

10 Neighborhood Christmas Outreach Ideas

Women's Christmas Gathering

- Tea, coffee, brunch or dessert.
Invite all women in neighborhood, high-rise or apartment complex to meet and greet one another. Provide nametags, simple refreshments and conversation starters. Or invite a friend to share a brief presentation of the Christmas story.
- ! Idea: Have an old Christmas sweater contest.

Christmas Cookie Exchange

- Invite 10 women, each bringing a dozen of the same cookie and recipe.
- Serve beverages; provide sturdy plates for cookies to be carried home.
- ! Idea: how about men having a cigar exchange?

Couples Dinner or Dessert Smorgasbord

- Invite neighbors to come and bring a dish or dessert to share.
- Play games, share Christmas traditions or worst gift ever. Show a video clip of the Nativity and share your spiritual journey.

Children's Birthday Party for Jesus

- Play games, piñata, sing simple Christmas songs, make a craft.
- Birthday cake or cupcakes – nativity animals, angels, stars etc.
- Share the Christmas story in costume and/or, have children act it out.

Family Christmas Caroling

- Christmas carol in your neighborhood - come back to your house for hot chocolate and cookies ... gather other neighbors as you go!
- ! Idea: Turn a flatbed into a hay wagon. Decorate and drive around the 'hood.

Hand Deliver Small Gifts/Cards to Neighbors

- Personally or as a family hand-deliver gifts ... it's fun and worth the effort!
- ! Ideas: ornaments, festive towels, candles, soaps, cookie cutters, homemade or store-bought goodies or fill a gift bag with popcorn and a JESUS film DVD.

Christmas Ornament, Mug or Tea Towel Exchange

- Decide the type of "exchange" - each guest bring that item gift wrapped.
- Depending on time of day, serve light refreshments and mingle.
- Share favorite Christmas memories and read the Christmas story together.

Christmas "Grubby Gourmet"

- Potluck of gourmet holiday favorites, guests wear "grubby" attire.
- Invite a friend to share an inspirational talk, for example: "Recipe for Surviving the Holidays."
- ! Idea: International recipes and share their cultural Christmas traditions.

Christmas Video Clip Party

- Each guest cue up their favorite/funniest Christmas video clip and show it to the group.
- Share favorite Christmas gifts/traditions in between clips.
- ! Idea: Show a clip of the Nativity and share why that's your favorite.

Coat, Mitten, Toy or Canned Food Neighborhood Drive

- Choose a local charity, distribute flyers, set a collection date and place.
- Provide coffee, hot chocolate and cookies at the drop-off.
- ! Idea: Organize neighborhood service projects for different local charities.

