

## The Gifts of Lambs

Two families had adjoining farms. One raised wheat and had children and large dogs. The other raised sheep.

The sheep farmer was in a quandary because the dogs next door were running into his pastures and frightening the sheep. He spoke to his neighbor, but the forays continued. He thought about taking the neighbor to court. He even thought about poisoning the dogs.

Then one day, he found a solution. Some new lambs were born and the sheep farmer gave each of his neighbor's children a lamb as a pet. They were delighted!

Because of the pet lambs, the father could no longer let the dogs run amok. He restrained them and taught them to leave the lambs and the sheep alone ... and everybody lived happily ever after.

Sometimes, getting along with your neighbor can be a challenge. But a little creative thinking can accomplish great good. It more than likely will include finding some common ground, some shared interests, some understanding of the other person's needs and dreams.

And the congeniality of neighbors – in a community or in a workplace – is a pearl of great price.

--Beecher Hunter