

REACHING OUT BLUEPRINT



In an effort to encourage members to develop deeper relationships with neighbors, our Missions Team has constructed a blueprint of practical steps to help us as we reach out. Ephesians 4:12 exhorts us to “equip the saints for the work of ministry” and our hope is that this blueprint will be one more tool in the hands of our members to foster a growing passion to share Jesus with others.

The information below is divided into two parts. The first part, *Reaching Out Blueprint*, lays out a plan of practical suggestions for how we can develop greater intentionality in our efforts to intercede, invest, and invite. Our aim in providing this idea bank is to help us think creatively when it comes to reaching out. The second part, *Reaching Out Gatherings*, hones in on one specific idea under the umbrella of “investing” by providing information for those interested in opening up their homes to host a reaching out gathering. For those interested, our Missions Team is prepared to come along side those members hosting gatherings by providing assistance and resources.

Reaching Out Blueprint

Creating a blueprint for a building requires intentional planning. By the same token, reaching out requires intentional planning as well. Opportunities to intercede, invest, and invite are all around us if we have eyes to see them.

As we look to reach out, one of the simplest ways to do so is by leveraging our everyday activities by inviting others to be a part of them. What might be a regular activity you could invite others to participate in with you? A few ideas to help you get the creative juices flowing include: eating together, traveling to work, walking the dog, play dates, watching sports or shows, playing sports, going to the movies, book clubs, and home projects. If we are intentional to think in these terms, opportunities to reach out will regularly reveal themselves.

Let’s consider practical ways to live out the three concepts of intercede, invest, and invite.

Intercede

- Go to pray4everyhome.org and receive daily emails reminding you to pray for your neighbors
- Prayer walk your neighborhood or complex once a month
- As you interact with others, be in the habit of asking how you can pray for them and be sure to follow up with them
- Input into your phone reminders to intercede for others
- Ask other believers in your BFG to pray for your interaction with your neighbors

Invest

- Invite others into your daily life activities like those mentioned above
- Host a reaching out gathering (see more information below)
- Look for opportunities to bless others by providing a meal/dessert or helping with a project

- Look to connect with others through mutual interests
- Reach out to others during hard or hurting times

Invite

- Invite others to special Sundays (i.e., Easter, I Love My Church Sunday, Christmas)
- Invite others to a specific Equip class
- Invite children to Vacation Bible School
- Invite others into your home for a meal or dessert
- Invite them to consider the Christian faith by walking through the 3 Circles evangelism training

Reaching Out Gatherings

Fostering relationships with neighbors requires ongoing intentionality. One practical step we can take to develop deeper friendships is by opening up our homes for social gatherings, whether for a party of 3 or 23. With this in mind, the Missions Team is encouraging members to host Reaching Out Gatherings, and they are ready to serve you in a tangible way to make it happen. The Missions Team's intention in providing practical help is that by committing energy and resources to these gatherings, it will propel our members to be more intentional to love others through hospitality.

Here is the information you need to know:

What tangible support is available for my Reaching Out Gathering?

- Reaching Out Gathering checklist (i.e., helpful tips when hosting a gathering)
- Sound system
- Outdoor movie theater kit
- Inflatable rental
- Games (e.g., corn hole, corn bowl, giant Connect Four, giant Jenga, ladder toss, Kan Jam)
- Classic NES game system (i.e., old school fun)
- Tables/chairs/coolers

How do I go about reserving items for my reaching out gathering?

Register your information at naobc.org/reachingout. A Missions Team member will contact you regarding your gathering within 48 hours.

Got questions? For more information, please contact our Missions Team member Will Wiley at wwiley2@comcast.net.

Reaching Out Gathering Checklist

Our Missions Team has created this checklist as an aid for you as you plan your Reaching Out Gathering. Please use this form to guide you through your planning process.

Gathering Details

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Location: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Recruited: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Date & Time: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Church Resources Reserved: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gathering Theme: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Items Provided by Guests: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Invitation List Determined: _____ | |

Timeline

- ASAP – Register Reaching Out Gathering @ naobc.org/reachingout
- 6 weeks prior – Finalize gathering plan and select invitations
- 5 weeks prior – Recruit help from members and order invitations
- 3 to 4 weeks prior- Distribute invitations
- 3 weeks prior – Ask BFG to begin praying for your gathering
- 2 weeks prior – Confirm pickup and return procedure for church resources
- 4 days out – RSVPs confirmed

Items to Reserve

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inflatable | <input type="checkbox"/> Tables: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor movie theater kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Chairs: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sound system | <input type="checkbox"/> Classic NES game system |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coolers: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor games: _____ |

Church-related/City-wide Dates to Consider Avoiding

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ November 3 – Pine Derby▪ November 24 – UL vs UK Football▪ March 23 – Women’s Event▪ April 13 – Thunder Over Louisville▪ April 19 – Good Friday Service▪ May 4 – Kentucky Derby | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ May 18 – Men’s Beast Feast▪ Jun 2 – Aug 25 – Sunday Evening Schedule▪ July 27 – Love the Ville▪ September 21 – Women’s Event |
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