

9. **Care for folks together.** Could someone in your neighborhood benefit from regular help (elderly, disabled, single parents, etc.)? Unite with neighbors to mow their lawns, rake leaves, paint fences, get groceries, etc.
10. **Meals during big life events.** Major life events can be stressful and make normal activities a challenge. Consider providing dinner for a family with a new baby or for those who have lost a loved one. Team up with other neighbors to provide a meal every other day for a season (1-3 weeks).
11. **Block party.** Drag the grills into the front yard, set up some tables and invite folks to bring their favorite side dishes! A block party can create opportunity for new relationships while cultivating a sense of neighborhood identity. The City of Fort Collins even offers grants to offset the cost. Go to fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices/grants.php for grant information.

PRAYING FOR YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

“... seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.” [Jeremiah 29:7]

As you walk around your neighborhoods, as you tuck your kids into bed – whenever you think of it – ask God to bring good to your neighbors.

Pray for:

- » Healthy relationships among neighbors »
- » Healthy families and marriages »
- » Children who are well-loved, and who grow in wisdom, service and purpose »
- » Safety/protection »
- » Hope in Christ »
- » A right understanding of God »

Specific prayers for your neighbors:

The Art of Neighboring

Join the Movement

Find series information and more at
artofneighboringfoco.com



fort collins
CHURCH NETWORK

WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

Practical ideas to build relationships in your neighborhood

- 1. Shoveling your driveway?** Take a little extra time and shovel your neighbor's.
- 2. Introduce yourself.** This works really well with a pie or a plate of cookies in hand. "I haven't had the chance to meet you yet. My name is _____." "Forgive me, I should have formally introduced myself by now. My name is _____."
- 3. Utilize Nextdoor.com.** This neighborhood social networking site provides a useful communication tool available only to your neighbors. Sign up today and you can begin inviting your neighbors via email or postcard (which Nextdoor will send for you).
- 4. The 'Traveling Fork'.** On some regular schedule (Saturday mornings are best), share the hosting of an open house breakfast. A large traveling fork (> 4 ft tall) acts as a sign in the host's front yard. When the fork is out, people can drop by for a plate of pancakes and some time with their neighbors.
- 5. Outdoor movie night.** In warm weather, find a projector and a sound system, and project a great kid's movie on a sheet in your yard. Parents get a chance to chat and kids have a "drive-in movie" adventure together.
- 6. Who needs the Broncos?** If the kids in your neighborhood play sports, make their games and events your sports entertainment.
- 7. Surprise gift baskets.** For the big holidays (Easter, Christmas, etc.) consider creating a gift basket with coffee, tea, candies, flowers, etc., and a note expressing gratitude for your neighbors and briefly stating why the holiday is meaningful to you.
- 8. Eating together.** Nothing creates the opportunity for building friendships like enjoying a meal together. It doesn't need to be formal. Everyone eats dinner. Think about sharing yours, whatever it looks like, with a neighbor.