



## In brief: Toni's Kitchen sends out appeal for food donations



The Toni's Kitchen delivery van, outside the food pantry's offices at St. Luke's Church. Toni's Kitchen has sent out an appeal for food for its backpack program. ERIN ROLL/STAFF

Toni's Kitchen is in need of food donations for its Summer Love backpack program. The program provides children from households in need with backpacks filled with healthy, shelf-stable food each week.

On Tuesday, the food pantry announced via social media that the Summer Love program was almost out of food.

Partnering with local schools, aftercare and tutoring programs, Toni's Kitchen provides 400 children a week with the food filled backpacks.

"Low-income parents who rely on their children receiving free school meals are hit hard in the summer. Toni's aims to provide these families with weekly backpacks filled with healthy food so one in six local children do not go hungry while on summer vacation. But we can't do it without the community's help. We are currently running VERY low on essential items for the backpacks. If you can, please donate money on our website or drop off any of the items we desperately need."

Toni's Kitchen is the food ministry at St. Luke's Church. The pantry is in need of the following items: canned fruit, canned vegetables, oatmeal, cereal, shelf-stable milk, canned tuna, small-to-medium bags of rice, peanut butter and pasta sauce (not in glass jars).

Donations may be dropped off from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Monday through Wednesday; 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday and Friday; 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday; and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

Monetary donations are also welcome, and may be made through the Toni's Kitchen [donation webpage](#).