

Covenant Life and the Journey of Discipleship at the River



How do I belong?

*Connect, Grow and Serve in
our relationship with God
and others.*

130 North Franklin Street, Verona, WI 608-845-5855

Welcome to Sugar River United Methodist Church!

Sugar River United Methodist Church is about developing a Christ-centered community dedicated to connecting, growing and serving in our relationship with God and others. ANYONE is welcome to participate and belong at the River.

Formally you are invited and encouraged to consider entering into a covenant membership relationship with Sugar River United Methodist Church.

The back of this brochure contains the membership vows of the United Methodist Church while the inside of this brochure spells out the options for discipleship at Sugar River UMC. Members are those covenanting, with God's help, to actively support the discipleship process of this church. Members will prayerfully discern their level of focus upon the areas of Connect, Grow, and Serve each year.

Please prayerfully consider your relationship to God and this community of faith with the options listed below:

Friends call Sugar River their church home and are active in the life of the congregation at a level they feel comfortable.

Members recite the vows of membership in worship and actively engage the discipleship process of Connect, Grow and Serve.

Membership Covenant

As members of the Sugar River United Methodist Church, we covenant together with God and each other to keep the vows, which are a part of the order of confirmation and reception into the Church:

1. To renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of the world, and repent of our sin.
2. To accept the freedom and power God gives us to resist evil, injustice, and oppression;
3. To confess Jesus Christ as Savior, put our whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as our Lord.
4. To remain faithful members of Christ's holy church and serve as Christ's representatives in the world.
5. To be loyal to Christ through the United Methodist Church and do all in our power to strengthen its ministries.
6. To faithfully participate in its ministries by our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness;
7. To receive and profess the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

Revised 09.22.09

- 2008 Book of Discipline, ¶ 217.

Sugar River United Methodist Church

Journey in Discipleship

In the coming year, where do you feel God is calling you to focus your spiritual development in the three discipleship areas? How might you grow in your faith towards daily devotions, weekly worship, monthly mission, annual alms, and forever forming through Growth Groups? Please prayerfully consider where you, by the grace of God, can take steps in your faith journey by marking focus points of development in 2010. Personalize this document, place it in your Bible, and reflect upon it throughout the coming year. As a member of Sugar River UMC, I will...

Connect

WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP

Weekly Worship

- ┌ Worship regularly at SR as able.
- When unable to worship at SR:
 - ┌ Visit other churches
 - ┌ Worship together as a family
 - ┌ Engage in extended time of prayer

Christian Fellowship at Sugar River:

- ┌ Greet friends
- ┌ Greet acquaintances
- ┌ Greet someone you don't know
- ┌ Strong commitment to hospitality

Christian Fellowship away from SR:

- ┌ Offer genuine friendship to others
- ┌ Prayer for others
- ┌ Be available to offer faith, hope and love to others as God leads

Notes and other ideas: _____

Grow

CHRIST-CENTERED RELATIONSHIPS AND STUDY

Daily Devotions

- ┌ Pray for church, leaders, and ministry
- ┌ Read from scripture on a regular basis

Forever Forming

Participation annually in a Growth Group

- ┌ Fall Session
- ┌ Winter Session
- ┌ Spring Session
- ┌ Attend an Adult Study Class

┌ Develop a prayer partner friendship

┌ Read a book for spiritual growth

Notes and other ideas: _____

Serve

ALLEVIATING SUFFERING AND OFFERING HOPE

Monthly Mission

- ┌ Community Service opportunities
 - ┌ At least once this year
 - ┌ Each month
- ┌ Fund a mission
- ┌ Participate in a mission
- ┌ Serve on a Ministry Team
- ┌ Serve in a ministry area of the church
- ┌ Work to discern my God-given gifts and talents in order to actively build up the Body of Christ, the Church.

Annual Alms

- ┌ Give proportionally of your income
 - ┌ working towards a biblical tithe of 10%...I will give ____ % for 2010.
 - ┌ Give a biblical tithe to church

Notes and other ideas: _____

Covenant Prayer: Holy and loving God, may the words of my mouth, and meditations of my heart be pleasing to you. May I honor you and be a blessing to others as I seek to grow in faith, hope and love. With your help, I will seek to fulfill this covenant. Your Child, _____.