



Church Host Partnership

Thank you for including The Gathering Inn in your ministry. Your generous hospitality and kindness impact the lives of our guests. You are providing not only meals and a safe place to sleep, but also a sense of security and connection.

Guidelines:

Dinner Service:

- Plan a meal for 70 TGI guests and team members plus church volunteers.
 - TGI gladly welcomes leftovers in to-go containers as food for our day program is greatly appreciated.
- Provide food, beverages and eating utensils which include plates, napkins, and cutlery.
- Create healthy meals with sufficient protein with diabetic friendly options.
- Prepare meals with food safety in mind.
- Plan to serve guests within 15-20 minutes of their arrival.
- Although volunteers are not required to serve the meal, they are welcome to serve and to join guests for dinner at their table.
- Optional items:
 - "Grab and Go" breakfast items and/or lunch bags
 - Morning coffee station with to-go cups

Messages and Activities:

- Messages of inspiration may be shared.
 - Stay within the 15-minute range.
 - May include a devotional, scripture reading, skit or music and refrain from alter calls.
 - May invite guests to individually seek out a church member should they have questions or prayer requests.
- Activities can be offered to guests. Participation must be optional.
- In-kind donations may be offered to guests. Because space is limited, please ensure quantities are limited to what can be easily transported. For large donations, please reach out to TGI's Donation Coordinator.



TGI Church Hosting Timeline

4:30-5:00 PM - TGI staff contacts hosting church coordinator to inform them of the number of guests and their approximate time of arrival.

6:00 PM – Guests board the van and bus. Departs to hosting church.

6:15-6:30 PM - Arrival to church.

Upon arrival – Guests unload supplies from bus, TGI staff reviews rules and assign chores, and church host can deliver welcome message.

15-20 minutes after arrival - Dinner is served.

1 hour for dinner and activities.

After dinner – Guests complete chores, socialize.

8:30 PM - Church volunteers leave, guests wind down.

10:00 PM - Lights out.

11:30 PM - TGI team members change shifts.

11:30PM-5:30 AM – TGI team conducts perimeter checks.

5:30 AM -TGI team members wake guests and morning chores and clean up begins.

6:15-6:30 AM - Guests board bus and van.

6:30 AM – Bus and van depart from church.

7:00 AM - TGI team member meets with host church representative unless otherwise specified.