



ART OF NEIGHBORING LETTER

This letter was given to pastors 6 months before the series in order to invite them to a meeting and give them an overview of the Art of Neighboring Initiative.



Resources

Block Map Refrigerator Magnets – We will be providing a 5X7 magnet that each household can use as a visual reminder of their commit to neighboring. The magnet will be a tool that will help our people learn and retain the names of their literal neighbors. you might want to begin the series by handing out the block map magnets and asking your people if they can fill in more information than they could a year ago. *We need to know the approximate number of households that attend your church over a 3-week time span so we can order magnets for everyone soon.*

Art of Neighboring Web Presence – We will be directing people to a website that will allow the people in our congregations to identify others who live in their neighborhoods and who are also part of this movement. This has the potential to be an incredible resource that will help our people to work together to build relationships in their neighborhoods. *The only way that this will work is if we as pastors are relentless in asking our people to simply mark their house on this site.* An added benefit of this site is that it will create an amazing visual of “The Body of Christ” in our communities.

Who is involved?

All of the churches who are involved in this effort will need to affirm the Apostles Creed and believe in the centrality and supremacy of Jesus Christ. This includes churches that are part of the Evangelical, Catholic, and Mainline streams. The goal of our church network is to live out Jesus’ prayer in John Chapter 17, in which he prays, *“May they (believers) be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”* God’s promise is that unity among believers will draw those who do not know God into relationship with Him. Our hope is that this effort will be a step towards uniting the Body and making the Kingdom tangible for those who live in our community.