

Guest at Your Table

Guest at Your Table introduces families to UUSC, and makes UUSC's work possible by increasing vital memberships and raising funds.

Guest at Your Table is UUSC's most visible and longest running program, bringing together thousands of UU families and individuals in a shared commitment to global justice since 1975. Guest at Your Table now raises more than a half a million dollars a year to help support UUSC's human rights work!

Households in participating congregations invite guests to their table by taking home a Guest at Your Table box. Household members then contribute money to the box at mealtime over a four- to six-week period, while learning together about human rights and the work of UUSC.

Most congregations schedule their program during the season of giving: the Sunday before Thanksgiving through the Sunday following New Year's Day. Others participate in the spring during the Lenten season, ending at Easter. UUSC encourages each congregation to schedule its Guest program when best suits them.

Resources

UUSC provides resources free of charge. A worship kit can help your congregation hold a worship service to open your Guest program and to celebrate when you collect the families' boxes. A religious education kit with lesson plans for each grade level will bring Guest into the RE program. Planning and additional resources including congregations' success stories are posted online at www.uusc.org.

Your role in the program

In most congregations, the local rep coordinates this program. In others, the local rep supports the DRE, who runs the program, or works with the DRE and minister to plan and run the program. UUSC advises you to make an effort to work with your minister and other congregational leaders to plan and coordinate your Guest program, from special services to announcements and articles. Be creative and make it fun for everyone!

You will receive a planning packet by mail in August. Another packet will be mailed to the church. Planning packets and additional resources, including ways to make your Guest at Your Table experience successful and enriching for you and your congregation, are always available online at www.uusc.org.

Celebration

Congregations that raise \$5,000 or more through Guest at Your Table are honored by UUSC in the *UU World* magazine.

Donations made through Guest at Your Table can be eligible for membership. See the section in this handbook for information about congregational awards for high membership levels.