



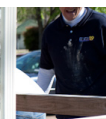
This is a local mission that provides churches an opportunity to serve the community together and demonstrate the love of Christ. By meeting the basic and urgent needs in the city, we are able to build bridges from the church to the community. Service to the community presents opportunities for sharing Christ and providing face-to-face encounters with people in our community. Some of the service projects we did in

2011 are the following:  
School Projects (building playground, pressure washing, landscaping, painting), Manna House, Prayer Walking, Environmental Projects, House Repair, CASA Yard Work, Adopt a Fire Station, Free Car Wash, Easter Cross Projects, and In-House Packing Projects.

Serving the City is a way for people at Willowbrook to experience missions locally here in Huntsville. As Christians, we are called to serve and glorify our God, which is a significant part of what it means to be a Christian. We have also been saved to serve (Heb. 9:14), and what better way than to serve those in our community and express to them through our actions and words that God loves them no matter what. Through many of the projects in Serving the City, people can find projects that interest them and through them show Christ's love to others. Hopefully through Serving the City, people will make serving our community a regular habit for their Sunday school classes and their families.  
-Mark

The other doors for service during Serving the City had closed and I ended up going to Goo-Goo Car Wash to see if they would allow us to pay for car washes. As I talked to the employees, I was particularly drawn to a lady by the name of Debbie. As I left, I began to pray that God would use our time of service to create a connection. He did that in a special way!

Debbie and I are from very different backgrounds, but 6 months later God is still knitting us together in a sweet friendship that has included many Sonic Limeades, a breakfast and even an evening at church. My life has been enriched because I spent a morning washing cars and serving our city!  
-Karen



Serving the City has been a blessing in my life. I have been involved in the Water Bottle Project for a few years, where we go to the mall and hand out water bottles for free. It has amazed me that so many people look at you funny when you tell them that it is free, a gift, no strings attached. Some people really do not want to take the water bottles because they think somehow they will have to give something of themselves. We then explain that we are doing it to show God's love. Most people are thrilled to hear that and we get to talk to some about Christ's love, yet a few others are still unsure.

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Last year during Serving the City, my then 4 year old boy came with me to help. He loved handing out the water bottles and most people were willing to feel like there were no strings attached coming from an overly excited 4 year old. There was one guy who told him no thank you and continued to walk. My son ran him down and told him that God

A day to give & serve  
"Each of you should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms."  
1 Peter 4:10

loves him and to take the water bottle so he would know that he loves him with no strings attached. My son talked to him for a minute and then the guy took the bottle with a smile.

Doing the Water Bottle Project every year reminds me that with God's love, there are no strings attached. He loves me when I don't deserve it, and He sent His only Son to take my place and show me the undeserving love that I have in my Savior and Lord! It is a simple way for me to share this with the community around me! -Lauren

April 21, 2012

Sign up online through  
[www.willowbrook.org](http://www.willowbrook.org) or  
[www.servingthecityonline.com](http://www.servingthecityonline.com)  
Church wide promotion  
and sign up will  
start in March 2012

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