

Hospitality Ministry

“Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.”

-1 Peter 4: 8-11

As Christians, the practice of hospitality is one that is essential in building a Christ-centred community, yet difficult to carry out as our self-centred lifestyles often stand in the way. Hospitality, as characterized in the Bible, is a selfless, constant, and joy-filled act of love that aims to reflect God’s love for us to those around us. In other words, one can easily view hospitality as an opportunity to extend God’s hospitality to us—His unbounding love and grace—to our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As 1 John 4:19 says, “We love because He first loved us”. The way Jesus lived out His life socially is the perfect example. He engaged with each individual that He encountered and formed personal connections with them. He showed love and compassion to all, cared for the sick, and humbled Himself as a servant.

The overwhelming feelings that come with going to a new fellowship are all too familiar for us. Walking into a big fellowship like UTCCF for the first time and not knowing anyone can be a daunting task, thus making the role of the Hospitality Team essential in ensuring that members of the fellowship do not feel overwhelmed, uncomfortable or unnoticed as they begin their time at UTCCF.

This coming school year, Hospitality Ministry will aim to go beyond saying a simple “hello” to newcomers and ensuring that manuscripts are distributed accordingly. With the facilitation of community building in mind, the Hospitality Team will provide such a platform for members of the fellowship—both new and old—to engage in times of genuine fellowship. Through allowing for members of the fellowship to congregare before each large group begins to guiding newcomers to the different ministries and interest groups of the fellowship, it is our hope that the Hospitality Team will be able to provide members of the fellowship with the feeling of intimacy and closeness, even at a fellowship as big as UTCCF.

True Christian fellowship cannot exist without the pursuit and practice of hospitality. A hospitable lifestyle is the lifestyle we, as members of the fellowship, need to strive for. Furthermore, this is the lifestyle and attitude that Hospitality Ministry hopes to encourage. With a smile on our face and a readiness to mingle like this world has never seen before, the Hospitality Team is ready to welcome you into the University of Toronto Chinese Christian Fellowship community, and everything this fellowship has to offer.