

BROUGHT TOGETHER AS ONE
Ephesians 2:19-22

The metaphors in this passage of kingdom citizens, family members, and stones in a building all presume that every believer is an active part of a local church. God intends for us to live out our faith in community with one another. A local church family is one of God's gracious gifts to us. Through the relationships of this faith community we are able to:

- Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24-25)
- Love one another as Christ loves us (John 13:34-35)
- Carry one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- Encourage one another and build up one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- Teach and admonish one another in corporate praise (Colossians 3:16)
- Give generously and sacrificially together furthering the gospel (2 Corinthians 8-9)
- Celebrate communion together at the Lord's table (1 Corinthians 11:26)
- Devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer (Acts 2:42)

In what ways are you faithfully involved in these relational activities within the church? In what areas do you need to be more actively involved? How might you increase your efforts in God's work of bringing us together as one? Will you become a more active member of our church family today?