🎁 Operation Gratitude: Military Care Package Drive

Let's send love, snacks, and smiles to those who serve!

This fall, we're assembling care packages for deployed service members—and we need your help! These boxes will be packed with shelf-stable treats, joyful extras, and heartfelt encouragement to brighten their day and remind them they're not forgotten.

🗓️ **Donation Deadline: Sunday, November 9, 2025**

📦 Drop-off Location: Church Narthex (look for the red bin!)

🎖️ What to Bring: We're collecting **lightweight, non-perishable items** that travel well and lift spirits. Please review and consider donating!

🍫 Snacks & Treats

	Name	Name
Protein bars (high-energy, long shelf life)		
Snack cakes (sealed packs)		
Candy (no chocolate) – Skittles, Starburst, etc.		
Gum – Take 5 Spearmint is a favorite		
Gummies – Sour is a favorite		
Nuts (any kind, small containers)		
Granola bars, cheese crackers, trail mix		
Beef jerky, summer sausage, ramen noodles		

🧂 Flavor Boosters and 🥜 Pantry Staples

	Name	Name
Seasoning salt, hot sauce (mini bottles)		
Flavoring packets for water		
Tea bags		
Individual condiment packets		
Peanut butter (single-serve cups or squeeze packs)		

✉️ Personal & Recreational Items

	Name	Name
Letter writing supplies		
Frisbees or small balls		
Holiday decorations (flat and lightweight preferred)		
Travel-size board games, playing cards		
Books, magazines (sports, cars, Iowa life, current events)		
Adult coloring book + colored pencils		
Lotion (unscented or mild scent)		

💌 **Let's make these boxes feel like a hug from home.**

Whether it's a snack, a note, or a small game, your gift will bring joy and comfort to someone far from home. Thank you for being part of this mission of care and connection.