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# Daily Citizen

## Church collects items for Somalia

Items, money can be donated

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### Somalia Drive

**Where:** Judsonia Church of Christ

**Items needed:** Personal hygiene items, dishes, linens

**Drive ends:** Monday, Aug. 22

Every day in Northern Somalia, children and families are struggling to survive. Between the dirty water and lack of food, some people never know if they will make it until the next day.

The Judsonia Church of Christ wants to help those Somali families in need. The church is hosting a collection drive in hopes of filling a 18-wheeler size storage container.

"These people are in need of just about everything," said John Kachelman, who is helping to organize the drive. "We really need the community's help in gathering these buckets and personal hygiene bags."

Kachelman said the church held a similar drive following the Haiti disaster and said the drive was successful because of the help of the community. Church members also delivered two containers full of items to Somalia in 2007.

"We had a really good experience in Somalia," he said. "Southern Somalia gets in the news, but Northern Somalia is totally different. They are in need up there because the whole nation has been destroyed."

"When we saw [on TV] that 29,000 to 30,000 have been starving to death in the last month, it caused us to think that we need do something. We didn't know what we were going to do until this past Saturday until we finally got it finalized that we could ship into Somalia."



In Northern Somalia, many residents have been permanently displaced because of famine and avoiding the al-Shabab terrorists. When they were forced to move, the residents left behind most of their daily necessities. The Judsonia Church of Christ is collecting items for these residents and they plan to ship the items by August 22. Contributed photo

The church will take individual items for the drive as well as completed bags or buckets. They are also collecting monetary donations to help with shipping costs.

"We have raised some of the money for shipping costs, but not all of it. We're basically going by faith on this. I believe that we'll get it. I just know it's going to come through for us," Kachelman said.

Buckets and hygiene bags can be dropped off at the *Life Resources International Warehouse* on Madison Street in Judsonia. Monetary donations can be mailed to: Judsonia Church of Christ, Somalia Relief, P.O. Box 422, Judsonia, AR 72081.

*Items needed for each bucket with a lid are as follows:* Antibiotic cream, bandages, bandanas, bar soap, bath towels, clothes line/clothes pins, coffee cups/ mugs, dish detergent (placed in plastic bags), dish rags, dish towels, hair brushes, lip balm, matches (in plastic bags), metal spatulas, metal stirring spoons without a plastic handle, nail clippers, pens, pencils, small pads of paper, picks for hair, plastic bowls for eating, plastic containers with lids such as coffee containers with lids, butter tubs, cool whip tubs, plastic cups, plastic plates, pot scrubbers, scissors, sewing kits, sharp cutting knives, silverware, smaller buckets inside large buckets, spiral binders, toothbrushes, toothpaste, unscented lotions and petroleum jelly.

*Items needed in one-gallon storage bags are as follows:* One antibiotic cream, one box of bandages, one full-size bar of soap, one hand towel, one hair comb, one set of nail clippers, one pair of scissors, two adult toothbrushes, and one small container of petroleum jelly.

For more information, persons may call Kachelman at 901-626-4538.