The shipping containers that we have sent to the mission in Togo over the past few years have been invaluable. This year’s container will be filled at St. Martin’s Church (Fr. Meyer’s House located at 10 Desellum Ave., next to the priests’ residence) in Gaithersburg, MD on Friday, October 15 and sent by truck to Baltimore. The boat’s departure date from Baltimore is one week later, and its estimated date of arrival in Togo is December 20.

We will need volunteers on October 15 to help load the container. If you can help, or if after reading the list below you have any questions about items you might donate, please call Wanda Canino at (301) 840-0348.

We have most of the largest items, including furniture, already. Please note that we are not accepting clothes, but we are looking for the following additional items. We will need to organize, pack, and prepare these items for loading, so the sooner they can be dropped off the better. If you are able to box and label items yourself before dropping them off that would help.

Drop Off times for donated items:

- Friday, October 8: 2:00 – 4:00pm
- Saturday, October 9: 2:00 – 4:00pm
- Sunday, October 10: 2:00 – 4:00pm

List of Items

- used tools of all sorts (pickaxes and sledge hammers are especially good, but we will take almost all tools)
- used blankets (clean)
- new alkaline batteries, all sizes
- rechargeable batteries and a small battery charger that can work on 220 current (or a 110 charger with the small, appropriate transformer)
- heavy duty flashlights
- holy cards, rosaries, statues, crucifixes, medals and other religious objects
- used prescription glasses
- first aid kits (for schools)
- soccer balls (not necessarily regulation size) and other balls
- used carpets if in good condition
- posters, pictures and wall decorations of all sorts
- hanging artificial plants
- a couple of inflatable beds (inflatable with hand pump)
- Cutter’s mosquito spray
- school supplies, including pens and pencils, crayons, paper, tote bags/knapsacks, notebooks, small picture books, small toys appropriate for kindergarteners, non-toxic chalk and blackboard erasers, scissors, the simplest kind of jigsaw puzzles for small children, plastic drinking glasses and plates, balls. In general we are accepting any decent school supplies except books in English unless they are large picture books
- a magnifying glass
- one reclining chair
- bicycles in good condition (tires not too worn)
- two wheelchairs
- battery operated wall clocks
- floor mats
- folding tables
- canned food, especially fruit and vegetables, whose expiration date is no earlier than Jan 2011
- we can take a couple of used computers if they are in good working condition and nothing earlier than Windows XP is installed (best if Microsoft Office is also installed)
- a battery operated megaphone
- the following items for the medical clinic. PLEASE NOTE: WE DO NOT ACCEPT ANY MEDICINES WHOSE EXPIRATION DATE IS EARLIER THAN JUNE 2011:

    Intravenous solution Glucose 5%
    Intravenous solution Glucose 10%
    Sterile saline solution 9% preferably in liter or half liter (or quart) containers
Pain relievers (ibuprofen, acetaminophen)
Milk of magnesia
One a day multiple vitamins
Prenatal vitamins
Amoxicillin
Anti-hemorroidals: pills and suppositories
Cough medicine
Antacid tablets
Anti-ulcerals
Antifungal foot cream
Other antifungal medicines: vaginal/oral/skin
Ranitidine
Iron supplements (ferrous sulfate 325 mg)
Antibiotic ointment
Antiparasitics
Bulk supplies of gloves
Lysol, Pinesol, etc. for cleaning
Acid appropriate for cleaning bathroom sinks
Bandaids – large only, or especially good is bandaids that come in rolls that can be cut according to need
Cotton – boxes, cotton balls, etc.
Bandages and dressings of all sorts for cuts and sores, incl. infected ones
Compresses
Thread for stitches
Bandages of all sorts
Tweezers and scissors for bandage work
plastic aprons
microscope
chrome carts for wheeling medicines
IV stand
instrument trays
medicated soap in dispensers

- During the next year we hope to set up a dental office at our clinic where a volunteer dentist can come up to the mission from the capital and offer appointments one or two days a month. We’re looking for a dental chair and any other dental equipment to begin to get ready.