

Hello Ministerial,

I hope you are all having a wonderful summer so far. For those of you who I have not yet had the privilege of meeting, my name is Tessa DeBruyne and I am the Assistant Pastor at CLA Maple Ridge- one of my main portfolios being community. Over the last couple of months I have been working alongside some of our key volunteers to dream up an event that would bless our city and show Maple Ridge the love of Jesus in a tangible way.

We have come up with an event called **Serve Maple Ridge Day** - a day where we show our city that we care by being physically present in it. The idea is to have a large group of volunteers split up across the city to complete various projects that will improve the city. Here are some of the projects we are hoping to accomplish on this day:

- Graffiti cover-up
- Litter pick-up
- Drug paraphernalia pick-up
- Lawn mowing
- Blessing essential workers (dropping off coffee to police and fire departments)
- Street ministry (handing out water + basic necessities)
- Car wash
- And the list goes on... (there's so much that we can do!)

I have been in contact with our local MP, as well as the Executive Director of the Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association and they have given me some direction as to which projects would most benefit our city, and they will also likely be attending this day to serve alongside us!

We are encouraging our lifegroups to get involved in this initiative - to serve together to fundraise the resources needed to complete their chosen projects, (eg: if there is a fence they want to paint, they will fundraise the money for the paint and supplies to make it happen).

Date: Saturday, September 12th. All volunteers will meet at the CLA Maple Ridge parking lot before we split up to serve around the city, and meet back at the parking lot for a debrief + BBQ lunch afterwards.

Time: Depending on how many volunteers we get, we will split them up into 2 start times (50 person max per group)

- **Group 1:** 8:30am - 11:30am
- **Group 2:** 9:30am - 12:30pm

If you and your congregation would like to participate in this event, we would love to partner together! You could follow our model and encourage lifegroups to sign up as a group and fundraise for various projects, or you could just have individual volunteers sign up as well, or

you could really do whatever makes the most sense for your congregation! The most important thing is that we are working together to serve the city.

I am available to answer any questions you might have moving forward and will be your point person for this event. I look forward to hearing from you!

Mark 10:45 - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Have an amazing day,

Tessa DeBruyne

**** We are monitoring COVID regulations and plan to do everything at a distance- this is why the model of splitting up all over the city will be great. Our parking lot is quite large and there is room to socially distance during the morning meeting and the debrief afterwards. We will ensure that no more than 50 people are in each group to gather in the morning before splitting up. We will also ensure that the BBQ lunch is served according to COVID safety regulations.*