

ALDRSGATE GREEN BAG MINISTRY

**RETURN GREEN BAGS TO THE NARTHEX BY APRIL 23 OR EARLIER.
BACKPACK BAGS WILL BE PACKED BY THE CONGREGATION ON APRIL 23.**

Aldersgate is partnering with Washington Mill Elementary to help provide weekend backpack meals to food insecure students. In addition, we will be collecting snack items for Stratford Landing Elementary for mid-day snacks for food insecure students.



Each bag consists of 2 breakfast, 2 lunch, and 2 dinner items, as well as 2 snacks.

What is the Backpack Program?

- The Backpack Program is a joint effort between local elementary schools and our greater neighborhood community that ensures that students in need have the balanced, nutritious food they need to learn and grow.
- School counselors and staff identify children at risk of weekend hunger and provide those numbers to PTA volunteers who assemble bags of donated food.
- Bags are delivered to counselors each Thursday and each Friday, a bag of food that is child-friendly, nutritious, nonperishable and easy to prepare/eat is placed in the student's backpack.

Needed food items are very specific. Please use the suggested items below when purchasing your donations. Remember that these items are ones that are easy for even very young students to prepare on their own.

- If your last name begins with the **letters A-D**, please donate items from the suggested **Breakfast** category.
- If your last name begins with the **letters E-S**, please donate items from the suggested **Lunch/Dinner** category.
- If your last name begins with the **letters T-Z**, please donate items from the suggested **Snacks** category.

Suggested Items:

Breakfast	Lunch/Dinner	Snacks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual oatmeal packets • Individual serving cereal boxes • Breakfast bars (i.e. milk & cereal bars, NutriGrain bars) • Milk (shelf-stable milk such as Horizon or Kirkland) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuna/Chicken Salad Kits with Crackers • Chef Boyardee microwavable meals • Mac & Cheese cups • Campbell's microwavable soup cups • Hormel Chili cups • Individual peanut butter packages (e.g. Jif to go) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Granola bars • Raisin & Craisin snack packs • Fruit cups in juice (e.g. mandarin oranges, peaches, pineapple) • Applesauce cup or squeezer • Individual serving size crackers • Cheese & cracker packs • Fruit roll-ups

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTACT MEGAN GIANCHETTA MGIANCHETTA@GMAIL.COM