

## **Extend Ideas for Community Groups**

Start a practice of inviting one neighbor to join your Community Group-even if they just come for dinner before the study.

Host a "block party" in the neighborhood of one of the families. Roam around to meet/greet/interact.

Each group meeting have a few minutes for people to share ways they individually extended that week.

Look for ideas that can be done by individuals or families - then share the stories with the group.

Seek out newcomers at church and invite them to coffee or lunch after church. Become a small group welcome committee!

Adopt a grandparent i.e. connect to nursing home or assisted care living facility. Be available to help with Dr. appts, grocery shopping, or just spending time.

Tutoring a student after school hours or one-on-one during class.

Offer to host a "game night" at a local retirement/nursing home.

Contact group homes in the area about our Sunday Service. While enhancing the residents of these homes, we will also reach the staff of these homes.

Adopt a family in your neighborhood - is there a single Mom, or widow, or a young family that would benefit from a meal, lawn mowed, or other friendly gesture?

As a Community Group pray regularly for that person and determine some practical ways your group can help out.

### **Additional ideas:**

Each member "adopt" a different missionary family. Share with their group stories of that relationship.

Adopt a soldier over seas as a pen pal.

Be available to provide delivery of food supplies to homes of people identified by Second Harvest Heartland.

Assemble sandwiches for homeless shelter residents' lunches.

See serving opportunities list available at Connections and soon at the website.

### **Web sites with current listings of volunteer opportunities sorted by type, location, or organization:**

[volunteermatch.org](http://volunteermatch.org)

[handsontwincities.org](http://handsontwincities.org)

Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches, GMCC, sponsors 3 metro-wide service projects each year, Metro Paint-A-Thon, Minnesota Food Share, Handyworks.

DARTS ([darts1.org](http://darts1.org)), in Dakota County, has many ongoing service opportunities to seniors, Meals on Wheels, Bridging ([bridging.org](http://bridging.org)), etc.