

NSUMC Dinner Club Guidelines and Suggestions

We are so excited to start our Dinner Club program here at NSUMC! This form is designed to give basic guidelines and give potential ideas for your Dinner Club meetings. We pray this program will draw people together and start friendships that will last a lifetime.

The purpose of Dinner Club is to provide opportunity for people to connect with each other organically. This is a chance to meet people in the same stage of life as yourself, and partner together to take on the challenges life will inevitably throw our way.

Dinner Clubs should meet approximately once a month at a home of a member of your particular club. We encourage that all members bring a dish of choice to the dinner. Rotating which home to meet at each month is also encouraged (where applicable).

HOSTS:

As hosts, you are offering to open your home to your particular Dinner Club members. Our suggestion to hosts would be to choose the type of food your club members can bring to your function. For instance, you may choose to have an Italian food dinner, so members could offer to bring dishes such as; baked lasagna, meatballs, Italian salad, and tiramisu for dessert. These are just examples to give you an idea of how you can encourage your group to bring individual dishes that will equal a cohesive meal when all put together.

We also encourage the host(s) of the evening to NOT prepare a main dish. You are already going to the trouble of cleaning your home, and possibly making changes that will accommodate more people than you are used to in your home. We don't want to compound those extra tasks with the pressures of preparing a dish. We encourage the host(s) of the evening to either NOT be responsible for any of the food, or to simply offer to get a store-bought dessert, or something simple for you to manage along with your hosting duties.

ATTENDEES:

As attendees of a Dinner Club program, you are encouraged to bring a dish (or dishes) that the host have already given direction on. You wouldn't want to show up with Chinese Fried Rice when the theme of the evening is Texas BBQ, for instance. Each attendee should bring a food item (homemade or ordered is up to you) to the gathering. We also encourage attendees to RSVP with heir host within 2 weeks of the scheduled gathering. This is to help our hosts know how many people to prepare for, and to know what food items are covered for the evening.

Families with Children:

Our goal for these gatherings is that they are Adult/Grown up focused. We encourage parents of small children to arrange separate child care/babysitting for their little ones (this also includes hosts.) For teens/adult age children that do not need a watchful eye, this does not apply. We want to create an atmosphere that encourages un interrupted conversations, and a stress-free evening for all who participate.

FOR ALL:

Remember, the number one goal of these dinners is to have FUN TOGETHER. We encourage a casual atmosphere and casual dress for these events. Our prayer is that through these intentional gatherings, organic connections can be made between families. We are made to be in community with one another, and we hope that the dinner club experience can help facilitate that within our wonderful Church. If there are ever any questions that pop up, or if your group is in need of some direction, please ALWAYS feel free to reach out to me directly.

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