



## Welcome to DINNERS IN THE HOME 2018-2019

UUCW's moveable feast and a great way to get to know more members of our growing church. As a community building activity, each group potluck features 6 - 8 members who gather in the homes of host members to share a meal and conversation.

**DINNERS IN THE HOME GOAL:** To help church members get to know one another at small, informal potluck dinners held during the church year:

Mark your calendars for the following Saturdays:

### 2018

October 20<sup>th</sup>

November 17<sup>th</sup>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

### 2019

January 19<sup>th</sup>

February 16<sup>th</sup>

March 16<sup>th</sup>

Name:

Phone Number:

Email:

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### Does everyone need to host?

If you sign up to attend Dinners in the Home on a regular basis, then yes you need to host. If you are interested in being called as a substitute, then sign up this way and you are not required to host – however there is no guarantee you will be called. When you host you will make the entrée. When you are a guest you will bring a dish to pass. See the grid for details.

#### What size group is a Dinner in the Home?

Typically a group is eight, if you only have room for six indicate that on the sign-up form and we can accommodate as best as we can. If your home is small, consider hosting at the church or a friend's home.

#### What are my responsibilities when I am host?

Call the other guests for the night you are assigned **2 weeks before** the scheduled dinner to be sure they can attend. Confirm the date, time and address of the Dinners in the home. If someone can't make it, you may call a substitute to take that person's place. If no substitute can attend, you may call anyone you wish (Personal friend, someone else from the church, etc.). When you call pass along any special requests or information such as directions to your home, where to park, if the meal is vegetarian, how many people are attending.

#### What if the date on which I'm suppose to host isn't good for me or I have a conflict?

Call others assigned to your home on your dates to see if someone else can host. You may also try the substitute list to see if anyone can host. If nothing seems to be working, it is all right to change the date of the dinner altogether. Keep in mind, however, that coordinating everybody for another time can be difficult and changing can be a disappointment to people who have already set aside the specific time on their calendars. Therefore, try to be accommodating as possible.

#### What if the date is not good for me when I'm supposed to bring something rather than to be the host?

Let the host know well ahead of time. It's the host's choice whether to invite a substitute or reschedule the dinner to accommodate you. If no substitute is available, you can offer to bring your dish ahead of time.

#### What if I'm the host and someone else can't come?

It is the host's prerogative to call a substitute or friend or just go ahead with fewer people.

**What about last-minute emergency cancellations?**

If you are doing the cancelling, remember that others are counting on you for food! If possible, prepare or purchase a contribution and drop it off. If you’re hosting and just found out that someone can’t make it or supply food – be creative! Order pizza, pick up Chinese, or whatever works.

**Should we try to coordinate a menu or just hope that things taste good together?**

We leave that up to you. If you prefer a little prior planning, call your host who will know what the entrée is.

**What if I’m vegetarian and have special dietary needs?**

Please let the host know well in advance so your requests can be shared with the others who are bringing food. If you wrote down your dietary needs on the sign-up sheet, they should be indicated on the schedule grid. In any case, please mention it to the host when they contact you.

**How are singles assigned? Should I bring a guest?**

If you are signed up as a single, then you will be assigned that way. If your partner can’t make it for the date you can bring another guest or check the substitute list.

**Should I bring my dish already cooked or ready to cook at the house?**

Ask your host what would be best. Remember not all homes have microwaves, so don’t count on that.

**My mother or a guest will be visiting from out of town for the weekend, may I bring them along?**

Ask you host and confirm the response before you invite your guest. Requests like this can often be accommodated if the space in the home permits. However, don’t just assume it is okay. Give plenty of notice, and make sure the group is aware there will be a need for extra food.

**What if my group is too small?**

Try calling from the substitute list, or feel free to add friends or family to round out the group. A dinner in the home is usually 6 – 8 persons which makes for plenty of food and conversation.

**What if I am allergic to cats/dogs?**

It is up to you to inform the host of this, so they can figure out how to handle the situation. You may need extra medication to me comfortable for the evening whatever works best for you in the situation.

**Sample Grid: October 20<sup>th</sup>**

HOST - Entree	Salad	Bread or Potato	Dessert
Jeanne Jarecki and Rick Schmitt	Guest 1 and Guest 2	Guest 1 and Guest 2	Guest 1 and Guest 2
Host 1 and Host 2	Single Guest 1 and Single Guest 2	Guest 1 and Guest 2	Substitute needed please call.
Host 1 and Host 2 (Only 6)	Single Guest 1 and Single Guest 2 * Salad and Bread	Only 6 guests	Guest 1 and Guest 2

**Key: V= Vegetarian, G= Gluten Free, D=Dairy Free, VE=Vegan, Other Specified.**