## Questions to Consider

* How would you describe your neighbours and neighbourhood?
* What does the Neighbourhood Profile confirm about your story?
* What surprised you?
* The Neighbourhood Profile helps to identify different groups of neighbours (single-households, young families, newcomer communities), who are the neighbours you are in relationship with, and who are the neighbours you haven’t connected with yet?
* How does your faith community reflect the neighbourhood?
* What are some opportunities you can think of to reach your unreached neighbours personally and as a community of faith?

## Prayer Exercises

Our Scriptures tell us again and again: Love your neighbors as you love yourself (Leviticus 19:18, Matthew 19:19, Matthew 22:39, Mark 12:31, Mark 12:33, Luke 10:27, Romans 13:9, Galatians 5:14, James 2:8). One way we can love our neighbours is by praying for their welfare, holding them with an open, curious and prayerful attitude (as we discussed at the Spring AGM talk on “Attitudes of Evangelism”). Here are some ideas for how you can pray for your neighbours personally or as a community of faith.

* Host a Prayer Walk
* Pray for a different postal code or neighbourhood each week at church or during leadership meetings
* Invite every household to commit to praying for each house on their street or apartment on their floor – you can provide a simple written prayer and a colour-in check-list for kids

*Interested in any of these ideas? Contact Tori (**tmullin@united-church.ca**) for resources!*

In Your small groups, take time now to pray together for your neighbourhoods.

***A Prayer for My Neighbourhood***

God of small villages and big cities,

God of the prairies, the coastlines and mountains,

God of all people and places,

we acknowledge that you are present here.

Where your people are gathered, you are there.

Where your children dwell, you are there.

We give thanks for our neighbourhood(s),

for (name places), for the place(s) we call home.

We give thanks for our neighbours,

those we see in our daily lives,

those we come across on occasion, and

those we have yet to meet.

We pray that your goodness would bloom

in this place (these places),

like a flower sprouting up from the crack in the pavement.

A wonderous sign of hope

in what can feel like a hopeless place.

Like the Sower, in your son’s parable,

help us to scatter the seeds of your kin-dom far and wide,

so that the blooming of your kin-dom

could be seen throughout this neighbourhood (these neighbourhoods).

That all might feel your love

And be transformed by it.

These things we pray, with hope and expectation.

Amen.

(Tori Mullin, 2024)