

Agape Circle

"May the Lord make you increase and abound in agape to one another and to all..." -- Thessalonians 3:12

An Orthodox Christian Small Group Experience

for Christ-centered fellowship

in faith, hope & *agape* love

An "Agape Circle" is a **small group** of 3 or more Orthodox Christians, catechumens or inquirers who meet in-person or on Zoom for **90 mins** periodically in a weekly series.

There are **four Series** each year: (1) **Fall** (Pre-Advent), (2) **Winter** (Dodecameron), (3) **Late Winter** (Pre-Lent) and (4) **Spring** (Post-Pascha)

Agape Circle provides a **structure** for Christ-centered dialogue ("**DiaLogos**") for mutual growth in faith, hope and active service in the world

Agape Circle helps us move beyond surface talk to truly **see, hear, and know** one another so that we can better **love one another** and also **strengthen our capacity** to extend God's love outward

AC DiaLogos meetings consisting of:

- 1) **Prayer**
- 2) **AC Agreement**
- 3) **Epistle Reading (x3)**
- 4) **DiaLogos: "3(7) part communication"**
- 5) **Commit to pray & to active love**



Agape Circle offers **Christ-centered discussion** in small groups for interpersonal connection, emotional support and spiritual growth.

In Agape Circle, we **deepen bonds** with one another, building on our shared Orthodox faith, our common sacramental life and liturgical worship. We get to know one another on a more **personal** level **centered in Christ**

Every Series is **facilitated** by a trained deacon, presbyter, **or layperson** with the presbyter's blessing

Meetings may take place **at church** (such as before Saturday Vespers or after Sunday Liturgy), or **in a home**, or **on Zoom**. Meetings can occur **within** a parish or **across** parishes and jurisdictions. It is **inter-Orthodox** and **pan-Orthodox**, helping to unify the faithful

Agape Circle **can be incorporated** periodically **into other** existing **small groups** (like Bible studies and other groups) for a varied experience, to **give the priest a break** and to provide an **opportunity for lay people** to serve the Body of Christ

Agape Circles **can be set up in regions** that have no Orthodox parishes yet. They can **aid in new missions**

There is no fee to participate. Help us start Agape Circle in your area. And spread the word!

www.AgapeCircle.com

“Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am in their midst”
(Mt 18:20)

Agape Circle supports us in our life in Christ Who is **ἀγάπη**

Through Scripture-based conversations (“DiaLogos”)

we open our hearts to God and to one another

we reflect together on God’s word of love in our lives.

We discuss applying the wisdom of Scripture to our lives

we listen attentively to one another

as we share our experiences, insights and perceptions.

this deepens our bond with one another

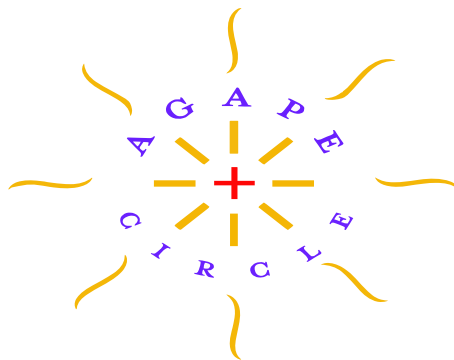
Agape Circle helps us grow in *faith, hope* and *agape* love.

Meeting in this way, we come to understand the words of the Psalmist (Ps133:1–3):

**“Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity!”**

Come join us!

**“Spur one another on toward love and good deeds,...meeting together...
encouraging one another”** Heb 10:24



AgapeCircle.com

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AgapeCircles@gmail.com