



Ideas for Serving in Your Neighborhood

Want to serve those on your street or in your apartment complex? Consider these 98 possibilities, taken from 1400+ Watermark people who are serving their neighbors. (Compiled and edited by our [External Focus Team](#))

Just Step Outside

We'll start our list with some activities to get your blood pumping!

1. Cleaning up the park
2. Help neighbors take out the trash
3. Served with Habitat for Humanity in my neighborhood
4. We spread mulch on a playground
5. Babysit so neighborhood families could attend community group
6. Participated in creek clean-up
7. I'm the "Sunshine rep" for our neighborhood - I arrange meals, visits, cards for anyone having surgery, ill, or

8. Adopted a yard in our neighborhood to maintain
9. Christmas caroled in our complex
10. Pet-sit for out-of-town neighbors
11. Picked up neighbors' newspapers and put them on their doorsteps
12. Serve as a volunteer firefighter for our neighborhood
13. Serve my neighbor who has MS by meeting needs during the day when her husband is at work
14. Serving in the community garden
15. Tutor for neighborhood families
16. We live near a grocery store, and my

17. Help with home projects and run school shuttle for neighbors
18. We pick up a pre-K child from school every Monday so his mom does not have to leave work

Ready-Made Service

You don't always need to create projects—many chances to serve come through activities organized by others, or by taking on an official role.

19. Assistant Scoutmaster in my neighborhood troop
20. Coach a kids soccer team from my neighborhood
21. Crime watch captain
22. I have a passion for fitness and health, so I serve my apartment community by instructing group fitness classes
23. Served with Lake Highlands YoungLives, mentoring area teen moms
24. I worked at the carnival and the bike rally at the elementary school down the street from our house
25. Neighborhood landscape committee
26. Lead safety meetings for my apartment complex

27. My husband and I are block captains of our street
28. Participated in a neighborhood trash pick-up day
29. Room parent at Boggess Elementary
30. Serve as president of neighborhood association
31. Serve in a neighborhood boys summer Bible study
32. Serve on the PTA board
33. Served in the local middle school by setting up for a get-to-know the school event, helping at the event, and then cleaning up afterwards
34. Planning committee for our local National Night Out
35. Volunteered at our local fall festival
36. Volunteered for neighborhood patrol
37. We served a week in the summer reading club with refugee children in our neighborhood
38. We served with Kids Beach Club for our local school

A Host of Hosts

Watermarkers have found many activities to host in their homes and their neighborhoods. Here's a sampling, but find our guide at watermark.org/qa.

39. Backyard Bible Club
40. Christmas Eve breakfast
41. Co-lead a prayer group with other mothers
42. Donut party at our house for all families that go to our kids' school
43. Tailgate parties

44. Game night
45. Helped coordinate a block party to build relationships
46. Hosted a Fall Chili Cookoff
47. Dad/daughter Bible study
48. Backyard Theology: Gathering with men to grill out and discuss a specific theological question
49. Themed movie nights
50. I invite the children from a neighboring apartment complex over to bake cookies, to form relationships with

51. I play basketball every Saturday with middle school students in an open gym near home. We are in the process of adding tutoring, field trips, and various speakers on Saturdays
52. My husband and I planned the annual Easter Egg Hunt

(continued next page...)

- 53. I join other moms to host the elderly on our block for quarterly lunches
- 54. Ice cream party
- 55. Hosted a pumpkin carving with an evangelism tie-in as a way to gently share the gospel with neighbors
- 56. Offered free aqua fitness classes to neighborhood members at the pool
- 57. Our family hosted a weekly Bible study for the junior high football team, and around 40 boys came every week. We fed them dinner and then conducted the Bible study
- 58. Partnered with another Watermark family in our neighborhood who hosted brunches and get-togethers to reach unbelieving neighbors
- 59. Started a boys summer club for 3-6th grade boys in Richardson (125 boys for 6 Tuesday nights)
- 60. Started a closed Facebook group for my neighborhood as a means of connecting people with each other
- 61. Teaching a cooking class for home-

**Block Party
in a Box**
*Find our guide for building
block parties & other neigh-
borhood get-togethers at*
watermark.org/go

- school moms and sharing the joy of coming around the table!
- 62. We hosted a "manners luncheon" for local West Dallas kids and invited neighbors to help
- 63. We invited local sports figures with strong faith to share their testimonies with local kids at our home
- 64. Served our apartment complex in The Village by partnering with two other Watermark attendees in the complex to host a "Get to know you Party"
- 65. My family started and maintains a community garden that we have quarterly work days for. During these workdays we maintain the garden but also look for opportunities to minister to the wide variety of lifestyles and worldviews that come
- 66. We hosted a local gathering for in our Lake Highlands neighborhood to unify believers in our community
- 67. We hosted an Easter potluck for the

- neighbors in our hallway. We continued pursuing one of the couples who came to the potluck, including a meal where we engaged them specifically about the gospel and had an awesome conversation about theology and religion. Even just that one pair of neighbors made a huge difference in my confidence to engage neighbors
- 68. Hosted spiritual discussions in our home with our neighbors who don't attend church presently
- 69. Invite neighbors to watch political debates with us. We sometimes share with neighbors about voting based on attributes that God tells us to look for
- 70. Invite our neighbors to the Christmas play that we host at our house. The kids perform the play
- 71. We lead a fitness challenge during the month of November for our apartment complex that leads to some relationships and great conversation
- 72. Weekly "Music and Moves" classes for our elderly neighbors to keep up their fitness

Who's in Your Ditch?

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

- 73. After a tornado, we helped some of the affected families
- 74. Assisted neighborhood family in crisis with daily tasks (e.g. laundry, food preparation)
- 75. Built a wheelchair ramp for a neighbor

- 76. Cleaned up for elderly neighbors after a remodel project
- 77. Held prayer vigil for a neighbor during a time of family crisis
- 78. Helped clean up debris from a home that burned down
- 79. Helped neighbors move
- 80. Helped with construction projects for neighbors in need
- 81. Worked with our city's Mayor Pro Tem to spearhead an effort to get gas lines laid in the neighborhood

Give & Go

Sometimes a timely gift means the world, or you may find ways to help other give.

- 82. Baked cinnamon rolls for our apartment complex's office staff
- 83. Delivered food to our local fire station
- 84. Gave gifts of Bibles or biblical books to neighbors
- 85. "Welcome to the Block" treats
- 86. Hosted a popsicle stand to raise money for our neighborhood school
- 87. Served others in my neighborhood over the past 3 years as "The Sweet

- Tooth Fairy" by surprising individuals and families with fresh desserts, meals, and other items
- 88. I live in Rockwall, so I helped Lake Pointe Church pack food for their ministries
- 89. Joint family effort in our neighborhood to serve families through gift-giving over Christmas
- 90. We took cookies to our neighbors when we first moved in
- 91. Kids created "homeless care kits" for the homeless in our neighborhood
- 92. Neighborhood canned food drive

- 93. Our family participated in the Hands and Feet Projects, including delivering waters to people working outside
- 94. Participated in Meals on Wheels for our neighbors
- 95. Provided school supplies for refugee children in our neighborhood
- 96. Served with kids distributing food from a neighborhood food bank
- 97. Had neighbors write on our sidewalk - for every 5 names, we bought a backpack for a low-income school
- 98. Welcome new neighbors with Tiff's Treats