praying for the child and adding a photo and personal note.

A "WOW" ITEM

- Small backpack
- Soccer ball and pump
- Stuffed animal
- Hobby kit
- Large toy truck or car
- Other large toy

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Toothbrush
- Washcloth
- Comb and brush
- Nail clipper and file
- Water bottle
- Flashlight

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils, sharpener, and erasers
- Pencil container
- Pens
- Crayons
- Colored pencils
- Markers
- Notebooks
- Index cards
- Calculator
- Scissors
- Ruler
- Glue stick
- Small adhesive tape
- Drawstring bag

CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES

- Flip-flops or shoes
- Sunglasses
- Hat
- Wristwatch
- Clothing and undergarments
- Winter cap, scarf, and mittens

GAMES & ACTIVITIES

- Puzzles
- Coloring books or pads
- Dry watercolor set
- Binoculars and compass
- Musical instruments
- Chalkboard and chalk
- Jump rope
- Stickers
- Games

TOYS

- Small ball
- Building blocks or LEGO® sets
- Slinky® or yo-yo
- Toy cars
- Plastic animals
- Magnets
- Interactive toys
- Other small toys and figures

DO NOT INCLUDE

- Soap
- Food, candy, or gum
- Toothpaste
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