



60 IDEAS FOR SERVING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Want to serve those on your street or in your apartment complex? There are nearly endless ways to proactively love your neighbors. Here are 60 examples of how various Watermark Members have served in their neighborhoods. Pick one (or two, or three) of these ideas and start serving today!

Out and About

Here are some ways you can get outside and get some exercise while serving!

1. Clean up the park
2. Help neighbors take out the trash
3. Pick up litter around the neighborhood
4. Adopt a yard in your neighborhood to mow and maintain
5. Pick up neighbors' newspapers and put them on their doorsteps
6. Go Christmas caroling to your neighbors
7. Plan an annual Easter egg hunt
8. Put up holiday decorations for neighboring families to enjoy
9. Use sidewalk chalk to write encouraging messages to your neighbors
10. Care for the community garden (or start one)
11. Lead group exercise classes for your apartment complex
12. Connect with others by playing sports at your local park or gym
13. Organize quarterly "work days" for people to come together and get to know each other while serving the neighborhood
14. Set up a fitness challenge and offer to run or work out with anyone who wants to get in better shape
15. Go for a walk and pray for each neighbor as you pass their house

Hosting at Home

Invite neighbors over to your place and demonstrate the gift of hospitality.

16. Host a backyard Bible study

17. Pass out donuts in your front yard to families on their way to school
18. Host a tailgate party before the big game
19. Invite neighbors over for a game night
20. Coordinate a block party to build relationships with neighbors
21. Organize a chili cookoff
22. Fire up the grill and have a B.Y.O.M. (bring your own meat) cookout
23. Host themed movie nights
24. Invite your neighbors over for a meal
25. Throw an ice cream party, with everything needed for people to build their own sundaes
26. Have a pumpkin carving contest at Halloween
27. Teach a cooking class in your kitchen
28. Grab a guitar (or a musically inclined friend) and host a worship night around a fire pit
29. Host a holiday potluck for anyone who doesn't have a family gathering to attend

Ready-Made Service

You don't always need to create projects; you can serve through an existing activities or organizations in your neighborhood.

30. Coach a kids sports team
31. Lead a club that your kids are involved in
32. Volunteer to serve at your local school
33. Serve on the PTA board
34. Serve in your neighborhood association
35. Join a neighborhood social media group and use it to connect with neighbors, help meet their needs, and pray for them
36. Volunteer at a local festival

37. Serve with the neighborhood crime watch
38. Serve as a volunteer firefighter for your community
39. Invite neighbors to join you for a service day at a local charity
40. Volunteer to deliver Meals on Wheels to elderly neighbors

Who's in Your Ditch?

A big part of serving is seeing the needs in front of you—and responding!

41. After a storm, go around the neighborhood and offer to help with clean up or repairs
42. When a neighbor has a baby, is dealing with a medical issue, or is facing any kind of crisis, offer to help them with daily tasks (such as doing the laundry, cleaning house, or cooking meals)
43. Build a wheelchair ramp for a neighbor
44. If you see a neighbor working on their car or house, grab your tools and go help them
45. Take care of a neighbor's pets while they are out of town
46. Arrange to pick up your neighbor's child from school if they aren't able to make leave work in time to do it themselves
47. Babysit so neighboring parents can attend community group, go on a date, or just get a much-needed break
48. Tutor neighborhood families
49. Help neighbors who are moving
50. Hold a prayer vigil for neighbors during a time of crisis

Give & Go

Sometimes a timely gift means the world, and it is always better to give than to receive.

51. Bake treats for your apartment complex's office staff
52. Deliver food to your local fire station
53. Introduce yourself to new neighbors with a welcome basket of goodies
54. Share fresh vegetables from your garden with your neighbors
55. Set up a bake sale or lemonade stand to raise money for charity
56. Organize a neighborhood canned food drive
57. Buy gifts for local families in need during Christmas
58. Create and distribute "homeless care kits" to homeless people you come across
59. Provide school supplies for children or teachers in your neighborhood
60. Give Bibles or biblical books to neighbors

"And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.'"

LUKE 10:27