

Hospitality Ministry Vision 2023

Why We Love

Our goal for the Hospitality Ministry is to show love to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We hope to pour out the love that we have been shown by God to those around us. *"We love because He first loved us."* **1 John 4:19**. As we run Hospitality Ministry this year, we look up to God as the perfect example of what Love is. God loved us by sending Jesus to die for our sins so that we might live through him (**1 John 4:9**). We hope to show selfless love to everyone in CCF and be driven by our freedom in Christ. *"You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love."* **Galatians 5:13**. As freed, beloved children of God, we can love those around us not out of obligation, and without expecting anything in return.

CCF Cultural Shift

Hospitality Ministry strives to foster a space for CCFers to step outside their comfort zone, feel encouraged to reach out to others, and connect on a deeper level through meaningful conversation, prayer, and relationships. CCF can feel isolating, especially with the blanket of surface-level conversation, looming sense of awkwardness, and fear of hitting too close to home which can hinder us from being more intentional in checking in on each other. For many of us, it's hard to care for one another on a deeper level as we are broken and struggle to help carry the burdens that we bring to CCF. Perhaps this is why CCF seldom dives deep into our struggles and problems unless governed by a structured program because it quite literally ruins the vibe. Essentially, we want to encourage a cultural shift in CCF where we are challenged to go beyond the surface level more often and encourage each other with prayer when human solutions prove insufficient, ultimately strengthening our faith and drawing us closer to God through the building of our prayer life.

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. **1 Peter 4:8-9**

With this shift, we hope to create a welcoming atmosphere in CCF, not only for newcomers but for regular members as well. CCF is an evergrowing fellowship, and rigid cliques become a hindrance to the cohesiveness of the fellowship. Through this renewed boldness fueled by the love of Christ, we respond by allowing the Holy Spirit to move amongst our fellowship and gradually build a habit of showing hospitality and care.

Personal Faith

As CCF culture shifts to building deeper connections and praying for one another, we hope that these relationships will allow members to mutually encourage each other to grow in their personal faith. It is amazing that the fellowship within CCF is so strong, but sometimes, we may forget the true focus of deepening our own relationship with God and striving to be more like Jesus. Our loving and understanding God created us to be relational beings so that we are able to fulfill what Paul instructs in **1 Thessalonians 5:11** — *"Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."*

As we connect with others over our spiritual lives, we may find that we are not alone in the struggles that we face. We can build one another up in love to become more mature Christians, as well as rejoice together over what God has done for us. Through Christ-centered relationships, we can mutually learn from our respective walks with God and motivate each other to seek Him in our daily lives. Hospitality Ministry hopes that the relationships we build in CCF will allow us to be comfortable enough to speak truth in love and help each other be accountable in our own faith.

Homecooked Meals

What better way to bring a home away from home than with home-cooked meals! With the diversity of backgrounds and individuals at CCF, Hospitality hopes to shine a light on God's love through monthly organized home-cooked meals. Being in university often means being away from family for the first time in students' lives. To expand on IG dinners at CCF, we aim to extend connections within the fellowship beyond IGs. In **Acts 16:34**, the fellow prisoners of Paul and Silas, "*brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God*". This verse demonstrates our desire to celebrate the ministry's connection to Christ through home-cooked meals. With these dinners, we want to bring the fellowship in like a family through having dinner together.

Devotions

With each monthly homecooked meal, the Hospitality Ministry hopes to have time for devotion and discussion after the meal. With the help of Tim Chester's, *A Meal with Jesus*, which dives into the stories of Jesus and Meals in Luke's Gospel, we hope to establish a scriptural foundation for the ministry. At the start of each month, the Hospitality Team will focus on one chapter of the book, studying and reflecting on the associated chapter of Luke and Chester's commentary. This, in turn, will allow us to prepare meaningful devotions and discussions at the end of each meal.