

# Testimonies







Baptism not only signifies  
resurrection to a new life in Christ,  
but it is also a public commitment to  
walk in Christ's way.

*Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."*

Acts 2:38-39

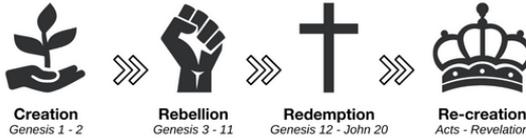


# Welcome to Northview Community Church!

We're so glad that you have joined us for our Baptism service.

## What Do We Believe at Northview?

Four words can be used to describe how Christians view the world:



**Creation:** Our world was created good by God, and people were created in God's image to care for our world and its inhabitants.

**Rebellion:** People chose instead to rebel (sin) against their creator and consequently experience death, disease and disorder.

**Redemption:** God set in motion a rescue plan to redeem (regain) people through faith. It began with a man named Abraham and climaxed with Jesus (God's son) coming to earth. Jesus lived a perfect sinless life and died to pay the penalty for our rebellion. After three days, God raised Jesus from death, and now offers abundant and everlasting life to those who have faith; believe that Jesus is the son of God and follow him.

**Re-creation:** Jesus will one day return to judge the living and the dead and to re-create heaven and earth. Christians live today in faith and hope: following in the footsteps of Jesus as we represent God in the world, and anticipating the day when the world will be re-created: freed from death, disease and disorder.

## Why Do We Baptize People at Northview?

Jesus Christ was baptized and he commanded his followers to be baptized. Going under the water symbolizes a person's willingness to identify with Jesus' physical death and die to themselves: recognize and turn from their rebellion against God. Coming up from the water symbolizes a person's redemption and re-creation. They respond to God in faith, their sin is washed away, their relationship with God is restored, and they live as followers of Jesus now, and eternally.



"Christ" means anointed one, or King. When Christians say "Jesus Christ", we recognize that Jesus is our King.



# TESTIMONIES

## Saturday

5:30PM

Eden Van Dyke  
Brooke Pauls  
Joel Thiessen  
Heidi Vance  
Elora Hall  
Astrid Jansen  
Aniya Jansen  
Asher Jansen

Eilia Nussli  
Judah Gerbrand  
Cameron Peters  
Isaiah Reddikopp  
Ashley Reimer

## Sunday

9AM

Haily Westly  
Rachel Renfrey  
Trevor Esau  
Alexa Esau  
Gabbi Chan  
Ethan Wiebe  
Daniel Boshart  
Hunter Klassen  
David Currie  
Alyssa Currie  
Kaden Schellenberg  
Danny Froese  
Dannielle Haggerty  
Greg Buckmaster  
Judy Buckmaster

11AM

Sabrina Candeloro  
Hunter Dyck  
Callie Enns  
Ethan Rempel  
Paris Rempel  
Vienna Rempel  
Curtis VanderZwaan  
Wendi Munday  
Michelle Ndizeye  
Liam Dyck  
Lily Maza  
Yobdee Marrazi  
Colby Bessette  
Charlotte Dyck  
Taylor Schleppe  
Myra Gale  
Kate Lertrujikal  
Caleb Warkentin  
Mikayla Roos  
Avery Tomlin  
Nevaeh Letourneau  
Isaac Reimer

SATURDAY



## Eden Van Dyke

My name is Eden Van Dyke and I have believed in God my entire life. I grew up going to church and learning about God. Although I never really took the time to grow a relationship with him. I have really started to feel more connected to God this year.

The past two years were extremely hard for me with friends, school, family, and my faith. I had struggled to feel like I fit in at school and I felt like I didn't really have anybody to support me. After some time of thinking and reflecting on the past, I realized that through these hard times I wasn't focusing at all on what God thought of me or my relationship with him. That's what I was lacking in my life. I began to pray more and pay more attention to the sermons at church and youth. God has continued to bring wonderful people into my life that have helped me grow in my faith so much.

I have been learning so much more about Jesus since I have been going to Northview high school youth. I have learned after all this time that when I am going through a rough time I need to fix my eyes on Jesus. Not material things or the acceptance and approval of others.

I want to get baptized because I know for sure that I want to commit my life to Christ and serve him for the rest of my life.





## Brooke Pauls

I first heard about God from my parents when I was four. My mom was telling me about Jesus, and I wanted to become a Christian too. So I said my first prayer. After that I loved listening to Bible stories and praying. My life continued, but a few years later I wondered if God was really real. I had always called myself a Christian, but I didn't feel like it, and I didn't act like it either. I couldn't see God working in my life. I continued to go to church, when I didn't know if I truly believed it. Devotionals felt like a chore, and I did them as quickly as I could.

Last year I went to summer camp, at camp they told us about Jesus. Even though I had heard this story tons of times, this time felt different. Then I re-asked Jesus into my life. For once the faith felt like it was my faith, not someone else's but mine. From then on I truly believed in Jesus, and since then I have been getting closer and closer to Him. I can see God working in my life. Now I live my faith, and not just read about it.

I want to be baptized because it is the next step in my Christian walk, and I feel God telling me that now is the right time for it.





## Joel Thiessen

I was born and raised in a Christian home. I have attended Northview church since I was born. I went to MEI from preschool till grade 8, and for high school I attended Mouat secondary.

When I was 12 years old, one of my teachers helped me to understand what it meant to follow Jesus, I then accepted him into my life and gave my heart to Jesus. Then in the summer of 2019, I attended Rockridge Canyon summer camp. It was there that my desire to follow Jesus grew deeper. Recently,

Romans 10:9 has become a favourite verse of mine, it daily encourages me and my faith journey. "If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

The song by north point worship "death was arrested" is my favourite song.

I want to get baptized today because I love Jesus, and this is my way of showing that!!!





## Heidi Vance

I grew up around my Christian parents, family, and friends. So I've always known who God was. I've had some very rough paths during grade 8 through 9 where I was struggling trying to find myself. I had to make some difficult decisions. I had not turned to Christ, I pushed him away when I needed him most .

In the past year I've felt his presence as strong as ever. Summer Camp at Camp Luther was my lightbulb moment. I realized I was a sinner, and I needed a saviour. I was broken and I needed help. And only God can give me that help. I've been challenged with lots and have had the right people by my side to help and guide me through my life. I feel God has placed them there to speak to me.

I feel this is the time to get baptized as I am still young and I am ready to give my life to Jesus. This is a reset in my faith and life. God is waiting for me, and I just need to give my life to him and I'm ready to do so.





## Elora Hall

I was born and raised in a Christian family. When I was 6 years old, a friend invited me to Awanas. It was at Awanas that I realized even though I loved God and was raised in a Christian home, I needed to ask Christ myself to come into my life. So, I accepted Jesus into my heart one night with the help of my Awanas leader. I really enjoyed going to Awanas and learning about God for the next 5 years. Then when covid happened and we were in lockdown, I started slowly drifting away from God and I stopped praying and doing devotions. In the past two years a friend started inviting me to her youth group, and I would go once in a while.

Last summer I was able to get a job at a local charity thrift store. My co-workers were all strong Christians and every workday started with devotions and coffee. During my time there for the summer months I really began to appreciate God's work in my life. It also reminded me how important community in faith is. It is interesting how God can use even a summer job to remind you about what is important. So, after this last summer working with people of strong Christian faith, I decided to start going regularly to my friend's youth group and really listening to the messages at youth and church. I found that I had grown in my faith over that summer, and that I didn't want to separate from God again.

I am being baptized as a public statement of my devotion to God.





## Astrid Jansen

I was fortunate to grow up in a Christian home, had Christian friends, and was involved with Sunday school and my church youth from a young age. I attended a Christian high school, where I went on Missions Trips, and once I left school, worked in a predominantly Christian workplace. I always thought that I was so fortunate to have been born into such a blessed environment.

I asked Jesus into my heart when I was 8 years old. It was at a local church, and they had put on a play, about a family who had all died in a car accident. They stood at the gates of Heaven, and Jesus looked for their names in The Book, but could not find the father's name, so he was taken and thrown into Hell. I knew that I absolutely did not want to go to Hell, and asked Jesus into my heart that evening.

Even though I attended Youth groups, and went on Missions trips, I always struggled with the thought that I was just fortunate and hadn't been truly tested. I almost felt like I was ripped off somehow, and didn't have an amazing redemption story, like many others I'd heard.

It wasn't until I was 20 and went to Tauernhof Bible School, that I finally understood just how amazing my testimony was, in that the Lord had protected me from so much grief and hardship, and I was finally, truly, thankful.

I met my husband there, and after living in England for 13 years, moved back to Abbotsford as a family, 9 years ago. We have been attending Northview since then, and have enjoyed being a part of the community. I also started attending Precepts Bible study on Monday evenings, and have been blown away with the teaching and learning How to read my Bible. I've been meaning to be baptized for quite some time, and am so excited to finally be doing it. And not alone, but also with my children. God is so good. I am so excited to take this next step of Faith and can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for me.





## Aniya Jansen

I was brought up in a Christian Home and I grew up going to church. Both of my parents are Christians, so I believed what they believed in, when I was little.

When I was 4 years old, I asked my Mom how I could go to Heaven, so we prayed a prayer together, and I asked Jesus into my heart. We have been going to Northview ever since we moved to Canada from England, when I was 4. I have loved going to Sunday school, being a part of the kids Christmas concerts, going to Youth, and now serving at East Abbotsford in the Kids Ministry. I have especially loved Middle School Youth this year, and I have started bringing my friends from school to youth with me as well. I am excited to bring them to church so they can learn more about Jesus.

I want to be baptized because I want to deepen my roots in Jesus, by taking the next big step to grow my faith in Him.





## Asher Jansen

I was brought up in a christian home, and grew up going to church. I lived in England until I was 6 years old, and then we moved to Canada. Ever since then, we've been regularly attending Northview. I've been a part of Sunday school, higher ground, middle school youth and high school youth.

I became a Christian when I was 6 years old. It was late at night during prayer time, and my little sister had asked Jesus into her heart, and I knew that I wanted to ask him into my heart as well. I realized that I needed saving a while ago, when I was scrolling through my phone on YouTube, and saw videos of Jesus and how much He loves you. I was so captivated by what these people were saying.

Jesus has helped me in many ways and is helping me right now, as I am great friends with the International students that are at my school, that have come to Canada from all over the world. At the start of the year, I didn't think that I would become as close with them as I am now, but Jesus had a plan.

I want to be baptized because I know that the only way to get to heaven is to love Jesus and to obey his command to be baptized. I feel that my relationship with Jesus can only get deeper, and I would love to spend an eternity in Heaven with Him.





## **Eilia Nussli**

My whole life I've been surrounded by family and friends who have taught me everything I know about Jesus. Despite this, it never really meant anything to me. It was around the age of nine that I started seeing some blemishes in my choices, simple little things like how I was spending my time. I remember being confused at thinking through my own thoughts, because my behavior and life choices had never seemed questionable before. I can admit now that those thoughts weren't my own, but Jesus beginning to prod my heart.

When I turned ten, most of that year was a shadowy time for me. I was remembering all of the foolish choices I had made, and was burdened while God prodded me to confess my past actions. I had a stubborn little heart at the time and was angry with Jesus for making me remember. But once I shared all the things I had done, I found the weight in my chest was lifted, and slowly the past had been uprooted and I was able to recognize and love Jesus' voice. At eleven I understood how desperately I needed God's constant presence in my life. He's the only one that could ever give me everlasting peace, joy, love, kindness, and wisdom. And I love him.

Now that I've given my heart to the Lord I want him to guide my every word and step. I want him to flip over every unturned stone in my life, and give me the confidence to share the joy that He gives. God's helped me through countless trials, and from every trial has bloomed something better than I ever could have comprehended. Because of this, I now only desire to give him my praise, my prayers, to read His word, love His people, and above all of that, to give Him my life. And that's why I'm getting baptized. because my life is His, and He says that I should declare this for all of the church to see.





## Judah Gerbrand

I first learnt about God and the Bible a while ago, because I've been raised in a Christian family, so I have been going to church for my whole life. Around 6 months ago, around the time I was finishing up Grade 7, I started to realize the power of the Gospel, and then the ball just started rolling.

I started to feel a call from God, Him asking me to help and follow Him. And I started by helping through The Ministry, helping in Kid's Ministry. I am currently growing in my faith by learning new things, but also realizing my mistakes. I am being challenged in my life because I tend to fall into the same temptation time and time again.

I want to be baptized because I want to publicly declare all of my faith. To show that I know I am not perfect and I have sinned, but also to show that I am a Christian, as a public and personal step in my faith in the Bible and God.





## Cameron Peters

I first asked Jesus into my heart when I was 7 years old. My whole life I was raised in a Christian environment. Doing devotions, going to church, praying, and occasionally reading my Bible. I was homeschooled up until grade 8, so I was able to grow in my faith in a healthy environment.

For the beginning of my middle school years my family and I traveled all over the world on our boat. As you could expect, traveling to foreign countries leaves a lot in the unknown, and having these new and exciting experiences caused me to learn the importance of praying to God. Sometimes we were in stormy weather and rough seas, and I realized that even my parents couldn't do anything about the ominous sea throwing our boat from side to side. I learned to turn to God in every circumstance and put my trust in him rather than earthly things.

Once I started going to Abbotsford Christian School for grade 8 and high school, I quickly became obsessed with sports and being an athlete. And whenever someone asked what I was interested in, I would tell them the sports that I play instead of my faith in Christ. Over a year into my high school sports career, I acquired a sports injury. Unfortunately, it was one of those things that don't get better easily. I went to specialist after specialist, and no one could tell me what was wrong with me, never mind help me get better. Because of my injury I had to quit all my sports because I couldn't participate on a competitive level. With all my hobbies and interests down the drain, I felt very lost and didn't know what to do with my time. But God showed me that I had let sports become an idol in my life, and that I had centered my very identity around sports. But he taught me that was not true. He said that I am not an athlete, I am his child, and that should be at the center of my identity.

More recently in my faith walk, I have realized that I had been in a spiritual rut. A rut where I attended Bible study at my church, but never really touched the home work, which made me not engage as well. And overall, it was clear I was not putting enough effort into a strong relationship with God. I was praying lots, but that is easy to do. I definitely wasn't reading my Bible nearly enough, or actually showing fruits in my life. During Christian bread I had some deep and valuable conversations with some of my close friends about God, and him being priority in our lives. This showed me that God has so much more planned for me than just floating through high school and getting good grades. Since then, I have been putting effort into my faith and reading my Bible every day and trying to have meaningful conversations with all my friends in hopes of bearing God's fruit.

Currently I am on a spiritual high, and God has put baptism on my heart. I had put off baptism for so long because I thought I wasn't ready for it, or good enough for it yet. But I realized that God is always ready to accept us with open arms, we just have to run to him.





## Isaiah Reddicopp

I first learned about Jesus and the Bible from my parents. When I was about 3 years old my mom was folding laundry in our living room and I told her that I wanted to accept Jesus into my heart. So, we prayed and from then on I considered myself a Christian. It was probably then when I knew I was a bad person who needed Jesus.

Sometimes I don't understand some of the things that happen to me and I just ask why? I might even say that I don't like God, but that's just in my head and I know no matter how much I say it I still believe in him and love him.

I have always had a strong connection to God and Jesus through my parents and going to a Christian school (MEI). But I really want to take on Jesus as my own faith and believe for myself that he is savior and Lord. I have always thought of reading the Bible and praying as more of a chore than something I wanted to do. But now I want Jesus to be a close friend that I can draw near to whenever I need him.

I want to be baptized because I feel like God has really been putting it on my heart for a long time. I have seen so many people I know getting baptized and wondering why isn't that me? If I truly believe in God and want him in my life forever that is what I have to do. Acts 22:16 says "And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name."

I have been thinking about this for a long time and really believe it is the next step in my walk with the Lord. Especially with high school and all the changes happening, I believe there is no better time to feel deeply rooted in my faith. I also want the way I live not to be filtered by all the things I hear and see, but by Jesus and the Bible. One of my favourite Bible verses is Proverbs 3:5-6, "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Leaning on God instead of our own understanding is probably the best thing a person can ever do.

I know that in order to be the best version of me I can be I must give my life over to Jesus and let him take control. I am being baptized today because I believe that Jesus has the best plan for my life and he will renew me into his wonderful image.





## **Ashley Reimer**

I have known the Lord since I was four years old when I accepted Him into my heart at Northview Sunday school. However it wasn't until a few years ago that I really decided to live each day as a believer.

The beginning of Covid was a pivotal year for me in a lot of ways as I graduated high school and was trying to find my path post secondary. I learned to lean on the Lord, and trust the plan He has for me, as my plans seemed to be changing constantly and there was a lot of uncertainty. That summer I was invited to join a precept group where I learned how to study the word which really grew my love for Christ. This led to me changing my plans of attending University in the fall and instead going to bible school in Austria. I was surrounded by a great community, in the word everyday, and was able to take a few months to rest in Him completely. I learned how to trust Him and His plan through all the different ups and downs and worked on finding my contentment in Him. My heart was completely changed and I can confidently say that I am set on honoring Him everyday.

I'm taking the next step and choosing to be baptized as a public declaration of the change the Lord has done and continues to do in my life. My faith has been strengthened, my knowledge has grown, and my love for Him has deepened through the past few years, and I am so excited to continue to follow Him!



SUNDAY 9AM



## Haily Wesley

While growing up, I didn't take a lot of the influence in Christ I was given. He was brought up now and then in an attempt to know him, mainly during a few of the Holidays like Easter and Christmas. We would pray in his name, but I never knew the full meaning or why we praised him. Not knowing much about his story and his position in our lives, I went through most of my life thinking there was no reason or importance of learning to know about God.

My story behind learning to live life in the light of God began When I hit a rough patch back in 2021. I met the wrong kind of guy who got me into drugs and we spent a few seasons heavily doing so. At that time I drifted away from family, and friends and stopped working. I knew I wanted to quit the drugs and that this wasn't the route of life I wanted to partake in. Without Having the same relationships and the help I needed, I thought I'd be stuck in the back of that van doing drugs forever. One night out of many bad ones, I was feeling particularly helpless and in need of a hand I didn't know was going to reach out. The only thing I could think of to do, my last thought was to resort to prayer. At the time I didn't know who I was praying to, I just closed my eyes and cried while I pleaded for help. A couple of days went by, and I managed to get a hold of my mom and told her I needed her help. My mom came from Abbotsford to Surrey to pick me up along with whatever I had left that would fit in her car. She helped sober me up from there. Of course, I was sensible enough to end my previous relationship and begin my healing process. I managed to quit drugs after isolating myself from the temptations with the help of my mom. After I started a new path, I began slowly working to replace the things I'd lost and get back to myself. I met my fiancé within that timeframe and he helped me through my drug cravings as he had been working on his own journey with addiction. He was further into the path of sobriety so he had a lot of good tips and tricks to keep me away from those thoughts.

Taylor asked me if I wanted to attend church with him one Sunday morning, so he picked me up from my house bright and early and we went. It was right about the time that Northview opened its doors back up from closing due to covid, and I was a little hesitant because I hadn't gone to church more than twice before that day. When I walked into Northview with him and his family, it was nerve-racking because I didn't feel like it was a place I belonged. Leaving Northview was a whole different story. It was around the time of Christmas and Pastor Mark was Preaching and telling the story of Jesus and why he was present in our lives, it was the perfect teaching moment for me to learn who and why Christ was to be. I came to Northview on a few odd Sundays with the Peters family up until the point of attending every weekend and I got to hear more and more about God, his intentions, and how to live with him leading and playing an important role in our lives.

It was more recently that I accepted Christ into my heart, but I'm ready to fully accept his love and be baptized. I'm ready to be reborn again and live a new life in his glory.





## Rachel Renfrey

I came to know Jesus as Lord and Saviour when I was in 2nd grade. Before that I remember when I was young, I would question who God was and if He was any different than Santa Claus or the Tooth Fairy. My parents are Christians and raised me to see that God was active in our lives. We attended Northview all my life and I got to participate in Sunday school regularly. I also went to MEI from kindergarten and saw a lot of people around me who really believed in Jesus. My school encouraged me to recognize that God was real and I had a need for him. At the end of one school chapel my teacher asked students who did not know the Lord if they wanted to join her in a prayer, asking for forgiveness of sins and accepting Jesus into their hearts and lives. I remember praying with her and feeling like a weight on my shoulders was lifted. I felt clearly that He was present with me. From that point on, all the things I was learning through home, church and school made a lot more sense.

I've wanted to be baptized for a while as I believe it is commanded in the Bible and I want to be faithful to what God has commanded in every way that I am able. My favourite verse has been Psalm 121:5-8 'The Lord watches over you. The Lord is like a shade tree at your right hand. The sun won't harm you by day nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all harm. He watches over you no matter where you go both now and forever.'





## Trevor Esau

I first came to learn about God through Sunday school and bedtime stories. I grew up in a Christian home and it was at an early age that I gave my life to Christ - one of those early ages where you keep on asking just to be sure. So, whether it was truly age 3, or 5, or 7, I was continually confessing to God that I was a sinner and inviting Jesus into my heart so that I could be saved.

Getting baptized is how I am responding to Jesus right now. There has been a calling on my heart for the last few years to live my life more open and transparent as a Christian and son of God. I am slowly learning how to be more comfortable talking about Him, staying firm in my beliefs, and how to raise my family knowing God. In this way,

I want to be baptized to publicly confess my faith in Jesus Christ to those witnessing here today; to be an example to my children to follow; and to answer Gods commandment to be baptized following the acceptance of Him in to our lives.





## **Alexa Esau**

I was baptized catholic as a baby but wasn't raised going to church, it wasn't until I met my husband that I started attending. I remember the first time we went to church together was in Palm Springs with his family. It was more like a Sunday morning concert, the worship was amazing. I didn't start regularly attending until a year and a half later when I moved down to Abbotsford and my husband and I started to attend Northview.

Over the past 10 years my husband and I have attended Northview, with a 4 year gap in Toronto, throughout this time I have learned a lot about God and his love. I have had many times where I struggled with my faith and questioned God, but he continues to show up and provide every single time. I know that Gods plan for my life, even if it's hard to see, is better than any plan I could ever make for myself.

Over the last few years I have really felt the call to be baptized and am happy to finally be taking that next step in my walk of faith. I want to be baptized today to show my obedience to God and the trust I have in him.





## Gabbi Chan

I grew up in a Christian home and had heard about God through my parents and going to Sunday school. Back then, I didn't know what the point was of going to Sunday school or even learning about who God is. I always thought about how he was just another figure and belief that my family around me believed in so I followed suit. I have always known that I was a sinner, but I never came to terms with it and didn't think I needed to repent as society had set a standard to go against the commandments of God.

I realised I needed a saviour through Bible classes and learning more about the theology and philosophy of salvation and how it can only be done if I repent and give my life to Christ. I am yet to figure out the criteria for being a Christian but I know that the basis of being a Christian is to put my faith in Christ and trust in his works that in the end, it's for my good. It might seem that what he has done for me is not obvious and may be counterproductive, but if I continue to trust in him, I know it would be for my own good. Sometimes I still have trouble with responding to the obstacles and challenges Jesus has set in front of me, but I know that he is putting these in front of me to strengthen my faith in him. There are circumstances where I am constantly being challenged in my faith, such as not succumbing to society's standards that are ungodly and full of sinful natures. There are many difficult times in my life that have led me to question "why me" and why these terrible things had to happen to me. Knowing that Christ is constantly trying to challenge me, strengthens my instincts to always turn to him, instead of straying away from him.

I want to be baptised as I believe I am ready for the next step in my faith journey. I am ready to fully accept Jesus into my life and repent for the sins that I have committed in the past and may continue to commit as I know I will never stop sinning as long as I am alive in this physical world. As long as I continue to trust in him and his works, I know my sin will be forgiven as he is the God of even the vilest, sickest and poorest people. If he can convince even the most sinful people to believe in him, then I know that he is the truth and I can trust in that no matter what the world tries to throw at me.





## **Ethan Wiebe**

I am 14 years old, and I go to MEI Secondary. I grew up in a Christian home and I believed in God because my parents are Christians and that was all I knew. I gave my life to God when I was 4 years old. I have always attended church and loved going to youth, but I started questioning if I needed God and if he heard my prayers.

I became distracted with things that turned my attention away from God. I began to feel far from God and felt desperate to feel God's presence in my life. My family and I prayed every night for God to open my eyes and my heart to him.

During this past year or so, I have felt God pulling me closer and calling me to him. The reason why I want to be baptized is because I would like to grow in my faith in God and to declare to everyone that I am a child of God. I am ready to give up my life to Him and to see what he has in store for me for the rest of my life and forever!





## **Daniel Boshart**

I first learned about God in my home. I was raised in a Christian home and going to church, talking about the Bible and listening to Christian music is a part of everyday life.

God has always been real to me and I know His words are true. Learning is difficult for me because my brain is different from other people. All of my life God has taken care of me. He has sent people into my life that really care about me, love me and help me with the things that are hard for me.

Something that has not been hard for me is to believe in God, that's always been easy!! He loves me and I love Him. I want to be baptized because I believe Jesus died and rose again to save me from my sins. Jesus is Lord and I want to live my life for Jesus and follow Him.





## Hunter Klassen

I grew up in a christian family surrounded by christian friends. As early as I could comprehend the idea of God, I believed in Him. Like many I prayed a prayer of acceptance of Jesus into my life.

Through the peaks and the valleys I am constantly reminded that I do not measure up; That I fall short of the glory of God and because of this I am in need of a saviour. Eventually I grew complacent. Complacency grew to indifference and indifference into disobedience. My community slowly transformed and my connection to the church grew distant more so than ever before. I was lost and forgot the answer to the human condition.

Despite my disobedience God extended his hand to me and called me into the light, and because of His abundant grace I proclaim the excellencies of Him. In obedience to Christ.

I am getting baptized as a physical, outward symbol of the inward transformation, the sanctification of my spirit. The baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire. By being baptized I am publicly proclaiming my faith in Jesus Christ as my saviour through His death and resurrection.





## David Currie

I wasn't raised in a Christian household, and the things of God seemed to not exist. In my late teens, and early 20s, I began to wonder if there was more to life. During this time, I was working for a family friend who happened to be a Christian man. Nothing was said to me, other than the evidence of his faith through his actions. I admired who he was, and what he did.

Shortly after that, I met my future wife. It was through her that I heard the gospel for the first time. Alyssa pointed me to the book of Proverbs. I started to see some of the answers I was looking for: the God of the Universe has a created order for ordaining things, and that the Scriptures were true. I wanted to know more about God and Jesus. I wasn't fully surrendered in that moment, but was learning, and began attending church on some weekends. After about six months, the Lord revealed Himself to me in a way that I couldn't ignore. I saw why people struggle because of their sin, and need a Savior. I remember thinking that there's a book written that tells you how to have life, and its author is Jesus. I realized that it is the word of God, and it could have never been written by anyone else. I accepted Jesus as my Savior, and began to learn more about Him.

While my growth has been slow, I can see how God has always been at work in my life, even before I acknowledged Him. Now, I'm learning how to spend time daily in His word, and being challenged in the area of prayer. I am grateful for the example of my family friend, who showed me how to walk out the Christian life with integrity, for my wife for sharing the gospel with me, and for Jesus. I can do nothing apart from what Jesus has done for me.





## Alyssa Currie

I grew up in a Christian household, where I came to believe in God at around five years old. Growing up, it felt like faith was something that you could take or leave, depending on what more important thing was happening on any given Sunday. I thought that Christianity was mostly to do with rules – say, and do the right things, pray, read your Bible so that your standing with God and those around you will be good. I was influenced by prosperity teachings growing up, and by my mid-teens, I believed that anything I wanted could be mine if I had enough faith. That came to an end in my late-teen years. Several events happened in my life that left me doubting the goodness of God altogether. So, with a heart full of bitterness towards Him, I placed limits on my trust in Him. I still believed that He was real, and so was His Son, but because my own desires weren't being met, I pulled away. At 19, I met the man who would become my husband. He was not a believer, but he had people in his life who were praying for him. He did come to accept the Lord, and we married a year later.

While I did believe in God, I needed to disentangle from the bad theology I had learned, and meet the true God, and His Son, Jesus. In my 20s, I came to a point where I realized that I needed to return fully to Jesus, and place my trust in Him alone. So, I cried out to Him.

Jesus drew me back into His love, renewed my heart, and restored my incorrect ways of thinking. This was when true belief came to fruition. Now, I am learning how to take faithful steps of obedience through the power of the Holy Spirit. I have learned to trust in God's character, goodness, and love. Jesus is Lord, and He alone has saved me.





## **Kaden Schellenberg**

The first time I learned about God was through my family and through Northview. I liked when I first learned about God, but now I realize I loved when I learned about God and continue learning about Him and Christ. I first realized I was a sinner in need of a Savior, and that Jesus is the only one who could save me when I heard that he sacrificed his life to wash away my sin.

I became a Christian by believing Him, following Him and obeying Him. I'm responding to Jesus by being baptized and connecting with my church more. I'm learning more about the Bible and the story and life of Jesus. I'm growing by trying to read the Bible more and taking the next step in my faith by being baptized.

I want to be baptized because I want to obey God and what He commanded. I want to be born again in the image of Christ.





## Danny Froese

For my whole life I have lived in a very Christ centered home. I became a Christian at a young age, and I grew up going to a Christian school as well as attending church every weekend. God has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember.

From the moment my mom first really told me about Jesus and I became a Christian, my faith began to grow increasingly, as I slowly discovered more and more who Christ was. Some time in middle school, I heard a sermon that struck me about how the penalty for sin is death. I realized how sinful I am and about how gracious God is, to be willing to forgive time after time, and how He will always be there waiting for us to turn back to him, despite our sinful tendencies that cause us to run away. After that point, I really began to make my faith my own. It wasn't just something my parents were getting me to participate in anymore. I started to put more thought into my prayers, and I began to actually read the bible out of my own desire. Which helped me build a real relationship with God and motivated me to gain a deeper understanding of who He was.

Going to MEI and learning about the world around us from a Christian perspective really led me to admire God and everything that he has so purposefully created. His creation continues to surprise and amaze me every day.

I have been considering getting baptized for a few years now. I was always waiting for that one moment where it would hit me that I needed to get baptized. But recently I realized that's not how my walk with Christ has been, it's been one big building motion, not specific moments. So, I decided that I am at the point in my journey where it is time. I want to get baptized to officialise my faith and publicly declare who I serve.





## Danielle Haggerty

Growing up in a Christian home I've always had God in my life. I went to a Christian school, attended church and asked Him into my heart at a really young age but I feel I didn't truly know what it meant or understood the implications of what it is to be a professing and faithful Christian. As I grew up I continued to go to church, youth group, prayed before meals and bedtime and said I was a Christian but didn't really apply it to my heart or life; God was not in the forefront as He should have been but more like an afterthought. There was a time when I was around 11-12 years old where I felt doubt and that my faith was non-existent and honestly felt like a fraud. I evaluated why and if I was actually a Christian, if I really believed in Christ or if I believed because my parents believed and raised me in a Christian home. After quite a few months of struggling, searching, reading the bible and praying I re-dedicated my life and heart to God. I started to try and live showing Christ through my actions and words, attending bible studies, community group and church through my own choice to go and not just because my parents were going but because I had faith and Christ within me.

Currently I am learning to trust in God and His plan for me rather than just stumbling along on my own path and how I think things should happen. My husband and I had a miscarriage recently in 2020 which I really struggled with and still am affected by but I now have a beautiful 16 month old daughter who fills my life with joy, love and happiness. I can't ever imagine my life without her, she wouldn't be here or who she is today if I hadn't miscarried. In the moment I was only ever seeing a small thread but God who sees the whole tapestry has so much more planned for me. I have thought about publicly professing my faith in Christ by getting baptized many times over the years but found many excuses or reasons that would deter me from following through. Mostly I would feel led to get baptized, feel determined and excited, start looking at when the next class was but then as soon as it came time to fill out the form it's like I was stopped and couldn't move forward letting my anxiety overtake me putting it off saying to myself I'll do it a bit later today or tomorrow then letting life get in the way which was actually letting the enemy grab hold of me. We are called and instructed to be baptized; it is an act of obedience. Jesus is my Savior, I have faith and hope in Him that by through His death I have salvation; that all I need to do is give Him all of me, to not allow Satan to have any foothold and try to serve Him in every area of my life. I want to publicly declare my faith and commit my life to following Jesus, learning, leaning and growing in Him. My baptism is a step in my faith which I feel is long overdue but one that I am excited to make today.





## Greg Buckmaster

I was raised in a Christian home attending church every Sunday. I had accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour at summer bible camp. Growing up in the church and becoming a christian at a younger age, I found it all too easy to become content and lukewarm in my faith. I was blessed and was given a great christian wife and family, but the day to day pitfalls of the world and my sinful ways would lead me to keep God at an arm's reach instead of always placing Him first. Christian life became more of a routine for me than what God intended it to be. When the Holy Spirit spoke, I often chose not to listen. Knowing what to do was one thing, but actually doing it was something else. Despite my shortcomings God was always there for me.

I've wanted to take the next steps in my faith for a very long time but felt that I wasn't good enough or worthy enough. Despite my sinful ways the Holy Spirit kept pursuing me and kept bringing me back into His presence. The more I leaned on God and trusted in him, the more I realized that greater is He who is in me than he who is in the world.

Words cannot explain how truly awesome and incredible His Grace and love for me is. Praise be to God my Savior. I am so excited to be baptized, affirming my faith, and showing my heavenly father how much I love him and how thankful I am for all he has done for me. My desire is to follow Christ all of my life and to continue to grow in his ways.





## Judy Buckmaster

I didn't grow up in a Christian home. I attended a United church very sporadically with my mom while I was growing up and never really knew God. I first learned who God really was when I was a teenager and joined my older sister at her Full Gospel Church. It was at this church where I became involved in youth group and youth retreats. It was there that I met and accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour.

I married young and became a wife and mother, but I fell short placing God first and my walk with Him became idle. Attending church and hearing God's word made me realize I was missing out on a closer relationship with him. I wanted my relationship with God to grow but I often thought I wasn't worthy of his love and mercy.

God kept calling me and he made me realize how blessed I am and that no matter how many times I fall short of his goodness, He still loves me and is always there for me.

Today I want to take the outward step of baptism to show the inward reality that God is my Lord and Saviour. I choose God and wish to keep growing in His ways.



SUNDAY 11AM



## Sabrina Candeloro

I was raised in a loving Italian household and baptized Catholic as a baby. I am so grateful that my parents introduced me into a life of faith. My mom would take us to catechism and church, and she would sit on my bed and pray a simple thank you prayer for me before I went to sleep.

My dad passed away when I was 17 years old. I struggled with grief and felt lost in life as a teenager without a father. I was drawn to the Christian church when a friend invited me to a young adults group called Ethos. Aside from the support of my mom, who is my biggest earthly blessing, I began to realize that God was always there. He is the ultimate father who loves and cares for me and wants good things for me like it says in Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you. Plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future". When I experienced heartbreaks and betrayal, he was my strength. When I struggled with anxiety, panic attacks, and symptoms of depression, he was my hope. When I needed guidance, he was the light to my path. I saw prayer change things, and experienced his goodness, peace, and healing. I feel very blessed by God for my loving family and friendships.

In August 2022, I prayed a surrender prayer to God that changed my direction, opened my eyes to sin, and transformed me with a deeper and refreshed faith. God has healed me of suffering and given me hope and restored my purpose. As Psalm 40 states, "He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand."

I have been wanting to get baptized for years but was always hesitant; I am learning to let go and let God. I believe in my heart that Jesus is Lord and I desire to get baptized in his holy name. My intention for Baptism is to boldly declare that I am a follower of Jesus and that I choose to walk in his light for the rest of my days, to continually seek his kingdom, to pick up my cross daily, and hopefully inspire others along the way.





## **Richard Hamm**

My name is Richard. I'm an introvert, I like people, I just don't like being in crowds.

I have some very significant moments in my life that I can say with 100% surety that God has been involved and has been pursuing me.

I am a sinner and have sinned, I know that I am not worthy but also respect my Heavenly Father has forgiven my sins. I am trying to be a better person and learning to be a better Christian.

I do know that Baptism is my next big step towards a life with Jesus in my heart and soul.





## Hunter Dyck

Ever since I was born, I have been raised in a Christian household. My parents, grandparents, other family members, and friends had all told me about or mentioned God. Since I can remember, I've known about God and attended church on a regular basis. I'd always considered myself a Christian, but I never truly knew what it meant until I started going to middle school youth. Going to youth and hearing the weekly messages, along with the lessons we'd have on the weekends, were the biggest influences in my life that pushed me towards becoming a Christian. Reading the Bible and studying it with others was what made me realise that sin is a part of all humans and that we need to repent and follow God.

Since understanding Christianity, I've been growing in my faith and learning more about God and Christianity as a whole. I've learned that God is forgiving and that no matter what we do or how unforgivable we think something is, it can always be forgiven by God. I have been growing every day by reading the Bible, praying as often as possible, and by being faithful and living it out each and every day. Even my non-christian friends are understanding and accepting, and even ask questions about God and the Bible, allowing me to grow in my understanding and my faith by explaining all of it to others. However, I find that sticking to Bible reading and prayer, especially on busy days or when things aren't too difficult, is challenging. I tend to pray and read the Bible when I need advice or when I'm in a time of struggle, but it's difficult to remember that I still need to do those things even when life is going well.

I am being baptised today to confess my love to Jesus and to show everyone that I am a faithful Christian.





## Callie Enns

I was born into a Christian home, attended Sunday school and church each Sunday, and prayed with my parents every night before bed. I was surrounded by a family of strong believers - not only my parents, but my grandparents, aunts and uncles - all who prayed for me and encouraged me in my faith. I didn't always appreciate how blessed I was to have this growing up, or how abnormal this was.

But as I've grown up, I have come to realize that these constant prayers and this community of God-fearing people is an incredible display of God's providence in my life. I accepted Jesus when I was 5 years old, and from that moment on I never doubted that God was real. I was always a very black and white person, so it was always apparent to me that my faith was based in truth.

I struggled with the idea of baptism: why would I get baptized now, since I became a Christian when I was 5? What had changed? I didn't truly understand the point of getting baptized other than to do it because people said I should.

In attending baptism services at Northview, I began to feel personally convicted; that this was a step that I should be taking. It became less of something I should be doing for other people, and more of something I wanted to do because I was being called by God. Jesus demonstrated this act of obedience, and I knew it was time for me to do the same. This is a step towards deepening my relationship with God, & publicly committing my life to Christ.





## Ethan Rempel

I was born into a Christian family that attended Church. I learned many biblical stories growing up without actually being able to appreciate how incredible they are. At a very young age, so young I don't remember doing it, I prayed to accept Jesus into my life. During this time, I lived with my mother and father who had a lot of struggles in their marriage. I can remember there was a lot of shouting and many difficult days. I remember a lot of anger because of it. However, I feel that God worked through this situation and provided opportunities that I would not understand until much later in my life.

After my parents split, there was both a period of refreshing in my faith and also a wave of new challenges. I was a sinner. And although I don't remember a big "coming to God" moment, I know that I have fallen short many times and sought Jesus' forgiveness, grace, and mercy. A lot of my actions I look back now and regret. I still feel as though God was present during this time, but I also know I wasn't always taking my faith seriously. Growing up in a Christian school was in many ways a blessing and encouraging because I always had access to think on my faith and beliefs. In other ways, it became challenging to not be desensitized or forget the significance of what Jesus had done. Eventually, I graduated and was unsure what I wanted to pursue. I felt held back by my anxiety for the future instead of seeking God for guidance. Even now I have struggled with what I will do but I know Jesus will be present and will ultimately provide. During the summer after I graduated, I was able to attend Columbia Bible College. I would say that it was profoundly influential in my spiritual development. It drove me to dive deep into the word of God and study for myself. However, by the end of my first year, I was feeling burnt out. I felt committed at this point to God but I also was dealing with a number of personal problems. I am a sinner and I struggle with self control. I am ashamed of my actions and lack of actions.

Looking forward, I want to get baptized to publicly demonstrate that I am a follower of Jesus, my Lord and savior. I want to hold myself accountable and take seriously what Jesus has expressed and demonstrated.





## Paris Rempel

I first learned about God from my mom at a young age. Being raised in a Christian home there wasn't some big coming to Jesus' moment that stands out. But I do know I've rededicated my life and reencountered God since I was 4. Being raised with Christian family it's easy to get swept up and just say you're a Christian.

As I've grown though, I've been able to branch away and forge a personal relationship with God. I want to say that I realized that I was a sinner in need of a savior right away but I don't think I accepted and digested this right away. I accepted Jesus into my life at 4 but I don't think until middle school I fully realized I need saving. Jesus is the only one who could save me and after my parents divorce this became more real to me. I realized I sin and need saving not from my parents divorce but from myself and my sins. Even though it felt like everyone around me was making sinful decisions I realized ultimately that I need a savior too.

Every aspect of my life feels like a challenge right now but I am learning with each day to trust God more and rely less on myself. I am growing and trying to take a backseat and let Jesus take the reigns. To follow his will not my own. Rely on his strength not my own. I am responding to Jesus right now by speaking out my beliefs, praying and growing in him each day anew.

I want to be baptized because I want to follow God's commands, confess publicly that I am God's child and I am not ashamed. I know in my heart that baptism is a step in my Christian journey that should be taken. I love the Lord and I don't want that to be a secret, I want my life to be a testimony to him.





## Vienna Rempel

I was born into a Christian family where my parents and grandparents would always speak of Jesus. Ever since I can remember I have always heard and talked about God. At a young age I didn't fully comprehend God. I just knew he was a part of daily life. As it was normal for me to always go to church, do my prayers and read the bible. When I was about 4 or 5, I was talking with my mom and asked her if I could pray the prayer to ask Jesus into my heart. From there I went through some hard things in my life. Through all of this I tried to stay rooted in my faith. I started to realize I didn't have my own personal relationship with God.

More recently I feel I have been growing in a deeper relationship with him. Trying to make God my personal Lord and savior. I have been surrounding myself with Christian influences and doing my devotions daily. I know that I can't live this life on my own and need God to help me. I'm learning that even though I am a Christian, life isn't always going to be easy and perfect, but God will be with me.

I want to be baptized to take the next step in my faith journey. I want to show that I am dead to my sin and resurrected with Christ. Also, that God is in control. I want to proclaim that I am a Christian and intend to follow God for the rest of my days.





## **Curtis VanderZwan**

I am very blessed to have been raised in a christian home, and have been attending church my whole life. I asked Jesus into my life at a young age, and have done so again countless times, doubting if I really meant it the last time I asked. My faith was very childlike when I was younger where I didn't question the Bible, just accepted what I was taught by my parents, church, and school.

Through the later teen years my faith was stationary. I was piggybacking off my parents faith and others close to me. I was doing the bare minimum, going to church on Sundays, praying at the dinner table, and praying when I wanted something, enough to where I could still call myself a Christian. Although I did believe the Bible was the true word of God I had no interest investing my time in it and strengthening my relationship with God.

A couple years ago I knew I needed to make a change, putting the things of the world aside and focus on my relationship with Jesus. From that point things have not been perfect, but I have seen God work through me to help me make right decisions and give me comfort when in times of need. Recently it felt like I was spinning my tires with my faith not knowing what to do next. I thought about being baptized but held off cause I felt like I had to be in the right place spiritually but lately realized that wasn't the truth.

I am being baptized because I want to publicly proclaim Jesus as my Saviour.





## Wendi Munday

I first learned about God when I was 6 or 7. I started going to an Anglican church with my paternal grandmother. I would go to Sunday school downstairs while my grandma was upstairs. I decided I wanted to be baptized when I was around 12, so I participated in a ceremony and was sprinkled. I would love to believe it was because I felt God in my life but, looking back, I am not sure. When I started working at the age of 13 or 14 I stopped going to church.

I have always believed in God, always known there is something more powerful than us here on earth and that there will come a day of judgment for all of us on earth, but it didn't affect my life choices. Around 2010, I began seeking something more, and it took 11 years to find a church. Now that we are at Northview, I leave each week with the desire to learn more about Jesus Christ and how I can live a life free from sin. I know I have lived a sinful life and that I may still make missteps in my life, but I intend to live the rest of my life spreading his good news to others.

I am opening my arms to living a life with Jesus. I want to learn more and understand more. My belief is that the Bible is the greatest true story ever told. It is so great because, not only has it told us he is coming to save us and to forgive all our sins, but that through our faith and love for Jesus Christ, we will be given eternal life in Heaven. We will be with other Christians and God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in heaven. I want to be baptized again as I feel that I now understand the sacrifices Jesus made to save humanity from our numerous sins and I want everyone to know.

This is a true testament of forgiveness from our God, Jesus Christ. I want to spread his news, the good news, about having an eternal life in Heaven with God, the Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ. Through asking for forgiveness of our sins from our lord God, Jesus Christ and being forgiven by them, eternal life is the prize at the end of the rainbow. I am eager to share this great news with others.





## Michelle Ndizeye

I first learned about God from my parents. I had the fortunate experience of being born and growing up in Christian household. My parents always made sure to teach us about God and push us to also build our own relationship with Him. I always went to church on Sundays and served mostly in Children's Ministry but this did not become personal until my last year of university. It's where I decided to be more intentional in building and walking with God.

I realized I was a sinner in need of a Savior, when I would not cease rebelling against His Word or instructions to me for my life. I realized that the consequences of some of my decisions were due to my disobedience to Him. God would speak to me, give me advice and would call me closer to Him, but I kept resisting. By doing so, I was also letting in feelings of depression, self-doubt, fear, and confusion. All of those feelings are not from Him. The only times I would feel peace was when I would pray or listen to the song "No longer slaves to fear". Those times were reminders of who He is and what He can do. As hard as those moments were, they drew me closer to Him.

Right now, I am learning to listen, trust and act upon only His instructions and being patient. I am a planner. I like being organized and planning my next 2 steps before finishing the first one. Typically, I would plan then pray about my plan. It has now been a process of learning to pray first, then plan according to what He tells me and trusting and being patient even when I don't understand the plan. I want to learn to obey and to trust because He's never let me down every time I do.

I want to be baptized and publicly declare Jesus as my Lord and Savior. It's a way for me to make a public commitment to grow and follow Christ. This will also help in keeping me accountable for my actions and walk with Christ. I have always told myself that I will wait for the right time or wait until I reach a certain level in my spiritual walk. This is aiming at perfection which is impossible to reach. I am ready and want to make this commitment and declaration publicly now.





## Liam Dyck

I first learned about God in Sunday school, when I was around 6 or 7. It was that day that some leaders helped me to accept Jesus into my heart. Growing up my home and background was strong Christian, and at home I could grow my faith and ask questions and talk to my family about Jesus and Christianity.

I go to MEI, a Christian school where I am surrounded by a good friend group and education. During middle school, it felt a little like I was associating reading the Bible, and sometimes praying as homework, and at the time I didn't fully grasp what it meant to my faith. I didn't want to be lukewarm in my faith, and thankfully I had a supportive friend group and youth group to really help further my faith.

I realized being a Christian is being active in the faith, it is a relationship with God. I was more consistent in my relationship with God and I grew a lot. I feel that I want to take a bigger step in my spiritual journey by being baptized, and I can think of no reason that I should not. Every time I see people get baptized at church, I think I really want to do that, and grow closer to God and publicly declare my faith.





## Lily Maza

I was born into a loving Christian family and I grew up in the church. I attended Gems and youth all throughout my life. As well, I went to a Christian school surrounded by awesome mentors and teachers. I have lived all my life in a large Christian community, and I've always known the Lord to be the creator of the universe and my savior.

The way that I saw Jesus and knew he was my savior was that I have seen him work in so many people's lives, and he has blessed my family so much. Jesus has always been a part of my life and has helped me through countless stressful moments. I became a Christian when I was young, but accepted the faith for my own in grade 10 or 11, that was when I had some really good teachers show me how to walk a Christian life and I began to dive into the word on my own.

In the past while as I have left my Christian high school and started public university I felt as though my faith had become stagnant and easy and I was not doing much to pursue the word. Recently I have been attending the young adults and my faith has already been challenged and begun to move and grow.

I want to be baptized because I have been wanting to do it for a long time, but it never felt right. However, as I began to think about it again things started to be put in motion. In the shapes of friends, mentors, and in young adults, people were bringing up baptism. Finally, it feels like a door has been opened and that God is telling me there's no reason to wait anymore.





## Yobdee Marazzi

Ever since I came to Canada and was adopted into the Marazzi family, the word Jesus, our father, and savior became a part of my vocabulary pretty quickly. Sunday school, little devotions before bed when I slept over at my cousin's house and coloring books my aunt and uncle would give me of Jesus' disciples. Of course, I was a child so I never really understood who this amazing figure was that my family was worshipping. Fast forward into grade 8, I got interested in faith and religion as I was enrolled into a Christian school and everyone was claiming they were christian. During that period, I had medical issues, and spending lots of trips to ERs and doctors' offices became the norm for me. It was upsetting and depressing, and that was when I reached out to my uncle as he strongly believed in Christ and asked for wisdom. He helped show me what it was like to live as a follower in faith and stand tall when life gets rocky. October 8th is the day I decided to fully devote myself and it has been the best decision ever. During that medical dilemma, I realized that I'm not just broken because of my medical issues but my heart was the one that was broken. I took time to look back on how I treated others, dealt with situations, and even treated myself and realized I'm broken, deathful and nobody else can save me except the one that died for me to be set free. Even though I have asked for forgiveness, I am still a human being that constantly makes mistakes but I'm learning every day to improve. Jesus has spoken through me by being a leader in kids ministry and a new journey in a mission trip I will be taking to glorify and honor him. Although those are huge steps, I tend to struggle in remembering he is always in control as new things for me can be hard. remembering he is in control in my everyday conversations and acts is crazy to think but that is something I'm working on. You ask why I want to be baptized, well everyone has their unique story of how God showed up in their lives, mine was my adoption. There was a girl before me that was adopted but unfortunately she didn't make it due to bacteria in her body. That was when I came into the picture. it could have easily been any other kid in my orphanage, but he chose me. if it weren't for him, I could easily be on the streets begging for food or probably wouldn't make it till my 10th birthday. My story confirms that he chose me, as my mom would say "hand-picked me" specially and placed me into a family that followed him. I believe that I have been saved by my Lord and Savior that died on the cross for me to live an eternal life with him. I believe he chose me, I'm made in his image. I want people to know how God has my whole heart as he is my life. I know I'm not perfect and will make many mistakes but through Christ he has restored me.





## Colby Bessette

As early as I can remember God has been known to me. My mom would read the bible to me most nights and we would always pray before meals, we would attend church regularly. When I was old enough to understand a bit more about the bible and being a Christian, I began to fear death or what happened after death. I knew there was heaven and hell but I was scared for both, my sins scared me because I thought I was headed for hell, and when I thought of heaven; living somewhere for an eternity was terrifying. This fear led me to fear God for a long time.

I was 12 years old when I accepted Christ into my heart. Crying in my bed one night at the creation He has given us, and how we people are so unworthy of His love and grace. I realized that night, that I was going to follow Jesus for the rest of my days.

Fast forward to today, my journey with Christ has become intentional and real because of the struggles and temptations I am faced with living in a broken world. I know God will always provide and that He is the only one who can satisfy, even when my flesh tells me otherwise. God has been teaching me recently to take up my cross and choose Him. Daily I am reminded by my actions that I am seeking satisfaction in the wrong places, knowing that I have a loving Heavenly Father that always has His arms open for me. Leaving highschool I've had so much growth in my spiritual identity, building Godly characteristics for the man I will become.

I feel and hope to see more growth in the choice of being baptized, for so long I was fearful of being baptized, not knowing why. The Lord has pressed this on my heart that I am confident in what I believe and that this is the next step for me in my walk with God.





## Charlotte Dyck

I grew up in a Christian home surrounded by god-loving people. I've always been a Christian but I officially accepted Jesus into my heart at age 7. Throughout my life there's been many times where I felt like I should fight my struggles by myself and deal with things my own way. I felt like I didn't want to ask God for help. In doing that I realized that when I tried to fight my battles alone all those struggles were the heaviest and doubt seemed to outshine the joy and hope in my life. But time and time again God showed me his mercy and unconditional love and has answered countless prayers.

Having God be the very foundation and light in my life has only brought me pure joy and he has truly blessed me abundantly. I've learned that joy is different from happiness. Because happiness is based on what's happening and joy is part of God's character. Pure joy gives you the ability to remain Hopeful even in desperate times because of the truth of God's unfailing love and glorious Provision.

So, today I want to be baptized because from now on and for the rest of my life I want to live each day trying to become more christ-like and to trust in him wholeheartedly. I want everyone to be able to experience and feel real joy and the only way to do that is by spreading God's word and by showing and demonstrating His love and my desire is that I can spread love and joy to those around me.

A verse that has been engraved in me is Romans 15:13 which says "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."





## Taylor Schleppe

Growing up, my family didn't attend church all that regularly. We started going to Northview when I was in grade 2, encouraged by my mom, however we grew busy and stopped making the time for it. I followed through the motions of doing "Christian things", the things that I thought you should and should not do; however I did not know God, I just knew about Him.

When I was 16, almost overnight I decided to start prioritizing God more in my life. I didn't have many friends that believed in God and I hadn't attended church in a long time, but I knew that I wanted to make it a regular part of my life. I knew that to live was to sin, but to believe in Him was to be saved. I told my mom that I wanted to start going to church again, and she excitedly agreed to go together on Sunday mornings. Since then, my relationship with God has continued to grow and develop, and I continue to make Him a priority in my life.

I want to get baptized to publicly profess my faith in Christ, and to formally commit myself to Him. I want to grow with Him in His death and resurrection, and to celebrate a new life in Christ.





## Myra Gale

When I was around the age of four, I accepted Jesus into my life as my Lord and Savior. Although, it was not until my middle school years when my faith started to act up. COVID-19 hit when I was in grade seven. Throughout the rest of grade seven and all of grade eight, my mental health really deteriorated. I started to struggle with anxiety and stress and it eventually led to depression. This lasted through the rest of middle school and the most heartbreaking part about my depression is that God was not in the centre of it at all. I called myself a Christian, but my actions and words really said something completely different from what I proclaimed I was. I cussed, listened to terrible music, and did not live accordingly.

It wasn't until I did the Northview Summer Day Camps that I actually started to take my faith seriously. I worked at Northview for the month of July and that really opened my eyes to see that I needed God. I let Jesus take the wheel and made more of an effort to glorify Him throughout grade 9.

The summer going into grade ten, I did the Northview Summer Day Camps again and that's really when God opened my eyes. I went to God as I was and asked Him to take me as I was; a sinner and someone who needs Him.

Since then, I have made more of an effort to love those who are hard to love, treat people with kindness and respect, and to live according to how Christ tells me to live. Through this journey that Jesus and I have had, I have also learned that nothing and no one can separate us from the love of God! (Romans 8:39)





## **Kate Lertrujikal**

I was born in Thailand where Christianity is not a big community. I was introduced to Christianity when I was in grade 4 when I attended a Catholic school. I did not put Jesus in my heart at all when I was there. I had heard the story about Him but didn't really believe in Him.

Then later in 2021 I had made a huge decision which was moving away from my family to be here in Canada. My life was completely changed when I actually got to learn about Jesus. I get such a good opportunity to be involved in many Christian communities. I go to Langley Christian for school. I go to NorthView for youth. I go to SouthRidge for Sunday church. I get to live with my lovely Christian home-stay family.

Looking back throughout my life, I realized "Wow... this must be planned out by someone." And now I got the answer that that someone is God.

My faith has grown more and more everyday since I opened my heart for Him. I had made so many decisions since I became Christian. I have been questioned many times about my beliefs. I got rejected many times when I spread the Gospel. Being a Christian is so hard but there is one thing I know I would never ever regret, it is my choice of following Jesus.

I am so thankful for having Jesus in my life. He has answers for everything. He is my answer for everything. I also want to thank my friends and families for helping me grow my faith. I know that no matter what is going on in my life and how hard it is going to be, I will always run to the Father. I do not have to hide anymore for now I am found by Jesus.





## Caleb Warkentin

I have grown up in a Christian family. My parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles are all strong in the faith and encourage me. My parents made me memorize Bible verses since I could first talk, and I knew all of the Bible stories. I became a Christian at a very young age.

After that, I continued on in my elementary school life, gradually growing in my faith, and then a family member got cancer. That was when my faith took a leap. I truly saw that God always hears my prayers. When the cancer was gone, I didn't stop praying. I continued to pray whenever I needed help, or I felt thankful or amazed by the world God created. I also learned from the way my family dealt with the cancer. They didn't blame God, or get mad at Him, but they grew stronger in their faith, and trusted in his plan, even though it was really difficult.

I am in a family of four boys, and that has had some serious challenges. I am constantly being tested, and I fail miserably way too often. My struggle to be kind and have peace with my brothers has really taught me that I am a sinner, and that I need God's forgiveness and help every single day. I know that I can do nothing on my own, and that Jesus is the only one who can forgive my sins. I am trying to read my Bible every day, and I know he speaks to me and works in me through it.

I want to get baptized as a symbol of my faith, and my new life with Christ. I want to take the next step in my faith journey, and publicly declare that I belong to God. I want to die to myself and live in Christ because I know that He is the only way to eternal life.





## Mikayla Roos

I accepted Christ into my life at the age of 14. I always knew Christ and have been attending church since I was born. I go to youth and I am a volunteer in Sunday school.

Throughout my life, I always knew I was sinning and that I have made mistakes but it didn't concern me, I consistently knew that God forgives me and life is good. One night I could barely sleep thinking how this year has ended up, there was a loss in my family and I stood up and prayed for a while I didn't know when to stop, until I got chill running up my back and it kinda woke me up a little, thinking about what my life would be like without Christ. Thinking about the mistakes I have made and that I don't know how God can forgive me, but He still wants me. He still wants me even though mistakes are what I am made out of. God loves me and everyone else, that is nothing that would change.

This doesn't mean I can do whatever I want because I am loved by Christ, there is a day when everyone will be judged. All we can do is show the fruits of the spirit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. And when I was in G.E.M our theme verse was Micah 6:8 Act justly love mercy and walk humbly with our God.

“With our God” not just God but He is calling us to do the same because we are His children, and we are too supposed to share the good news that we are saved.





## Avery Tomlin

I first learned about God when I was very young. I grew up in a Christian home and went to Church. I learned a lot about the Bible at home through my parents and at Church. I grew up believing in Christ, but I don't think I fully understood until sometime in early middle school. I remember staying up late one night listening to Christian music, and I just started crying. I felt the weight of my sins on me. I was in awe of a God who knew my sin but still was willing to love me, forgive me and die so that those sins are washed clean. I confessed that night of my sins, admitted that I believed Jesus was who he said he was, died for my sins and rose again.

My faith since that moment has only grown. Recently, I started going to youth and joined a Bible study. I love being in community with other believers and having the ability to have impactful conversations with them. I love seeing God work. Through other people and through prayer. It's such a blessing. I've been learning a lot this year. I've always struggled with prayer, but God has shown me that it should be a vital part of my life.

I try my best to be in prayer throughout the day. I love the saying, "Pray about it as much as you think about it." It's crazy how much prayer can calm nerves, provide strength and lead to understanding. I thank God for challenging me to strengthen this part of my faith. I want to get baptized to draw closer to God and as a public declaration of what I believe. I am so excited to see the plans that God has.





## Nevaeh Letourneau

Growing up in a Christian home, I have been lucky enough to always know who God is. However, my faith was not my own; it was my parents faith that I had just adopted.

When I was about five years old I remember sitting in Sunday school hearing John 3:16 for what felt like the first time and I remember thinking that I wanted to be saved. So, after the lesson I asked how to be saved and then I asked Jesus Christ into my heart. I always knew that I was sinning, but I never thought of myself as a sinner until recently. I always thought that sinners were people who did not believe in God or just ignored him, but we are all sinners. But because I asked Jesus into my heart I am saved because God sent his one and only son to die for my sins.

Recently I have become much stronger in my faith. I find myself turning on Christian music instead of secular, I find myself wanting to watch Christian movies, and recently through a school assignment I have found a love for reading my Bible and have been keeping a journal of all I am learning.

I am a child of a broken home as my parents got divorced when I was around eight years old. Being older the divorce was hard on me because I knew something was missing but I didn't understand why. Until recently I struggled with depression as a result of my parents divorce but through Christ I found my way out.

I want to get baptized because I want to embrace that I am a child of the heavenly father and I want to become closer and continue to grow my relationship with God.





## Isaac Reimer

I have known Jesus all my life. I grew up in a christian home sounded by christian family and friends. and I used to think of baptism as something you can only do if you are at a certain point in your life and if you are super perfect. But after asking Jesus into my heart when I was seven years old I sort of lived my life still going to church, going to Sunday school reading my bible here and there without the thought of baptism or really committing to Jesus. But since this last year I have seen so many of my friends and cousins get baptized and it has had a massive impact on my heart and mind saying i want to embrace the love and word of god with a deeper understanding and focus of his life and take initiative in my life toward him to start another section of my life and to be a light and a mentor to all of my younger siblings cousins and friends to declare that I will follow Jesus through my whole life and take my next step in my relationship with him.



If you or someone you know is interested in getting baptized,  
visit [northview.org/baptism](http://northview.org/baptism) for more information.



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