



We Share... Grace and Generosity

As Christian Primitivists, we focused in our formative years on recreating Christianity as we understood it in its earliest form. Inspired by the New Testament book *The Acts of the Apostles*, we invited members in the 1830s to give all they had to the church so that the surplus of the wealthy could lift up the poor. This system proved to be far more popular with the poor than the rich and we soon began to move away from attempts at living “all things common.”

We didn’t forget the underlying principle, though, and continued to work to meet the needs of those around us. We used collective farms in Far West, Missouri; the Female Relief Society in Nauvoo, Illinois; the Order of Enoch in Lamoni, Iowa, and Stewardship communities in Atherton, Missouri. Throughout our history, we have attempted to live our discipleship by offering all we are and have to God’s purposes as revealed in Jesus Christ.