



Prayer Network Update

NOVEMBER 2019



Whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.

—Matthew 21:22

RIGHT: Children in Ukraine rejoice to receive Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts.

God Uses a Shoebox Gift to Draw a Family to Christ

By an Operation Christmas Child ministry partner in a hard-to-reach nation

Seven-year-old Alexander* lives with his mother and grandmother in a small mountain village that is known for its horses. Three years ago, his father died on Alexander's birthday. Every year since on that day, the family remembered his father with a special meal. Alexander thought that his birthday would forever be a day of mourning, and he blamed himself for his father's death.

This year, however, Alexander's mother and grandmother decided to celebrate his birthday. On his special day, two Operation Christmas Child ministry partners arrived at their door and asked to deliver a gift to any children present. The guests had no idea that Alexander had long-awaited a happy birthday, and the shoebox gift brought him tears of joy. The family received the Good News of the Gospel and all three accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. The ministry partners now return weekly to teach them the Word of God.

*Name changed for security

Learn more at samaritanaspurse.org/occ

FOR OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD PRAYER NETWORK PARTNERS ONLY. PLEASE DO NOT SHARE ON SOCIAL MEDIA.



**PRAYER IS CRUCIAL
IN EVANGELISM:
ONLY GOD CAN
CHANGE THE HEART
... NO MATTER
HOW LOGICAL
OUR ARGUMENTS
OR HOW FERVENT
OUR APPEALS,
OUR WORDS WILL
ACCOMPLISH
NOTHING UNLESS
GOD'S SPIRIT
PREPARES THE WAY.**

Billy Graham

Operation Christmas Child International Prayer Requests: **AFFILIATE OFFICES/U.S. REGIONS: November 2019**

WEEK 1: NOVEMBER 1-2

CANADA

- Praise God for over 1,000 Canadians who attended a spring event, celebrating all that God is doing through The Greatest Journey around the world.
- Pray for our volunteers who continue to engage with partnering churches and groups, encouraging project leaders to order supplies and promote the packing of shoeboxes.
- Pray for our new staff and volunteers as they begin their roles with Operation Christmas Child.

GERMANY

- Praise God for the two locations for this year's processing centers.
- Thank the Lord for new Connect volunteers that God is calling to the project.
- Pray for good collaboration with new logistics partners for Operation Christmas Child.
- Pray for all recruiting efforts to find the 3,000 volunteers we will need for the processing centers.

UNITED KINGDOM

- Thank the Lord that the head of the Evangelical Alliance in Ireland decided to use his influence to promote Operation Christmas Child.
- Praise God for a positive church engagement campaign with fellowships being contacted and new congregations agreeing to participate in this year's project.
- Pray for potential partnerships with other organizations to support Operation Christmas Child.
- Ask for project leader workshops to inspire volunteers in local churches and encourage them to participate in Operation Christmas Child.

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- Pray for the UK team, particularly through this upcoming season, as they have faced a lot of staff changes.

WEEK 2: NOVEMBER 3-9

CAROLINAS

- Praise God for an amazing Southeast Vision Trip to South Africa.
- Thank the Lord for new leader volunteers and team members.
- Pray for our volunteers to be bold and fruitful in engaging new groups and individuals to pack shoeboxes.

FLORIDA/PUERTO RICO

- Praise God for safe and life-transforming experiences on the South Africa Vision Trip.
- Thank the Lord for many drop-off and central drop-off locations.
- Praise God for our new administrative coordinator.
- Pray for the Lord to provide many more drop-off and central drop-off locations.

GREAT LAKES

- Thank the Lord for the selection of a new area coordinator in West Virginia.
- Praise God for the 300 volunteers that participated in the Connect Conference.
- Ask for more drop-off locations to be established yet this year.
- Pray for area coordinators to be discovered and selected in developing area teams.

WEEK 3: NOVEMBER 10-16

LOWER MIDWEST

- Praise God for the transformational experience of Vision Trips for the leader volunteers who participated.
- Thank the Lord for His provision of preprinted shoeboxes to distribute through our region.

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- Pray for our national speaker tours and many one-day speaker tours across our region.
- Ask that God would raise up 730,945 shoebox Gospel opportunities from the Lower Midwest and also continue to provide drop-off locations.

MID-ATLANTIC NORTH

- Praise God for his provision of a new office space.
- Thank the Lord for a full staff.
- Please pray for one new drop-off location for each area team across the region.

MID-ATLANTIC SOUTH

- Praise God for the multiplication of the Crooked Road Area Team in western Virginia.
- Pray for two speaker tours in the Mid-Atlantic South. They are designed to target multicultural and diverse churches.
- Pray for local leadership in developing areas.
- Ask the Lord for new drop-off locations within the region.

WEEK 4: NOVEMBER 17-23

NORTHEAST

- Praise God for an influential Vision Trip which nine of our volunteer leaders attended.
- Thank the Lord for the strategic placement of a new central drop-off location in Queens, New York.
- Pray for our area coordinators and ministry coordinators to complete their Leadership Development Training by the end of 2019.
- Pray for new drop-off team leaders to replace those who needed to step down in 2019 so that drop-off locations can continue to serve their communities.

NORTHWEST

- Praise God for successful area team multiplications in Portland, Oregon and Boise, Idaho.



ABOVE: This boy is one of 6.9 million children in the Philippines who have received great joy and the opportunity to hear the Good News of Jesus Christ through a shoebox gift.

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- Thank the Lord for an amazing harvest trip to Liberia.
- Praise God for a great partnership between Operation Christmas Child Northwest and Grace Community Covenant Church.
- Please pray for our goal of having 230 drop off locations in the Northwest Region this year.
- Please pray for logistics coordinators to be identified on 10 teams in the Northwest Region this year.

SOUTHEAST

- Praise God for one of our faithful regional area coordinators and the growth they are experiencing.
- Thank the Lord for a full regional staff team.
- Pray for God to bring the right candidates to fill many seasonal positions.

WEEK 5: NOVEMBER 24-30

SOUTHWEST

- Thank the Lord for the couple that scheduled the Denver Open House in celebration of their 50 years of marriage. Operation Christmas Child has been a part of their marriage for 20 of those 50 years.
- Praise God for the first open house at the Rocky Mountain Ministry Center, our permanent office and warehouse in Denver. It was extremely successful.
- Praise God for all the volunteers who recommitted for 2019 and also completed all of their online Ministry Specific Training.
- Pray for 61 additional central and drop-off locations throughout this region.

TEXAS/LOUISIANA

- Praise God for the hiring of our new regional manager.
- Thank the Lord for several successful speaker tours.

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- Pray for us to identify 45 more drop-off location church partners.
- Pray for our new ministry center to be completed.

UPPER MIDWEST

- Praise God for the new year-round volunteers who have joined the Upper Midwest Connect Volunteer Team this year.
- Praise God for the Joyful Noise Music Festival sponsored by KTIS Radio in the Twin Cities.
- Thank the Lord for the new staffing agency in Chicagoland that was contracted to partner with us in hiring associate (short-term) staff for the relocated processing center.
- Pray for the collection network. Ask that new locations will be secured, and that the Upper Midwest Collection Network will grow by at least 10 percent this season.



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