



TESTIMONIES

WINTER 2025



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. The Story 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 full and meaningful life now and eternally to those who have faith, (believe that Jesus is the son of God) and who 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; recognizing and turning 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.

DOWNES ROAD LOCATION

Testimonies

Saturday

4PM

Mariah Balint
Benjamin Falconer
Rahul Bajaj
Megan Bartsch
Isabella Hutchison
Noah Reddicopp

6PM

Jolee Noel
Kirsten Sahota

DOWNES ROAD LOCATION

Testimonies

Sunday

9AM Jaelyn Marchioro
Evan Heppner
Lola Reimer
Rachel Roos
Josie Tecklenborg
Jesse Land
Kaitlyn Zandstra
Conner Piers
Danae Barkman
Mary-Kate Stobbe
Lavinia Warkentin
Katelyn Hildebrandt

11AM Sarah Friesen
Sophia Friesen
Addison Halliday
Rain Jacob
Wyatt Goulet
Hannah Stobbe
Quynn Peters
Stefan Terrace

March 1, 2025

Saturday • 4PM

Downes Road Location



Mariah Balint

Baptized By: Attila Balint (Dad)

I first learned about God at home from my mom and dad, being raised in a Christian home and going to a Christian school. I have always been taught about Jesus, and I love learning about His patient love. I realized I was a sinner in need of Jesus when I was 5 in kindergarten during chapel at M.E.I., and I knew that I wanted to live with Jesus forever. I said a prayer along the lines of "God, I need you to take away my sins and live in my heart forever."

As of the past 3 years during middle school, I realized that I need God so much more than I actually realize. I am learning that God is super gracious, and His love is beyond limits. I am also learning that God is supernatural and very intentional. I am growing by seeing Him in everything I do and in creation, but also by showing others love and patience to the best of my abilities. I am being challenged to obey Him through the people I interact with on the soccer field, school and at home.

I find it hard to get along with others sometimes, and I ask God daily for Him to shine His light through me so when they talk to me they think, "Something is different about her" and hopefully question it more.

I want to be baptized because I know it marks and publicly declares the new start of my relationship with God, but also because at this current point in my life I am seeing how I am a sinner and how much I need to be saved.





Benjamin Falconer

Baptized By: Jesse Falconer (Dad)

I was born into a Christian family, and I have been going to Church for as long as I can remember. I realized that I was a sinner when I was around 9 ½ years old and thought, I am a sinner, because everyone sins.

I am responding to Jesus by thanking Him and praising Him for what He has done, and I am learning a lot about spiritual growth, and the right and wrong things to do. I am growing a lot because I have been talking to God a lot lately. I am challenged to obey Him with things like not getting frustrated or mad at family or mad at myself for messing up.

I want to be baptized because I want to solidify my relationship with God, and confess that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior. I was thinking about getting baptized a lot in 2024 but I wasn't sure and I asked God if He would let me know when it was time for me to get baptized, and when He did, I would get baptized; and He did. He let me know. I just felt it in my heart and in the things that were happening in my life.

Over the past few months God has been working in my life a lot, and my spiritual growth has been affected by that, and before I decided to get baptized my mind was on it a lot, and God helped me with that. I am very thankful for that. I have really wanted to get baptized, and I am very excited!

One of my favourite Bible verses is Proverbs 3:5 "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding." I remember it when I am having a hard time, and it really helps a lot.





Rahul Bajaj

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Wilson

For the most part of my life I have believed in God. I did not look into other religions too much, I used to be very dismissive when people used to talk to me about religions.

A few months ago, I started looking into the evidence of The Holy Bible and Jesus and I realized that the evidence is very overwhelming and it became very clear to me that Jesus is God.

After reading the Gospels and getting to know Jesus I was able to realize how beautiful He is. I love how He is so kind and forgiving while remaining just.

I have also learned how sin and unforgiveness separates us from God. After accepting Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, repenting from my sins and forgiving everyone I feel much better in all ways. I feel much healthier, joyful and more connected to God.

I want to get baptized because I am a follower of Jesus.





Megan Bartsch

Baptized By: Jessica Postma (Friend)

I first learned about God at a very young age. I have been a believer since a young child. I was raised in a Christian home and attending church was a big part of my life.

I invited Jesus into my heart when I was camping and I said the prayer with my mom, I was around 5 years old. My faith was strong and was what I knew. My mom and my aunts were the closest family members to me and were faithful believers and would often mention God and His love for us and that I am loved by a Heavenly Father. Growing up I was blessed to have many Christian friends, we always had fun going to youth group, singing in the choir and going to overnight bible camps. I also attended a Christian high school.

Along life's journey I've come to learn that there are many things in life that are out of my control. I've learned (and am still learning) to trust God's timing and with that, have gained so much peace and contentment over my life. I don't know why I haven't been baptized until now, but I've realized that I need to, and as I continue to grow in my faith, that this should be a part of it.

Now that I am a wife and a mom I feel that God is deepening my faith. I want to be an example for my kids, my family and friends and show them that I want to do everything I can to follow Jesus and be obedient. The best way I know how right now is to be baptized. It is something I've been wanting to do for practically my entire life, and I'm so thankful that now is the time!





Isabella Hutchison

Baptized By: Scott Hutchison (Dad)

Ever since I was a baby, my parents read the Bible to me and taught me about God. I learned that Jesus loves me and laid down His life for me to save me.

When I was very young, I learned that there is nothing I can do to earn my place in Heaven. Because I had sinned, I knew that I could not be with a Holy God. I am so grateful to know that Jesus being fully God and fully man lived the perfect life, and died in my place and He rose on the third day according to the scriptures. And as the Bible says in Romans 10:9 "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."

I want to know Him more. I am studying my Bible with Precept on Monday nights with the ladies of Northview. I am attending Northview, serving in the nursery on Sundays and Saturday evenings I serve with LIT on the tech team. I am also attending Awana on Wednesdays where I focus on memorizing scripture. All of this is because I want to listen to what Jesus is saying, and do what He says.

I want to be baptized because I want to show everyone that I am a Christian and that they can be one too.





Noah Reddicopp

Baptized By: Dean Reddicopp (Dad)

I was raised in a Christian home, and I learned about God from my family and at school. I was always involved with God through church. I was about 5 years old when I first realized that I was a sinner and needed forgiveness. So, I accepted Jesus into my heart with my family.

I'm learning right now how to lead by example and to live my life as Christ-like as I can. I'm growing in my relationship with God by reading my Bible and praying to Him for wisdom every day. I'm challenged sometimes by not wanting to always live my life according to the Bible, but I know that God is in control of everything and if I ask for His help, He will help me when I face temptation. And when I do sin, I know if I confess my sins, He is faithful and just to forgive my sin and cleanse me of all unrighteousness.

I want to get baptized because I feel that God has put this on my heart for a long time. I feel like this is the next step in my Christian journey and my walk with God. I believe with all my heart that Jesus is my Lord and Saviour, and I know that God has great plans for my life. As it says in Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." I believe that God has a hope and a future for me, and I want to live my life in His plans.



March 1, 2025

Saturday • 6PM

Downes Road Location



Jolee Noel

Baptized By: Alaya Sales (Youth Leader)

I was very little when I first started learning about God. Growing up in a home with one Christian parent, we did talk about God, read Bible stories and listened to Christian music. I was around 5 years old when I had the first basic understanding that I was a sinner and could ask Jesus to come into my heart and be the core foundation of my life.

But when I was around 13, I was starting to deal with anxiety a lot more and I reached out to God for comfort. I started reading the Bible more and asking questions about God. Recently, in the Bible study I have with my friends, one of the girls said something that has stuck in my mind about having courage and boldness through God to help us get through the hard times, instead of asking Him to get rid of our battles. We don't have control over every situation, which is very hard for me to be content with sometimes, but God knows what's ahead even if we don't, and we need to trust Him because He has a greater plan.

In the area of anxiety, I have to give it over to Him daily, knowing that He can carry all my fears for me and that I don't need to worry about what's to come. For me, being baptized means declaring my faith to God and to everyone around me. That I'm choosing to have God as the center of my life now, and for my future.





Kirsten Sahota

Baptized By: Bally Sahota (Husband)

I was raised as a devout Jehovah's Witness (JW), believing that the Bible was the word of God, and spending my late teens and whole 20's in full time preaching work. I always believed that Jesus was my saviour, but since JWs we are not encouraged to seek closeness with Him I felt distant from Him; I even remember as a kid feeling bad and crying about His death not meaning enough or touching me enough.

In the past few years, alongside my husband, through reading the Bible on its own (particularly the Gospels and the book of Acts) I've seen that Jesus is much more than just a way to get to the Father - He is also worthy of honour and praise, He is someone I can feel close to, and someone that I desperately need because I am a sinner, which I'm much more aware of now. I also realized that Jesus opened the way for not just a select few, but for ME to have the hope of Heaven.

My husband and I have made decisions that have caused changes to lifelong relationships, and it has not been easy for anyone involved. But I feel that I can't ignore that God has been pulling me, even against my own will at times, to these new understandings. It's my prayer that one day these loved ones will at least understand our actions, or, with the help of the Holy Spirit, also come to realize the same things we have.

I was baptized as a witness when I was 15, but not in the name of the Father Son and Holy Spirit, so throughout this whole shift in our life, I started to feel that my baptism wasn't in line with the way Jesus commanded.

My husband Bally is baptizing me - he was always the one who would make sure we did our Bible reading regularly, dug deeper, asking questions and not blindly accepting; I'm so thankful that God has used Bally's prayers and help so that I could have the courage to get to where I am today.



March 2, 2025

Sunday • 9AM

Downes Road Location



Jaelyn Marchioro

Baptized By: Skylar Marshall (Youth Leader)

I grew up in a Christian household and ever since I was old enough to actually know who Jesus is I had been a very lukewarm Christian, and I never really cared to have a relationship with God except for at camp.

In middle school I got into some friendships that were bad influences on me and ended up pulling me further away from God than I already was. During grade 8 I had put all my attention into trying to fit in because I thought that's what would fulfill me but it left me feeling emptier than before. The summer going into grade 9 I went to camp but I really just felt pain and anger and didn't understand why. I wasn't feeling the same connection to God that I had in previous years and that's when I knew that there was something really wrong with my heart and that I needed to change.

At the start of grade 9 one of my friends invited me to youth. That's when I finally started to put an effort into my relationship with God. Ever since then my walk with Jesus has taught me that when I go through my highs and lows He will always be with me and He is sovereign.

I'm getting baptized to show everyone that I want to spend the rest of my life following Him.





Evan Heppner

Baptized By: Colby Bessette (Youth Leader)

I was born into a Christian family, and I have grown up going to church and following God in my home. My parents helped me learn about the Lord since I was young, and they helped me accept Jesus into my heart when I was six.

In the last couple of years, I have started to figure out what it really means to follow Him. I have learned that even though I'm a sinner, God will always be there offering forgiveness for all my sins. I have been learning a lot recently about how forgiving God is. High school has brought many challenges, and I have always had God by my side, helping me think forwards and not back at my sins.

I read my Bible every day to continue learning more about Him. I have been opening up about my life more with friends and leaders in my life to help me grow more faithful. I have a lot of non-Christian friends, and I am being challenged as they act in ways that can lead me astray from God. It can be difficult to resist all the temptations that come with this.

I wish to be baptized to show that I am giving my life to the Lord. My faith is in the Lord, as I know He is the one and only God and salvation is gained only through Him. I believe this big step in my faith will help motivate me to continue growing a deeper faith in the Lord.





Lola Reimer

Baptized By: Nathan Reimer (Dad)

I have grown up in a Christian home and have been going to church, I was just like all the other kids who went to Sunday school but not knowing much about Jesus and going along with it. I have grown up learning about God and my family has definitely helped me along the way. I have learned and am still learning so much about Him and how He works in my life. I have let God take control of my life because I know that I can trust Him and His plan for me.

I want to get baptized because I want to publicly declare that I am a child of God, and I want to follow him. In Acts 2:38 it says, and Peter said to them, "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." I always thought that something big needed to happen in my life to finally make this decision. It says in the Bible "believe and be baptized" and this is me wanting to share that I am a follower of Christ and am wanting to give my life to Him. It has taken me a while to take this step in my life but finally after praying about it and asking God when the right moment is I believe He is telling me now is the time that I should be baptized.





Rachel Roos

Baptized By: Taylor Visser (Past Youth Leader)

Growing up in a Christian home, going to church for Sunday services was a normal part of my life. I never really questioned my faith, and I would tell others I was a Christian, even though I didn't fully understand what that meant. However, as I went through some very tough and challenging moments - dealing with friends, school struggles, the loss of a loved one, and questioning my own faith and existence - I reached a point where I felt that life would be easier if I just wasn't alive. I didn't share what I was going through with anyone because I felt this overwhelming need to appear perfect. The pressure of keeping up this image made me feel isolated and alone, even though I was surrounded by people.

One night, overwhelmed with emotion and sitting in the darkness of my room, crying, something changed. In the midst of that darkness, I felt this warm, comforting presence surround me - an undeniable feeling of peace and love. In that moment, I knew it was Jesus reaching out to me. That night, I made the choice to accept Him into my life, right then and there.

Since then, I've been responding to His love by praying for others and boldly sharing my faith with those around me. It's been a journey of growth and learning how to reflect my faith in all that I do, especially as I navigate the daily challenges of being a teenager. Through all of it, I've come to deeply appreciate a verse that resonates with me: Psalm 46:5, "God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day." This verse has been a constant reminder of God's strength and presence in my life, even when things feel uncertain.

The reason I want to get baptized is because I know I wouldn't be here today without Him. He was there for me when no one else was, and I want to publicly declare my faith in Him. Baptism is a way for me to honour what Jesus has done in my life and to show my commitment to walking with Him every day. It's a declaration that He is my Saviour, and I am ready to follow Him fully.





Josie Tecklenborg

Baptized By: Ella Tecklenborg (Sister)

I grew up hearing about God, but it wasn't until I was older that I truly got to know Him. My family went to church every Sunday for a few years, but to me, God was just a distant figure I'd get angry with or question. It wasn't until my sister Ella started taking me to church in ninth grade that things began to change. That year, my life felt like it was falling apart. All the things I had idolized—my appearance, grades, personality and the approval of others—started slipping away.

That year, I also began facing health issues that shook the foundation of everything I thought I knew. My hair started falling out, I was constantly tired and stressed, and I started losing friends. It was a hard time, and I honestly didn't know who I was anymore. I was also struggling with a deep, unresolved pain from my childhood. My family lost a child before me, and I was always told how much of a blessing I was to have been born. But I couldn't shake the feeling that I didn't deserve it. I'd get angry at God, asking why I was the one who lived. This burden weighed on me for years, and it all came to a head in tenth grade when I started having panic attacks almost daily. I questioned if I was enough.

The only things that brought me any peace were my mom's support and the comfort of the church. Slowly, the message of the gospel started to sink in. During a mission trip with my school, a leader and my bunk group prayed with me during one of my panic attacks. In that moment, I felt a rush of calm I'd never experienced before. Since then, my anxiety has lessened, and I've learned to turn to God for refuge.

Every day I'm learning to follow Him. The One I once questioned and even cursed is the One who has saved me. I want to be baptized because I've realized that I can't do this on my own. I've come to understand that God deeply cares for His people, and I want to publicly declare my trust in Him.





Kaitlyn Zandstra

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I started learning about God from a very young age. Mostly from my parents and family, and then from kids church and school. I've always been surrounded by Christian communities and taught Christian values.

I realized I needed Jesus when I was in Elementary school. I don't remember the exact moment I asked Jesus into my heart but I know that I would pray about it at night before I went to sleep. I thought it was so cool that someone would die for me, and take all my burdens off my shoulders. It was a hard concept for me to grasp but I'm a very curious person so I wasn't afraid to ask questions. Later in life, I started to ask God more consistently to be a part of my life, kind of like I was renewing a contract. I felt like I had to know for certain that I would be saved. I turned to God's Word for reassurance and found that Romans 10:9 was helpful. It says "if you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved". This was what I needed to hear to know that God hadn't forgotten about me and I was still His child, even if I drifted away for a while.

I would say that up until I went to Bible school I had a "childlike" faith. I knew I believed in God and had good morals and wanted to be a better person but I never made my faith my own. I feel like God transformed the way I view relationship with Him throughout these last few years. I had a desire to turn to Him on my own and to be diligent in praying and making time for Him. I was fascinated by all of the deep questions and insights that others asked and felt like I had to get to know God better after all He sacrificed for me. I think that this is when my Christian life took a pivotal turn for the better.

I feel that God has really been encouraging me lately to live in community with other people and to extend grace, empathy and second chances. God has been putting it on my heart to reconnect with people who I used to be close to, and it's really shown me that He is so good and is working in other people's hearts. This has helped me heal from old wounds and to have a fresh start. I'm learning that God will always provide and he often surprises me in ways I don't expect. God has been giving me a spirit of peace and has been calming my anxieties about situations that I'd normally be stressed about. He has been challenging me to be diligent. When things get tough, instead of giving up or being hard on myself, I feel reassured that God is my strength when I can't be strong. This makes some days difficult to get through, but it is worth it to know that I've put my best work in and tried my hardest.

I want to be baptized because I feel it is the next step of my journey with the Lord. I have thought about it for a long time and contemplated it every time the opportunity came up. I feel it is time to take the step of publicly proclaiming that I'm a follower of Jesus and have been made new through this love and selflessness.





Jesse Land

Baptized By: Stephen Helgeson (Mentor)

I first learned about Jesus at a very young age. My family was Christian, I attended church, and went to a Christian school from kindergarten to grade twelve. Many of my childhood family and friends were involved with the church and the school. I learned about God through children's books, cartoons, teachings of Jesus at school, and talks with family and friends. I knew a lot about the story of Jesus, but did not know who Jesus was on a personal level. I did not know who the historical man was, and WHY I needed Him. I also did not know what Jesus had already done for me.

Growing up in a Christian school I looked at the Bible like just another homework assignment that I was failing in. I didn't really study it, I struggled with reading it and did not really show any interest in learning about it. I was more interested in playing sports, being outside and hanging with my friends. As a young adult I rebelled against God. I did not want to be told what to do, I felt like being Christian was corny. Christianity felt like just more rules. I was living life fast and recklessly and constantly running into trouble. During this time I lost my mother to cancer. After everything she went through, she was overwhelmingly filled with a sense of peace and had the strongest belief that Jesus was with her and she was going to be ok. She was not afraid at all. Her outstanding faith stuck with me.

I realized years later, God's Word is not to punish you, but to save you. He died for us, so we don't have to pay the wage of death. If we repent of our sins and have faith in him, He will make everything new. He is the only one who transcended death, and we can't get our salvation by works alone.

I am learning that having a relationship with Jesus is a personal thing. That He speaks in a quiet voice. I'm growing by attending church again and meeting other followers of Christ, working with people and openly sharing my faith. He is challenging me by making me let control go, and trust Him fully. Showing me stressing and worrying over any outcome will get me nowhere. I don't want to be standing on the middle line anymore of my faith. I want to show commitment and testify in His name. I want to continue to trust Christ and see Him work wonders in my life and the people around me. I want this baptism to show I am surrendering control and starting anew.





Conner Piers

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I am very thankful to be born in a Christian home and school. I was able to learn about God throughout my early childhood through Sunday school, family and friends. Mom and Dad taught me that I am a sinner and Jesus died on the cross for my sins. I have always called myself a Christian but it wasn't until I was 21 when I dedicated my life to Him. Praying with my brother and a pastor I asked the Lord into my heart. In that moment I felt my whole body go warm. Sweat dripping down my back and tingles down my body. I knew I was filled again! From that day forward I have felt the Lord's presence!

Every morning when I wake up, I thank God for another breath and day. I am learning that the more you pray and read His Word, the easier your day to day is. Praying throughout my day helps me stay near to Him. God has blessed me with many new great friends. Other than church, God has also brought me into many great gatherings such as NYA, AMEN Worship and community group.

Living in this broken world brings many challenges. Worldly things like social media and money can challenge me at times.

I want to be baptized to dedicate my life on earth to my Lord Jesus Christ. And to follow His footsteps for the rest of my life. To be near to other brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ chasing for His Glory!





Danae Barkman

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader) & Sophie Bucknam (Friend)

I was born and raised in a Christian home and learned about God from my parents and my neighbours. Every Sunday we would go to church, and I would go to Sunday school and listen to the story time. When I was younger, I always considered myself a Christian just because I would pray and do my memory verses and realized how much fun learning about Jesus is at the summer day camps.

I have gone to public school my whole life, and in middle school it was always difficult to find the people who make me feel like sunshine. In grades 7/8 I went through a rough patch when my best friend moved away, and had friendships that were leading me off the path of Christ towards sin. Those circumstances made me realize how much I need Jesus. So, I made some changes and I started to focus on building my relationship with Jesus. I am so glad I have done this because all it has brought me is happiness. I have never felt closer to God. Jesus is my Saviour, and I don't want to do life without Him.

This year I have started to read my Bible more, go to youth and help at the church. I have been thinking about baptism for a few months, and I am finally ready to take this next step as the Bible says believe and be baptized and grow in my faith.

I believe Jesus died on the cross for my sins so that we could have eternal life with Him, and I want to publicly declare my faith in Him. I want Jesus in my life forever! My favourite verse is Philippians 4:13 "I can do all things through him who gives me strength"





Mary-Kate Stobbe

Baptized By: Alaya Sales (Youth Leader)

I first learned about God from my parents. I have grown up in a Christian home and my family has been a good example of how God wants us to live.

I became a Christian at a young age. I have always believed in God and have known He is my Savior and that He is the only one that could save me. I have learned about Jesus growing up and have deepened my relationship with God to understand who He is and what He has done for me. I have realized who He is more by praying to God and feeling His comfort. I was about 6 years old when I accepted Jesus into my heart one night, after I had read a book with my parents.

Reading my Bible and praying is a way I have been connecting to Jesus. Recently I have been going to a worship night with my friends and have been feeling God's presence there. I am learning that Jesus is always in control, and everything happens for a reason, even when I do not understand why. I am growing by trusting in God that He has everything under control and it is in His timing. One of my favorite Bible verses is "do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God." - Philippians 4:6 This verse has helped me and taught me not to worry. I am also growing by spending more time to grow a stronger relationship with Him and by reading His word and understanding what God wants me to do. I have always struggled with being anxious and even though God writes in the Bible so many times not to worry I still can find it difficult, but I always know that He is in control.

I want to be baptized because I believe that Jesus is my Savior, and baptism is my next step to grow a deeper relationship with God.





Katelyn Hildebrandt

Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen

I first learned about God from my parents. I have been born and raised in a Christian home, and am so thankful for the encouragement my family has provided for me along my Christian walk.

I think that I truly realized my need for a Saviour early in high school. At this time, I was struggling with a lot of anxiety. I thought by getting good grades, performing well in sports and being liked by my peers that I would feel satisfied. But looking for my worth and my identity in these things just led to greater anxiety. It was when I looked to Jesus and found my identity in Him that I found true peace. It is not because of anything I have done or could ever do, but because of His grace that my sins have been forgiven and because of His love and faithfulness that I have been saved.

I have realized that for most of my life I have tried to make God just a part of my life rather than my whole life. Even though I would read my Bible and pray every night, I hadn't fully surrendered, I hadn't fully given up control. I have learned that following Jesus involves surrendering daily and living for His glory and not my own. Living not to please others, not myself, but to please Him. Choosing to keep my eyes fixed on Him and not on the things of this world.

I want to be baptized because I am a sinner in need of a Saviour, and I know that Saviour is Jesus Christ. Through none of my own doing but through His amazing grace I have been saved, and I owe my life to Jesus. I want to publicly declare Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour.





Lavinia Warkentin

Baptized By: Rachel Warkentin (Mom)

My name is Lavinia. I am a Christian. I have been learning about God, worshipping Him and reading the Bible for as long as I can remember. My parents have encouraged me to have a personal relationship with God and to talk to Him daily. I asked Jesus into my heart when I was 5 years old. I know I am a sinner but God has forgiven me! I know He lives in me and loves me because the Bible tells me so.

I decided to get baptized because I want to be obedient to Jesus and to continue to grow in my relationship with Him. I have celebrated my brother and some other family members being baptized, and I believe this is the right time for me.

I feel close to God when I read my Bible and pray to Him each morning. I am proud to be a Christian and I am ready to be baptized and to declare my faith in front of my family, friends and my church.



March 2, 2025

Sunday • 11AM

Downes Road Location



Sarah Friesen

Baptized By: Kaitlyn Friesen (Sister)

Growing up in a Christian home I have known about God for as long as I can remember. My family has been a great support and has influenced my growth in my faith. I always thought that getting baptized was what you do when you know everything about God. Not long ago I realized I was wrong. Getting baptized isn't the end, it is committing your life to your journey with God. I used to only read my Bible at church, only prayed at church and before dinner each evening, and I would never even think about God. Over the past year I started reading my bible every day and praying more often. I felt closer to God once I started a routine of devotions.

I love God with all my heart. I'm not afraid to confess my faith, and tell people what I believe about Christianity. I don't want to turn my back on God. I think getting baptized will help my faith to become stronger. I love the life God has given me and I am thankful for His love and guidance. I think I have a firm foundation with God.

I'm getting baptized to let people know my faith is real. I want to publicly declare my faith in God. I am a follower of Christ, and I am ready to take this next step in my journey with God.





Sophia Friesen

Baptized By: Peter Friesen (Dad)

I first learned about who God is through my family, and I've been going to church all my life. I realized I was in need of the Lord's mercy and grace when I was five years old. I remember the feeling of being filled with this inexplicable passion of joy; I was so happy! It was also a realization in my little five-year-old brain like, "Oh! I really need Jesus!" Now, I'm thirteen and giving my life to Jesus Christ.

Recently, I attended a Doxa worship night on January 12th. I was struck with great feelings of guilt and shame. I finally realized all the terrible things I've done, and all the sin I've committed. It felt like a slap to the face. But something changed, and I felt the joy that I experienced all those years ago. As everyone around me was singing, I sensed a burden fly off my shoulders. I knew my purpose, but I never fully realized it until that moment. I am certain that Jesus died on a cross to save me, and give me eternal life with Him.

Right now, I'm responding to Jesus by fully immersing myself in His Word. Reading the Bible has brought me closer to God. I understand that I am a sinner, and the only way I'll get redemption is by believing in Christ and living in Him. I'm learning to give every day to God and fully give myself to Him. A challenge God gives me is the struggle of really choosing Him over earthly things, and the only way I can overcome it is with His help. Another one is being in a public school. It's a difficult place to profess my faith in a place where there are so many things contrary to who God is and what I believe.

I want to get baptized today because I know that the only way out of this sinful mess is by following Jesus. Getting baptized means that I'm fully giving myself to God, while doing that publicly, as a statement of my faith. My favorite verse is Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths." This passage reminds me to follow Jesus no matter what! I am ready to take the next step in my journey of faith, and I won't wait any longer!

I know that Jesus gave up His life to give me one. Jesus Christ is my Lord and Saviour, and I'm determined with all the passion in my heart to follow Him in example and faith.





Addison Halliday

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader)

God has been a constant presence in my life since I was little, woven into my experiences at church, school and home. I was four years old when I first accepted Christ, but it never fully sank in who God was until this year. I have come to better understand God's immense power but also how personal He is.

Through middle school, I have grown a lot, but the most impactful was coming to the realization that when I come before God after death, it doesn't matter how much I know about Him, it matters that I truly had a relationship with the person of Christ.

Once I came to this realization, my whole life changed. I began to read my Bible and praying more, as well as going to Bible study and youth. In each of these things I grew closer to God and became a part of an amazing community of believers. Jesus is the single greatest thing that has happened in my life, and I am dedicating my existence to Him.

The past few months, God has been highlighting the difference between simply believing in Him and actively following Him. I want to take the next step in my journey with Christ. After thinking about baptism for a couple of years, I've realized there is no "perfect" time to be baptized; why wait any longer to publicly declare my commitment? The time to follow Jesus is now.





Rain Jacob

Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen

I would say I learned about God at a very young age from my family. I was taught that I always had a friend in God. I've been a Christian my whole life, but as I got older I realized that I had only experienced a small part of what a life with Christ could be. I needed to have Jesus be at the center of my life and not on the sidelines. Nothing compares to walking in step with Jesus and His will for my life. He has given me purpose and I will forever be grateful for the gift of redemption and unconditional love that He has poured out over my life.

Jesus has been teaching me how to do life with Him and not independently. He has made me more confident in myself by who He says I am. "For I am fearfully and wonderfully made", and I wouldn't want it any other way.

I'm choosing to get baptized because I want to share how amazing Jesus is and how much love He has for us. I want to show my community that this is who I am. Showing others on the outside what Jesus has been doing on the inside for a very long time. There's so much hope, and so much love that God offers us. We were created to do life with Him! He sees us and loves us in every moment, no matter where we are or where we have been.





Wyatt Goulet

Baptized By: Aaron Goulet (Dad)

I don't remember the first time I heard about God because He has been in my life from what feels like the beginning, but it would have been from my parents. My whole life I have known that I am a sinner and at some points I felt I was beyond God's love but thankfully those days are over and even though I am still a sinner I know Jesus died on the cross so that I can be forgiven. I don't know when I became a Christian, but I have only started to take my faith more and more seriously in the last few years.

I know that Jesus is my Savior, but I struggle to feel it and I don't know if that is just the way I am or if it's a sign of a weak faith. I am trying to become more knowledgeable about the Bible and to dig deeper into it, but I struggle. I am growing in my greater acknowledgment of God in my daily life by thinking of Him more which is helping me to be more Christlike. A constant challenge in my faith is to present it well to those around me.

I want to be baptized to make a public declaration of faith and to help me take the next steps in my faith journey. I hope that this experience will allow me to show Christ better to those around me and to feel God's presence wherever I go. I just want to be a better Christian and grow every day and to not fall away from the love of God.





Hannah Stobbe

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader)

I have grown up in a Christian home my entire life. I attended church whenever I could over the years, and went to MEI for kindergarten through grade 8 but never really had a whole relationship with Christ.

On January 14th 2019, my sister Kaela passed away and this really hit me hard. During my childhood years I had been bullied and in grade 5 everything went downhill. I had friendship troubles and the death of my sister really made me feel like giving up and my mental health was horrible. When my sister died it was really hard for me and my family and I started to drift more and more away from God over the following years, because I was mad at Him. I left my school at the end of grade 8 and tried to start fresh as a way to 'mask' what was really going on. This turned out to be a very bad decision that I regret everyday, because my mental health had never been worse. On the other hand, I truly believe that it gave me valuable experience, and I wouldn't be the same person I am today if I hadn't made that change.

In the second half of grade 9, I struggled with depression and severe social anxiety, PTSD and OCD. Hiding instead of getting help was a horrible decision. But, after summer camp through Young Life at Rockridge Canyon - after all the activities and the talks everyday about topics that hit home, I let go of my anger and realized that I needed to step up and change something. I told the truth, got help, started actually caring about things being said in youth, got close with my amazing friends at MEI again, and overall was just happier. I pray everyday for real now and truly worship to fully soak in God's full glory. I am ready to fully commit to a life with Christ, and so happy to finally feel at home with Him.

I always remember my favourite verse whenever I feel down, it's Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." I truly believe this now and I can't wait to spend the rest of my life devoted to God and His plan for me. I believe I'm at the end of a long and difficult journey but looking forward to beginning a new one with Christ. I'm ready to publicly share that with others!





Quynn Peters

Baptized By: Carryl & Henry Peters (Mom & Dad)

I grew up in a Christian household and even a Christian school for most of my life so I have always known about Christianity but nothing really clicked for me until my senior year of high school. For the longest time I was always on the fence about following Christ because I wanted to live my own way and that way of thinking led me to deal with a lot of self-doubt and struggling with anger.

But everything changed when I watched some friends of mine get baptized and it brought me to tears in the crowd seeing someone my age get baptized. It was such a powerful experience and I recognized that I needed to repent and live for Christ instead of myself. On the drive home, I prayed the prayer that is probably very similar to everyone else's experience and I asked the Lord to be with and to help me.

My response to Jesus is positive and I am continuing to learn how to live by Him and to grow as a person. One of the main challenges I am dealing with is realizing that my idea of the "right way" is not going to be conducive to a healthy Christian lifestyle.

What I realized about being baptized is that it's not about the right time or being good enough or in the right place, it's about declaring that I need a Savior and submitting to His grace and mercy; and that's exactly what I want to do





Stefan Terrace

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

Ever since I can remember, I have been surrounded by the word of God. Growing up in a Christian home, attending church, and going to private schools, I always knew about the Lord. But for much of my early life, I struggled to grasp the depth of His message. As I got older, especially in high school, I found myself drifting away from my faith, caught up in the distractions of life. Yet, even when I strayed, the Lord never left me. After graduating, I began to feel a subtle pull back toward Him. One of the most pivotal moments came one night at youth when they announced a need for volunteers in their summer children's ministry. I felt a deep calling to sign up, and that summer changed everything.

As I served, I experienced God's presence in a way I never had before. My faith was strengthened beyond anything I had known, and for the first time in years, I opened my Bible—not out of obligation, but out of a true hunger to understand His word. That was when the message finally clicked. I saw the truth and power of His word and realized how much I needed it as the foundation of my life. Looking back, I recognized my mistakes - the things I had said, the ways I had acted, but in repentance I found peace. I felt the Lord knocking at my heart, and I recognized how hard He had fought for me.

Using the Holy Spirit to work within me, shaping my identity in Christ. He led me away from my old ways, and in surrendering my past, I embraced the person He created me to be. I know I will still make mistakes, but I also know that choosing to follow God is the best decision I could ever make. The Lord has called me by name, and this time, I have answered with my full heart.



MISSION LOCATION

Testimonies

Sunday

9AM

Ella Bechard
Gracen Laforest

11AM

Elowin Rempel
Daylen Rempel
Mikayla Pelletier
Jill Pelletier
Roy Pelletier
Lily Hughlett
Quinton Cook

March 2, 2025

Sunday • 9 AM

Mission Location



Ella Bechard

Baptized By: Mathieu Bechard (Dad)

My name is Ella and I am 9 years old. I decided to follow Jesus around age 5. I began to follow Jesus because I know He created me, and He died for my sins. He died for everyone's sins. Sins are things like lying, taking the Lord's name in vain, stealing and killing. We all do bad things sometimes. Those who don't believe in Jesus will not be happy because they won't have their sins forgiven and they won't be in Heaven. Because I believed in Jesus, I don't have to worry about what happens to me when I die. My sins have been forgiven!

I want to be baptized to show everyone that I'm a Christian and that I plan to follow Him for the rest of my life. If you believe in Jesus like me, you can go to Heaven too!





Gracen Laforest

Baptized By: Josh Brown (Mentor)

Before I gave my life to Christ I was not a particularly good person. I was difficult, annoying and sin was a constant. Slowly sin became more and more of a problem, and soon I was drowning in it. As a result, church became a chore for me. It took awhile but I am thankful that someone looked at me as an immature and sinful kid and challenged me to start living a life that honors God.

Slowly, after a lot of prayers and a lot of help, God started to bring me back to Him. Then one day at school during worship in chapel, these lyrics hit me harder than I expected. "This wayward son has found his way back home." After that it got much easier to read the Bible and pray. I started to have more patience with people and I just felt like a better person.

The reason I want to be baptized is so I can be held accountable for my actions, and I can keep chasing after Christ.



March 2, 2025

Sunday • 11 AM

Mission Location



Elowin Rempel

Baptized By: Mary Tanis & Simar Aujla (Youth Leaders)

Before I gave my life to Christ, I was always searching for a place of belonging. Instead of turning to God, I chose to look for it through friends and school. I was always seeking approval and validation from those around me, when I should have been more concerned about my image in God's eyes. It wasn't until grade nine that I started to truly understand what it meant to be a Christian.

My sister had suggested I attend her youth group at Northview, but I was reluctant. After much convincing, I decided to give it a try. Now, going to Youth and learning about God is something I look forward to every week. God worked through my sister to bring me closer to him, and for that I am eternally grateful. Ever since then, my faith has been challenged by my school and my peers, so I pray for courage, and persist with my beliefs.

As my faith grows, I feel excited to share the good news as I want the world to know Jesus. Since I began following God, I have found peace, and although I still struggle with worldly issues, I have assurance knowing that God is guiding me and that my world is in his hands. I want to be baptized because I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Saviour, and I want to live for Him for all my life.





Daylen Rempel

Baptized By: Simar Aujla (Youth Leader)

I was born into a Christian family so I first learned about God at a young age. I've always known that I'm a sinner but the fact that Jesus died to save me from my sins didn't sink in until I started going to youth at Northview. Up to this point God had been in the background of my life. My family stopped going to church when I was five; I went to a public school and I didn't think or talk about God very much. My relationship with Him was pretty nonexistent. I would've said that I was a Christian but I didn't act like it.

When I was 15, a couple of my friends got me to go to youth with them. I started to learn more about what it really means to be a Christian. I realized that I wanted to pursue a more personal relationship with God and live the way Jesus taught.

Since becoming a Christian, everything about my life and perspective has changed. I started going to church again and became friends with people who have helped me grow in my faith. I've been learning to be patient with God and give Him control over my life. I want to learn more about Him and grow closer to Him so I try to regularly spend time reading the Bible and praying.

There are many challenges that I have faced since becoming a Christian but they have all been opportunities for me to strengthen my relationship with God by choosing to trust Him and the plan that He has for me. He has changed my heart and given me a desire to follow Him and share Him with others.

I want to be baptized because I believe that Jesus died for my sins and has given me a new life. I have been considering baptism for a while and I am ready to take this next step in my faith.





Mikayla Pelletier

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg

Before I found Christ I was living in a cold, angry household with yelling and constant arguments which caused me to be a cold and hateful person. I didn't care much for others or even myself. I felt empty and lonely no matter who was around me or where I was. The first time I went to church was with my family when I was 15, and I didn't enjoy it and did not go again.

A couple months later I felt an urge to return to church when I was 16. I returned again with my family and really enjoyed it that time around, and that's when I started attending consistently. While listening to the different pastors preach, some of the things they said made sense to me while others didn't. A lot of it was confusing or conflicted with my previous beliefs until I was having a conversation with a close friend of mine from the church 3-4 months after I started regularly attending, and everything he mentioned or spoke about suddenly clicked.

Everything started to make more and more sense as time went on, listening to the different services and that really pushed me to finally fully believe in Christ. Now as I continue my journey with God I have noticed many changes. My heart feels more full of love and warmth, I'm happier, I think of church as a safe place and I'm nicer. He has led me to find greater things and I feel heard when I pray. I never feel alone anymore and I know there is always someone there with me even in my hardest moments.





Jill Pelletier

Baptized By: Pastor Frank Sawatsky

Being raised in an atheist household and one that was somewhat antagonistic towards the Christian faith left me feeling empty and searching for something outside of my own existence. As an adult, I turned to a new age way of thinking hoping it would fill the void I had in my life. It didn't. I would half heartedly jump around between different thoughts and philosophies, still finding nothing, but fooling myself into thinking I was 'spiritual'.

Then 2020 and the years that followed came, and I saw everything go into chaos. I watched people turn on each other, friends and family split apart, wars, etc. and I saw the evil behind it all. A lightbulb went off and I realized that if there was an 'evil' there most definitely had to be a 'good' and something started nudging me towards buying a Bible and I started reading. Almost immediately I knew what I was reading to be true and I felt immense peace - a peace I had never felt before in my life.

I now understand the sacrifice that Jesus made for mankind, for me, and I know that in the end it will all be okay and I have hope for what is to come. I am thankful everyday that God was patient enough to wait for that lightbulb moment.





Roy Pelletier

Baptized By: Pastor Frank Sawatsky

I was 8 years old when my mom introduced me to Christ. I have loved him since that moment but when I turned 12 I started to love the pleasures of the world more. I did not have strong Christian influences in my life and it felt like all the Christians I knew were hypocrites and that caused me to push away from the church.

I still prayed daily for the next 15 years. As a young adult I suffered many injuries through sports and work causing me to have to give up the things I loved to do. Partying became my replacement hobby but that did not bring joy to my life in the long run. It pushed me further away from God and I mostly quit praying.

Out of the blue one day my wife asked me if I would go to church with her and I said "Heck yeah! Let's go!" That was over a year ago and I am so happy she asked. Now all I want to do is grow in Christ!





Lily Hughlett

Baptized By: Jason Hughlett (Dad)

I have grown up in a Christian family, and both my parent's sides of the family are Christians, so I have always known about God. My family prioritized church and I went regularly as a child. However, during Covid we were not able to go a lot and it was hard to feel connected to church. At that time I also got involved in sports. I felt like I was drifting away from God and I noticed changes in my behaviour. I started being rude to people, by mocking and gossiping about them. Deep down I knew this was sin and I knew something needed to change.

I began to ask my dad more questions about God and faith. This helped me start to connect back at church. I started to pay closer attention and began to help in the kid's ministry with day camp and Sunday mornings. These experiences have helped me make a decision to follow God and give him my heart. Teaching kids about God has deepened my love for him. I've made some changes in my social life that help encourage my faith. Now when I find myself not honouring God by being unkind or mocking, I am confessing it to God and he is helping me grow.

I want to be baptized to publicly declare my faith and be a symbol of being reborn in Christ. My hope is to continue sharing the good news of God until I join Him in Heaven. I pray that I can help others take the right steps toward Him too.





Quinton Cook

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg

I partly grew up in a Christian home. I always believed in Jesus and His death and resurrection but never followed Him or put too much effort into building a relationship with Him. A few times in my life, I tried to read my Bible and pray and follow, but the worldly things and worldly desires would always suck me back in. In the last few years, life has been more trying, not as easy-going as it used to be, and in those times I was struggling. But what a blessing those trying years were because during that time I felt a calling to come to Christ - and man, did life get better! I felt whole again.

He started guiding me, leading me in the right direction and answering my prayers and was there for me when I needed Him the most. What a blessing I found that when I gave up the worldly things and put my time and effort into the spiritual things, my life changed only for the better. I felt better. I was happier and no longer had a hole in my heart. I was no longer yearning for things, no longer feeling empty.

My life has truly changed following the Lord and having the Holy Spirit reside inside me. Today, I have the pleasure to be here with family and friends to say I'm born again. I am here to follow the Lord and I want to be Christlike in my everyday life.



If you or someone you know is interested in getting baptized,
visit northview.org/baptism for more information.



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