



Christian Student Fellowship

Expanding the Kingdom of God in a crucial point of influence within our culture – the university

Do you want to help spread the love of Christ to college students at Penn State Berks this fall?

Every August local churches generously donate care packages for the students who attend Penn State Berks. We have been blessed to be a blessing and this is a great way to bless the college students in the Berks community. All those who take part, from the churches that donate to the students who hand out, demonstrate the love of Christ. **We have handed out over 300 care packages every year since 2010, each one of them touching the life of an individual student.**

This is a ministry that plants seeds. ***Our goal is for the students who receive these packages to experience a taste of love and grace and to seek out the Christian community, whether on campus or off.*** If you choose to take part in this ministry feel free to include a personal letter, an invitation to your church, a Bible or whatever you would like to in order to minister to the student who receives it.

College students tend to be skeptical about things of faith and God. I talk to many every year who *see the church as a legalistic institution rather than a place of hope and grace.* Many students who grew up in churches begin to drift away in high school and fully break off any connection while in college. At the same time, *these students are open to talking about God and faith.* They have opinions and questions. I have had many opportunities to talk to students through this care package ministry. ***By giving a free gift you help break down the negative stereotypes of churches and make possible a personal encounter with God that could lead to lives changed.***

In order to comply with PSU safety standards I need to emphasize that no homemade food is allowed and all soda must be Pepsi products (Pepsi, Mt. Dew, Sierra Mist, Mug Rootbeer – a complete list of their products can be found on their website) and all water must be Aquafina.

Here are the steps if you want to help in this ministry:

1. Work with members of your church to put together care packages. Each package should fit in a paper or reusable grocery bag (I would like to avoid plastic bags this year if possible). Make sure the bag has handles!
2. By mid-July send an email (campusminister_dave@yahoo.com) or a call (610-763-2445) to me (David Hershey, campus pastor) letting me know the number of care packages you are donating.
3. Drop off care packages at Kissinger's Lutheran Church (715 Berkshire Blvd) from 9 AM – 1 PM on August 20, 21 and 24 (that is a Thursday, Friday and Monday).
4. Members of Christian Student Fellowship will hand out the packages on Tuesday evening, August 25.

I hope you take advantage of this exciting ministry opportunity. If you have questions, do not hesitate to call me!

List of items for care packages:

- ✓ Non-perishable food – Ramen noodles, chips, crackers, cookies, candy, gum, etc.
- ✓ Drinks – can of Soda (PEPSI PRODUCTS ONLY), bottled water (AQUAFINA ONLY), Capri-Suns, Kool-Aid packets, lemonade mix, etc.
- ✓ School supplies – highlighters, pens, notebooks, etc.
- ✓ Gift certificates for \$5 or \$10 to movie theaters, Rita's Italian Ice, Dairy Queen, etc.
- ✓ Invitation to your church
- ✓ Any inspirational message you want to offer
- ✓ No fruit or food that will get moldy
- ✓ No baked or homemade goods. Everything must be prepackaged to meet PSU safety standards.

In Christ, Dave Hershey