

Headed to Panama

Five Life Care associates embark today upon a noble -- and exciting -- mission. They are headed to Panama to assist Samaritan's Purse teams with the distribution of shoe boxes in the Operation Christmas Child campaign.

Representing Christ, and all of their Life Care associates, as they share love and hope with poor and desperate children in that country are:

Lisa Thomas-Hopkins, speech pathologist at Green Valley Care Center in New Albany, Indiana; Mike Sabens, maintenance director at the Lane House in Crawfordsville, Indiana; Marilyn Elliott, resident care manager at Life Care Center of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Doris Miller, receptionist at Cascade Park Retirement Center in Woodburn, Oregon; and Beverly Askew, director of receivables and credit, Medicare Claims, at the corporate headquarters in Cleveland, Tennessee.

They will return from Panama on Friday. Between now and then, each of them will encounter dramatic personal experiences. Not only will the lives of the boys and girls they meet be impacted for the better, but the finger of Christ will write indelibly on their own hearts.

Every day this week, you are encouraged to pray for each of these associates. Call them by name as you ask God to bless them. Pray for their safety. Pray for wisdom to guide their actions in each encounter. Pray for special insight to understand each child's needs. Pray for them to speak the right words to address their respective conditions. Pray for God's Holy Spirit to encircle them with an aura of love that draws boys and girls to them. And most of all, pray that the children can see Jesus Himself in each associate.

Isn't it amazing what God can do with a simple shoe box -- and with an individual who makes himself or herself available for His use with it?

--Beecher Hunter