

# Baptism at the Cornerstone Church

Baptism is an important element in Christian discipleship. Jesus commanded his apostles to “go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ...” (Matthew 28:18-20)

And so, when a person turns to Jesus Christ and trusts him as Savior and Lord, the next step of discipleship is baptism. Baptism is a sign given to the believer by God in which all the Gospel promises are made visibly rather than verbally.

What does the sign of baptism point to?

- God has united us with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.
- God has released us from the power of, and cleansed us from the pollution of sin. We are plunged beneath the water.
- God has given us new life. We are raised up out of the water.

A good explanation of baptism is found in the **1689 Baptist Confession of Faith**.

## **Baptism is ...**

Baptism is an ordinance of the New Covenant instituted by Jesus Christ. It is intended to be, to the person baptized, God’s sign or promise of fellowship with Christ in his death and resurrection; that is, a sign of his being ingrafted into Christ (Rom. 6:3, 4, 5; Col. 2:12; Gal. 3:27), and forgiven of all his sins (Mk. 1:4; Acts 2:38, and 22:16). It also indicates that the baptized person has given himself up to God, through Jesus Christ, so that he may live and conduct himself in newness of life (Rom. 6:3, 4).

## **Baptism is to be administered to ...**

Baptism is to be administered to all those who actually profess repentance towards God (Acts 2:38; Mt. 3:6) and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, being willing to yield obedience to him. (Acts 8:12, 36, 37, 38; 10:47, 48). (Note: for this reason, we do not baptize infants)

## **Baptism uses ....**

The believer is immersed in water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. (Mt. 3:16; Jn. 3:23; 4:1, 2; Mt. 28:19, 20; Acts 8:38; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12).

## **Baptismal Promises**

At the Cornerstone's baptism event, the candidates are asked to make these promises.

- Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God who lived, died and rose again?
- Do you believe that in Christ you have been forgiven your sins and made alive to God?
- And will you follow Jesus Christ as your Lord in the newness of life he has given you?

## **The Baptism Event**

The Cornerstone baptism event is joyful celebration of our Savior God. We usually pick a Sunday afternoon in August and go to the lake. In this way, while baptism is a sign to the believer, it can also be a witness to the community of God's life-changing love and grace.

Here are some practical suggestions:

- **Bring:** Towel, change of clothes
- **Men:** Wear swim shorts and T-shirt, surf shoes
- **Women:** Wear swimsuit, shorts and dark T-shirt, surf shoes
- **Invite:** Family, friends, co-workers, neighbors

## **Information Form and Questions**

Please complete the following information form and return it to Peter Foxwell or send the information by email: [peterfoxwell@gmail.com](mailto:peterfoxwell@gmail.com). If you have questions about baptism, please contact Peter.

# Baptism Information Form

Please complete and return to Peter Foxwell or email: peterfoxwell@gmail.com

**Name:**

**Address:**

**Town:**

**Zip:**

**Home phone:**

**Cell phone:**

**Email:**

How long have you been part of the Cornerstone congregation?

Describe your faith. For example, tell us when you began to follow Jesus? What does it mean for you to have faith in Jesus Christ?

Why do you want to be baptized?

I have read and understood "Baptism at the Cornerstone" and I am ready to make the baptismal promises:

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_