

Rediscover the art of Neighboring

Use this simple chart to make a plan to be a great neighbor. Look at the house in the middle. That's you. Now look at all the neighbors whose lot, property, condo or apartment, is adjacent to yours. Make a notation next to each one. Do you know their name? What do you know about their family? How they make a living? If they go to church? If so, where? How about their hopes? Their joys? Their hurts? Now decide, what level of relationship are they to you at this time? are they a stranger? An acquaintance? A Friend? A close friend? Someone with you feel close enough to share your hopes and hurts? Your faith?

Starting with the neighbor nearest who is not a close friend, make a plan for moving them from the current level of relationship up at least one level. Enlist others in your church, especially those who live in your neighborhood in this effort. After you've been working your plan for several months. Use the **Block Party Kit** found in the missional toolbox to begin planning a block party with your new friends. Plan a "Bring a Friend" Sunday at church, and as appropriate, invite your new friends.

