



## SCHOHARIE REGION OF UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES

### Red Bird Shoe Box Collection, 2017



The Schoharie Region Outreach Ministry will join with the Upper New York Conference to fill shoe boxes again in 2017 to support the Red Bird Mission and Clinic in Beverly, Kentucky. The need remains critical in this isolated, rural and distressed area. Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing and rugged mountainous terrain provide obstacles to a fuller life for the residents of this area. Red Bird Mission strives to meet these needs through ministry in five areas: Education, Health & Wellness, Community Outreach, Economic Opportunity and Community Housing Improvement. Shoe boxes can address the needs of both the Health and Wellness and Community Outreach areas.

For 2016, the churches of the Schoharie Region contributed 208 shoeboxes. In 2017 we hope to fill at least this many if not more! Our 2017 drop-off location will be Delanson UMC. The drop off deadline will be **November 13**.

**If your church wishes to participate in the Red Bird Mission Shoe Box Project,** then here are the steps to begin immediately:

- Select someone from your church who is willing to serve as the Red Bird Mission Coordinator for your church
- Notify Pastor Anna Blinn Cole by email at [pastor.anna.cole@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.anna.cole@gmail.com) or by phone or text at 518-414-0078 of your plan to participate as well as the name and contact information for your church's coordinator for this project.
- Read through the packet and start a plan for your church.

Thank you for your continued support of this Outreach Ministry project.

If you have any questions, contact Pastor Anna ([pastor.anna.cole@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.anna.cole@gmail.com)).

# COORDINATOR INSTRUCTIONS

## 2017 Red Bird Mission Christmas “Shoebox” Project

**THANK YOU!** for agreeing to be the Coordinator for your church for this year’s Red Bird Mission Christmas “Shoebox” Project, an outreach project recommended and supported by the Schoharie Region Outreach Ministry.

In this package you will find information for you and for those of your church who are willing to participate in this Project. **Included in this package are:**

- 1. Red Bird Mission Description:** If you don’t know about the Red Bird Mission, familiarize yourself with this information and then make as many copies of this description as you think are needed in your church.
- 2. Plastic Storage Container Source Information:** Rather than using regular shoeboxes, the Red Bird Mission requests that we all use a reusable plastic container to provide an additional use for those who receive a shoebox through the Red Bird Mission. The particular containers recommended are the right size to hold everything and are easy to use. (If you buy different containers from another source the items may or may not all fit in the box, so it is highly recommended that you use the container specified.)
- 3. Shoebox Mission Instructions:** Make sure you understand these instructions for preparing “shoeboxes” and then make enough copies to provide for each person in your church who will be participating in this Project. Near the bottom of the “Shoebox Mission” Instructions, where you see the \*\*\*, we know that not everyone can afford to do a complete shoebox but still want to participate. Churches often wrap a box in Christmas wrap, and put it in the church to receive individual or ‘extra’ items which then can be used to fill a shoebox or send separately. (NOTE: The instructions tell how to pack and mark boxes, how to pack clothing and the date by which boxes must be completed.)
- 4. Shopping List for Adult men or women:** These lists are printed 2 to the page so they can be cut apart. Print enough so that each person willing to prepare an ADULT box has at least one copy.
- 5. Shopping List for a Child:** These lists are also printed 2 to the page so they can be cut apart. Print enough so that each person willing to prepare a CHILD box has at least one copy.

That’s it. Your job as Coordinator is important and we thank you for your volunteer efforts.

**Remember...**if you have any questions at any time, contact Pastor Anna.



## 2016 RED BIRD MISSION CHRISTMAS “SHOEBOXES”

### Plastic Storage Container Source and Suggestions for Purchasing Containers

#### **PLASTIC STORAGE CONTAINER SOURCE:**

As recommended by Red Bird Mission, clear plastic storage containers to be used for the Christmas “shoebox” program provide needed additional dry storage for families who receive one of the shoeboxes.

Clear plastic storage containers of just the right size to hold everything requested are available from Wal-Mart by ordering online. These containers have clear lids with hinged handles and come in cases of 10. While the containers are available in clear or blue, the clear containers are best – they show everything inside and are \$1 each less than the blue containers. Clear containers cost about \$3.25 each with tax if they are shipped to a local Wal-Mart store for pick up. If a case of containers is shipped to a personal address at the ‘value’ shipping rate it adds 60¢ to the cost of each container making the final cost a little less than \$4 each.

The link for the description and ordering information for the clear plastic containers is: <http://www.walmart.com/ip/Homz-Small-Clear-Storage/20751734>

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR PURCHASING CONTAINERS**

The only way to purchase the recommended storage containers from Wal-Mart is in case lots of 10 each.

So as to not place a burden on those wishing to participate, in some churches one or more families have agreed to purchase all the necessary containers at their expense as their support for the project. In other situations the church has been the purchaser and then either distributes the containers free or at cost for those wishing to participate.

#### **COSTS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FILLING ‘SHOEBOXES’**

Even when the cost of the storage container is included, filling a ‘shoebox’ can be slightly less than \$20 per box (depending on where items are purchased).

It is suggested that many if not all of the items requested for a shoebox can be purchased from one of the local ‘Dollar’ stores. To be sure everything fits in the containers it is suggested that flat containers and small cans be purchased rather than the standard tall round bottle or large round cans.

Good luck and Blessings to you for your participation in this most worthy cause.

## **2017 RED BIRD “SHOEBOX” INSTRUCTIONS**

If you use the 7 1/2 quart clear containers from Wal-Mart, everything on the list will fit if:

- You purchase full size (not trial size) products
- You purchase “flat” containers for things like shampoo and lotion.

***\*\*Remember, all boxes MUST be uniform. Follow the instructions on the ‘shopping list’ provided!***

If everything is purchased at a Dollar Tree store a box can be filled for just under \$15. But of course, shop wherever you wish.

**Please DO NOT mark on the boxes. Under the cover lay a note indicating whether it is for a Man or Woman (or child with the age bracket listed) – boxes will marked with proper labels before they are shipped.**

**All Schoharie Region items must be picked up or delivered to Delanson UMC by Monday, November 13.**

\*\*\*If anyone doesn't want to or is unable to do a full shoebox, place a big box in the church for any individual item(s) contributed and they will also be delivered to Red Bird.

**Gently Used Items:** Any new or “gently used” and clean clothing and bedding is welcomed. There is a particular need for children’s bedding. Box it up in sturdy boxes, tape it shut and bring it to the church.

**SHOPPING LIST**  
**2016 - RED BIRD MISSION ADULT SHOEBOX**

***NOTE: All items FULL size please, (not “trial” size)!  
AND, all items in original containers as purchased.***

***\*\*To help items fit in the boxes so the lids fit and boxes don't bulge, purchase flat containers of shampoo, hand lotion, & deodorant & slender round cans of shaving cream. No box should have to be taped shut!***

- ONE - Comb and/or Hair Brush
- ONE - Shampoo
- ONE - Hand Lotion
- ONE - Deodorant
- ONE - Tooth Brush & Paste
- ONE - Chap Stick
- ONE - Full Size Bath Soap
- ONE - Wash Cloth
- ONE - Pack of Disposable Razors
- ONE - Shaving Cream
- ONE - Nail Care Items
- ONE - Pair of Socks
- ONE - Pair of Work Gloves
- ONE- Pair of Mittens
- ONE - Winter Stocking Hat
- ONE - Scarf

***\*\*ONE means one! Not a 2 pack or 3 pack...ONE!***

(Red Bird requests that all boxes be uniform so that one recipient doesn't receive more or less than another.)

***DON'T MARK ON BOXES, INSERT A SLIP WITH M OR F***

***THANK YOU! for your generosity to others.***

There is also a great need for sheets and blankets for children's beds. Box them in sturdy boxes, tape them up and bring them to the church. Children's books also are welcomed.

CASH is always appreciated to help defray the cost of delivery transportation to the Red Bird Mission.

**SHOPPING LIST**  
**2016 RED BIRD MISSION CHILD SHOEBOX**

***NOTE: All items FULL size, please (not “trial” size)! AND, all items in original containers as purchased.***

***\*\*To help items fit in the boxes so the lids fit and the boxes don't bulge, purchase flat containers when possible. ALL items must fit in the box easily!***

***NOTE: Pick Boy or Girl and an age range of 2-4, 5-9 or 10-14 and purchase accordingly.***

***Remember DO NOT MARK ON THE BOX. Insert a slip to mark the box with Boy or Girl and the Age Range!***

- ONE - Comb and/or Hair Brush**
- ONE - Shampoo**
- ONE - Lotion**
- ONE - Child's Tooth Brush & Paste**
- ONE - Chap Stick**
- ONE - Full Size Bath Soap**
- ONE - Wash Cloth**
- ONE - Socks**
- ONE – Mittens and Hat**
- 2 or 3 Small Toy Items (STUFFED TOYS MUST BE SMALL)**
- 2 or 3 School Items (crayons, colored pencils or markers, etc.)**
- ONE - Christian bookmark, wrist band or other spiritual item**
- ONE - Small flashlight with batteries**
- \*\*ONE means ONE! Not a 2 pack or 3 pack...ONE!**

(Red Bird requests that all boxes be uniform so that one child doesn't receive more or less than another.)

***THANK YOU! for your generosity to others.***