

## WHO ARE WE?

Many may ask, "who are these people at Sugar Grove?" The word Church means the "called out ones," to assemble, worship and work in the name of Jesus Christ. The church is made up of Christians. Christians are people who have accepted Christ as Savior, repented on their sins, confessed his name and have been baptized into Him, for forgiveness of sins, rising to a new life and receiving the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The same message of the first gospel sermon by Peter on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:38)

The local congregation strives to pattern itself after the Christians of the New Testament era. The Bible is the only rule of faith and practice and we call ourselves Christians only, for Christ is our creed and He is the head of the Church. Our lives as His disciples are based on the principles of love and humble service.

There is no outside rule or authority over the congregation. There is no denominational affiliation, assembly or head. Leadership is chosen by local members in accordance with the Scripture. There are Elders or Bishops who are spiritual overseers and Deacons who serve the congregation in various capacities. We have a Womens group that works in many ways and Youth activities

We are a part of an independent movement that began over 200 years ago to eliminate denominational barriers and strive to unite all Christians in order to carry out Christ's prayer of unity shunning denominational and man-made names and creeds.

We understand that Christians are God's chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, the family of God, made possible by God's grace and Christ's redemptive blood. Jesus is God's son and the fulfillment of all the Law and Prophecies. Members strive to use their talents, gifts, money and influence to build up the body, and further the cause of Christ and His Church everywhere.

Our mission is to take the message of salvation to the lost world as Jesus commanded.

We strive to reach out in the community and to all nations with benevolent deeds of love and the message of the gospel. We are a congregation with a Global vision giving monthly to over a dozen Mission works around the world, and are now marking the 27th anniversary of being the trustee of Workers for Mexico Mission, inc. which has grown to become one of the most extensive mission works of Latin America.

We seek to aid, comfort, teach and minister to the needs of the members of every age.

Our corporate worship, is based mainly on early church practice and centers on the Lord's supper weekly, with prayer, Scripture reading and teaching. Our services also include blended modern and traditional music and praise and bringing offerings to the Lord in accordance to how we have prospered.