

How To Sponsor And Register Banquet Guests:

- Read the passage in Luke 14: 16-23 to understand the role of the servant. Pray and consider what sacrifices you will make in the effort to bring God's guest to a weekend.
- Pray about whom God wants you to invite to the Banquet. Watch for people you may overlook that God places right in front of you. Remember the Banquet is not a place to solve deep personal issues. The Banquet is an environment designed to help mature people work toward a deeper Christian way of Life.
- Explain to the potential guest what the weekend *meant to you*. Don't place any expectation on what their experience may be, God only knows what each individual needs. Explain the 4th day follow up meeting on Tuesday after the weekend about Reunion groups.
- If they are married, speak with both the husband and wife about attending. The weekends are designed so that married couples can attend within a week or two of each other and share the experience.
- Answer their questions *truthfully*. We ask that you not share information regarding the acts of agape, candlelight service and the letters. These special "surprises" are better received when they are truly unexpected.
- As God's faithful servant invite them to attend and then *accept their answer*, whatever it may be. Try not "badger" people, gentle nudges are one thing, but sometimes our enthusiasm can become harassment. Remember God's timing is perfect and His watch doesn't always run at the same speed as ours.
- If the guest accepts God's invitation, discuss what date will be best for them. There are several Great Banquet communities in our area and weekends are happening on many different dates. If one finds a conflict with a certain weekend, check with other communities. It's not so important *where* they attend as it is *that* they attend. Jesus shows up at all the Banquet Weekends.
- Have the guest complete the application *themselves*. Their acceptance of Gods invitation begins with this simple step. If they don't have enough interest to fill out the registration form themselves, then it may not be God's time for them to attend.
- Complete your sponsorship form for that guest. Be sure to enclose the \$10 registration fee. It is suggested that the registration fee be paid by the guest. As the sponsor you may pay this fee, however, when the guests pay it themselves it helps them take responsibility for their attendance. If the fee creates a hardship make note of that on the application as financial assistance is available.
- Mail *both forms* at the *same time*, with the fee to the address on the application. Both pages must be **complete**. Details such as address and phone are very important to reach the guests and sponsors, take a moment to double check that everything is complete on the forms. Any left out information or missing forms may delay placing the guest on the guest list.
- Begin daily prayer and sacrifice for the guest. Consider your role in making this a wonderful experience for the guest whom God has entrusted to you. Sponsorship is so much more than just the invitation and the paperwork. Start sharing the agape love of Jesus to your guest even before the weekend begins.
- Keep in contact with your guest. Sometime before their weekend the sponsor and the guest will receive confirmation letters. These letters explain in detail what is needed to **finish the sponsorship and registration process**. When you are notified that your guest has received their confirmation letter call them to share their excitement and encourage them to respond.

- It is most important that the guest *themselves* make contact with registration to confirm their attendance. Should a guest, at any time, find they cannot attend; the sponsor should contact the registration secretary as soon as possible.
- You are responsible for acquiring agape letters for your guests. If they are married ask the guests' spouse to write a letter as well as other family members and friends. Mark the envelopes with an "F" in the upper right hand corner so these special letters can be opened first. NOTE: Personal gifts are NOT accepted for specific guest or team members during the weekend. Personal agape for your guest should be given **after the closing**. Agape for ALL guests and team members is welcome at anytime during the weekend.
- Make sure your guest can attend **without interruption** from **8:00PM Thursday until 8 PM Sunday**.
- Deliver your guest to the church on Thursday. Please **do not allow them to drive themselves**. Suggest to your guest that they NOT bring any valuables with them to the weekend. There are many people in and out during the weekend and it is impossible to monitor personal possessions.
- **Help your guest check-in** at East Main Street Christian Church in Elwood on Thursday at 7:30 pm so they are ready for send off at 8:00 pm and stay to pray for your guest at **Sponsor's Hour** immediately after check-in and send-off.
- Limit your contact with your guest during the weekend. Part of what makes the weekend work is that the guests are removed from the world for 72 hours. Relaying information from the world disrupts time with God.
- **Reach out to your guest's family**. Make yourself available for their spiritual support. This is especially important when parents are away from their children. **Do not invite family members of attending guests to the Send Off, Candlelight or Closing unless they have already experienced a similar 4th day community weekend themselves.**
- Attend your guests **Candlelight** - East Main Street Christian Church at **8:30 PM, Saturday**.
- Attend your guests **Closing** - East Main Street Christian Church **5PM, Sunday**.
- Personally take your guest home after closing. They are usually tired, but excited to share their experience.
- Attend the 4th Day meeting with your guest and help them find a reunion group. Help them connect with the Banquet community at the Gatherings. Encourage them to take the gifts they received at their Banquet and share them with their Church family. Help them when they begin to sponsor the guest God has prepared for them to invite.

As a sponsor God has entrusted His guest into your care. You are the bridge that connects the guest to the Banquet community before and after the weekend. Be the servant Christ has called you to be and go to the roads and country lanes and invite them in. Our Master is preparing a Banquet – we don't want any seats left empty,

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