

Spiritual Development

Nebraska FarmHouse Fraternity 2010-11

As a chapter we believe it is our responsibility to promote spiritual growth in the Christian faith, not only because our house was founded on a Bible study, but also because we believe in building men to follow Christ. Each year we provide resources and opportunities to help our members build strong convictions and beliefs as we remember this pillar of FarmHouse. To fulfill our spiritual goals we must look to the needs of the chapter. Men of the house encompass a wide spiritual spectrum, so we attempt to reach each person where they are at using varying methods.

1 – To provide Bible study and discussion opportunities for all members

- Provide weekly Bible studies for all members of multiple Christian denominations
- Alumni continued to give back to FarmHouse as two continued to lead studies with active members.

2 – To provide opportunities for and to inform of various Christian conferences and events throughout the semester

- Posted flyers and announced events, bible studies, and churches at Monday night meetings
- Attended all house church several times at local churches
- Invited FarmHouse alumni to come and share personal testimonies
- Chaplains open every meeting with a reading from scripture followed by a prayer.
- Two members attended a two month summer training program in Florida to develop in spiritual maturity and leadership.

3 – To encourage FarmHouse men to be involved with local campus ministries and churches

- We encourage Catholic men to grow closer to Christ by being involved with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (F.O.C.U.S.). Involvement includes Bible studies, fellowship gatherings, National Student Leadership Conferences, discipleship programs, Greek socials, and the Student Executive Board. Several men are involved in FOCUS leadership and service opportunities.
- We also encourage men to become involved with a non-denominational ministry called The Navigators. Involvement includes Bible studies, fellowship gatherings, student leadership teams, regional conferences, and summer training programs. Roughly 25% of the chapter regularly attend weekly ministry events and several are involved on the leadership team.
- Many members also attend and are involved with local churches, serving in positions as servers, sacristans, acolytes, and ushers.
- Several members participate in church choirs or worship groups.

4 – To emphasize the importance of spirituality as a pillar of FarmHouse to the pledges during initiation week

- The importance of spirituality and its history as a pillar of FarmHouse is explained to the pledges at the beginning of the week and they attend Vespers throughout the week.
- Vespers lasted Monday through Friday as one hour meetings meant to illuminate what it looks like to live a Christian life in college.
- We invited three FarmHouse alumni and a Navigator staff worker to share with the freshman and active members about their own spiritual journeys.
- The final day of Vespers was spent in small groups each led by an upperclassman to discuss what was talked about during the week and any other questions the freshman might have.