

CONNECT SMALL





"IT'S TIME TO RESIST THE URGE TO SEPARATE. INSTEAD LET'S TAKE THE TIME, MAKE THE SPACE, AND EXPEND THE ENERGY TO DRAW CLOSER TO EACH OTHER."

DANIELLE STRICKLAND



connect at home

AS WE BEGIN TO GATHER AGAIN, IN
OUR BACKYARDS AND ON OUR
PORCHES,
HERE ARE SOME IDEAS FOR
MEANINGFUL TIME TOGETHER
WITH A FEW FRIENDS, ANOTHER
FAMILY OR YOUR SMALL GROUP.

connect at home

"OUR TABLES WILL BECOME OUR CHURCHES"

'PORCH' COMMUNION

When Jesus first modeled communion, He did it in someone's home. You might be used to participating from home by now, but if you need help leading time around the table, here are some steps you can take;

1. Prepare something simple to eat and drink
2. Read the story of the Last Supper in Matthew 26, Luke 22 or Mark 14
3. Ask one person to pray for the bread and lead your group in sharing and eating the bread (or crackers, nachos or donuts.)
4. Have someone else pray for the cup and lead in sharing and receiving the cup.
5. Encourage your group to live in the truth of communion by sharing something in each of your lives that Jesus has restored, or is restoring.
6. Share with one another anything God brought to mind or helped you remember during this time of being with Jesus.



OPEN AIR WORSHIP

There is something special about gathering for musical worship together.

(Don't let this be intimidating, even if you're not used to having others hear you sing!)

Grab a guitar, your smartphone, or a portable speaker and play some worship music. **Sing out loud, or listen and be still, and let your praises fill your neighbourhood!** Share what you experience together- what lyrics stand out, what is God saying to you, what do you want to say to Him?



CONNECT ACROSS THE
GENERATIONS



Generation after generation stands in
awe of your work;
each one tells stories of your mighty
acts.

Psalm 145:4

connect across the generations

TAKE THE LEAP AND REACH OUT

We value intergenerational connections and consider this a guiding value for life at Forest Brook.

This summer, take the leap and reach out to someone in a different age group or life stage. (You can get started by taking a look on our Facebook Group, *FBCC Commons*, or our online directory, *CCB*.) Send a message or a note, ask how you can pray for them, learn about what life is like for them in this season, maybe even plan to meet up for a walk or visit together, and enjoy the richness that flows from relationships across the generations.

Try asking this question, "What has affected you most this year, and how are you feeling about it?"

"Love your neighbour"
Mark 12:31



CONNECT IN YOUR
NEIGHBOURHOOD

CONNECTING INTENTIONALLY WITH THOSE AROUND US

Many of us have developed new or strengthened relationships with neighbours over this past while. Consider how you can show love to your neighbours this summer; host a driveway party, drop off treats, offer to water their gardens while they're away, or ask how you can pray for them.

Try this: go on a prayer walk- as you walk in your familiar spaces ask God to show you something fresh and new to pray for there.



Connect in your neighbourhood

DO YOUR RESEARCH

Many of us live in suburban settings where material poverty can be more 'hidden'. Take some time this summer to dig in and find out the needs in your area. The pandemic has had an adverse affect on those living in rental properties, and the working poor. Ask God to show you where He's leading you to connect with your neighbourhood's needs.

A few ideas to get started: call or connect online with your local Social Services agency, check out your city/town's CAREmongers' page on Facebook, begin to ask some neighbours what needs they have or perceive right where you live.

(re)connect with God

DRAW CLOSE THROUGH
PRAYER & THE WORD





READ JESUS' EXAMPLE

Spend some time this summer reading through the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) and engage with **the way Jesus lived and loved.**

Specifically, spend some time here: John 13:1-17, 30-35 ; what jumps out at you? How are you challenged/encouraged/inspired?

TALK TO JESUS

Prayer is communion-relationship with God. **Spend time listening and talking to Jesus this summer.** Pray for your family, friends, neighbours, our church. Pray for healthy relationships and ask for a deeper relationship with God Himself.

*Borrow this prayer:
"Jesus give me eyes to see ____ as you do. Help me to love like you."*

"NEXT TO GRACE,
I BET GOD THINKS MAKING US NEED EACH OTHER
WAS ONE OF HIS BEST IDEAS."
- BOB GOFF

