



THE
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CHURCH

Dear Eastside Vineyard Family –

During the month of November, the church will be partnering with Operation Christmas Child (OCC) as a service project for our kids. In the five years since our church has been involved with OCC, the vision has always been to show kids (of all ages!) that they can put their faith in action and show the love of Jesus to someone in need.

This year, we are asking parents, grandparents, and family friends to take the special children in their lives out shopping and fill shoeboxes full of small gifts between now and the 19th of November. We'd also love for anyone who wants to participate to feel free to do so regardless of whether or not they have the ability to go shopping with a child. Our goal is to send as many of these boxes as we can to kids around the world for Christmas. In 2016, the church sent over 110!

Getting involved is simple – simply pick up your shoeboxes from the information table in the lobby outside the sanctuary and pack them using the instructions attached to this letter.

Key dates:

Sunday, October 29 th through Sunday, November 12 th	You will have the opportunity to take home shoe boxes from an info table in the lobby at church Shoe boxes may be returned to church through November 19th!
Sunday, November 19 th	Packed shoe boxes will be collected and delivered to an Operation Christmas Child Drop Off location by the church.

We realize that during the Christmas season that there are a number of “big asks” on your time and resources, but our sincere prayer is that you consider what role you and your family can play in helping us brighten the lives of kids all across the world.

Sincerely,

Dan Kopp, Lead Pastor
The Eastside Vineyard Church



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Please make sure to pick up a shoebox from the info table in the lobby before Sunday, November 12th.

Instructions for Packing up a Shoe Box for Families:

Step 1: Choose the gender and age range of the child you will be packing a box for and grab the appropriate label:

Boy:	Age 2-4 Years	Girl:	Age 2-4 Years
	Age 5-9 Years		Age 5-9 Years
	Age 10-14 Years		Age 10-14 Years

Step 2: Purchase gift items for the child you selected. Please make sure all of your items will fit into a shoebox! Some ideas are as follows:

Toys	Start with a central item a child would cherish like a doll, deflated soccer ball with a pump, or a plush stuffed animal. Then add items like cars, musical instruments, jump ropes, balls, puzzles, and toys that light up and make noise. Be sure to include extra batteries if a toy requires batteries.
School Supplies	Pens, pencils and sharpeners, crayons, markers, notebooks, paper, coloring books, etc.
Non-liquid hygiene items	Toothbrushes, bars of soap, combs, washcloths, etc.
Accessories	T-shirts, socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, flip-flops, flashlights, etc.
Other items for small children	Blankets, sticker and picture books, blocks, finger puppets, etc.
Other items for older children	Small tools, tape measures, sewing kits, fabric squares, solar calculators, rulers, scissors, jewelry, roll-on deodorant.

***Please avoid candy; toothpaste; 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, fireworks.*

Step 3: Please place all of your items in the shoebox and have your child fill out the attached "Let's be friends" coloring sheet or write a personalized letter to the child who will receive your gift.

Step 4: Have your child take the box they packed up to church between now and **Sunday, November 19th**. The church will be covering all shipping\travel expenses. Be sure to attach the label you grabbed in step 1 and tape it to your box before it is shipped off.

Step 5: Be sure to pray for the kids who will receive the shoeboxes you pack!

Please direct any questions about purchasing items or packing up shoeboxes to Tom and Christina Petz

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