

OUUC Friendship Dinners

Friendship Dinners at OUUC is a great way to get to know other members of the congregation in a small, more personal environment. Designated HOSTS coordinate the evening and help to coordinate the menu. **The actual date can be changed if necessary, the groups can decide upon a brunch, or lunch or even plan to eat out, and HOSTS can add others if they can accommodate them.** This document presents the various aspects of the program. OUUC can be used but needs planning ahead and scheduling. See note on the second side regarding this.

The goal of these dinners/meals is to have fun, and incorporate new families, as well as eat a delicious meal. We have attempted to vary the rotation of individuals. A second goal is to try to incorporate everyone registered for the program to have the opportunity to share a meal four times a year, as a GUEST and/or a HOST if they are able.

Four times a year a list of HOSTS will be created with a list of GUESTS. This will depend upon what has been indicated on your sign-up forms, and the number of GUESTS the HOST has indicated. The HOSTS and the scheduled GUESTS will determine the details of the meal, and there is flexibility with when the events will be held. We recommend the 2nd Saturday for a meal. It is the expectation that the event will happen, even if it is initially postponed.

The individual lists of HOSTS and GUESTS will be provided for the HOST in plenty of time to make arrangements. **If a HOST can't HOST, or is having trouble getting a group together, the HOST needs to discuss this with the leadership team, and we can help work things out.** For example, maybe a new GUEST has registered for the program, they can be slotted into a specific group. You will be notified via email about who is in your grouping for your dinner. Please notify us if there are issues initially obvious. We will use regular email and Realm for communication.

Please if you need to cancel as a HOST, reschedule the dinner for another date if possible. Your assigned group wants to enjoy a dinner with you.

As a GUEST, let your HOST know if you can't make the planned date. This will give the HOST time to find a new GUEST.

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GUESTS AND HOSTS: If there is a specific food request, accessibility or allergy concern, discuss this with your HOST. HOSTS usually are very accommodating of special requests. Its very important to share this information.

For an in-home meal:

- The HOST provides the main food item and discusses with scheduled GUESTS what they can bring to accompany the main food item.
- Guests are asked to bring one additional item such as hors d'oeuvres, bread, vegetable, wine, or dessert.
- If you would like to schedule your dinner at OUUC, you need to confirm your date and plans with the Darlene. You can sign up online on the room use page: <https://www.ouuc.org/calendar-and-room-reservation/> The sooner you confirm the date the better as many times there are events scheduled that use the facility.

New families to the program can sign up at any time and will be incorporated into future opportunities. The sign-up web form is <https://www.ouuc.org/friendship-dinners/> This can be for HOSTS or GUESTS. All of the HOSTS and GUESTS will be listed in the REALM Directory within the Friendship Group. This allows us to contact everyone with messages about the program. If you can't find someone, please contact Pat Sonnenstuhl of the Friendship Dinner Team.

1. Questions, comments, confusion, errors? Contact us for clarification.

Your Friendship Dinner Team:

- Carol Williams (360-539-7990) hideycat@comcast.net
- Trink Newman (847-502-3827) tnewman@northwestern.edu
- Pat Sonnenstuhl (360-943-8933) cnmpat@comcast.net