

Operation Christmas Child Processing Center Trip

Date: November 19, 2012 — November 25, 2012

Cost: approximately \$400 *

- \$100 deposit due by October 1, 2011;
- Balance due by November 11, 2011.



Location: Minneapolis, MN

Passport/Visas: Not required for this trip

Number of People: Up to 30 people

Team Coordinator: Todd Barfield

Peoples Targeted

We will be working with volunteers and Operation Christmas Child personnel from all over the United States. On occasion, there will also be people from around the world who received a shoebox when they were younger. Many of these volunteers gave their life to Christ after receiving the shoebox now participate in the packing and distribution of shoeboxes around the world.

Project Description

The shoeboxes that are inspected and packed in the processing centers are sent to children all over the world. The majority of the boxes go to children who live in countries where there is little to no access to the Gospel of Christ. Each child who receives a shoebox also receives a booklet in his/her language entitled, "The Greatest Gift of All". These shoeboxes may be the only present these kids have ever or will ever receive in their lifetime.

Daily Agenda and Side Trips

We will leave FBC the morning of November 19 and drive approximately halfway to our destination. We will arrive Tuesday afternoon and check into our hotels. We will go to a local Walmart or grocery store and buy lunch supplies for our days at the processing center. The processing center has microwaves and refrigerators. Each afternoon when our shift ends, we will eat out at inexpensive places in the mall or local fast food restaurants.

On Wednesday, we will begin working in the processing center. We will have breakfast at our hotel before leaving for the processing center. Our shift will be from 9 am – 3 pm. We will eat lunch at the processing center each day. There are break rooms in the warehouse and you can take as many breaks as you need. We will work in the processing center on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday.

On Thursday, we will have Thanksgiving dinner together at a local restaurant such as Cracker Barrel or possibly in the home of an OCC volunteer. We will return to the hotel later in the day where we can sit around and read, sleep, watch football or just hang out together.

After our shift ends on Saturday, we will begin the trip home and spend the night at a predetermined location. We will arrive home on Sunday afternoon.

- * If family members ask you what you want for Christmas or for graduation, you may want to suggest they make a tax-deductible donation to First Baptist Church Centerton with the memo line: OCC Processing Center Trip. If they decide to do this, be sure to ask them to let you turn it in for them. Non-members of First Baptist Church will receive acknowledgement from the church of their contributions. This acknowledgement will be at the conclusion of the year in January 2013.

Qualifications

- Must be 13 years or older to work in the processing center
- Daily walk with Christ

Health Considerations

- Ability to stand for several hours while working on the assembly line though you can take breaks as often as needed.
- Shots: Flu shot is recommended, but not required.

Clothing

- Comfortable tennis or athletic shoes.
- Light jacket, long johns, gloves and stocking hat for wearing to the processing center. If you are cold natured bring a heavy jacket for going out at night to the mall or restaurants. It gets very cold in Minneapolis in November.

Housing and transportation

We try to stay at a hotel that provides breakfast such as LaQuinta. We will be traveling in either our personal vehicles or passenger vans and we try to stay within 5-10 miles of the processing center.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact Todd Barfield at 479.263.7267 or via e-mail at tbarfield123@msn.com.

NOTES:

In November 2011, a group of 13 people representing FBC Centerton volunteered to work in the Minneapolis, MN processing center. During our time together, we visited the Mill City Museum in Minneapolis, MN, spent two nights at the Mall of America, and attended the annual Holidazzle parade in downtown Minneapolis. On Thanksgiving Day, we enjoyed dinner at the home of an OCC friend. Before going to the Holidazzle parade we watched the annual LSU-Arkansas game at a local restaurant.

During our 3 days working in the processing center, over 100,000 boxes were inspected and packed for their final destination. The anticipated number of boxes to be processed in Minneapolis during 2011 was over 550,000.

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