



200K Reasons: Fill-A-Bag Ministry for Local Churches

What is Fill-A-Bag Ministry?

Church members fill a reusable grocery bag once a month and bring it to church on a specific Sunday. All the items collected will be shared with a local food pantry or distribution ministry.

How do we get the bags?

200K Reasons will supply them free of charge to churches worshipping 50 or fewer. Bags may be purchased at cost for churches worshipping 50 or more.

Step 1: Choose your partner

Your local partner can be any church or organization that is providing food to **children and their families** as part of their feeding ministry or program: a food bank, food pantry or backpack program, or a food distribution service that includes children. If the partner is another UMC in your area, great!

Step 2: Work out the logistics

With your partner, determine if specific food is needed for each collection and how to communicate this with your congregation. Arrange how the food collected will get to the distribution site.

Step 3: Communicate your commitment

Email or mail Mary Lewis Dassinger and briefly **state your commitment** to support the agency with food collections as part of the 200K Reasons Initiative. Be sure to include:

- Name of partner ministry or organization
- Contact information of the leader from your congregation who will ensure distribution of the bags, collection of the food and delivery.
- The number of bags you will need.
- A mailing address where the bags should be sent.



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STEP 4: Receiving Your Bags

Expect delivery within one month from the time we receive your information. If the bags wear out, we will replace them at no charge for churches worshipping fewer than 50.

Step 5: Keep us posted!

Let us know how it is going and once a year we will ask you to find out from your partner agency how many children they think were served the past year.

Requests should be emailed to Mary Lewis Dassinger at mdassinger@arumc.org.

If you need help identifying a local partner, call 501-425-9049 or please visit <http://200kreasons.arumc.org/resources/> for links to area food distribution programs.

Need more help? Contact Your District Ambassador!

Central District

Elizabeth Mayfield-Hart
ekmhart@gmail.com
501-590-9524

Northeast District

Zach Roberts
zach.roberts@arumc.org
870-239-1768

Northwest District

Becky Neighbors
bneighbors@arumc.org
479-783-0385

Southeast District

Brad Elrod
brad.elrod@arumc.org
501-993-8794

Southwest District

Kat Burchfield
rktburch@windstream.net
870-293-9375