

At CTK, we value authenticity, simplicity, empowerment, relationship, and caring about the community we live in. One key way we serve is by empowering small groups to make a difference through our local partners who address important issues for those in the hardest life circumstances. The opportunity below is a chance to tangibly demonstrate God's care, compassion, and love for those around us. As your church, we hope this makes it easy for you to put the Great Commandment to love your neighbor as yourself into action!

LIGHTHOUSE MISSION – AGAPE CONNECT

Who are we serving?
Homeless men, women, and children who come from all walks of life and each have their own story. Some have experienced abuse, addiction, crisis, mental illness, divorce, or bankruptcy that led to their current situation. Did you know-in 2016, 715 people were found to be homeless on any given day in Bellingham.
Who is helping connect us to their needs?
The Lighthouse Mission offers a hand up, not a handout, to end the cycle of homelessness and restore people through Christ. They do everything in their power to address the underlying causes that lead to homelessness for guests. On average, they shelter 210 people each night in nine different kinds of shelters. They also provide three meals a day, weekly case management, classes, referrals to community resources, as well as discipleship from a holistic perspective. At Agape Home, they provide a stable, nurturing environment for single women and women with children where they can escape the victimization, hopelessness, and/or addiction that led them to our door. As they live in community, they work to create a better future for themselves and their children by setting goals with a Growth Assistant, attending Agape classes, doing chores, and volunteering around the Mission. Our aim is the end of shame and the hope of restored identities.
How are we serving?
This is an opportunity for 3-8 people (men and women welcome) to come to Agape and provide a one-item meal and plan a fun community-building activity! Small groups can come for about an hour and a half on Monday evenings and eat alongside our guests and have fun together through an interactive activity. You could bring a card game, coloring sheets, a simple craft project, charades, the possibilities are endless. Think...what does your family do for fun at home together?
Who do you contact to commit to this opportunity and work out the details?
Look ahead on the calendar and find two Mondays that work for your group (since one may be already taken). Pick a point person to contact Katie Anderson at (360) 733-5120 ext 107 or katiea@thelighthousemission.org with that information and she will send back an application and background check for the point person to fill out. Once those get returned, Katie will confirm which Monday your group will be there and set up a time before then to meet with the point person to finish up paperwork and set you up for success with context and helpful tips.

If you need help in the process, Wendy at CTK is available (wendyp@ctk.church or 733-1337 ext 212) Please share your project with us by using the hashtag #CTKserves on social media!