



The Salvation Army Central Arkansas Blessings In A Backpack Toolkit

Thank you for downloading our “Blessings In A Backpack” Toolkit!

Our mission simple yet daunting, to improve the lives of hungry Arkansans. We envision communities that are healthier, happier and more productive through improved nutrition. We empower and provide dignity and hope to families, and contribute to improved academics for children by providing nutritious food through three main programs, all of which provide food at no cost to the recipient.

“Blessings In A Backpack” serves Arkansas students, grades K-12 who display educational, physical, or emotional problems at school due to hunger at home. “Blessings In A Backpack” does this by providing backpacks filled with kid-friendly, nourishing food. As the need continues to grow, The Salvation Army Central Arkansas will sharpen its focus on education-related programming, with goals of creating greater impact in the lives of school children through better nutrition and expanding service to non-school aged children and in under-served areas.

If you need more information, please feel free to contact us at michelle.scroggins@uss.salvationarmy.org or visit us online at www.SalvationArmyCentralArkansas.org.



DOING THE
MOST GOOD®

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Local Missions Project

"Feed the hungry and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as day." Isaiah 58:10 NLT

Why We Need Your Help

By making The Salvation Army your mission project for your church's Vacation Bible School this summer, or for a missions activity anytime, you will teach our youth how to show God's love to our neighbor's in need. In the process, you will make a difference in the lives of hungry kids all across our state!

1 in 4 kids in Arkansas suffer from hunger. We want to change this statistic and with your help we will. Each child can make a difference, as can each church, and collectively we can all change this troublingly fact.



*We invite you to make
The Salvation Army's E3 Club
After School Program your VBS
mission project*

How can you help

- Use one or more of the attached activity sheets to collect money and/or food for The Salvation Army's E3 After School program.
- Wrap a jar or can with the attached label to make as a bank to use with the activity calendar, if you don't want to do all 31 days, highlight a week of tasks or ask the kids to select 5 tasks of their choosing.
- Hold a food drive that relates to your theme. For example: if you are doing an underwater theme have the kids bring individual snack sizes of Gold Fish cracker or individual Tuna Meals kits.
- If you already have a plan for collecting money and/or food simply email us michelle.scroggins@uss.salvationarmy.org and let us know you will be participating, but with your own activity.
- The project can be used in conjunction with any group or during anytime of year not just for Vacation Bible School. Feel free to tailor it to your group's needs.

What It Will Take

We want to invite all Churches in Central Arkansas, in making The Salvation Army's E-3 Club After School Program their mission project. By working together imagine how many kids we can feed! Every gift counts because we are able to spread the dollar so far. Will you join us?

\$8 will feed a child for the weekend

\$300 will feed an average The Salvation Army's E-3 Club After School Program for a month.

\$3,000 will feed an average The Salvation Army's E-3 Club School Program for two semesters.

Local Missions Backpack Activity Sheet

How it Works

We recommend copying the following 3 pages on card stock, but standard copy paper will work as well. Invite the kids to color their backpack which they will fill in order to feed a child for a weekend. They can print their name where it states: This Backpack Belongs to:_____.

Step 1

For a creative look and a way to get the kids involved in the project have them carefully cut open the backpack along the zipper. This will form a slit that you can use to insert the food as they collect it. You can opt either to tape the items in the slot or tape the backpack to a second piece of paper (being sure to tape the bottom and both sides) which will form an envelope to hold all the items.

OR

Cut the items and tape to the back of the backpack page as they collect them.

Step 2

Pages 2 and 3 contain the items the children will “purchase.” You can have them bring quarters in order to “purchase” food to fill the backpack. The cost on the items sheet is NOT the cost for The Salvation Army to purchase those items, only an assigned value for this activity that provides a visual of typical backpack items for the kids to see what they can do with their money.

You can have the kids do a food drive and as they bring individual serving size food you can allow them to fill their backpacks with the paper items. For example if they brought a six pack of applesauce they could use that to put both of the applesauce cups in their backpack.

Step 3

Count all the money and food and share on the last night of your VBS how many hungry kids they were able to feed. Ideally a weekend backpack contains 7 meals and 3 snacks or \$8.

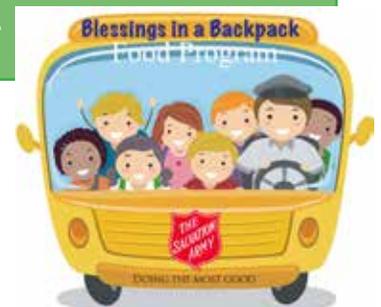
Step 4

Send your money collect to:
The Salvation Army Central Arkansas
1111 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201

Drop-off food collected:
The Salvation Army Central Arkansas
1111 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
M-F 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.



DOING THE
MOST GOOD®



This Backpack Belongs To:





DOING
THE MOST
GOOD™

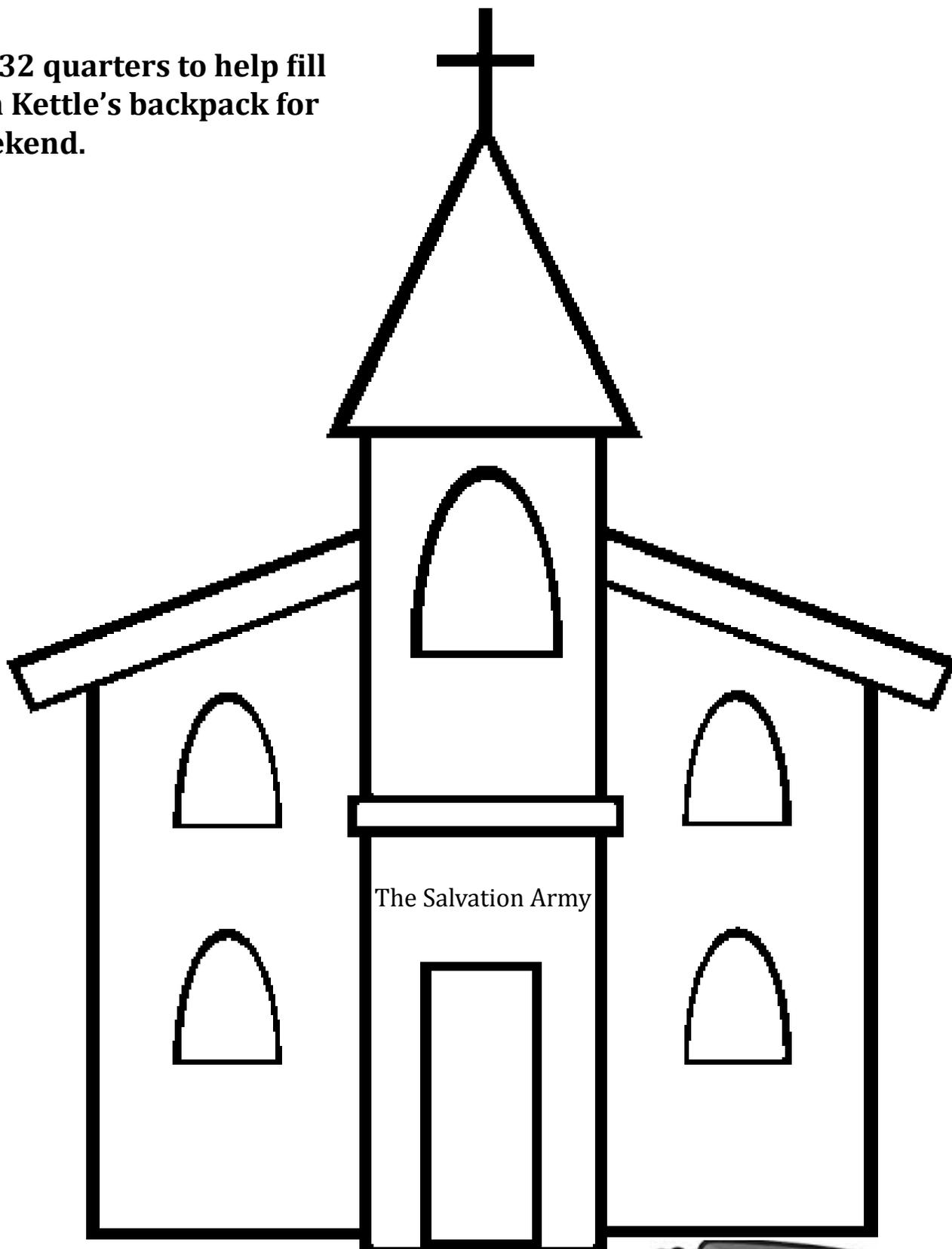


31 Day Challenge

				1 In one minute list things you are thankful for & give a coin for each item listed.	2 Give a coin for every canned good in your pantry.	3 Give a coin for each person in your extended family.	4 Read Matthew 25: 35-36 & give a coin for every word in these verses.
5 Give a coin for every dish in your sink or dishwasher.	6 Give a coin for every pet in your family.	7 Give a coin for each time you ate out this week.	8 Read Psalm 146:7 & give generously "food to the hungry."	9 Give a coin for every pot or pan in your home.	10 Give a coin for every cookbook in your home.	11 Read Isaiah 58:10 & give a coin for every word in this verse.	
12 Count your bowls & give a coin for each one.	13 Count your dear friends, be thankful & give a coin for each one.	14 Give a coin for each box of cereal & carton of milk you have.	15 Give a coin for each vehicle you have, including bikes.	16 Give a coin for each photo on your refrigerator.	17 Give a coin for every piece of fruit in your home & give thanks.	18 Read Psalm 107: 8-9 & generously drop coins into your bank.	
19 Give a coin for every grocery store in your area.	20 Give a coin for each set of dishes or china in your home.	21 Read Matthew 5:6 & give generously to your God.	22 Give the amount of money equal to what you last paid for a gallon of gas.	23 Give a coin for each spoon in the silverware drawer.	24 Read Matthew 15:32 and give generously.	25 Give a coin for each member of your family growing up.	
26 Give a coin for each letter in the name of your town or city.	27 Read John 6:35 and give a coin for each word.	28 Give a coin for each room in your home.	29 Give a coin for every minute it takes you to drive to work or school.	30 Give a coin for every meal you ate this week & be thankful.	31 Read Matthew 6:11 and pray for the daily bread needed for children around Central Arkansas.		

Read this calendar each day and insert coins in your bank to give to E3 Club After School Program.

Collect 32 quarters to help fill Captain Kettle's backpack for the weekend.



Hi! My name is Captain Kettle and I go to The Salvation Army's E-3 Club Program. I love my "Blessings In A Backpack". The shelves at my house sometimes don't have any food. So the The Salvation Army took me into the "Blessings In A Backpack" room, and my face lit up. I guess because I had never seen so much food in my life. The Salvation Army told me that I could take some of that food home with me every week. I couldn't believe it! I'm on the honor roll at my school now, and I think it's because of the good food that I have to eat from my backpack. Thanks everyone for sending me food!



Thanks For Making The Salvation Army Your VBS Mission Project!



Please Print

Church Name: _____
Contact Person: _____ Position: _____
Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____
Preferred Phone Number: _____ (Work, Home, Cell)
Email Address: _____
\$ Collected: _____ Food Collected: _____

Make Checks Payable to The Salvation Army Central Arkansas
The Salvation Army
Attn: Blessings In A Backpack
1111 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201



DOING THE MOST GOOD®

*Please return this form with your donation

Thanks For Making The Salvation Army Your VBS Mission Project!



Please Print

Church Name: _____
Contact Person: _____ Position: _____
Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____
Preferred Phone Number: _____ (Work, Home, Cell)
Email Address: _____
\$ Collected: _____ Food Collected: _____

Make Checks Payable to The Salvation Army Central Arkansas
The Salvation Army
Attn: Blessings In A Backpack
1111 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201



DOING THE MOST GOOD®

*Please return this form with your donation

Thanks For Making The Salvation Army Your VBS Mission Project!



Please Print

Church Name: _____
Contact Person: _____ Position: _____
Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____
Preferred Phone Number: _____ (Work, Home, Cell)
Email Address: _____
\$ Collected: _____ Food Collected: _____

Make Checks Payable to The Salvation Army Central Arkansas
The Salvation Army
Attn: Blessings In A Backpack
1111 W. Markham Street
Little Rock, AR 72201



DOING THE MOST GOOD®

*Please return this form with your donation

Items needed to fill a backpack for the weekend



Delivery \$2.00



Ramen Noodles \$0.50



Granola Bar \$0.50



Granola Bar \$0.50



Cheese Crackers \$0.50



Cheese Crackers \$0.50



Pasta Ravioli \$0.75



Pasta Ravioli \$0.75



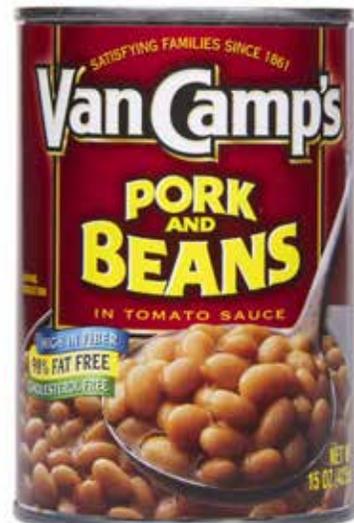
Applesauce \$0.50



Applesauce \$0.50



Pork & Beans \$0.50

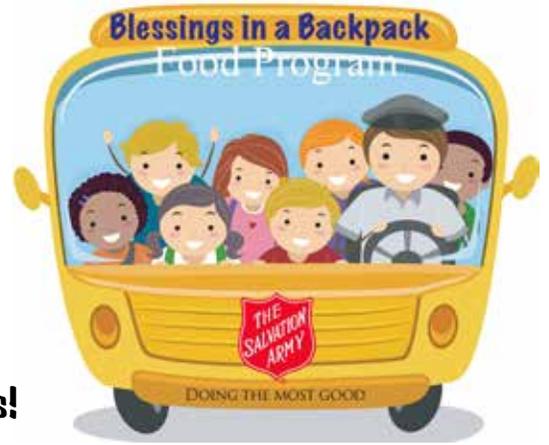


Pork & Beans \$0.50

This Bank Belongs To: _____



Feed your bank coins everyday & help feed hungry kids!

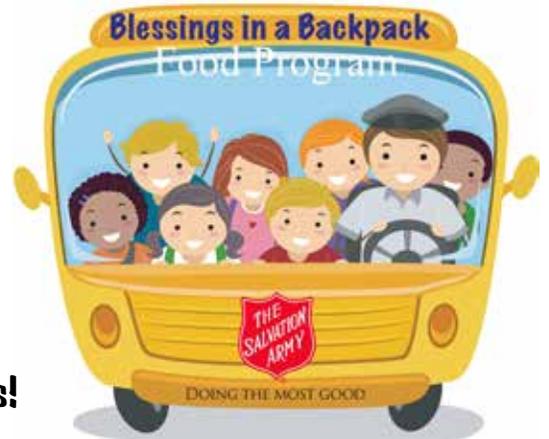


Attach to a can/jar to make bank

This Bank Belongs To: _____



Feed your bank coins everyday & help feed hungry kids!



Attach to a can/jar to make bank

This Bank Belongs To: _____



Feed your bank coins everyday & help feed hungry kids!



Attach to a can/jar to make bank