



**Sugar Grove  
Church of Christ**  
FOR GOD & FOR NEIGHBOR

## *Community*

### *Theology*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ, we worship a God that has eternally existed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.<sup>1</sup> Created in God's image, mankind is called to reflect his communal nature.<sup>2</sup> Though sin compels us to seek isolation, God continues to form community, first seen in His calling of the people of Israel and today seen in His church.<sup>3</sup> We also recognize that God's redemptive work not only saves us from sin but also calls us into a community with other believers.<sup>4</sup> We believe this community is formed by the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and marked by the perfect unity and love found in the triune God.<sup>5</sup> The divine calling of this community is to encourage one another, be committed to each other, and present the person and work of Jesus to the world.<sup>6</sup>

1. Matthew 28:19; John 1:1-2; John 14:9-11; Ephesians 2:18
2. Genesis 2:18-24
3. Genesis 12:1-3; Deuteronomy 7:6-8; John 17:20-23; Romans 7:15-20; 1 Corinthians 10:23-24; Galatians 3:29; Ephesians 1:3-14, 3:2-6
4. Ephesians 1:3-14; Titus 3:4-7
5. John 13:35, 14:15-27; Romans 12:9-16, 15:7; 1 Corinthians 12:4-26; Ephesians 1:7-10; Colossians 3:12-14; 1 John 3:11-18
6. Exodus 20:13-17; Matthew 22:37-40; Matthew 28:16-20; John 17:18; Ephesians 4:1-6; Hebrews 10:23-25

### *Philosophy*

In response to God's redemptive work thru the cross and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the elders of Sugar Grove Church of Christ recognize the blessing of community. As such, we will consistently encourage community over individualism, the call to be on mission together as one body, and the importance of caring for those within the community with the love of Jesus, who is the head of our community.

### *Practice*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ, we will honor God by loving and honoring one another, living in harmony together, comforting one another, serving one another, bearing one another's burdens, forgiving each other, submitting to one another, encouraging one another, confessing to and praying for one another and humbling ourselves before one another. We will be a blessing to our neighbors by intentionally creating spaces that overlap our community with people in the world in order to proclaim Jesus and see them come to know Him. We will also engage with the larger Christian Community beyond Sugar Grove Church of Christ to more fully present and better see the Kingdom of God.