Press Release

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***Cooking with Elise at The Matthews House***

**Cary, NC -** The Matthews House is having company – you! Please join us on Tuesday, December 11th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM for our very first **Cooking with Elise at The Matthews House** event. Come and enjoy an evening with friends as Chef Elise Johnson prepares easy and delicious appetizers for the holidays. She will demonstrate for you how to prepare three of her most popular sweet, savory and spicy appetizers, all the while sharing stories from her new cookbook, *You Never Cook Alone*.

The fee to attend is $15.00 and includes a trio of appetizer tastings, a glass of wine, and guarantees to be a relaxing event with laughter and fun. We are also asking for a non-perishable food items along with the entrance fee to benefit [Dorcas Ministries](http://dorcas-cary.org).

Elise will be selling copies of her new cookbook, *You Never Cook Alone*, which can be personalized for the perfect holiday gift for the chef in your life. Proceeds from the event will go to Dorcas Ministries, located in Cary, NC.

Please call (919) 467-1944 to reserve your spot and bring a friend, we promise you will walk away feeling less stressed and more at ease during the remainder of the holiday season.

The Matthews House is located at 317 W. Chatham Street in downtown Cary. It is a stately mansion nestled among giant oaks and flower gardens in quaint downtown Cary. A grand ballroom completes the property with seating for up to 200.

Chef Elise is well-known for her cooking classes, TV cooking segments “Cooking with Elise”, her blogging at <http://cookingwithelise.com/> and as Chef Spokesperson for BJ’s Wholesale Club. Her commitment to helping families understand the power of cooking and eating together has been embraced by corporate companies like BJ’s Wholesale Clubs, Quintiles, Cuisinart, Dean and Deluca, Lodge Cast Iron Manufacturing Company and Williams and Sonoma – and partnering with The Matthews House for this exciting new venture is just what Elise has been hoping for. While meeting with Sheila Ogle, owner of The Matthews House, Elise said "I am so blessed to have this opportunity. Just like me, The Matthews House is all about warmth, family, and the joy that creating great food and serving others brings. I know we can accomplish amazing things together, for aspiring cooks, for families, and for those in need."

The Matthews House management team, along with Johnson created **Cooking with Elise at The Matthews House** to bring people together to prepare food and enjoy fellowship, as well as help create awareness of the numerous non-profits in the area. **Cooking with Elise at The Matthews House** will become a monthly event and each month, a different non-profit will be featured. For this first event, [Dorcas Ministries](http://dorcas-cary.org) was chosen based on their urgent need for basic supplies during the holiday season.

The mission of Dorcas Ministries is to see people through an immediate crisis and then teach them new

skills and habits to reduce their vulnerability to future crises. Funds for services are raised through sales at the Dorcas Shop, 187 High House Road, Cary and by gifts from individuals and businesses.

To learn more about this event, or to inquire about being the next non-profit recipient, contact Brenda Steen via email at Brenda@matthewshousecary.com or call (919) 467-1944. Visit [The Matthews House](http://matthewshousecary.com) online to learn more about this and other opportunities available.