



**SUGAR GROVE**  
CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Statement of Theology, Philosophy, and Practice**  
*Service*

*Theology*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ, we believe that the life of discipleship is rooted in service to God and neighbor.<sup>1</sup> As we serve, we offer worship to God which demonstrates our living and active faith in him.<sup>2</sup> We believe that sin spoils service turning our attention inward, placing ourselves over God and neighbor.<sup>3</sup> Through the cross Christ conquered sin, assuring us that our service is in no way earning God's approval and mercy.<sup>4</sup> In this freedom, we find our joyous purpose of serving God and neighbor, just as Jesus did during his earthly ministry.<sup>5</sup> We serve confidently knowing that our service is empowered and enabled by the Holy Spirit, which God has poured out on each of us to proclaim the Kingdom of God.<sup>6</sup>

1. 2 Corinthians 6:16; 1 Peter 2:5
2. Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 9:12-15; James 2:14-25; Luke 17:7-10
3. Genesis 4:1-9; Psalm 119:36; Galatians 5:19-21; Matthew 19:21-22; James 4:3;
4. Romans 4:4-5; Romans 4:18-5:2; Ephesians 2:8-10;
5. John 4:34-38; Ephesians 2:10; John 5:30, 6:38; 13:12-17, 15:10, 20:21
6. 1 Corinthians 12:4-31; Romans 12:6-8; Ephesians 4:11-16

*Philosophy*

In response to the cross and through the gifting of the Holy Spirit, the elders of Sugar Grove Church of Christ affirm the calling for Sugar Grove Church of Christ to be a place marked by service. As a core value, our commitment to gospel-centered service will be reflected in how we spend our time, energy and resources.

*Practice*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ we will honor God by serving those he has brought within our body, looking not only to our own interests but also to the interest of others. We will honor our neighbor by intentionally serving our communities, both locally and abroad, meeting the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of those around us.