

Community Outreach Opportunities: January

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month.

-Play Bingo with residents at a local nursing home. Canyon Oaks in Canoga Park is always fun (818) 887-7050.

-Invite your neighbors to your place for dinner. You'd be surprised how simple it is to make friends over a meal. Go on...don't be shy.

-Kids will love this one! Give some baked goods to the firefighters at the local Station to say “thank-you”.

Community Outreach Opportunities: February

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month.

- Call a maternity home and ask if they need any diapers or furniture....or anything for that matter. Haven Hills is a good start; ask for Sylvia (818) 887-7481 x17

- You know that house with the unkempt yard. Go on over and ask if you can trim the hedges, mow the lawn, and plant some flowers. Offer your services more than once.

- Make a point to help out at the next event at your kid's school. You may be able to make friends with other parents, teachers, and administrators, as well as support the school.

Community Outreach Opportunities: March

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month.

- Offer to throw a birthday party for all the veterans at the Disabled American Veterans Center in Woodland Hills. Leave a message for Sharon and start planning! (818) 340-0444

- Invite the neighbor's kids over to your place to have a sleepover with your kids.

- Good at Math or Science or English? Become a tutor for free. Ask a local school about posting flyers or contacting specific teachers in order to offer your services.

Community Outreach Opportunities: April

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month.

- Volunteer May 2 and/or May 3 in the West Valley with Big Sunday <http://www.bigsunday.org/>. There are multiple projects and service opportunities from which to choose.
- Ask your neighbors to join you May 2 and/or May 3. Decide with them what service project you will do together.
- If you like holding babies, try volunteering at a local hospital in the maternity ward. Sometimes they need people to cuddle babies who need special care and attention.

Community Outreach Opportunities: May

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month.

- Give a gift, plan an outing, or babysit for a single mother in celebration of Mother's Day.
- Join the Neighborhood Watch if you have one.
- Contribute to the emergency food bank at the Guadalupe Center in Canoga Park, or volunteer to help distribute food. Call Katie (818) 883-4122

Community Outreach Opportunities: June

Here are a couple ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Visit Fairwinds Retirement Home in West Hills and spend time with some of the residents after our 2pm worship service there. Contact Bill at bforges@earthlink.net for more information.
- Pack a cooler full of sports drinks, water and ice. Bring it to church service on Sunday and give them away to the soccer players. They would be shocked!

Community Outreach Opportunities: July

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Pray. Pray for your community: businesses, families, individuals, the marginalized, etc. Pray for the entire West Valley, that many would come to Christ.
- Invite your neighbors to Movies in the Park at Warner Center Park
- This is random, but it will cause a smile: take a roll of quarters and pay someone’s laundry cost at a local Laundromat. Can you imagine!

Community Outreach Opportunities: August

Here are a couple ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Find out when your letter-carrier’s birthday is. Then give him/her a gift or card when that date comes around.
- Invite your next door and 2-doors-down neighbor over for a meal.
- Write a note of encouragement to every single one of your co-workers.

Community Outreach Opportunities: September

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Sponsor a woman at Angel’s Way maternity home. Each mother pays a small rent and food fee; but imagine if she was told that the price was paid in full by a follower of Christ! Contact Betty (818) 346-2229
- Do you do taxes? Teach piano? Are you a plumber? Whatever your skill, volunteer it to your neighbors for free.
- Ever notice that homeless man or woman on that same corner? Pack a big sack lunch and offer to have a picnic with him/her right there. Going in pairs is advised.

Community Outreach Opportunities: October

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Sponsor a little league team! And be sure to cheer them on at a game or two.
- A good ol' fashioned neighborhood Block Party is in order! Choose a common area, turn up the music, and have a potluck meal together.
- Give it away! We all have clothes, shoes, and storage items that we can give away. Unload your unused stuff at the nearest Goodwill or Salvation Army.

Community Outreach Opportunities: November

Here are a few ways you can practically “love thy neighbor,” whether individually, with a group, or as a family. Stay tuned for more ideas next month

- Write a letter of encouragement to local pastors and church leaders.
- Invite a church member or neighbor to your place for the holidays if they have nowhere else to go.
- Instead of exchanging gifts as a family, donate to an organization that is near to your heart. This doubles as a lesson to the kids about sacrifice.

Community Outreach Opportunities: December

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- Go around different neighborhoods and sing carols. (P.S. Angelic voice not required) (P.S.S. Sing more songs about Jesus than Santa!)
- Invite your neighbors to the Shepherd Woodland Hills Christmas Eve Dinner and Service.
- Go out to breakfast on Christmas morning and give a gift to your server. Some people actually have to work that day!