

Welcome to Grace Covenant's Supper Club!

The *Supper Club* is an opportunity for the people of Grace Covenant – members, regular attenders, and guests – to connect and get to know one another over a meal. Our hope is that through these meals we can build a strong community within the church – and you can meet new friends.

How Does it Work?

Throughout the year announcements will be made that sign-ups for the *Supper Club* are open. When you sign up for *Supper Club*, you are committing to only ONE DINNER, at an agreed upon day and time, at some point within a two-month period, with five to seven other people, some or all of whom you may not yet know.

Supper Clubs are offered three times each year. When you sign up, you are only signing up that particular round of the *Supper Club*. We will offer opportunities to sign up for each round of *Supper Club*.

Expect the groups to change each time. That way you get the chance to meet and share a meal with different people from the church. A Host from each group is selected, based on sign-ups, and that person is responsible for contacting others in the group to coordinate a date and time that works best for everyone.

Where Do We Eat?

The Host can choose where the group will eat (in the Host's home, a local restaurant, or some other locale). Hosts should not feel expected to invite everyone into their home, however, having people in the home can be a wonderful way to cultivate rich relationships and enduring community. If the Host chooses to eat in their home, group

members may be asked to bring side dishes or desserts.

When Do We Sign Up?

- Winter sign-ups in January (to eat with your group once during February-March)
- Spring sign-ups in March (to eat with your group once during April-May)
- Fall sign-ups in September (to eat with your group once during October-November)

Still Have Questions?

If you have any questions about the GCPC *Supper Club*, please contact Ramona Mortier at supperclub@gracecovpca.org or the church office at info@gracecovpca.org. To sign up, please complete/submit the following or register online at <http://www.gracecovpca.org/#/connect/supper-club>.

Join Grace Covenant's Supper Club!

Please remember: the most important reason for joining the *Supper Club* is to meet new people, be social and have fun, while enjoying good food and great company! The size of your dining room and what and where you eat is not an issue – we can all rub elbows as we get to know one another! Please know that we will do everything possible to meet all special requests.

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Email _____

I am interested in being a group leader (circle one): Yes No

I am a (check one):

- Student
- Attender/Visitor
- Member

I/We would prefer (check those that apply):

- Out
- In
- Picnic
- Potluck
- Surprise me!

I/We will have children joining us for dinner (circle one): Yes No

If yes, how many? _____

Special Needs (food allergies, etc.): _

What People are Saying about

Supper Club...

My husband and I have really enjoyed the Supper Club. It's hard to get to know people in the chaos after the worship service. Chatting in a relaxed environment, over a meal, makes it much easier. After I've gotten to know people through Supper Club, it's been nice to see more familiar faces at church and exchange greetings with them. Hosting/organizing isn't difficult. The hardest part is finding a date that the group is available. People have been just as happy to go out to a restaurant as to have dinner in someone's home. – Leah Chock

We had a great experience attending our first supper club in the fall! We had just recently moved to the area and started attending Grace Covenant, so we did not know many people there yet. It was nice to meet together with a small group of people at someone's house for dinner. We felt very welcomed and because the group was small we were able to talk to and get to know a little about the other people who were there. It is definitely something I hope to do again! –Heather Harrell

“Jesus didn’t run projects, establish ministries, create programs, or put on events. He ate meals.”¹ Meals matter. Meals are full of significance. “Few acts are more expressive of companionship than a shared meal. Someone with whom we share food is likely to be our friend – or well on the way to becoming one.”²

This is why we have established *Supper Clubs* at Grace Covenant. *Supper Clubs* are designed to facilitate friendships that fuel fellowship. *Supper Clubs* are a way to cultivate community, in the way that Jesus demonstrated and that his first followers followed. (See Acts 2.42)

In the busy-ness of our day-to-day lives, it is easy to miss out on the simple pleasure of enjoying time with old friends and the joy of making new friends. *Supper Clubs* are a simple attempt to allow us to slow down, if only for one meal every few months, and enable us to experience God’s gift of friendships.

Meals matter.

1. *A Meal With Jesus*, Tim Chester; Crossway; 2011
2. *Hungry City: How Meals Shape Our Lives*, Carolyn Steel; Chatto & Windus (London); 2008



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