

OUTREACH

2007-2008 MONTHLY INFORMATION

SEPTEMBER 2007

Pack Your Purse with GRACE

Kick off the new theme year by giving personal invitations to every woman in your church. For two weeks before your meeting, greet the women as they enter and exit Sunday services and invite them to join you. Give them a reminder to take home with them so they won't forget to come!

OCTOBER 2007

Pack Your Purse with SERVANTHOOD

Contact a school in your community that teaches special needs children. Find out from their staff what supplies they need help with. Ideas may include chap stick, cotton swabs, petroleum jelly, band-aids, baby wipes and diapers. Invite the teachers to join you at your next event and let them know if your church has any children's events coming up that their students would enjoy.

NOVEMBER 2007

Pack Your Purse with COOPERATION

If your town has a soup kitchen or shelter, volunteer to help. Your group could go as a large unit or divide into teams and rotate when you help. If you can't give the time, find out if there are supplies they need that you could help with.

DECEMBER 2007

Pack Your Purse with GRATITUDE

During the holidays, offer free gift-wrapping at your local shopping center or book store. Have a sign in front stating who you are and that the gift-wrapping service is free of charge.

JANUARY 2008

Pack Your Purse with PERSERVERANCE

Contact your local elementary school and ask if you can volunteer. Many schools need adults to read to younger children and/or tutor students in reading and math. If you can't volunteer in the school, ask if you can treat the staff to a coffee break one day.

FEBRUARY 2008

Pack Your Purse with REVERENCE

Adopt a grandparent. Visit your local nursing home or care facility and offer to visit one of their residents on a regular basis. Keep in touch through regular visits and send notes of encouragement. You may find you benefit from this experience as much as your new friend does! If you have young children, take them with you and allow them to spend time with your adopted grandparent!

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MARCH 2008

Pack Your Purse with PRAYERFULNESS

Using your church's prayer list, write notes of encouragement to those listed. Pray for them throughout the month, and let them know you care. Offer to take a meal or drop off muffins or cookies for a treat.

APRIL 2008

Pack Your Purse with RESPONSIBILITY

Increase your visibility in the community surrounding your church by planting tulips or potted plants. In small groups, go door to door and offer to plant tulip bulbs or other plants in each yard. Let the homeowner choose where to plant and offer to plant three or four bulbs for them free of charge. Invite the homeowner to visit your church, and, if there is a woman in the house, invite her to go with you to your next women's ministry event. (Idea taken from "101 Ways to Reach Your Community" by Steve Sjogren)

MAY 2008

Pack Your Purse with OBEDIENCE

Hand out miniature chocolate bars to all the women in your church. Have an invitation attached to the candy telling what the theme for this month is. Encourage the women to take an extra invitation to give to a friend who doesn't usually attend your women's ministry events.

JUNE 2008

Pack Your Purse with TEACHABILITY

Reach out to the single women in your area. Circulate posters in pediatricians' offices and grocery stores to advertise a day of caring for single moms. You can include car washes, oil changes, a meal, a clothing exchange and coupons for groceries. Recruit the men in your church to help with some of the chores!

JULY 2008

Pack Your Purse with THANKFULNESS

Prepare a basket of goodies for your local firefighters and/or police officers. Add a note thanking them for what they do for your community.

AUGUST 2008

Pack Your Purse with VISION

Make a connection with a woman in your community who is from a different background than your's. This could be as simple as saying hello to someone in your neighborhood or as involved as inviting someone you don't usually speak with to have a cup of coffee with you.