

Finals Care Package for College Students- A New, Grant-funded Program.

Traditionally, campus ministries have been confined to the college campus, and the churches involved in college-aged ministry are the churches closest to campuses. We have recognized a significant gap in how we care for college students, a gap often widened by the perception that campus ministry is a task for a select few churches.

Our insight is that the vast majority of churches are connected to students, be it through familial ties, friendships, or graduated youth group members. We aspire to extend the embodiment of God's love to these students who may not engage with traditional campus ministry or attend schools without organized ministry. After all, every young person deserves to feel God's love and communal support; they shouldn't have to seek it out on their own.

In the hope of closing this gap and changing how we minister to and meet college students where they are, we have applied for a grant from the wider church in the Young Adult and Campus Ministry office to start a new ministry: Finals Care Package Program for College Students—a powerful and tangible expression of love, compassion, and connection. It's not just about sending care packages during Finals week; it's about sowing seeds of connection and understanding. These packages serve as more than mere tokens; for the students, they become vessels carrying the essence of God's love. For the parishioners, they become training tools to help them rethink what being in relationship with young people looks like. We are thrilled to announce that we have received this grant in full!

Creating and sending care packages is not just a one-time event; packages are sent out twice a year, every year. Because the process involves local parish leaders purchasing items and assembling the packages, churches really take ownership of the project. Creating care packages is an invitation to actively participate in spreading God's love. We hope your church will participate and send care packages to the young adults who are connected in any way to your church.

Attached you will find:

- An Excel sheet with a list of possible items to include in your packages, plus a link where you can purchase the items. We have made it possible, when purchased in bulk, for packages to be assembled for around \$5 a box. The Episcopal Church in Colorado will pay for the shipping of a medium-sized, flat-rate USPS box.
- A sample template for a “guide to your care package”.

If you have any questions or if you would like to participate, please reach out to Missioner Elizabeth Cervasio elizabeth@episcopalcolorado.org

GUIDE TO YOUR FINALS CARE PACKAGE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
() CHURCH

Congratulations! You're almost through another semester! What a fantastic accomplishment. On behalf of () church, we believe in you, and we know you've got this! We hope this care package helps you push through this final hurdle so that you can enjoy your winter break! You're in our hearts and our prayers!

1 FUZZY SOCKS

We can't have your feet getting cold this finals season!

2 PACK OF TISSUES

It's getting colder out! Keep these tissues with you to beat that runny nose!

3 EMERGEN C

Feeling a little under the weather? Fight back against that cold with a heavy dose of Vitamin C!

4 POPCORN

Need a snack to keep those energy levels up while writing that last paper? Here's one for you!

5 HOT CHOCOLATE

Take a break from your studying and warm up with some hot cocoa!

7 WOODEN CROSS

Take this with you as a reminder that Jesus is with you everywhere you go, and in all things that you do.

6 CUP O' NOODLES

Munch on these when you can't make it to the dining hall for dinner!

8 CANDY

This one goes without explanation. Enjoy some candy!

10 AN INVITATION

We would love to see you this winter if you're home! Are plans taking you elsewhere? Know there is someone here if you want to chat!

9 NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Finals season can be tough! We hope these notes show you our care and support! You've got this!

GUIDE TO YOUR FINALS CARE PACKAGE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
() CHURCH

1 CUP O' NOODLES

Munch on these when you can't make it to the dining hall for dinner!

2 NEW PEN

Everyone needs a new pen during finals season. May this one bless your note taking and study guide making!

3 SQUISHMELLOW

Place this little guy on your desk or study table for some companionship and support!

4 POPCORN

Need a snack to keep those energy levels up while writing that last paper? Here's one for you!

5 CRYSTAL LIGHT PACKET

With the weather warming up it's super important to stay hydrated! Add this to your water to spice it up a bit!

7 FIDGET SNAKE

Keep your hands busy and your mind focused with this fidget snake. Stretch it, tie it, or do whatever!

8 CANDY

This one goes without explanation. Enjoy some candy!

10 AN INVITATION

We would love to see you this summer if you're home! Are plans taking you elsewhere? Know there is someone here if you want to chat!

6 NOISEMAKERS

Feeling stressed out or need to let off some steam? Blow into this as hard as you can!! And of course, use it to celebrate after that last final.

9 NOTES OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Finals season can be tough! We hope these notes show you our care and support! You've got this.

Congratulations! You're almost through another semester! What a fantastic accomplishment. On behalf of () church, we believe in you, and we know you've got this! We hope this care package helps you push through this final hurdle, so that you can enjoy your summer! You're in our hearts and our prayers!