

CONNECT

Worship

- Worship regularly at Sugar River
- When unable to attend Sugar River, worship together as a family or visit other churches
- _____

Christian Fellowship at Sugar River

- Greet friends
- Greet someone you don't know
- Welcome visitors
- Attend Book Club
- Attend a Ladies Night Out
- Attend a Men's Fellowship activity
- _____

Christian Fellowship in Our Community

- Offer friendship to others
- Intentionally expand your friendship circle
- Prayerfully reach out to others so they might know God
- Invite others to Sugar River for worship, a growth group or service project.
- _____

GROW

Prayer

- Pray during times of need or joy
- Pray for church, leaders, and ministry
- Pray daily
- Request prayers from the congregation
- Attend Wednesday morning prayer group, *Pray Until Something Happens*
- Pray with a prayer partner
- _____

Reading the Bible

- Read a devotional daily
- Read the Bible daily
- Read the entire Bible in one year
- Share scripture in a conversation
- _____

Growth Group

- Read a book for spiritual growth
- Visit a Growth Group or Adult Study Class
- Attend an Adult Study Class regularly
- Participate in a Growth Group regularly
- Lead a growth group or adult study class
- Share a testimony with the congregation
- _____

Financial Giving

- Donate to the Verona Food Pantry
- Donate to a local mission
- Give financial support to a mission trip
- Give regularly to the church
- Give a biblical tithe (10%) to the church
- _____

SERVE

Assist with Sunday Morning Worship

- Serve as Greeter and Usher
- Serve as Liturgist
- Prepare Communion
- Serve as Video Technician
- Serve as Audio Technician
- Prepare worship slides in Pro Presenter
- Present Children's Message
- Host Fellowship Time
- Design the Chancel
- Participate in special music opportunities
- Audition for the Sugar River Band
- Film or edit video presentations
- Write questions for the growth group guide
- Assist with Visitor Services (welcome notes, welcome calls, cookie drop-offs)

Administrative Support

- Assist in the Sugar River office
Offer administrative leadership to Sugar River:
 - Trustees
 - Finance
 - Staff-Parish Relations
- Assist with Communications (creative writing, graphic design, web, Source)

Serve Children and Youth

- Servant Teacher
- Help plan a youth event
- Mentor a student

Family Care

- Send cards of encouragement or support
- Provide transportation for others
- Provide meals for Sugar River families
- Visit Sugar River members in the hospital or in their home
- _____

Community Service

- Provide cookies for the homeless shelter
- Participate in community clean-up day
- Work at the Verona Food Pantry
- Work at the Food Pantry Gardens
- Work on a Porchlight or Habitat for Humanity Project
- Shovel snow for others
- Help plan community service opportunities
- _____

Mission

- Donate supplies for a mission project
- Participate in a Mission Weekend
- Participate in a Family Mission Trip
- Chaperone a Youth Mission Trip
- Participate in an International Mission Trip
- Help plan mission opportunities
- _____

Thriving At Sugar River United Methodist Church The Discipleship Process

The purpose of Sugar River United Methodist Church is to invite family, friends, and neighbors to CONNECT, GROW, and SERVE in our relationship with God and others. In effect, this purpose becomes the basis for our discipleship process. We move from connecting with God and others through worship and fellowship, to growing through Christ-centered relationships and biblical reflection in our Growth Groups, to serving that we might alleviate suffering and offer hope wherever God may lead us.

Discipleship is a process of growing in our love for God and others. The challenge comes when church life does not reflect this process of growing in love. Here is what John had to say about the intent of discipleship:

If someone claims, "I know him well!" but doesn't keep his commandments, he's obviously a liar. His life doesn't match his words. But the one who keeps God's word is the person in whom we see God's mature love. This is the only way to be sure we're in God. Anyone who claims to be intimate with God ought to live the same kind of life Jesus lived. - 1 John 2:4-6 (The Message)

So, discipleship is a life journey of following Jesus as savior and example that we might thrive as loved and loving children of God. Since we are all God's unique masterpieces (Ephesians 2:10, NLT), we discover our soul's pathway to God in unique ways as well. It helps us to understand our temperament, learning styles, gifts and graces that allow us to thrive, then apply that understanding to ways we can Connect, Grow and Serve.

Please prayerfully reflect upon your life and select a couple of items that you feel can allow you to grow and thrive as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Indicate any growth or service priorities on the enclosed postcard and return it to the church office, that Sugar River might assist you in your relationship with God and others. Some items take less time and resources, and may be ideal for your needs. Other items demand more of us, and may be the very thing that God is challenging us to do. Remember, that these disciplines do not make us more or less "spiritual" than anyone else, but they may help us love God and others in ways that cannot happen without their influence on our lives.

Thank you for seeking to Connect, Grow, and Serve in your relationship with God and others at Sugar River. Our hope is that you will thrive in your life in Christ.



Connect * Grow * Serve

Where do I Thrive?

*Sugar River exists for family, friends
and neighbors to
Connect, Grow and Serve
in our relationship with God and
others.*