

SHOEBOX SCOOP

September 2023

10 weeks until collection time

Let's Get Started!

It's time to start thinking about when and how to pack your shoebox(es). Information from Samaritan's Purse with guidelines and suggestions – along with boxes – will be available to you on September 10. If you prefer to pack your own shoebox with family and friends – please take the information and the box(es) you need. If you have a budget that you're honoring, please check with Shoebox Team members for ideas and supplies that will help you fulfill your plan. And pray – for the child God has in mind for your box, for the local workers who will coordinate the distribution and the teaching of The Greatest Journey, for the delivery system and all its influences, and for God to use you in a mighty way to spread the Gospel.



**Mark your calendars –
we need your help!**

**Lunch and Labor –
October 15**

**Packing our Boxes –
November 5**



The Shoebox Team has chosen the goal of including a personal and handwritten note in EVERY shoebox. This note will provide a personal connection with the boy/girl who opens the box and will also include information that will allow the children to respond to our church if they have opportunity. The note does not need to be lengthy or include personal information – it's a sincere, loving note from you to the child who opens the box. Won't you help us achieve this goal? We've provided packets of notes and some suggestions for ideas to include in the note. Pick up a packet on the table in the entryway. Please sign your name to the list of those who are writing notes so we can nudge/remind you if the task slips your mind.

These are happy faces of children who have received shoeboxes full of great treasures, supplies, surprises, and a representation of God's love for them. Perhaps their first gift!



Be the Missionary God Asks You to Be

“Gift-filled shoeboxes have been delivered to children in 175 countries and territories since the project started. This would never have been possible without faithful shoebox packers lovingly and prayerfully preparing boxes in Jesus’ name.

These simple gifts continue to open doors for our local church partners in remote and impoverished communities to share the Gospel with children—many who have never heard about God’s love for them.”

(Samaritan’s Purse, SPECIAL REPORT, 2023)



What’s your WOW?

Consider what you will choose to include in your shoebox as your WOW gift: To a little girl, a doll of her own. To an older boy a pair of shoes so that others would not laugh at him. For the mother of a recipient a sense of gratitude because her son received school supplies and she will not need to pay “rent” on a pencil so he can go to school. For a little girl – paints and paper so that she can create in beautiful color. For a little boy – a ball – he can play with all his friends and he won’t have to use a homemade ball. For an older girl, sewing materials so she can create something beautiful. For any child, a toothbrush so that he/she will not have to share with siblings! Pray about the child for whom you are creating your box – and listen to the Lord’s whisper about your purchases. For those of you who will pack your box/boxes with us on November 5 – be in prayer for the Lord’s guidance in selecting materials to make your box a clear representation of God’s love to the recipient.

A ball seems to become a necessity regardless of where you live. These pictures represent the creativity of children who desperately want to play with a ball: Balls made of collected rubber bands. Balls made of old rags tied with string. Balls made of multiple layers of plastic bags covered with a web of string to hold the plastic together.

