

# 12 WAYS YOUR LIFE GROUP CAN SERVE

Mission projects are a wonderful way to experience fellowship and minister beyond the walls of the church. However, limitations can prevent some from serving. The good news is that Life Groups can share the love of Christ, and at the same time build unity among their members. It just takes a little planning to find the right project. There are projects you can do in one day with very little cost, and there are opportunities to serve weekly in on-going ministries. Below are ways you and your Life Group can serve:

**1 Kids Connection** – Life Groups can do one-time special projects as a large group, or they can provide small groups (2 or 3 volunteers) to work one day a week. This is a flexible way to serve children and foster families.

**3 Transportation** – Be on the lookout for people who would participate in church activities if they had transportation. Are there senior adults who need transportation on Sundays? Are there children in your neighborhood who would come to church if offered a ride?

**5 Hispanic Vacation Bible School** – Explore ways your Life Group can minister to Hispanic children in your community, particularly during Dawson's Vacation Bible School which will be July 22-25, 2019.

**7 Host Guest Missionaries** – Dawson has two homes that are for missionaries to live in while they are on stateside assignment. When missionaries return home, they often feel disconnected from the local community. This is a great time for your Life Group to include, encourage, and support their families while they are literally at our back door.

**9 Missionary Support** – Dawson currently has seven members serving full time on the international mission field. Often these missionaries gradually lose contact with their home church as their length of service grows. Life Groups can encourage and pray for them in an intentional way.

**11 Encouraging Church Planters** – Dawson supports eight local and national church plants in Hoover, Alabama; Las Vegas, Nevada; and across the state of Maine. As a Life Group, consider supporting church planters, spouses, children, and church leaders with encouraging handwritten notes and uplifting emails throughout the year.

**2 The Learning Center** – Life Groups can volunteer at The Learning Center in many ways. Individuals may sign up to be academic instructors while others may choose to be prayer partners or teach a Bible study. As a group, you can also sign up to bring lunch or snacks for the students one day during the semester.

**4 Feed the Homeless** – Cooking and/or serving food as a group is a great opportunity to minister to the needs of people who are close to home. Dawson members serve regularly at the Fire House Shelter and the Brother Bryan Mission in downtown Birmingham.

**6 Alabama Black Belt Mission Trips** – This one-day project is a great opportunity for parents to work alongside their children. Life Groups can serve together and bring their kids along. The teams provide medical care, clothes, food, and recreation.

**8 Metro Changers** – Metro Changers is a ministry where volunteer groups can renovate homes in Birmingham. Your group can paint a house, build a handicap ramp, or construct a new deck. Construction materials are provided at no cost to your Life Group by Metro Changers.

**10 Orphan and Widow Care** – Your Life Group can participate in Orphan and Widow Care by volunteering to do helpful tasks through our W.R.A.P. Ministry for foster and adoptive families and for Dawson's widows through our Season's Ministry.

**12 Special Mission Projects** – Dawson's Mission Staff will work with your Life Group to design a project for your group. There are a variety of opportunities to serve throughout the city.