



# TESTIMONIES

WINTER 2025



  
NORTHVIEW  
COMMUNITY CHURCH  
11111 NORTHVIEW AVENUE

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.



# EAST ABBOTSFORD

## Testimonies

### SUNDAY

**9 AM** Nina Zupancic

**11 AM** Alia Booth

Patria Millard

Lucas Dahlen

Easton Appeldoorn

**November 30, 2025**

**Sunday • 9 AM**

East Abbotsford



## Nina Zupancic

**Baptized By: Anna & Daniel Zupancic (Mom & Dad)**

Growing up in a loving Christian home, I first learned about God from my parents and church. Hearing about Bible stories, experiences, and God's goodness in general.

Around the age of five, I accepted Jesus into my heart realizing that I was a sinner and in need of a Saviour. I also realize now that when it comes to sin, I need to repent and remember that God's ways are better than my own. At times I tend to worry and let my thoughts take over.

Coming to the Lord through prayer, memorizing Bible verses, such as Proverbs 3:5-6 and Joshua 1:9, writing in a prayer journal, attending youth group, as well as my school Bible study, and reading/studying the Word are all ways that help remind me where my thoughts and trust truly need to be focused on, turning me back to our Almighty Saviour.

I am currently learning more about the character of God and His magnificent Creation through the Bible, and noticing the ways that He shows up in my life. This reminds me to also live out my life in love just as Jesus did!

I want to be baptized to publicly declare my faith and trust in Jesus Christ! God is good!!



**November 30, 2025**

**Sunday • 11 AM**

East Abbotsford



## Alia Booth

**Baptized By: Aleyse & Brandon Booth (Mom & Dad)**

I learned about Jesus from a very young age from my family, church and preschool. My Mom said the sinner's prayer with me when I was four years old. I always loved to tell people about Jesus and even started a Bible study within my preschool.

My family has guided me in my faith, and I have grown through attending Northview church and daycamps. But it wasn't until this last year that my faith and relationship with Jesus was put to the test. Last fall/winter I went through a time of anxiety to the point where I could not walk or attend school for almost a month. I leaned on the Lord with all I had for strength and healing, and He helped me overcome it. Psalm 23 was a verse that helped me in that time.

I then had a school sailing trip with SALTS last June that I was really looking forward to going to, especially because of all the Lord helped me to overcome to be able to do it. Unfortunately, when my class got to the dock, I got very sick and had to be sent home. The Lord helped me through that time of disappointment and ultimately led me to trust in His plan being what's best for me. Isaiah 43:2 says, "When you go through deep waters, I will be with you" and I have known that to be true.

I want to get baptized to publicly confess my faith and live fully for Jesus, putting my struggles with anxiety behind me and following the Great Commission to go make disciples.





## **Patria Millard**

**Baptized By: Charis & Randy Millard (Mom & Dad)**

I learned about God from my parents when I was very young. My parents taught me about Jesus and how He died on the cross to save us from our sins. They taught me that Jesus's love never fails and no matter how many times I mess up, He will forgive me.

I am learning to trust Him more with everything that I do.

I want to be baptized because I want to show everybody that I am a follower of Jesus Christ, and I believe that He died on the cross to save us from our sins.





## Lucas Dahlen

**Baptized By: Andrea Sigmund (Mom)**

I've known about God since I was born, but I would say that mom talked about Him and showed me what it looked like to have Jesus live in you. She prayed with me every night, and we read lots of Bible stories. My favourite book we read together was probably The Jesus Storybook Bible or the Action Bible that I saved all my Bible bucks for a year to buy. Going to Sunday school regularly taught me so much about God and now I am excited to start serving in the preschool age.

I realized I needed to have my sins forgiven when, a couple years back, I was sinning against God when I did not have self control in the way that I treated my brother. I realized "I need Jesus to forgive me for those weak moments".

It has been a very hard last couple years of my life, my Dad all of a sudden left us and divorced my Mom. He hasn't been involved with our lives but God has told me that I need to move forward from that hard point of life, and because of Him I can. He brings healing and strength and I want to share that and show that in the way that I act, and how I can love others.

I want to get baptized because I want to confess my faith to Jesus and I know that Jesus has already saved me and at this point of life, I need Jesus to wash away my sins. He has given me healing and strength while walking through some of the hardest times and I am ready to proclaim that to the world.





## **Easton Appeldoorn**

**Baptized By: Pastor Levi Friesen**

I first learned about God when I was eight years old, when my Grandma took me to the day camps at Northview. During the camp, I realized I needed to know Jesus as my personal Saviour and live for Him.

God is working in my life by making me more aware of how I speak. I want to be more like Jesus and to profess my faith in Him and be baptized. He died for my sins and I want to make my commitment to Jesus known.

I pray every day and read my Bible as much as I can. I feel this is helping me grow and learn more in my walk with Jesus. "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me" - Philippians 4:13



# DOWNES ROAD

## Testimonies

### SATURDAY

**4 PM** Geena Budd  
Zachary Venema  
Julia Reinhard  
Kaari Haarstad  
Micah Beulens

**6 PM** Shianne Braun  
Carianne Braun.  
Hana Fehr  
Gail Milling  
Myles Johnston  
Maya Neufeldt  
Emma Watson

**December 6, 2025**

**Saturday • 4PM**

Downes Road



## Geena Budd

**Baptized By: Lesley Budd (Mother-In-Law)**

I did not grow up in a Christian home in fact, I really struggled with the concept of God as I lost my brother when I was fifteen years old and saw the pain and turmoil it caused my family, especially my Mother.

I turned to a life of sinful/destructive behaviours in my late teens and all throughout my twenties. Through the grace of God, He protected me throughout that time in my life and little did I know someone special had been praying for me for thirty years, my (now) mother-in-law.

I met my husband in 2019 and was introduced to a beautiful family of Christ. I started to learn about God then and asked Him to come into my heart, however, I never truly felt worthy of a life of salvation due to the immense amount of shame I lived with.

God had continued to show Himself to me time and time again, even in seasons when I wasn't fully aware or ready to receive Him. I can now see how His hand was always on my life.

I wasn't truly walking with the Lord until I became pregnant with our first child. God blessed my husband and I with the incredible gift of life. I no longer saw God as distant, I felt Him every kick, doctor's appointment and prayer throughout my fears and gratitude.

I want to get baptized to profess my faith publicly as well as to be a role model for my daughter who I pray grows up to know, love and serve Jesus. God has poured the richest blessing out over my life and I owe my life to Him. I am free, forgiven, and have a life worth living through Jesus Christ.





## Zachary Venema

**Baptized By: Martin Greindl (Community Groups Coordinator)**

I first learned about God from my parents and early memories of Sunday school. I learned how Jesus, the son of God, was born a baby, lived, died, and rose again to save us from our sins.

While in high school, and attending youth group, I realized I was a sinner, I am imperfect, and don't deserve the sacrifice Jesus made for us. The only way to salvation is to accept that I alone am not enough and my sins have been bought and forgiven through Christ. To follow Jesus, I'm learning I must not do what is easy, but do what Jesus calls us to, to turn away from sin and consistently fall back and rely on God. Staying rooted with consistent and intentional Bible reading, and spending time praying and growing in relationship with God.

At times I have been afraid and unsure that I wanted to get baptized or felt like I wasn't ready, but diving into His Word, I have realized that Jesus commands us to come as we are and He will transform. At times, I also felt like a lukewarm Christian, but I want to become closer to God and further my relationship and fully commit to Him.

I want to be baptized as called to do so in the Bible. I want to publicly declare I am a Christian, that I believe in Jesus, and that He died and rose again. I want to show the people around me that I've changed. That there's something different about the way I live now, something that goes beyond culture and what society typically expects.





## Julia Reinhard

**Baptized By: Makenna Hoogstra (Friend)**

I grew up going to a small church and attended a Christian School for 13 years. I was taught about Jesus from a very early age. The church I grew up in was a perfect congregation on the outside, but the behind-the-scenes behaviour resulted in me leaving and never looking back. I was angry at God and swore I would never return.

Ten years later, my boyfriend invited me to attend Northview. I accepted his invitation, but knew I would never want to join a church community. God had other plans.

I knew I was a sinner who needed help, when I realized that the secular standard of perfection that I thought would bring me joy, failed. I graduated university with a Distinction Honour, I reached the highest level I could in my sport, I got my dream job and got into my dream Master's Program, but I still wanted more. I thought my value and worth were based on the accomplishments I could achieve, but I was far from God.

Joining the Northview community brought me a sense of purpose and joy that my accomplishments had failed to give. In a random change of plans, I started working at Northview in children's ministry during the week. I began rearranging my job schedule in order to spend time with toddlers! I found a joy for service in the children's ministry and my heart grew softer for a Christian-centred lifestyle.

I have learned that perfection is unachievable and humbling yourself before God and other Christians, and becoming a deeply rooted follower of Christ, is the most fulfilling call that can be received. I was someone who swore off the Christian life due to the hurt I experienced but I can confidently say that the outcome of my faith happened because of God's timing and God's power, and I am excited to choose to commit my life to Christ.

I'm ready to take the next step in my faith journey and be baptized in a church I've learned to call home.





## **Kaari Haarstad**

**Baptized By: Marlo Haarstad (Mother)**

I first learned about God when I grew up in a Christian household and a Christian school. I had many friends, teachers and family with whom I could express my beliefs. My family, especially my Grand Mommie and Grandpa planted the seeds and encouraged me in my faith.

I knew I was a sinner when I changed schools. My faith shattered when I was exposed to things that were not faith based, and I felt lost and stuck. I knew I needed to be saved when I started making unfaithful decisions that went against God's will. One night, I had prayed to the Lord and confessed my sins. I took accountability and accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour. I started making new friends who had the same faith and talked to my family about my commitment to Christ. I read devotionals every night and asked questions about a new path. I have been attending church consistently and have never looked back. I couldn't be happier with my decision through Christ, my Lord and Saviour who has guided me to be the individual I am today.

My family and friends have helped me to persevere through tough times. I pray alone or with them over any situation that I struggle with, and this helps me to take my cares to the Lord and seek His guidance. When I do this God sets my path and leads me into His Word.

I want to be baptized to publicly display my commitment to Christ. I had assumed I was baptized as a baby because of my Christian upbringing. When I was invited to a baptism at Northview, I told my mom that I wish I could remember my own baptism. That's when she told me I had only been dedicated to God as a child, not baptized! Baptism is important to me because God commands that this is the next leap in our faith and I want to take that leap and fully commit my life to Him.





## Micah Beulens

**Baptized By: Scott Visser (Bible Teacher)**

I became a Christian through the influence of my parents, my school, and my youth group. My parents always taught me about God at home, and that helped me understand the basics of faith. Going to a Christian school and participating in a youth group gave me the chance to hear more about Jesus, ask questions, and see what following Him looks like in real life. Over time, I realized that following Jesus was not just about knowing facts but about trusting Him and accepting His forgiveness personally. That's when I chose to accept Jesus into my life and commit myself to Him.

Since becoming a Christian, I've been learning to live differently by making time every day to read my Bible. This helps me understand God's Word, see how He wants me to live, and guide my choices. I also have people in my life who encourage me and help me stay strong in my faith, like my girlfriend. She reminds me of God's promises and challenges me to keep growing spiritually. These habits and relationships help me persevere, especially during times when life gets busy or difficult, and they remind me to keep God at the center of everything I do.

I want to be baptized because it's a way to publicly show that I am accepting Jesus into my life. It's a declaration that I am committing myself fully to Him and His path for my life. It's a chance to tell my family, friends, and my church community that Jesus is my Saviour and that I want to follow Him. Baptism also reminds me that just like Jesus died and was raised again, I am leaving behind my old life and beginning a new life with Him.



**December 6, 2025**

**Saturday • 6PM**

Downes Road



## Shianne Braun

**Baptized By: Rain Jacob (Youth Leader)**

I didn't grow up in a Christian home but I have always believed that Jesus died on the cross for my sins. My Mom took me to a local church when I began to ask questions about who Jesus was. We only went a few times but I would pray every time to go back again next week. After not going to church and not praying, I began to fade from God and prioritize other things.

I realized I was a sinner in need of a Saviour when I would constantly feel a void in my chest. I tried to fill it with friends, anger and lies. I was always angry, telling people lies and starving myself from Jesus. I lost all my friends and realized then that the only way to fill the void was Jesus and His love. I began praying and trusting Him more. He gave me my best friend Dakota who gave me a Bible, and took me to church.

I am learning to spend more time with Jesus and lean on Him with my problems and worries. He is always there for me and helps me through tough times even when the tough time is staying close with Him or reading His Word. My youth leaders help me persevere.

I want to be baptized to publicly declare my love for Jesus my Lord and Saviour.





## Carianne Braun

**Baptized By: Pastor Analea Friesen**

I first learned about God and Jesus as a young child. My Mom and I attended church in the community where I grew up, and those early experiences planted the seeds of belief in my heart.

As a child, I felt guided by my faith. I knew God was present in my life, and through prayer, I found comfort. But as I entered adulthood, distractions crept in, and my faith slowly slipped into the background. Though my connection to God remained, I stopped attending church regularly and tried to carry everything on my own.

Later in life, God met me again - with the quiet comfort I had been longing for. At a baptism service, I witnessed young children sharing their testimonies. In that moment, it became clear to me: we're all sinners, no matter our age, and we all need a Saviour.

Now that I'm professing my faith in Jesus, I'm learning to live by His Word. I know Jesus walks with me through both joyful and challenging times. I've become more intentional in my decisions, taking time to pause, reflect, and listen to the Word of God. I've seen and felt the impact of practicing my faith - and it's a constant reminder to persevere and keep Jesus at the center of my life.

I want to be baptized to publicly declare my decision to follow Jesus for the rest of my life. Baptism is a symbol of renewal and commitment, and I believe it will strengthen me in moments of weakness and guide me when I need direction.





## Hana Fehr

**Baptized By: Jim Fehr (Dad)**

Hi, my name is Hana and I am 11 years old. I have been going to Church ever since I was a couple months old. Church, my parents and my grandma have taught me a lot about God. I was quite young when I learned that I was a sinner and I needed God to save me, so I prayed to God and said that I needed Him in my life and I couldn't survive without Him.

More recently, I have been thinking about baptism, reading the Bible and praying a lot more. Although I know the road ahead is bumpy, a Bible verse that always keeps me on track is Jeremiah 29:11-12. "For I know the plans I have for you" declares the Lord "plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

So far grade 6 has been very hard because my best friend sadly moved to a different school. On her last day, although I felt very sad, I did have peace, and it felt like the Holy Spirit was with me during that time and I would love to keep that feeling of God with me forever.

Being baptized is the next step in my journey with God, I love Him very much and I want to be with Him forever. I know that God is in control, and I want to follow Him and do His will.





## Gail Milling

### **Baptized By: Shannon Lapsa (Bible Study Leader)**

I was not brought up in a Christian home, but thankfully I was exposed to Christian stories through Christian literature and Christian TV shows, such as David and Goliath, that were written and produced for children. As well, I participated in the annual Christmas Concert that was centered around Christ's birth every year at the elementary school I attended as a child.

It wasn't until high school that I was invited to church by a classmate, and it was at one of these services that I learned that everyone was a sinner and the only way to become one with God was to repent of their sins, since everyone falls short of the glory of God. Even though I did repent, I still wanted to be the person in control of my life. It wasn't until recently that I realized I am not happy with my life and that I am not a complete person without God.

So, I re-dedicated my life to the Lord by putting Him first in my life. This is done by listening and reading God's Word daily, which helps me be more grounded in my faith and by praying for wisdom and guidance. This way I am getting to know Jesus more as my personal Saviour. I attend a weekly Bible study, where I learn more about the Bible and engage with other Christians and attend church on a weekly basis. This is how I know that my Christian walk will be strengthened and I will be more grounded in the faith.

To help me on this journey of faith, I have my son who is a Christian, who I pray for, and he prays for me as well. I also have others who pray for me, and I also have the reassurance that Jesus will always be by my side to continue to guide me through my faith journey.

I would like to be baptized, not only to symbolize burying my sins, but as a public declaration to say that I am God's child, and I will always serve and worship Him until my race is finished.





## Myles Johnston

**Baptized By: Greg Johnston (Dad)**

Growing up I have always been surrounded by strong Christian values. I was raised as a Christian by my parents, attended Sunday school as a child, and gave my life to Christ at just five years old, likely before I truly understood what that even really meant.

Life hasn't always been perfect, but I have seen first hand in both my life and the lives of others close to me how the Lord can work and provide deliverance in even the hardest situations. Throughout my life the Lord has remained my hope and somebody I know I can always turn to for guidance, wisdom, and strength. As a child my parents always encouraged me to get baptized, but I had this idea in my head that baptism was a type of "capstone" of faith. As an adult I know that couldn't be farther from the truth.

Over the past year I've begun to take my faith much more seriously than I did as a child or teenager, and I truly understand the depth of the commitment I made nearly twenty years ago. I desire to grow my relationship deeper and stronger with God. Christ died because of my sin, but by His blood I am washed clean. Christ commanded his followers to be baptized, and I must obey what He says.

I believe that I am finally at a point in my life where I understand the spiritual significance of baptism, and am prepared to publicly declare my commitment to the Almighty God.





## Maya Neufeldt

**Baptized By: Kevin Neufeldt (Dad)**

I grew up in a Christian home, surrounded by faith and was taught what it meant to live for God. But around middle school, I began to drift, living for the world instead of the Lord, chasing things that could never fill me. Deep down, I knew I wasn't on the right path. For years, I felt the pull to be baptized but held back, thinking I needed to have it all together first. I cried out to God for signs and direction, but when nothing clear came, my faith wavered and I wondered if my doubts meant God was disappointed in me.

Then something changed. I stopped searching for big answers and started resting in what God had already done. I realized that the moments I once saw as setbacks were actually ways He was drawing me closer to Him. My grandma's battle with cancer showed me what it means to fully depend on the Lord for healing. My grandpa's sudden passing broke my heart, but knowing he accepted Jesus before going home gives me peace that I'll see him again. My struggles with self-image taught me that I am fearfully and wonderfully made in God's image. A boating accident this summer reminded me of His protection and provision. And when danger tried to strike my sister, I was in awe of how tenderly God watched over her, a reflection of His endless love.

Through it all, God has shown me His power, His love, and His constant presence. Jeremiah 29:11 reminds me, "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've learned that readiness isn't about perfection, it's about obedience. Through baptism, I'm declaring my surrender and commitment to live fully for Jesus. God didn't force my choice, instead He invited me with love.

Today and always, I choose Him because if God is everything you have, you have everything you need.





## Emma Watson

**Baptized By: Miranda Folka (Friend)**

I first learned about Jesus through my mom when I was little. I wasn't raised in a religious household, but my parents honestly shared the knowledge that they had. I attended Bible camp during the summers growing up and there I learned more about Jesus and the Bible but it wasn't until high school when I fully understood what Jesus did for me on the cross. I started attending youth and going to church with my friends.

I strayed away from my faith for a couple years due to a very toxic relationship, but God woke me up and showed me that I wasn't living in a way that glorified Him. I asked for signs to solidify my decision in leaving and He showed me those signs almost immediately. God ultimately got me out of there and on the right path on my walk. That was when I really understood I needed saving because I was living in sin for so long. I wanted a connection with God again and knew I wasn't growing through God, I was growing away from Him.

We talked a lot about sin in church when I was a kid. I remember sitting in the pews and thinking I didn't want to live in sin, and wanted to be the best I could be for Him. When I fell away from my faith and living in sin, I craved the feeling of being close to Him again. Since I've gotten back on track, I've never felt closer to Him and I couldn't be happier. Through Jesus' sacrifice, I know my sins are forgiven and I am saved. I live better for Him as well as through Him.

The more I rely on the Lord, the more fruitful my life becomes. I genuinely couldn't imagine my life any other way, I'd like to be baptized to profess publicly that this is my faith and I belong to Him. It is an important step in continuing to grow in my walk with Jesus. I want to live in the glory of God for the rest of my life.



# DOWNES ROAD

## Testimonies

### SUNDAY

**9 AM** Tristan Adrian  
Dillon Thiesen  
Evan Bews  
Brielle Warkentin  
Malia Warkentin  
Bree Jones  
Joel Noort  
Jordan Stewart  
Mykaela Stewart

**11 AM** Jake Schwenneker  
Nathan Froese  
John Jakel  
Evie Fincaryk  
Ben Wight  
Xander Stayer  
Zaydox Epp  
Caleb Derksen  
Claire Derksen  
Ben Stratton

**December 7, 2025**

**Sunday • 9AM**

Downes Road



## Tristan Adrian

**Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco**

I grew up in a Christian home hearing about God from a young age but my family didn't attend church on a regular basis and faith wasn't something that was discussed often at home.

I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour at a young age but as I grew up I stopped taking my relationship with Jesus seriously and fell away from God. In my early twenties, I was in an unhealthy relationship and living an indulgent life. As the era of covid happened and everything that happened around that time I started to really wake up to the fact that the world is truly an evil place and that I have been living in sin for a long time and to turn from my evil ways and begin living for God.

I started going to church by myself regularly and began spending more time in the Word. Not exactly sure where my life was headed I, not so patiently, waited and trusted that God had a plan for me.

Recently, God has blessed me with a beautiful wife and an amazing new career and I'm extremely grateful that He left the 99 to find me when I had gone wandering.

I want to get baptized as a public declaration that the old me has passed away and that my life is living for Christ.





## Dillon Thiesen

**Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco**

I first learned about God from my family when I was young. I accepted Jesus into my heart when I was about seven and grew up in a Christian home. During high school, I began to realize that my actions did not reflect the things I claimed to believe. Continuing into university I chose to ignore this obvious hypocrisy and, in many ways, blend in with the world. I set certain limits for myself, went to church, and didn't denounce or reject God, however, I recognized the contradiction of my actions and simply ignored it. I wanted to do things my own way, and this hardened my heart towards God.

As I continued living this way, my sin carried a weight that I could not deal with on my own. This, along with several difficult life events that I could not control, made it very clear to me that wavering or sitting on the fence wasn't going to cut it. I was destined for destruction if I kept down my own path. If I wanted to have a successful career and eventually a successful marriage, I wasn't going to achieve those things on my own.

Eighteen months ago I moved back to Abbotsford, and began attending NYA and a community group. I started dismantling the barrier towards God I had set up. I prayed continuously that God would change my desires and intentions and that I would be able to unashamedly, genuinely say, that I want to surrender control of my life. The song we sing goes, "How could I ever walk away from the one who saved my life?" That really made it clear that I wanted to be baptized.

Now, I want to publicly express this surrender. I recognize I am still an imperfect person, but now I am actively seeking God, His wisdom, and properly running the race God has put in front of me.





## Evan Bews

**Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco**

My Dad began reading the Bible to me every night when I was about four years old, and through those moments, and my parents bringing me to church, I was drawn to learn more about Jesus. From a young age I understood that we all fall short of the glory of God, that sin is real, and that I personally needed a Saviour. Reading through the Old Testament made it clear that no matter how much we try, we cannot cleanse ourselves by our own effort. Then, through the Gospels, I saw how every prophecy and sacrifice pointed forward to Christ as the Lamb of God.

I gave my life to Him, knowing His blood is the only true atonement. In the last three years, my faith has deepened significantly. A close friend came to Christ in a dramatic way, and watching the Holy Spirit move in his life pushed me out of being a lukewarm Christian. I began taking discipleship seriously - crucifying fleshly desires, praying intentionally, and surrounding myself with Christian community.

A major turning point for me was battling long-covid. During that season, I was forced to slow down physically in a way I never had before. I felt weak, limited, and frustrated - but in that weakness, God showed me how dependent I truly am on Him. When everything "normal" was stripped away, Christ remained my anchor. That season didn't just humble me; it clarified my priorities and reminded me that life is fragile, temporary, and not something I can walk through without Jesus holding me up.

I've realized I don't need a big 'moment' to be baptized - I already belong to Christ. Baptism is the next step of obedience: a public declaration that I stand with Jesus, that hell has lost another one, and that I refuse to live by the world's broken script. My life is His, and I want to proclaim that openly.





## **Brielle Warkentin**

**Baptized By: Kris Warkentin (Dad)**

I have been raised by my loving parents, who have taught me what it means to be a follower of Christ. Growing up in a Christian home has helped strengthen my faith, starting my relationship with the Lord from a young age, and learning and growing everyday in what it means to live for Christ. Being surrounded by friends and family who love Jesus, has also helped shape my view of God and what a relationship with Him looks like.

While I don't have any crazy transformation story, I see my "boring" testimony as God's faithfulness to me throughout my life. The idea that He died for my sins, has been ingrained in me from a young age, from reading Bible stories with my parents and Sunday school lessons.

As I have gotten older, this has just gotten more and more real and the understanding of its importance. I am a sinner, in need of a Saviour. We are called to live apart from this world, and this is something I am continually growing in. We cannot claim to be saved by Christ, and go on living no differently than the world. We are not called to fit in, but to go out and be a light in all the darkness around us.

Baptism is a symbol of what Jesus has already done in my life, and I want to publicly declare this today as I get baptized. Through Christ I am born again, and I want Him to be at the centre of my life, living my life for Him and His glory!





## **Malia Warkentin**

**Baptized By: Kris Warkentin (Dad)**

I have grown up in a Christian home and accepted Christ into my life around the age of five. In my life there's not been one big turning point with my walk with the Lord, but more a gradual realization through different experiences. I went to church and Sunday school every week when I was younger, learning all the well known Bible stories and truths about God. Being taught these from a young age have helped me to build a firm foundation of knowing I can't live this life without a Saviour and His grace.

Fast forward a bit, in the past few years I have had this sub-conscious thought that I need to be the "best" Christian I can be, before getting baptized. This idea of trying to become perfect, reading my Bible everyday, praying lots, and doing the right things. But the reality is that it isn't possible on my own. It is only when I surrender everything, give up my own desires, and focus fully on God I will be satisfied. Jesus came to earth because, in this broken world, no person can become 'good enough' by their own efforts. A verse that has stuck out to me is Matthew 9:13; "For I have not come to call the righteous, but the sinners!"

I shouldn't and will never reach my standard of 'perfect', but want to be baptized today, not because I am perfect, but because I'm far from it. My life was made complete when I invited Jesus into it, surrendering everything and living each day for Him! I am excited for how God will continue to work in my life, especially as I head to Capernwray Australia in January!





## Bree Jones

**Baptized By: Quinn Jones (Dad)**

I grew up in a Christian family and understood from a young age that Jesus loves me and that God sent Him to be my Saviour through His death on the cross. I accepted this gift at a young age and have continued to grow in my faith over the years with the help of my family, going to church regularly and challenging myself to spend more personal time with God through prayer and reading the Bible.

A few years ago, I started to struggle a lot with anxiety. It started to become worse and instead of leaning on God to help me, I tried to figure out my problems on my own. This started to pull me away from God by making me think that He was not with me because I was still struggling with anxiety even when I would pray for help. My anxiety started to take over my life and become the main focus of each day. This past summer, as I was worrying about another stressful year at school, I realized I needed to make a change. As I was talking and praying with my mom about the year ahead, she helped me come to realize that God does not promise to take away the things that make us worry, but He promises to be with us through them.

I decided to give up everything to God and trust in Him knowing that He loves me and His plan for me is perfect. I still struggle with anxiety at times, but the change that God has made in my life has brought me so much closer to Him and I feel it every day. I now have a peace that I know can only come from Him.

This year in Bible class, I have learned more than I ever have, and it has challenged me to read my Bible more. Through reading His word regularly, I have felt God pushing me to take this step of obedience to get baptized. I want to publicly declare my faith in Christ and the commitment I have made to follow Him for my whole life.





## Joel Noort

**Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco**

I was born into a Christian family and I grew up going to a Christian school and I was baptized as an infant. Growing up I learned a lot about Bible stories and who God was. My parents always encouraged me to pray and read the Bible at the dinner table and before going to bed.

As I got older, I didn't keep up praying and I didn't think about my relationship with God too often. I struggled after high school trying to figure out what I wanted to do for my career. My girlfriend (now my fiancé) went to Germany for Bible school after graduating from high school and I stayed back home to work. I left a friend group during that time that was immature, and I felt in myself I wanted to move on and grow up.

Though I still felt very alone in that period of my life, I learned that I needed to lean onto Jesus, that He would provide direction and guidance for me. I was working for my dad framing houses, during this past spring. Work was slow and I couldn't help but to feel stressed about not being able to provide when I get married. A buddy of mine that worked at the lumber yard where I worked part time in high school, told me about a job opportunity in the shipping office at the lumber yard. At first I wasn't open to the idea but I thought about it a lot and prayed if this is the direction God wants me to go.

God answered my prayer and He's given me purpose and guidance and I can't thank Him enough for it. I can fully trust God has all things in control of my life and I can rest knowing that. I know that He has a plan for me and that I no longer dwell on worrying about the future because He holds mine in His hand.

I want to be baptized because this is a new beginning of my Christian life, and I want this to be my decision to get baptized, not my parents decision. I want to profess my faith in front of the church I call home.





## Jordan Stewart

### **Baptized By: Kimberley Stewart (Mom)**

I grew up in a Christian home and accepted Jesus into my heart at five, but I didn't fully understand what that meant. As I got older, I drifted from church and began prioritizing sports and friends. In Grade 10, I became close with a friend who was strong in her faith and often invited me to church. It wasn't until Grade 12, after a trip to Africa, where God showed me the importance of joy despite circumstances, that I finally accepted her invitation.

Since then, I've attended church regularly and have grown in confidence in my faith; knowing it's truly my own, not just something I inherited from my parents. Through this renewed relationship with God, I came to understand the weight of my sin and my need for a Saviour. Jesus' death on the cross is the reason I can have a relationship with God, and I now fully grasp what it meant when I first accepted Him into my heart.

I'm learning that I can't depend on myself for what only God can provide. I'm striving to live differently from the world by focusing on Jesus, reading my Bible, and seeking His guidance. I want to walk closely with Him and be a light to others. My parents, especially my mom, continue to support and encourage me to bring my struggles to God.

Growing up, I didn't learn much about baptism, so I never took that step. Since returning to church, I've felt a persistent nudge to be baptized but often thought I wasn't 'ready'. I later realized that we don't wait until we're perfect; God meets us in our brokenness. I want to be baptized out of obedience and as a public declaration of an inward change in my heart.

I know Jesus died for my sins, and I want to take up my cross and follow Him, as Mathew 16:24 calls us to. Baptism is the next step in my faith journey, and I am thankful to share it with my church community.





## Mykaela Stewart

**Baptized By: Sienna McKinney (CG Leader) & Adriana Bryce (NYA)**

I grew up in a Christian home, going to Sunday school. When I was in middle school, I started going to youth group. Around the age of fifteen, I attended a Bible camp and one of my counsellors was very kind to me as she sat with me and answered all my questions about God. She continued to sit and talk with me and when I felt ready, she helped me pray asking Jesus into my heart, to be my Lord and Saviour. At this time is when I realized that I was a sinner in need of a Saviour and that Jesus died on the cross so that my sins could be forgiven. In that moment I became a Christian.

Now that I have professed my faith in Jesus, the way I plan to live differently and practice my faith is to try to read more of my Bible and be more involved in my church. I love volunteering in kid's ministry where I get to build relationships with children and commit time each week to serving in the church. In the past, most of my friends have had a negative influence on me, but now I am so grateful for my community group and the friendships God is giving me that encourage me in my faith.

The reason I want to get baptized is because I am ready to take this next step in my faith journey.



**December 7, 2025**

**Sunday • 11AM**

Downes Road



## Jake Schwenneker

**Baptized By: Josiah Plett (Youth Leader)**

I was born and raised in a Christian home with two loving parents and three older sisters. Because of this, I was introduced to Jesus Christ at a very young age. When I was about four or five, I accepted Jesus into my heart during Sunday school.

I realized I needed a stronger relationship with Jesus somewhat recently in my life. It was probably near the beginning of high school when our family was hit with some challenging situations, like how my sister began having some health challenges. I learnt through this that I can't go through everything alone and I need to rely more on the strength that only God can provide for me. I began to pray a lot more and along with that, read my Bible which really strengthened my faith.

Since I have grown stronger in my faith, I am learning to be more consistent in reading my Bible and to not only pray to God when I need Him, but also just talk and have conversations with Him. I'm so thankful to have some amazing people in my life to help influence me and guide me in my journey with Christ, like my parents, youth leaders, and most of my friends.

I want to be baptized because I have been meaning to do it for a year or two now, but I had been waiting till I was a better Christian, which I realize now is not the idea of baptism. Instead, I understand that God has invited me to walk with Him regardless of where I'm at.

I want to be baptized to take a step forward in my walk with the Lord and commit myself fully to Him.





## Nathan Froese

**Baptized By: Reese Gibson (Youth Leader)**

My testimony might be considered a boring one, but I think that is something to be proud of since I grew up in a Christian home. I don't exactly remember when I first learned about God, probably before I was seven, but I do remember knowing one thing - Jesus loves His children. My parents always reminded me of this and it's stuck with me my whole life. The main takeaway I've matured with is that He cares for the little guy.

I realized I was in need of a Saviour. I guess I'm pretty lucky that Jesus loved me first before I ever knew Him and chose to die for my sins. This truth really clicked for me when I was ten years old in my church's youth group, where I accepted God into my life. Recently, I've learned that being a Christian isn't just about being noticed at church - it's about living it out everywhere else too.

I've been trying to make an impact on my friends and family. One mental reminder that helps me is to treat people as if they're Jesus incarnate. I say this to myself because it means more than simply "treat others how you want to be treated." Thinking of Jesus in that example has opened my eyes to how we're supposed to act as Christians. I'll admit I can come across a bit sarcastic or even rude sometimes, and I know it's something I'm working on.

In other words, I think I've been procrastinating this next step of actually getting baptized. I have a whole bag of excuses, but I've finally decided to want to be that Christian all the time, not just on Sundays. At the end of the day, I guess I'm pretty lucky to have a boring testimony.





## John Jakel

**Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco**

I grew up in a Christian home, and while we didn't always attend church regularly, I noticed a huge shift when we started going every week. Church stopped feeling like a chore and became something I truly wanted. Still, I hadn't yet made my faith my own.

I was blessed with praying parents, grandparents, and friends, and I always believed God was real. I knew about Jesus, but I didn't truly *know* Him. I kept trying to do life my own way, chasing things of this world and coming up empty every time. Eventually, I realized what was missing - only Jesus Christ, who gave His life for my sins, who knows me and loves me, could fill that emptiness.

I've learned that walking with Christ isn't just about attending a weekend service; it's a daily decision and a complete lifestyle change. Reading Scripture, praying, and being surrounded by family, friends, and a girlfriend who keep me accountable have been transformative.

A big turning point for me was joining a Monday night Men's Bible study a year ago. I had always made excuses about not having enough time, but when you fill your week with Jesus, you realize He gives you more time and changes your heart in ways you never imagined. Those men have become like family to me, and that fellowship has strengthened my walk.

Today, I believe it's long overdue to publicly declare that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Saviour, and to be baptized - washing away my old self and living in my new identity in Him. As Acts 22:16 says, *"And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on His name."*





## Evie Fincaryk

**Baptized By: Quintin Fincaryk (Dad)**

I first learned about Christianity and the existence of God from my family; I remember for the first time understanding the story of Christ's sacrifice for us at a Northview kids service.

When I was six years old, I remember sitting down with my Mom on our stairs and her leading me through a prayer to acknowledge my sins and believe in Jesus' sacrifice. I merely wanted to be a 'child of God', but as I grew older, I began to understand the weight and significance of God's gift in my life. I grew to understand that my sins were punishable by death and eternal separation from God, but Jesus, the only perfect man to walk this earth, died the death that I deserved so that I wouldn't have to.

Recently, I have felt God changing me in areas of gratitude, conviction against sin, and my desire to share the Gospel. Through continual prayer, reading God's Word, and trusting in God, I hope to grow in my faith and become more like Jesus every day. Knowing that there is true joy and life only through Jesus, I will continue to follow God's path for me. With the support of my church community, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I will persevere through the temptation to hide my faith from those I know and love.

Because Jesus commands His followers to be baptized in His name. I want to publicly proclaim that my faith and identity lies in Jesus Christ, and to proclaim the good news of the Gospel, as a part of the body of Christ, my whole life.





## Ben Wight

### **Baptized By: Hunter Klassen (Youth Leader)**

I grew up learning about God through church and my family. From a young age, I knew about God but as I got older, I started to understand more deeply what it meant to follow Jesus, not just as something I believed, but as someone I needed personally.

I became a Christian as a child, but it wasn't until I got older that I realized how serious sin is and how much I need a Saviour. Through church, and reading the Bible, I saw how much Jesus loves me and that He died for my sins. I used to think I could be a better person by trying harder, but now I know I can't do it on my own, I need Jesus every day.

Right now, I'm trying to follow Jesus more faithfully. I'm learning through youth group, Bible studies, and church. At youth we've gone through the fruits of the Spirit, and I'm working on applying those in my life. I've also been challenged by being around people who don't share the same faith and not letting them change who I am, and I see how easy it is to drift. But I'm learning to stay grounded by spending more time with God and trusting in His Word.

I want to be baptized to show others how much I love Jesus and to show that I take my faith seriously. I want people to know I believe in Jesus and what He's done for me. This is the start of a new chapter where I want God at the center of my life. Even when I fall, I know Jesus already paid the price for my sins. I want to live for Him and baptism is my way of showing that publicly.





## **Xander Stayer**

**Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen**

I grew up in a family that was inconsistent in faith. My Mother left the church early in my life, while my Dad tried to bring my sister and me to church, though we moved often and never had a regular congregation. My earliest memories of learning about God were with my dad, who read the Bible to us before bed even when we weren't attending church. After my parents divorced in 2022 and my mom moved away, my Dad returned to church with my sister and me.

One evening, he asked if we wanted Jesus in our lives. I said yes, knowing He was real and wanting Him with me, though I didn't fully grasp what it meant. We prayed for Jesus and the Holy Spirit to enter our lives, but my understanding deepened later. In December 2023, I felt completely empty at school, feeling weighed down by my sin. Remembering a testimony video my dad had once shown me, I searched for one online. Watching it ignited a fire in me and gave me a renewed sense of purpose to know Jesus more.

I began reading Scripture, starting in Revelation, and soon realized the truth I already knew, that I was a sinner deserving God's wrath. It was then I understood how desperately I needed Jesus and His grace, purchased by His sacrifice on the cross. Since then, I have been professing Jesus as my Lord and Saviour to everyone I can. Though following Him comes with many challenges, I rely on my Bible, my family, and my church to stay faithful.

Baptism is the next step in my journey, marking my commitment to live fully for Christ and dedicate my life to advancing His Kingdom.





## Zaydox Epp

**Baptized By: Patrick Epp (Dad)**

I was introduced to God through my family. My Mom and Dad have taken me to church all my life. My grandparents have also spoken the Word to me. They have all helped me get to know God in so many ways and that is amazing for them to do that for me. It really shows that the people who love me care enough to teach me about God. A verse that stands out to me is John 1:12. I am God's child. To me, this means that no matter what I do God loves me even if I do the most horrible thing you can imagine. If I ask for forgiveness He will forgive me and knowing that is the best thing in the world.

I was nine when I first accepted Jesus into my life. I believed in Him and knew what He had done for us but it wasn't until I was 12 when I was watching 'Passion of the Christ' that I knew I was a sinner and I needed Jesus's sacrifice for my sins. Seeing a visual representation of what Jesus went through being hated and beaten and treated so badly, I was amazed that He did that all for someone like me! To me, I think that is pretty cool.

I go to Him in prayer. I try to live how God wants us to live, and treat others like Jesus would want me to. My Mom and Dad guide me to live for Jesus. My grandparents helped me in my faith and how I learn.

I want to declare to the public that I love Jesus and I am His and I will profess His love to those around me.





## Caleb Derksen

**Baptized By: Ron Derksen (Dad)**

My name is Caleb Derksen. I first learned about God from my parents. They read me Bible stories, and we listened to Christian Heroes on CDs.

I realized that I was a sinner in need of a Saviour and that Jesus died on the cross to forgive my sins when I was in grade 4, when my sister bought me a devotional that I read every day. I realized the weight of my sins and how I had failed God's standard. Jesus saved me from the punishment I deserved so I can now live in communion with Him. I thank God every day for saving me and always loving me no matter how much I mess up. God always takes me back.

Now that I profess my faith in Jesus, I am learning to live differently by establishing Christian routines, such as reading my Bible every day, praying daily, going to youth group, serving in Children's Ministry, and going to church. My family and pastors are helping me to persevere. One of my favourite verses is Romans 10:9, "If you say with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

I want to get baptized to publicly declare my faith in Jesus, because Jesus tells us we should, and to take the next step in my faith.





## Claire Derksen

**Baptized By: Ron Derksen (Dad)**

My name is Claire Derksen. I first learned about God from my parents and at church. I have attended Awana for six years, where I memorize verses and learn Bible stories. I realized that I was a sinner in need of a Saviour and that Jesus died on the cross to forgive my sins when I was about three. I became a Christian with the help of my parents and siblings. I didn't really have a moment when I realized that I needed a Saviour, but my parents were often encouraging me and my siblings that we should consider Jesus. My sister was often concerned that I was not taking Jesus seriously because I hadn't confessed that I needed a Saviour. And then one day I decided to do just that.

I am learning to act more like Jesus by trying to be more kind and gentle to the people around me. I am going to Awana and church, and I serve as a leader in training for kid's ministry. I also look for times in my life when I can tell people about God.

By reading the Bible, I'm learning how to live my life more for God. My parents are the ones helping me persevere. One of my favourite Bible verses is Isaiah 41:10, "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with My victorious right hand."

I want to get baptized because I want to grow more in my faith and I publicly declare that I believe in Jesus. I want to live my life for Him.

I want to get baptized because I'm ready to take another step in my faith.





## Ben Stratton

**Baptized By: Eli Thiessen (Youth Leader)**

I first learned about God through my friend while I was an agnostic. I had been researching God and other faiths, but I still had not made up my mind. It was not until last December, when I was at my lowest, that Jesus revealed Himself to me through Matthew, Chapter 11. I felt His presence and knew in that moment that I was a sinful person in need of a Saviour.

I started following Jesus that day, and I believed the promise that, by following Him, He would take away my sins and show me how to live a better life.

Following Him is still a challenge, as Paul says in Romans 7:19, "For I do not do the good I want but the evil I do not want is what I keep doing," I still fall short even though I want to do good! Even though I still sin, Jesus never gives up on me. I continue to be God's son, and He will never abandon me.

I want to be baptized because Jesus calls all of His people to be baptized, and this will help me persevere in the faith.



# MISSION

## Testimonies

### SUNDAY

**9 AM** Brayden Dean  
Ashley Dean  
Rachel Dean

**11 AM** Belle Dempsey  
Maddison Sepke  
Tylor Algra  
Izaac Joachim  
Santiago Pizarro  
Rafael Pizarro  
Joseph Gagnon  
Kaylie Wheadon  
Elliot Barnsdale

**December 7, 2025**

**Sunday • 9AM**

Mission



## Brayden Dean

**Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

I was raised in a Christian household and attended Abbotsford Christian School. I accepted Jesus into my heart at a young age and have never doubted Him since. Towards the end of high school, I decided that I would drop the label of Christian because I was not living in a way that honoured Christ. I didn't want to be hypocritical. I started living a selfish life, focusing on what I wanted, and ignoring the way God wanted me to live.

Through those years of not calling myself a Christian, I found more reasons for why I needed to follow Christ. I now understand how filling my life with selfish distractions only leads me to a darker place every day and eventually for eternity. I have seen how the way I interact with people can have a huge impact on people and why living like Christ through love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control is the only way to do it. Jesus not only saved me from my sins, but He is my example and shows me how to live.

Each day I want to be a better person for my wife, a better role model for my friends and family and a better leader at work. I want to continue using the skills I have to bless others and understand how God wants me to act in every circumstance. I want to live the rest of my life like Christ because there is no better purpose than that.

I want to be baptized to be obedient to Scripture and show others that Jesus has saved me and is my example to follow.





## Ashley Dean

**Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

I grew up in a Christian home and went to church most Sundays. When I was around five, I gave my life to Christ. I quickly felt guilt for my sin and recognized I needed a Saviour.

I have felt God's love at church when singing to Him. At church on Sunday and at my young adults group, I'm learning more about God with other fellow believers. My family and friends are going to help me grow in my faith. As I learn, I hope to glorify God more and more in everything I do. I want to continue praying, reading my Bible and serving in my life.

I want to be baptized because Jesus is my Saviour. Baptism is a step in obedience to Him and to show others I follow Him.





## Rachel Dean

**Baptized By: Jim Dean (Dad)**

I grew up in a Christian family and was dedicated to God at a young age. Around the age of six, I accepted Jesus into my heart, but I still felt a sense of emptiness. I often lived in fear of what was next and had anxiety about what people thought of me. I found myself caught up in gossip, whether at volleyball or at school, and I was searching for happiness in all the wrong places. It wasn't until last year that I truly met Christ. I realized that the things of this world couldn't fill me and that I desperately needed a Saviour.

Since choosing to follow Jesus, I've felt the Holy Spirit working in my life. In moments of fear and anxiety, I now feel His presence and peace with me through it all.

I want to be baptized to show my commitment to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. I want to continue pursuing the Lord in every way I can and live my life for Him.



**December 7, 2025**

**Sunday • 11AM**

Mission



## **Belle Dempsey**

**Baptized By: Tammy & Clay Gagnon (Mom and Dad)**

I grew up in a Christian home, and went to a Christian school from K - 12, so I've always known about God. My Dad has always been a godly man who led our family in faith. Sometime after high school, though, I slowly began drifting away from God - chasing things outside that "Christian bubble." I surrounded myself with ungodly influences and followed my own path, which ultimately only led to brokenness, insecurities, and lack of any fulfillment. Looking back, I hardly recognize the person I used to be.

My life began to change when I met my husband; he continually lifted me up, which helped me get back on track with my walk with Christ. I felt God calling me back more strongly than ever, especially after Charlie Kirk's passing - that moment moved me to join the Northview worship team and really reconnect deeply with my faith.

Worship has always been where I feel closest to God. During one particular song, which resonates so much with me, that I sang with my old band at a recovery church, I felt the Holy Spirit stir within me so powerfully that I knew - I am ready. I am no longer worried about not being worthy enough for baptism, and therefore, potentially, mocking its meaning. I no longer want to live a lukewarm Christian life.

Today, I am being baptized to give my life fully to Jesus Christ, who has redeemed me; 'a dead man walking, slave to sin, I wanna know about being born again.'





## Maddison Sepke

**Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

When I met my fiancé, Tylor, he started talking to me about Jesus early on in our relationship. At first, it made me uncomfortable, but I wanted to know more. I began engaging in conversation, asking questions, and eventually went to church with him. The first song I heard on my first day attending church had me in tears because I knew I was feeling the Holy Spirit for the first time.

After six months of church, my faith grew stronger, though I had doubts. Everything changed during a fishing trip in the summer of 2024. I had been fishing for hours with no luck and finally prayed to Jesus to help me catch something. Right when I was praying, I caught a humongous greenling cod. That moment I knew - Jesus was for real, He loved me, and I wanted to follow Him for the rest of my life.

Before I found Jesus, I was lost. I looked for love and validation in all the wrong places, always feeling like something was missing. Now I realize the missing piece was Him. In God I find comfort and safety, knowing I don't have to go through this life on my own. I lean on God through tough times and lay my burdens on Him. I've learned forgiveness, patience and unconditional love. I have been able to forgive people who have hurt me and release so much pain from my past.

I know I am not perfect, and I never will be, but I am saved by God's grace. God was always there, waiting for me to reach out. Now I hold His hand firmly and never want to let go. I am safe, I am loved, and I am home.





## Tylor Algra

### **Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

I know there's a gap between the person I should be and the person I am. Please forgive me for my wrongdoing. Thank you, Jesus, for your promise. Lord Jesus, I trust that you died on the cross to pay the price for my life, so that one day I can be with you in paradise. Lord Jesus, help me to be strengthened and guided through this life, and fill me with your Holy Spirit.

I grew up attending church my whole life; I never knew life without Jesus, and what a blessing that has been. My parents have been great teachers for me and have always been there to guide me and answer any questions that I have. As I got older, I quickly realized that my parents' faith won't get me into heaven, so I had to take control of my journey with Jesus and start building my own personal relationship with Him.

Now, starting my own relationship with Him, I've found that I'm slow to anger and love the man I'm becoming so much more. I'm proud that He calls me His own, and I'm much happier knowing that He's always been there for me; He's shown me so much love and grace and overwhelming mercy.

My fiancé has helped me so much to become a loving man of God who stands firm on the good Word, seeing her excitement to learn more about Him and her encouraging me to go to Bible studies, read my Bible more, and pray together. Watching her love for the Lord grow so strong is more than enough encouragement to stick out this race of faith right till the very end. She's helping me to become a great man, a great leader for our relationship, and one day a strong father who leads his family to Jesus, just as my father did for me.

I want to be baptized because I'm called to be, and I'm ready to make a big change in my life. I'm ready to surrender to Him.





## Izaak Joachim

**Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

When I was around seven, my grandma and I would say bedtime prayers together and I went to church when I was young. As I got older I started to make some unhealthy choices in life, resulting in bad habits. I only cared about my addiction and I pushed family and friends away. I lost sight of who I was. In my addiction I became someone unrecognizable.

Things changed when I asked Jesus into my life. Jesus guided, protected, and gave me the courage to face my fears and get into treatment and face my fears. Through that time I got to experience healing and the weight of fear, depression and anxiety has been lifted. I can now go forward in life without living in my past mistakes and truly love me for who I am today because of what Christ has done. Although It hasn't been easy, I've been blessed with a beautiful, healthy and loving daughter and I have the gift to be there for her today, which I'm extremely grateful for.

I'm learning to make prayer a part of my day, going to church regularly and being more involved in the community. My family and some new friends I've made along the way in recovery have been helping me surround myself with God and connect with other members.

I want to be baptized to show my commitment of faith in Christ, to grow in the Spirit, and begin my new life in Him.





## Santiago Pizarro

**Baptized By: Priscilla Pizarro (Mom)**

I was raised in a Christian home all my life. Growing up, my parents modeled reading through Scripture, prayer, and attending church on Sundays. My family has been and will continue to help me persevere in my faith. They always encourage me to pray and read my Bible. Attending youth has also been a place of encouragement.

In John 3:3, Jesus says that we must be born again in order to receive eternal life. It's only through Jesus that I can be born again and receive the gift of eternal life. Through Jesus, I am made new, and through Him, I am more patient, kinder, and like Him. My goal to become a more faithful Christian is to read my Bible more and make more Christian friends. I have also been going to youth, which I've found encouraging and fun.

I want to be baptized to be obedient to Jesus and to show others that I have been born again through my faith in Jesus.





## Rafael Pizarro

**Baptized By: Priscilla Pizarro (Mom) & Tom Andres (Youth Leader/Mentor)**

I first learned about God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit from my parents. Since birth, my parents have taught me about God and what it means to be a Christian. When I was little, I learned that all are sinners in need of a Saviour, and that Jesus died on the cross for me.

My parents are both Christians, so they helped me become a Christian. Since I professed my faith in Jesus, I am learning to be kinder, set better examples, walk away from sin and towards Jesus. I have also learned to live with Jesus in my everyday life and put God's plan before my plans. My family is helping me learn and to be more faithful to God.

I want to be baptized to follow the example of Christ and demonstrate to others that I am a Christian.





## Joseph Gagnon

**Baptized By: Bram Gagnon (Dad) & Clay Gagnon (Uncle)**

I grew up in a Christian household with parents who had a strong faith in Christ. I've always felt a strong connection with God. But when I was about 14 years old, I started to drift away, questioning, even if God was real, as if I was being told lies my entire life.

About a year later, I woke up one morning and was called upstairs by my parents, and they said, "sit down, we have terrible news. Your uncle passed away last night." I didn't know what to feel. I just sat there, lifeless, caught off guard by what I was just told. I didn't want to believe what I'd just been told. I could've gotten mad at God, I could've lashed out at God, and I questioned why He took my uncle from me. I could've used that all as an excuse to drift myself away from Him. Instead, God drew me closer to Him. My mind recalled a conversation two weeks prior with my uncle. He talked to me about my faith, that I needed God in my life and needed to take the next steps in my faith. I realized I never wanted to be in a situation and not be able to call myself a son in Christ.

Since that day, I've devoted my life to Christ the Saviour and want everything going forward to be done from his teachings. Jesus is helping me control my anger, making me kinder and gentler in moments where I used to lash out. I believe that Christ truly died on the cross for me so I could have a new life.

I want to get baptized to show that truth to others.





## Kaylie Wheadon

**Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg**

As a kid, I grew up learning things about God and Jesus, but as I grew up, I fell out of touch with God. As I grew up, life got really hard, and I eventually found myself struggling with substance abuse. This time of my life was so lonely. I was separated from friends, family, my kids and God. I got to a place where it felt like God was running away from me but this past year I have realized that I was the one running.

I am done running, and since I have stopped, I realize I am no longer alone. God never left me, He has welcomed me home. Jesus has saved me from my sin and adopted me into God's family, I am His daughter.

“We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in the newness of Life.”

I am excited to get baptized because I am ready to live out my new life in Jesus.

I pray that my other relationships, with my kids, family and friends, will be restored just like my relationship with God has been. I trust that Jesus will help me become the Mom, friend and Christian I have always desired to be.





## Elliot Barnsdale

**Baptized By: Peter Barnsdale (Dad) & Joshua Brown (Friend)**

As I was growing up I had the privilege to live in a Christian household. My parents would take me to church every Sunday as far back as I can remember and I would go down to Sunday school whenever it was available. As a child I enjoyed Sunday school and committed my life blindly to Christ because that's what I had been asked to do. After elementary school I kept going to church, being a good kid and learning facts about God but I never prayed or read my Bible. I assumed that because I went to church and said I believed that I would go to Heaven.

This belief served me well until during covid when someone close to me who had taught me a lot of God took their own life. It left me distraught and confused, I didn't understand how God could let someone who loved Him do this. My belief in God started to waiver throughout the next two years as I stopped going to youth and started to dislike sitting through church.

Around the end of grade 8 someone encouraged me to go back to youth, so I did. Everyone there welcomed me gladly and I kept going as I was enjoying it. During the next few months I learned a lot about who God really was and I began to understand that He does want the best for everyone but He still allows us to have free will. Since then, God has helped me to form good relationships and to make beneficial choices for how to proceed in my life. He has also challenged me recently to dive deeper into big topics and to discuss His love with others my age. God brought me out of a dark spot and gave me a new beautiful life and I would like to commit it to Him forever.







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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