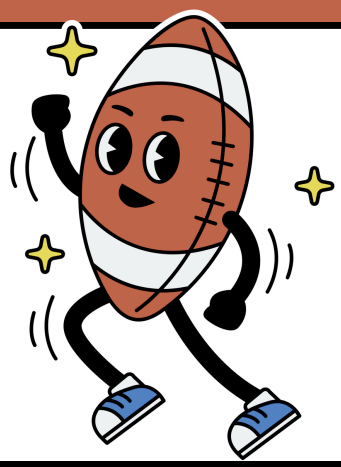
NOVEMBER
Monthly Missional Challenge



HEAR THEIR STORY!

NOBODY CARES

That's the lie many walk around with. When work is stressful, kids are rebellious, or diagnosis is concerning, it's natural to wonder: does anyone care? Those thoughts are a sad byproduct of our individualistic cultural moment. We are isolated & often face trouble alone.

JESUS' PERSPECTIVE

Our God cares. That's why Hagar called Him "*the God who sees*." **Jesus sees** the trials of man & wants to meet us in the moment of pain.
Like Hagar, our neighbors may feel lost, wondering if anyone sees. We have a chance to help our neighbors feel seen, heard & not alone. By simply **offering a listening ear, we can take up after our God!**

MORE INFO

unionchurchmi.com/monthly-missional-challenge

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STEPS TO TAKE

1. Still Pray! Be humble & ask God for help. Leading up to any good conversation is prayer.
2. Hope for a Mailbox Convo. Simple intros can happen at the end of the driveway.
3. Show You Care. Genuine interest with eye contact & a smile is so countercultural!
4. Ask for Their Story. *"What brought you to Howell?"* Or *"Do you hope to stay in Michigan long-term?"* Can help sketch out their life story.
5. Be Curious with No Strings Attached. It's a surprise to meet someone who's interested in us. Not many stop long enough to ask!
6. Avoid the Savior Complex. You are not the savior (*that role is taken!*) Hopefully that frees you up to joyfully embrace being their friend.
7. Play the Long Game. We want to "*love our neighbors*," even if they don't love us back. Start showing you care & their heart may soften!

IDEAS TO TRY

If conversation feels tough, **try asking:**

- *"How long have you guys been in the area?"*
- *"Did you grow up in a town like Brighton?"*
- *"Did you grow up with big family gatherings at Thanksgiving?"*
- *"How many Michigan winters have you made it through? How many more can you endure?!"*

Bonus Challenge: *If you already know these, find their favorite hobbies! People love to talk about their interests*