



# Reelfoot Rural Ministries, Inc.

Restoring Hope, One Relationship at a Time

Dear Ministry Partner,

September 22, 2020

The time for the Reelfoot Rural Ministries 2020 Toy Store has arrived. This ministry is a wonderful blessing for neighbors in need, their children, donors, and staff. The very Presence of God is experienced by all involved in this ministry. However, in this pandemic season, the application, donation, volunteer, and shopping processes are vastly different.

Thanks to God, generous donors, and-in most years-wonderful volunteers, Reelfoot Rural Ministries is enabled to be a conduit of the gifts that I believe Jesus appreciates in celebration of His birthday. The gifts of toys are not what matter nearly as much as the dignity, self-worth, restored hope, and joy. These are the true gifts that children, families, staff, and ministry partners experience through the Toy Store each year.

In an effort to keep the community and staff safe, the Toy Store will operate very differently this year. The changes include all aspects of the ministry event. First of all, the store dates will run for five weeks this year instead of just one. The application process is no longer mail-in. All potential shoppers must apply in person at the RRM Community Center. Application dates are each Monday and Wednesday during the month October. The donation process has changed as well. The simplest and safest donations are monetary. Please consider this as you prayerfully consider how you will support the RRM Toy Store this year. We will accept donations of toys; however, no one is allowed in the RRM ministry building. The staff will receive the toys and bring them into the building. Portable toilets will be available in the parking lot, but restrooms are not open to the public at RRM. Sadly, we are also changing our long tradition of volunteers at the Toy Store. The decision of the Board of Trustees is that only RRM staff will work the store this year. We love and need our volunteers, but we feel this is safest practice at this point in time.

The Toy Store will begin on November 9, 2020 and run through December 11, 2020. **You** can help! Would you please consider partnering with us for our 2020 Christmas Toy Store? You can help in two ways. First of all, pray for this ministry. Please lift our shopping families and staff in your prayers. Secondly, donate. We need donations. Please prayerfully consider a monetary donation to allow our staff to shop for gifts that will fill the Toy Store shelves this year. Our staff will purchase gifts online as well as in local stores. The Toy Store will be open for five weeks and donations will be a great benefit through December 4. This is the latest that monetary donations will arrive in time to be used to fill the shelves. Please mail donations to the address listed below.

Thank you for your continued support,

Robert Craig  
Executive Director

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*Mission Statement:*

*Following Christ in building relationships,  
we provide resources and offer hope to our Reelfoot Lake neighbors*