



TESTIMONIES

FALL 2024



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 William Cole
Ella Miller
Xander Berger
Alyssa Chapman
Makenna Barata
Mason Beaulieu
Queensalpha Yusuf
Oleksiy Venglyarsky
Jamal Percy

6PM Venecia Watrin
Tanayah Bos
Tyson Schellenberg
KyLia Schellenberg
Nellee Schellenberg
Anneke Stevenson
Brendan O'Neill
Annie Golubenko
Cole Siebert
Ethan Loewen

DOWNES ROAD LOCATION

Testimonies

Sunday

9AM Breanne Weflen
Willy Phiri
Ryan Noort
Melissa Staetter
Issac Skeels
Brody Koehorn
Michelle Gaudet
Chris Gaudet
Hannah Kampen
Lewis Nielsen
Sage Westie
Dylan De Meyer
Lilly Gatt
Tuula Filpula

11AM Janea Tubbs
Devon Tubbs
Kenneth Ginter
Sarah Schofield
Peyton Remple
Connor Remple
Riley Remple
Aubrey Davies
Oliver Klassen
Oliver Crossman
Lilly Crossman
Hazel Crossman
Jade Lima
Joey Goerzen
Prit Brar

Saturday • 4PM

Downes Road Location



William Cole

Baptized By: Justin Cole (Dad)

When I was three my mom helped me to accept Jesus. Since then, my family has helped me walk with Jesus. Even though I'm young, I am living in God's word and studying the bible and doing my best to listen to God. I want to be baptized because I want to follow Jesus and he is coming soon and I want to follow and obey GOD, my mom and my dad as I learn more about what it means to be a Christian. Some of the obstacles I have are learning what God wants for me, and I am still young. When you are my age you are tempted a lot so I need to trust Jesus to see me through. I know that I am a Christian because I have a firm faith in Jesus. I have always believed in God and Jesus. For Eleven years (all my life) I have gone to Northview and I want to be baptized here. In the future I plan on praying, bringing others to Christ and doing everything to praise God. I do still need to have help after I'm baptized, but I will do my best to keep following Jesus. The most recent moment with God I have had is at a retreat at Camp Luther and became closer to God, and I felt compelled to be baptized as Jesus says to be. I have always loved Jesus and I hope He calls us to be with Him soon.





Ella Miller

Baptized By: Brian Miller (Dad)

For my whole life I have been around Christian influences including my parents, friends, schoolmates, teachers, and the people at church. So, I thought that I was a good Christian. When I asked Jesus into my heart at 5 years old, I think I did it just because. I didn't fully understand what it meant. I didn't pray or read the bible. I just took it for granted that I would be saved, but I didn't have a relationship with him or rely on him.

A year ago, I started getting panic attacks frequently and started finding it harder to be calm. Some of these things would make it harder to do other tasks like school. I started praying about it and multiple times after doing so I felt better. It really felt like he was with me and was not going to leave me. After those kinds of experiences, I really knew that He was real and I could have a relationship. I still have many questions, but I want to grow in my faith and keep learning. I want to get baptized because I want to take the next step in my journey.

One of my favourite Bible verses is:

Phillipians 4:8 "And now dear brothers and sisters, one final thing fix your thoughts on what is true and honourable and right and pure and lovely and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise."

I really like this verse because it's hard to remember what is pure, noble and right in our world and it's something I need to remember more often.





Xander Berger

Baptized By: Errol DeSouza (Uncle)

I first learned about God in school and in church. I learned about Him by listening in church, school and by worshiping His name during chapel. While learning about God, I have felt I should respond to Him by getting baptized. What I'm learning about right now is that there's only one true God. I realized that I was a sinner and needed a Saviour in grade 4/5 . Right around this time I was going to bible camp and that's when it came to me that the only way to live is through Christ Jesus our Lord. The moment I invited Him into my heart I felt like I was on cloud nine. I want to get baptized because over the past few years He has proven that He is the Lord and Messiah and because I want the world to know who I am - A child of God.





Alyssa Chapman

Baptized By: Jeff Chapman (Dad?)

I have grown up in a Christian home, going to church on Sundays, praying every night before bed, going to kids club, and VBS. I accepted Christ into my heart at VBS when I was about 10 and soon after we had a lesson at church on God and what it means to have Him in your life and to accept Him into your heart. I guess in that moment I realized I needed Christ with me all the time and I wouldn't be able to get through life alone no matter how hard I tried.

It wasn't until after my grandpa passed away that I realized I need to start practicing my faith everyday. Looking back on his life he was an amazing man, he did everything well! He was a father, a grandfather, a construction worker, and a pastor. He was definitely a man of the people. He would listen when people needed someone to talk to and he would give plenty of words of wisdom. He was so funny and amazing. I didn't realize how many lives he had changed until after he passed. I want to follow his example and be a faithful Christian who spreads the word of God as well as lives a faithful Christian life.





Makenna Barata

Baptized By: Kevin Barata (Dad)

Every Sunday since I was born, I have had two loving parents bringing me and my sisters to church. My dad shared the meaning of God to me and the impact He takes each step of my life. I was a strong believer walking with faith until I hit high school. The beginning of high school was very hard for me, I just wanted to fit in and in doing that my walk with the Lord slowly faded away. I fell in temptation and would do whatever I wanted even when I knew I was sinning. It wasn't till I hit grade 11 where I went through a very hard patch of my life. I was recovering from an eating disorder and was slowly realizing my anxiety levels were not normal. After being in a very bad place for a year I reached back out to the Lord. I picked up my childhood bible and just started reading. I started to realize that the only person who could help me and save me was the Lord. I brought my relationship with the Lord back. It was never easy doing this, there were times where I prayed asking for guidance and answers that I didn't get. I was getting frustrated with God, I felt like my prayers were never going to be answered. It wasn't till I was fully recovered from my eating disorder and was on a path to understand my anxiety and where it comes from. I was sitting in a parking lot after an appointment, I was crying thanking God for the work He has done for me. I didn't realize that what I was missing was trust, I needed to trust God that when the time was right He would heal me. Everything that happened during my recovery even when it was hard was all part of God's timing. I realized the power God has, and the great things He has done in my life. In those moments, my faith was rekindled, and I found strength and comfort in God's presence. That night I thought back to all the times I sinned. I decided to take the next step with my relationship with the Lord publicly declaring my commitment to Jesus through baptism. I am dedicating my life to Him, grateful for His unending love and guidance





Mason Beaulieu

Baptized By: Hunter (Youth Leader)

I was blessed to be introduced to Christ's goodness at a very young age but as a child I didn't really understand what Christianity was until much later. Going to public school for elementary and middle school I felt alone in my faith and I started to wonder if there was any God out there and if there was one, "was I walking the footsteps of someone who didn't even exist?" So with my parent's help, I signed up for a seminar called Questioning Christianity hoping that it could answer some of the big questions an 8th grader had. And it did just that, but still I didn't feel that questions were enough to solve the mystery that Christ was to me.

Entering my high school journey I was accepted to go to MEI secondary. (Go Eagles!) I was a bit nervous going into a new school but excited to try something new. And I loved it from day one. I found the greatest group of friends I had ever found there who shared in my beliefs and values. But all the way through my grade 9 year I was silently struggling with my doubt of God. On the outside I looked like a polished Christian who had everything together, but really I was on and off believing God was real.

Into my grade 10 year I was feeling like my faith was just a routine. I would sing at church, listen to the sermons, go to youth group, and pray. But I never felt like I had a relationship with God. Until this summer when I had a very close call to a serious injury while riding my bike. This really shook me inside and made me question if this may be a wake up call. After that incident, every time I listened to a sermon it felt like something deeper was in the sermon for me. When I sang the songs at youth or church, the words sang to me, and when I went to youth group, it wasn't just a few hours where I could hangout with friends. It was so much more. My faith was so much more to me.

I made the decision to get baptized because I realized that my faith can't just be to myself. I need to share this good news with the masses and declare that I live for Jesus! And to the person like me that thinks they can't be baptized because you are sinning and need to be perfect before entering the waters of baptism. God knows that you will make mistakes along the way, but the mind blowing thing is, grace is for all. That's why when I get baptized I am not afraid of sin because I know my name is written in the book of life with the really annoying Sharpie that you can't erase. The verse I learned to love is Philippians 4:6-7 which says to not be anxious about anything because God's got it and He's got you and nobody is taking you out of His arms. Look up and praise God! Thank you to all my friends and family who have made me the grateful person I am. You know who you are!





Queensalpa Yusuf

Baptized By: Usep Yusuf (Dad)

I first learned about God from my parents who have been devout Christians many years prior to my birth. I grew up going to church and Sunday school every Saturday or Sunday. Even to this day, the faith has never really left my household, which I am thankful for.

I realized that I was a sinner in need of Jesus as my Saviour when I learned that being a Christian was not just about having this routine of reading the Bible and praying everyday. It was also about how I present myself around others and live my life. When I did some reflection, I learned that all of those things should individually reflect the love and the kindness of God. I let this realization sink in before I truly declared myself as a Christian at the age of 10. I have matured throughout my adolescence with this mindset. I am responding to Jesus right now by accepting His love and recognizing the sacrifices He made for me and how those should not go in vain.

My faith sometimes gets challenged when things get difficult because I start feeling like I should give up. Sometimes, I just want to lay in my bed all day and not think of the state of my life when stuff gets tough. But everyday, I learn that I have a higher purpose to live for with Jesus. When I pray to Him, He teaches me to not give up and to instead flourish in my faith.

I want to be baptized as not only a public confession of my faith, but also as my public expression of thankfulness to Jesus. I want to personally thank Jesus for pulling me out of the dark and showing me the way. Not only that but I want others to know that He is always there for them, too.





Oleksiy Venglyarskyy

Baptized By: Dmitrii Kovalchuk (Mentor)

Today, I want to share my journey of faith that has brought me to this moment of baptism. I was born in Kyiv, Ukraine, and grew up in an Orthodox Christian family. My grandmother, a deeply religious woman, first introduced me to God. Her strong faith inspired me to seek a closer relationship with Him.

Throughout my life, I faced challenges that tested me. During these tough times, I found comfort in prayer and scripture. I realized I was never alone; God was always there, guiding me. This understanding sparked my desire to find a community of believers to help me grow in my faith.

As I became more involved in my church, I learned about Jesus's sacrifice and His love. I began to understand what it means to be a follower of Christ. The more I studied, the more I felt God calling me to make a commitment. I wanted to publicly declare my faith.

Today, as I prepare for baptism, I feel hopeful and excited. This moment isn't just a ritual; it symbolizes my transformation and commitment to walk in faith. I'm ready to embrace the person God has called me to be.

I want to thank everyone who has supported me. My family, friends, and church community. Your encouragement means so much to me. As I take this step, I look forward to continuing this journey with all of you.





Jamal Percy

**Baptized By: Sai Montgomery
(Long time Christian Friend)**

Born into a family on the fringe of religious identity, and raised in a city with spiritual fantasies, I've lived the majority of my life as agonistic. While my Mother was a firm believer of Buddhism, my Father on the other hand, was a man who starved for divinity. My Father could be called a Muslim one year and a Christian the next, then a Buddhist and a Pagan. I believed that if my Father, a man whom I greatly admired for his intellect, couldn't discover the divine source of all creation, that there wasn't one. Then, while in my last year of high school, my Father overdosed. Desperate for answers, I continued my Father's search for divinity, studying ancient Egyptian mythology and astrology.

During this time, I designed and flushed out an imaginative world that became the backbone of my philosophy; partly inspired by Friedrich Nietzsche, my Father's favorite philosopher. I gradually stopped searching for divinity, and sought instead to live out this philosophy. Predicated on achieving perfection above all else; I distanced myself from my friends and family to achieve my goals.

I became obsessed with myself, obsessed with my achievements, I thought I was better than those who didn't embrace the same lifestyle that I lived. Then, I met a special woman who challenged my beliefs, a Christian woman who introduced me to Jesus Christ, the greatest gift I have ever received. I discovered the divine source of all creation, a Father that would never leave me and most of all, the grace of God. I realized that I wasn't perfect, that I wasn't better than everyone, but that was okay, because Jesus Christ is perfect, and that was enough for me.

I've lived the majority of my life being agonistic, and now, I'll live the rest of my life being Christian.



Saturday • 6PM

Downes Road Location



Venecia Watrin

Baptized By: Abby Gamache (Youth Leader)

I was born in a Christian family and remember always going to church and being in the Christmas kids' choir. When I was 8, I went to a summer vacation Bible school and learned I needed to ask Jesus into my heart to pay for my sins. I remember being so excited to come home to tell my parents that I had prayed and let Jesus in my heart to save me.

These past few years have been a struggle. Volleyball is something I am very passionate about. Two years ago I tore my ACL and was unable to play for over a year. This was one of the causes for me to fall into having depression. But because I had so much free time without sports in my life, I started going to the Northview high school youth and started volunteering in the children's ministry with my mom. This changed my perspective on what I was prioritizing in my life and I had realized I had been putting volleyball over God in my life.

Through spending time with my youth leaders and learning more about God through Bible studies, my relationship with the Lord has grown immensely. When I attended an athletics in action volleyball summer camp this past year, I learned through my coaches how to incorporate my faith into my sport.

Now that I have returned to playing sports, I'm able to balance my priorities and make sure God stays at number one.





Tanaya Bos

Baptized By: Tanya Bos (Mom)

I was blessed to be born into a Christian home and have grown up in a family who live by Christian values. My family has always attended church. I went to Sunday school every Sunday as a child where I learned about Jesus and the Bible. I've also attended MEI schools since my preschool years where I've been taught about God through Bible classes and Chapels. I said a special prayer with my mom when I was 6 years old to accept Jesus into my heart. Although I've always considered myself a Christian, it hasn't always felt like the core of my being. Attending church and MEI has just sort of become a weekly routine.

Over this last year, I have felt more of a pull to really grow in my relationship with Jesus. My sister was baptized a year ago and she has been an inspiration to me in watching her live out her faith. Her baptism service last year really touched my heart and stirred something inside of me. I've had some struggles over the last couple years with my own self-confidence and feeling inadequate and afraid. I've realized there is a strength that my sister has that I also want to experience. I believe her strength and confidence come from Jesus and I'm now on a journey to find that strength.

This September, I sort of hit a wall. This happened most intensely in my life as an athlete, feeling so much pressure, weakness, fear & almost failure in a sport that I love. After a very emotionally difficult training day, I felt a pull to go to church one Sunday. It just so happened to be a service in which they announced the next baptism classes. I knew at that moment that I needed to attend that class and dedicate my life to Christ through baptism. I want to live in freedom with Jesus' strength and courage. I am excited to be a fully committed child of God and to continue to grow and represent Jesus in my life.





Tyson Schellenberg

Baptized By: Terry Schellenberg (Grandpa)

Growing up in a Christian home I have heard about the Lord as long as I can remember. The first time I can remember was when I was 4 years old in wee college when I learnt that we needed God in our lives. So I gave my life to Him not really understanding the whole meaning behind what I was doing. When I was 12 though I was at youth and we were singing the song "Reckless Love" by Cory Asbury and for some reason, the song felt different, like it was directed at my heart. The song talks about God's love for us and I felt like I needed that in my life. So that night I asked the Lord into my heart again and it felt fulfilling like I had done something good and right with God. This last year I have been hearing the Lord's calling for me to get baptized and in this, I am fulfilling God's instructions for us to be loyal servants of God. I also feel that publicly pronouncing my faith to my family and friends so when I wander astray I will have people in my life to help set me back on the right path.





KyLia Schellenberg

Baptized By: Beatrice Schellenberg (Mom)

I have been raised in a Christian home. Growing up, church was a weekly thing, with my whole family, and my grandparents too. I have loved the Lord my whole life, and I have seen the workings of His grace and forgiveness. My parents continue to show me the light of Jesus through their actions and support. I have attended MEI my whole life and I continue to grow in my faith with my friends and teachers challenging and encouraging me. It has been a blessing to have grown up in a Christian home because it has shaped me to shine the light of God in all I do.

As a young child I heard about the first sin and how that has separated us from God. There is only one way to be in a relationship with Him, and God gave this to us through Jesus. I accepted this gift that God offered, at the age of 9, as I prayed with my mom in my bedroom. I was, at this point, understanding the basics of the meaning of Christianity, but not the whole story. I knew that I was a sinner. That night I felt a space that needed to be filled, as I was asking my mom questions, I knew that God was the one that could fill that space. This is when my faith became my own.

Throughout my journey, I have had a lot of questions, some that could be answered by family and friends, but others that I have had to work through myself; this is where I have seen my faith grow. I have come to love going to church and being with the family of God. I have seen the things God has done in my life, His Word helping me through tough things, and his faithfulness as I learn to depend on Him, solely, as my rock. God has taught me that I am wonderfully made, and He has a plan for every step in my life. God has been guiding me and showing his true self to me.

I want to get baptized simply because I want to be obedient to God; showing that I am a Christian and believe the gospel story, and that He has written out a plan for my life. Here I am, ready to serve and continue being obedient to God.





Nellee Schellenberg

Baptized By: Stuart Schellenberg (Dad)

When I was about four years old, I had a children's Bible that was given to me by my parents. I would flip through it and marvel at the pictures every night in bed. I had heard the stories in Sunday school, but the pictures were still fun to look at. It was about this time when I prayed with my mom asking Jesus into my heart.

In the past couple of years, I have struggled with anxiety. I hold myself to a high standard and expect remarkable things from myself. I was 15, crumbling under this weight, and I realized I could give it all up to God. I accepted myself as a sinner, I realized I could never be a perfect Christian. This led to me understanding what it meant to need a saviour. Since then, it has been a struggle to rely on God, but every day I get better.

God has blessed me with a servant's heart, and I have responded by volunteering in Children Ministries. I have been serving at Northview since 2019 and teaching His children the Bible has brought me such joy and fulfillment. I have been coming to terms with what it means to have a just God, knowing that not everyone will make it to Heaven. As a follower of God, I want to disciple, but I must trust in God to do the work, as Christians we can only spark the flame.

Once I realized I could never be a good enough Christian, I wanted to be baptized. I am a Christian because I accepted the free gift of salvation, and I want my community to know. Baptism is a symbol of obedience to God that I want to declare as I want to live like Christ did.





Anneke Stevenson

Baptized By: Gary Stevenson (Dad)

I learned about God from my family. They taught me about God and His great love for me, and that His Son Jesus died on the cross to save me from my sins.

I first realized that I was a sinner and broken in my early teenage years. Sometimes I felt so alone in the situations I was walking through, I felt like I was falling. When I finally landed on my feet I saw that He was with me the whole time and was helping guide me through, even in the toughest things I was facing. Looking back I can see His steadfast care and protection over my life. Because of this I have decided to follow Jesus and fix my eyes on Him. He has taught me that my identity is solely in Him. I have decided to be baptized because I want to publicly commit my life to Christ and to make a covenant with God.





Brendan O'Neill

Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen

I have been raised as a Christian my entire life, both of my parents as well as my extended family are all also believers. Growing up I was not really tested in my faith. I had assumed that was normal for any kid in my situation. Growing up I was taught what Christianity was through Sunday church, summer bible camps and youth groups. In the back of my mind, I always knew I am a sinner, but I never truly knew what that meant until the summer of 2023 when I came to the realization of how badly I needed God in my life. Still months went on and I did not do much about that until I returned from my summer trip of 2024. From that moment on I had a shift in perspective. I thought more carefully about the decisions I was making and the people I surround myself with. I also started getting rid of old habits and replaced them with new ones. Going to a public school I see people far from God every day. In the past, that had some influence on the way I acted or the things I enjoyed doing. Once I had that moment of realization, I concluded that the only one that should have an influence on my life is God. Once I let go of the past sins things began to get easier, and decisions became clearer. One of those decisions was the choice to get baptized. I had thought about it for a long time and considered it many times but always thought I needed to wait for the right time. Eventually I concluded that there never will be a right time and that I wanted to take that first step as soon as possible to follow Jesus for the rest of my life.





Annie Golubenko

Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen

I grew up listening to the gospel from my parents and family. They read the bible to me and we often had discussions about God and Jesus. I also learn more about God from going to church.

I realized at an early age that I am a sinner. It was always a thought in the back of my mind that what I was doing was wrong. It wasn't until last year that I started hating the person I was becoming. I was leaning towards a bad direction and decided that I want to change for the better. I knew that only through God could I change. I decided I no longer want to be a lukewarm Christian. I wanted to accept Jesus Christ as my saviour.

I am responding to Jesus by noticing the small and big things he brings into my life and that everything He does is for a reason even if I don't realize it at first. I learned that if I don't fully give myself to Christ that the negative thoughts will overtake and I'll eventually fall back into sin.

I want to declare to the church and to the world that I am a follower of Christ and accept him as my Lord and Saviour. I surrender my life to Him and I am making a commitment to be a follower of Him.





Cole Siebert

Baptized By: Pastor Ezra Okoti

I have figured out that I am really good at planning when I want to get baptized. Over the last 4 years I have had plans for 5 different situations to be baptized, and all of them have been canceled for one reason or another. So when I was sitting in church in September I heard that baptism classes were being offered and felt called to go get baptized.

I have what feels like always been a Christian, but I would be lying if I said my Faith has always been my own. Growing up going to MEI and church every Sunday made it really easy to just check off the box of being a “Christian.”

When I got to high school, I started to want to make my faith my own and so I started attending Northview youth on a regular basis and started to have people in my life who really challenged me on my faith. This helped me know why I believe what I believe and gave me the tools to back it up.

More recently, I have really started to try and surround myself with likeminded people, who are all striving to become better Christians and helping those around them do so as well. A big part of that was joining a men’s bible study where we can have open conversations about our struggles, have theological debates, and be open with one another. For me baptism is more than me saying I am a Christian, it’s a public declaration, its shouting it from the rooftops that I am unapologetically a child of the One True King.





Ethan Loewen

**Baptized By: Jonathan Kornelsen
(Youth Pastor Central Community Church)**

We're all familiar with the "I grew up in a Christian home, accepted God as the king of our lives at an early age" testimonies, if only it was that simple in my case. I grew up in a home where I was taught to fear God, and that of living in accordance with the Bible's teachings was of the utmost importance. However, I decided I was the king of my life, only going with the flow in my parents home for the ease of it. I've always known Jesus' redemption and God were real. I told myself that one day I'd give up living for myself, and start living a life that brings glory to God- but selfishness is an incredibly slippery slope.

Over the years, I've spent a lot of time working away from home. I found myself in all sorts of trouble, chasing money and a feel-good rush which led to addiction. I was just wanted to do what felt good in the moment. One memorable night back home, a bunch of buddies and I were having a party where I got hit in the face with the reality that the path that I was on was full of emptiness and doom, and I needed to do something about it.

Unfortunately, I still didn't believe that God could love me as I am, even though I'd been taught my whole life that all I needed to do was lay myself down. One morning after work I remember sitting in my truck for several hours pleading with God to soften my heart, and to really help me realize that I just need to come to Him, with all my flaws, my sins, and lay myself with all of my baggage at His feet. I can say that God has softened my heart, and I realize I am a sinner who needs Jesus so badly.

My life isn't mine anymore. I'm not here to have a good time or to try living for myself. My life is for God to use as he sees fit. Self sacrifice definitely isn't the easiest thing. I still struggle with having patience. I'm still learning how to give my all to God, and to let go of myself - I'm learning that I am incapable of doing these things on my own, and leaning on my Saviour instead of trying to do everything on my own. I've been weeding out the negative influences in my life, and am becoming more involved with positive influences. My life circumstances seem to challenge me to obey God, But I'm here for it.



DOWNES ROAD LOCATION

Testimonies

Sunday

9AM Breanne Weflen
Willy Phiri
Ryan Noort
Melissa Staetter
Issac Skeels
Brody Koehorn
Michelle Gaudet
Chris Gaudet
Hannah Kampen
Lewis Nielsen
Sage Westie
Dylan De Meyer
Lilly Gatt
Tuula Filpula

11AM Janea Tubbs
Devon Tubbs
Kenneth Ginter
Sarah Schofield
Peyton Remple
Connor Remple
Riley Remple
Aubrey Davies
Oliver Klassen
Oliver Crossman
Lilly Crossman
Hazel Crossman
Jade Lima
Joey Goerzen
Prit Brar

Sunday • 9AM

Downes Road Location



Breanne Weflen

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I have grown up in a Christian family, and have been attending church, for as long as I can remember. I have always considered myself a Christian and have always been around Christianity whether that was with my friends, family or at school. However, my faith really became my own around seventh grade. During this time, I really started to understand that God has a plan for my life, and that I need to trust Him and prioritize Him. I started going to Northview youth group, and getting to know more people my age that believed the same things I did.

I struggled a bit when writing this, not really knowing what to say. God has helped me in every area in my life whether that is with stresses and anxieties, trusting in Him, or building relationships with people. God has always led me, and I have learned that everything will turn out for good and for His glory. I am grateful for the opportunity to know and love God as I deepen my faith and understanding of Him. I want to continue to follow him and further my relationship with Him.

I know that God is my Savior and that I am a sinful person and getting baptized is a public declaration of my faith. I am extremely excited to take this next step in my faith journey.





Willy Phiri

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I grew up in Malawi in a Christian household. I was introduced to the gospel through my mom and attending Sunday school at church. I was taught of the miracles by God our father through his son Jesus. My mom and my late grandmother have always been strong believers in Christ and their faith was always a strong encouragement for me to learn more about Jesus our Saviour and his life, death and resurrection to save us sinners from death and reconcile us to God.

I moved to Canada in late 2013. As I grew up, I drifted far from my faith and I was living my life being distracted by the things of the world. Also, I was putting on a fake image of my faith when asked by family, but really I stopped learning more about God and stopped getting connected to Christ through church.

Overtime I started to feel this guilt from my heart but never wanted to give up my way of living in sin until I went through a great challenge in my life. This made me start to reflect and I felt a strong urge to give my life back to Jesus Christ and a huge challenge to change my life. I started to pray and attend church again and seek mentorship from fellow Christians, family, my wonderful girlfriend and her amazing family. Since reaching this breakthrough in my life, I have been growing in faith and learning through bible study, reading and studying the bible before bed, watching sermons and sharing notes, being committed to reading the word of God and reflecting that on my own life.

It has given me so much purpose that I never felt before and realization that I am a sinner, but I'm saved with the blood of Jesus Christ our savior through God's love and sacrifice. This has really challenged me to not only read and learn about the word of God but to also apply it to my everyday life and relationships.

I want to be baptized to declare that I will no longer lean on my understanding but fully give my life to Jesus Christ and be a servant of God in sharing the word and let him lead and make me into the person he wants me to be. My salvation in Christ has fully changed my life and I will fully live in His purpose for us as His children and praise Him for all His glory.





Ryan Noort

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I learned about God through my parents. I was raised going to church my whole life. I have known that I wanted to be a Christian my whole life.

Around the time I was eight, I started to have a better understanding of what it meant to be a Christian. I knew that I needed a savior from a young age, but my spiritual journey has been in progress through my adult life. My parents helped teach me about Christianity through leadership and wisdom.

I feel that I am being challenged to obey God and His will for my life. I have found I grow consistently when I read my bible. Also I can hear God's call in my life more clearly when I have been spending more time in His word.

I was baptized as an infant. Now that I am an adult I am making a choice to be baptized because the bible calls us to do so and out of obedience. I want to say publicly that me and my family will serve the Lord, and that I belong to God's family now as an adult.





Melissa Staetter

Baptized By: Pastor Kristal Toews

I was raised in a Christian home with two parents who loved God and each other and showed me a healthy example of loving and following Jesus. I grew up attending church, Sunday school and youth group. God was always a part of our home, and I'm grateful that my parents taught me the value of devotions, prayer and reading our bibles from a young age.

I became a Christian when I was 5 years old, and rededicated my life to God when I was in my twenties, and am now getting baptized in my thirties. Baptism is something that I've been wanting to do for quite some time, but have struggled with the pressure of feeling I had to be perfect in order to do so. I find myself often striving for perfection, and it's exhausting. I thought I had to have everything together, and present this idea that I was faultless and flawless before I could be baptized. I've learned that I will never and can never be perfect, only God is.

This year has probably been the hardest year of my life and God has shown up in a big way. He has shown Himself to be faithful and held me during some tough times. I am often challenged to trust Him, and I struggle with handing over full control of my life, but God is faithful and holds true to his promises.

I want to be baptized because I want to take the next step in my relationship with God, and publicly declare that I am a follower of Jesus. I am not defined by my past sins or mistakes, but a child of God.





Isaac Skeels

**Baptized By: John Esau
(Mentor and Mission Trip Leader)**

Hi I'm Isaac Skeels and I gave my life to Jesus about a year and a half ago. I have grown up attending church on Sunday's, but never fully believed the gospel and accepted Christ's gift of eternal life and a relationship with him. For a long time I did not want to believe because I wanted to live my life my way. My family had faith in Jesus, but I did not want to believe it just because they did.

In the summer after grade 11 I picked up a job where I got to work by myself. At the time I was really struggling to find my identity and I was really searching for something. The question why am I here kept coming into my head, what is my purpose? In the busyness of school and sports I could always find something to distract me from answering those tough questions. While working, those questions kept coming to mind and I could not ignore them. I was looking for the truth, something that the world and social media was trying to hide, so when I saw that Christianity was the only religion getting mocked by the world everything became so clear.

All throughout the summer whenever I would go to church they would always have a prayer team. Every Sunday I had this feeling of go put your burdens on Jesus and give your life to him. But I would never go up and I thought I could do it on my own. One Sunday near the end of the summer when they called up the prayer teams I felt like someone had their hand on my back pushing me towards the prayer team. All of the sudden I started sweating and crying. As I accepted Jesus that morning I felt overwhelming peace and love like I had not felt before.

God has taken my life on a path I never would have imagined and I could not be more thankful for Christ's gift of eternal salvation. I want to be baptized today to declare my faith in Jesus publicly and my choice to follow him the rest of my life.





Brody Koehoorn

**Baptized By: John Esau
(Mentor and Mission Trip Leader)**

I was born into a Christian home, and I was the youngest of 4 kids. My family attended Northview my whole life and from what I learned in Sunday school, to the bible lessons from studying at MEI, I started my relationship with God in my early elementary years.

I was a very social kid and I loved to talk with people and be friends with everybody. But, as I got older and people became more complicated, it wasn't that easy to please everyone anymore. I still had many Christian friends that I could openly discuss my faith with, but I felt that I wasn't living my faith out for God in my life. Some of my friends didn't want to hear about my faith or hang out with, "a Christian", and I had to tolerate and use foul language to hang out with them. I found that the more people ended up liking me, the less I liked the person who I was becoming.

I got so caught up, that I realized I hadn't even told one of my christian friends about my faith. That's a question I'll never forget. "Hey Brody, are you a Christian?"

At MEI, I had the opportunity to go on a mission trip with the school during spring break, and although the year before I covered from the opportunity, this year I felt God calling me to it, so I signed up. During this trip, my relationship with God grew and we helped so many people. God sent me out of this trip, with a renewed heart, and renewed relationships with many Christian friends from my school to help me in this new chapter. I knew I wanted to take that next step in my relationship with God with baptism, and show people what I really cared about.

As 2 Corinthians 10:17-18 says,

"Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord. For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one who the Lord commends."





Michelle Gaudet

Baptized By: Ashley Goshulak (Friend)

My family never attended church growing up so my first recollection of learning about God was in my elementary school, youth group and summer camp. I didn't grow up in a Christian home and didn't live a lifestyle glorifying to God. I spent my whole life until my mid 20s living the life I wanted for me. When I met my husband he came from a strong Christian family and we started attending church on and off for a few years.

I was new to faith when my son was born. It was a very joyous life for almost two years as a new family. However everything changed soon after. Our son had his first seizure just before his second birthday. Soon after that he was diagnosed with a life altering condition. Our whole life was turned upside down.

Over the next 8 years the trials and tribulations we went through with our son were monumental. In moments when doctors offered little hope I turned to prayer. Through all the medical struggles I got to be a first hand witness to many miracles. My relationship with God was tested so many times and instead of turning away I dove in deeper. I asked for help, and I received. I prayed for peace and I received. I prayed for miracles and we have been blessed with so many. Sometimes those prayers were not answered in the way we wanted but ultimately it tested my faith and grew stronger. If anyone asks me who brought me to know the Lord I can say that my 10 year old son did. In those valleys my faith was all I had. I truly believe one of God's plans for Hampton was to help lead me to know the Lord.

I know that God has been there for so many moments in my life when I needed Him and when I was unaware He was working in my life. I want to be baptized to strengthen my relationship and as a sign that I trust in His plan for me and my family.





Chris Gaudet

Baptized By: Ashley Goshulak (Sister)

I was raised in the church and went to a Christian high school and university. What a blessing - I am so grateful to my mom and dad for the sacrifices they made so that my faith could be nurtured in that setting. It is because of my parents that I learnt about God at a very young age, and then continued to be surrounded by His word throughout my childhood and teenage years.

I knew from a young age that I was a sinner in need of a Saviour, and that the path to salvation was through Jesus. While I cannot recall the exact moment, time, or place that I invited Jesus into my heart, and confessed my sinful ways, I know it was early on in life.

In my teenage years I would frequently recommit myself to Jesus whenever the pastor or youth group leader would offer that opportunity. Over the past number of years, prompted by the clear deterioration of values in our society, as well as health challenges experienced in our family, I have become more outspoken about my faith. I try to demonstrate the hope I have in Jesus by sharing my journey and encouraging those around me to be positive. A pillar of my faith is hope. I know that it is only through Jesus that I have hope.

I want to be baptized primarily because I need and want to publicly declare my faith in Jesus through baptism. As Christians we are called to do it, and I haven't done it yet, so I need and want to do it as an act of obedience. The devil loses when we choose Jesus - and I want the devil to lose with each decision I make. Today, the devil, and the secular postmodern worldview that plagues our world, has lost the battle for my soul.





Hannah Kampen

Baptized By: Karen Kampen (Mom)

Coming from a Christian home, it was my mom and dad who first introduced me to the Gospel and God's plan for salvation. I was about four or five when I first "gave my heart" to Jesus. I've always known that following Jesus was the right way to live, but for the longest time it was just knowledge in my head, and not a truth that had sunk deep into my heart. Earlier this year God revealed Himself more clearly to me and called me to leave myself behind and to follow Him wholeheartedly. Even during times when I was trying to live on my own, He was always there; His favour and His protection is always upon me. I can see so much evidence of Him working in my life even when I didn't ask or deserve it.

As I have joined a Precept Bible study, the Lord is growing my knowledge and my love for Him, and He is revealing to me more of His character. He has encouraged me, brought me joy, and been my hope. This is a God that I want to follow, and I know that He will never leave me or give up on me. I want to be baptized because this is my next step in my walk with the Lord. He has called me from darkness to light and to live for Him, and this is my next act of obedience in my journey of faith. I want to publicly declare what He has done for me, so the people close to me can hold me accountable.





Lewis Nielsen

Baptized By: Donald Nielsen (Dad)

Growing up in Christian family, I learned about God through my parents and through going to church every Sunday. However, I would say that my faith was more because of the circumstance I was in and being raised in a family where it was a more natural way of life than a decision I had to make. I had a weak faith and was never truly certain about God, so I put God and my faith on the back burner in my life.

When I was around 12, I began to get made fun of for my faith and I became ashamed of being a Christian. I ended up more worried about what other people thought of me and how they viewed me rather than how I was seen in God's eyes. I developed a lot of insecurities and began to struggle pretty heavily with self-worth, and I couldn't see why God would ever love someone like me, someone who was a sinner. I also didn't understand what God's love really was.

Later on, my parents pushed me and my sister to go to youth. I was against it, but I had to go anyway. Now I'm thankful that I did, because I was introduced to God in a different light. Through the community that I built there I began to understand what God's love really was. I understood that while I am a sinner in need of God and a Saviour, and that Jesus took my place on the cross for me. I have been growing deeper in my relationship with God since then.

What I still am challenged with, is putting my full trust in Him and giving Him full control. He is also teaching me that all things are done in His time, not in our time and that He is always in control.

I want to get baptized because I feel it is the next step in my journey through faith and I want everybody to know that I believe in Jesus, and I want to continue to become deeper rooted with God and to share his love with all the people around me.





Sage Westie

Baptized By: Bernie Baier (Grandpa)

I grew up going to church, I went with my family every Sunday. I've known of God my whole life, but I never had a true relationship with Jesus. That was until Jesus found me in the darkest part of my life.

For years before knowing Jesus, my life was ruled by fear and I dealt with extreme OCD. No matter what I did I couldn't get rid of the thoughts and fears that were taking over my life. And I felt stuck and felt no hope for the future. I thought that was what my life was going to be, constantly dictated by these fears. I was trying to find fulfillment in the things of this world, no matter what I did I never felt peace. That is, until Jesus found me when I couldn't go on by myself anymore. My Tiktok feed began to be flooded with Christian videos, talking about how Jesus can set you free from Anxiety and truly make you new. I was always a little doubtful, but I began to pray and I felt the Holy Spirit working in me. And I finally saw change.

It wasn't until I opened up my Bible for the first time in years that I truly was saved and set free. I began to speak scripture over my life, when my OCD would run rampant, and the thoughts were getting too much. I would recite Jeremiah 29:11, and 2 Timothy 1:7. And that was the beginning of my relationship with the Lord. He set me free! As it says in John 8:36 "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed."

Not everyday is easy, but everyday is a blessing! That's why I'm choosing to get baptized, I want everyone to see just how radically Jesus changed my life, and how He can change theirs too! I owe Him everything, and I want to publicly declare that His love for me, and He saved me. The Lord continues to work on me everyday and I will live the rest of my life for him!





Dylan De Meyer

Baptized By: Brett De Meyer (Dad)

I have always gone to church with my family, as I've grown up in a Christian household which is definitely a blessing. I think I first asked Jesus into my heart at about 8, but I was about 15 when I realized that I couldn't live this life without the grace and forgiveness of Jesus.

I have always read my bible and prayed every day, but I don't think that I was truly a Christian until last year when I started to see how God was working and changing people's lives. Last spring break, myself and a bunch of my buddies went on a mission's trip to Mexico, where we built a house for a family that was pretty much homeless. It was so awesome to help this family and see God working through us, but it was even cooler seeing us come closer together and come closer to the Lord.

Nearing the end of the trip we did this exercise where our leaders washed our feet like Jesus washed the disciples' feet, and it was ultimately such a humbling and gratifying experience because I felt so cleansed from it, but that night I also felt the Holy Spirit working and I started to believe in Jesus.

Right now, I am striving to live by Christ and not by the world, and I am learning more and more to put my trust in Him and to let Him work through me to help others. I want to be baptized because I believe that is what is next for me in my journey with Jesus, and I think that it's the right time in my life to be baptized because I have accepted Him as my Lord and Saviour and want to do all I can for Him.





Lilly Gatt

Baptized By: Mike Gatt (Dad)

I always considered myself to be a Christian because I was brought to church every Sunday as a kid, but I never truly understood the full meaning of giving everything to Jesus. I wouldn't pray or read my Bible on my own time. Even after I was sent to a Christian School, Jesus still was not my number one priority. Even when I would go to youth and Bible study, I would often get distracted from the sermon. Then, sports started to get in the way of things. I was no longer able to go to church or youth anymore.

A few months later I noticed I started feeling sad and insecure all the time, so then I decided to pray every night before I went to bed, and I started reading my Bible more. As I did these things, I started to feel peace. So, that's why I decided I wanted to accept Jesus fully into my life as my Lord and Saviour without any doubts of his love.

I want to be baptized because Jesus has shown me that He is the light through the darkness, and I want to live for Him for eternity and publicly declare my faith for Him.





Tuula Filpula

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader)

I learned about God at my old church, and I was baptized at a different church as an infant. After I got baptized we moved churches to Northview. In Grade six I realized that I wasn't taking my faith seriously. At that time I was in Chapel and we had a special guest. He said that everyone at some time is a sinner and in need of a Saviour and that is why Jesus died and rose, to save us from our sins and beat death. Then the guest speaker said to follow him in a prayer if we wanted to be saved. And I said that prayer.

One time here at Northview when I was with my mom. It was a baptism weekend and I was watching the baptisms. I was listening to the people's testimonies and lots of people and I mean lots said something like this: "Water baptism was spoken about a lot. John spoke of water baptism a lot. And it just made sense that water baptism was next."

Something clicked in my heart at that point. I mean it made sense and in church I started crying and I could not stop crying. It made me think, I WANT TO GET BAPTIZED. So, I leaned over to my mom and said that I wanted to get baptized.

Jesus points out lessons in my life in all sorts of ways lately. I never used to pray at night before I said that prayer. Now I do, and praying helps me along. Sometimes life gives me challenges and I need to remember that God is with me and God's will be done. I want to be baptized because I believe that Jesus is my Lord and saviour. God was and is telling me to get baptized. I love the Lord and want to follow his commands.



Sunday • 11AM

Downes Road Location



Janae Tubbs

Baptized By: Marly Hutchinson (Youth Leader)

I'm so grateful to be here today to share my journey. Growing up, I always went to church with my family every Sunday and I never really did anything outside of church until we moved and started attending Northview. Being a part of this church has honestly changed me and my perspective on being a Christian. I used to think being a Christian meant going to church and listening to the pastor speak. But once I started being a leader at middle school youth that opened my eyes more, it was one of the best experiences of my life. It still is today because I get to feel so close and connected to all my girls and my group and I get to teach everyone about God.

Some big challenges I have been facing are that I never felt like I could speak up for what I believed and I feel like people would judge me for being a Christian. It was hard for me to tell my non Christian friends at school about Christ because I went to a public school and I was so scared to tell them about God. Once I started attending middle school youth and high school youth, I never felt like that anymore. I felt so close to everyone and I feel like I could actually speak my mind. I enjoy being able to tell others about the Good News. Now at school I'm not ashamed to tell my friends about God. I'm really thankful that God helped me through this time in my life and I've gotten closer to him and grown as a Christian. I know this is just the beginning of my journey, and I am excited to grow in my faith and serve others.

Thank you to everyone for being a part of this special moment in my life! I want to get baptized to show my love for Christ.





Devon Tubbs

Baptized By: Hunter or Luke Friesen

God was introduced to me at a young age because I grew up in a Christian house. Since I was a little kid I didn't really understand why we were worshiping Jesus but I just went with the flow and called myself a Christian. Eventually, when I grew older and got into middle school age I started to understand why I needed a Savior. I realized how broken we were. It was especially obvious growing up in a public school, that we are all broken.

Lately, I feel closer to God now more than ever before, but I still face struggles everyday. Some of these struggles are staying away from the ways and desires of the world. What I'm learning from these trials and struggles is that God is always there and he will continue to guide me and that I must stay true to Him. I want to get baptized because I want to take this next step and go all in on my faith and leave everything to follow Him.

I've known God for a long time now and kept putting off baptism because I thought I needed to be perfect but what better time to be baptized than now?





Kenneth Ginter

Baptized By: Pastor Fredy Orozco

I heard about God from few people in my old school. They shared with me about Jesus.

About 9 years ago I heard about God. I wanted to know who God is. Then I saw the light of Jesus and that is how I came to believe in Him. I started learning more about God by reading His Words. Praying and seeking God. I'm not sure how to explain it, I prefer to use sign language, so an interpreter can explain what I am saying.

I want to follow the Holy Spirit. That is why I want to be baptized, the Holy Spirit told me go to be baptized and obey God.





Sarah Schofield

Baptized By: Pastor Dolly Oliech

I first learned about God when my mother brought me to Sabbath school. Those early mornings were filled with stories from the Bible, songs of worship, and the warmth of a loving community. My mother's dedication to nurturing my faith laid a strong foundation, helping me understand God's love and grace. It was in those moments, surrounded by caring teachers and fellow children, that I began to form my own relationship with God, sparking a curiosity that has stayed with me throughout my life.

I have always identified as a Christian, but it wasn't until I stepped away from the church that I truly recognized my own sinfulness. I believed I could navigate life on my own, without God's help or guidance. However, as I grew older and became a mother, I began to understand the depth of my need for Him. The challenges of parenting and life made it clear that I couldn't do this alone. It was through this journey that I realized only Jesus could truly save me. This awakening has brought me back to my faith, reminding me of the importance of relying on God and His word in every aspect of my life.

With a renewed sense of commitment and openness, I am actively seeking to deepen my relationship with Him through prayer and community involvement. In this season of my life, I'm learning about the importance of surrendering my worries and trusting His plan, especially in the midst of parenting challenges.

I find myself being challenged to obey Him in moments of doubt or frustration, whether it's in my interactions with my children or navigating difficulties with my neighbors. Conflicts can arise, and it's tempting to respond with impatience or frustration. However, I am learning to pause, seek His guidance, and approach these situations with love and grace. This journey has taught me that obedience often requires faith, especially when the path isn't clear. I am grateful for these lessons, as they draw me closer to Jesus and help me grow in my faith.

I want to get baptized as a public declaration of my faith in Jesus Christ. This important step signifies my commitment to follow Him and to embrace the grace and love He offers. After a journey of rediscovery in my faith, I feel that baptism is the natural next step in my relationship with God.

Additionally, I want to publicly acknowledge the support of my family and friends in my faith journey, and to be welcomed into the church community in a deeper way. Ultimately, I want to be obedient to Jesus' command to be baptized, knowing it is a vital part of my spiritual growth.





Peyton Remple

Baptized By: Pastor Luke Friesen

I first started going to church when I was really young. My parents brought me and that's where I started to learn about God. When I was five years old I accepted Jesus into my heart.

When I was in grade 8 I started to struggle with who I am and who I'm supposed to be. I didn't have many Christian friends and I didn't know who to go to. As it got worse I started to turn to God. I think that I only really started living for God in Grade 11. I met a Christian girl and started going to youth. I enjoyed going to church, and consistently reading my Bible. I think that that was a turning point in my life because no matter what has happened to me since then, I have gotten through it with much more ease because I know that I'm not alone because God is with me.

When I began thinking about getting baptized at first I thought I had to "feel ready" but then God showed me that to get baptized wasn't something I had to feel, but decide. There will never be a perfect time, I just had to want to do it. Baptism means to me that my old self is buried and gone and I'm new in Christ. And that no matter what I do or where I go, God will be with me.





Connor Remple

Baptized By: Lisa Remple (Mom)

I grew up in a Christian home and went to church for as long as I can remember, and at such a young age it never really made sense to me what it was all about. Then when I was around 6 years old with my two sisters we learned about Jesus Christ and how He paid for our sins. Both my Mom and Dad taught me about Jesus and explained to me what happened so from that point on I knew why I was going to church.

It wasn't until my Grandpa passed away that I realized that I am in need of a saviour and that I will always battle with sin, but with the power of God I will be forgiven. From that day I knew I needed to take things more seriously in my faith and relationship with Jesus Christ. Since then I have begun to surround myself with people who are also following Jesus, I have made a bunch of great new friends. I am praying a lot more, reading my Bible more, and also spreading the word of God which I want to do a lot more. I am growing my faith and relationship with God and at the end of my life, I know that's all that will matter.

I want to be baptized because my faith is the strongest it's been in Jesus Christ and by being baptized I will continue to grow as a Christian and deepen my faith in my Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.





Riley Remple

Baptized By: Lisa Remple (Mom)

I first learned about God through my family. My parents always encouraged me to go to Him in times of need. They showed me through words and actions, the characteristics of Christ and helped me to learn who He is.

I became a Christian around 8 years old. At this time we attended church regularly as well as summer camps at Northview. After learning who God is and being around like minded people who inspired me in my walk with Christ, I decided to accept Him into my heart as I want to continue to grow in who He is.

Right now I am responding to Him through prayer and humility to who He is. I am learning that it is only when we acknowledge our lack of effort in our relationship with Christ, that we can start to change and grow. When I am not praying, reading my Bible or joining in fellowship, is when I feel distant from God. It is my own actions that are making me unable to grow. I have to take responsibility to learn and know who God is.

I want to be baptized because I want to declare all that God has done in my life publicly. He deserves all the praise and glory for what He has done. He has helped me in times of intense anxiety and hardship. His presence during pain is something that can't go unnoticed. His mercy is something that I am undeserving of but His love is a free gift that He wishes us to take. Being baptized is a public declaration and the least I could do is help others see His goodness and grace through me. His love is always sufficient.





Aubrey Davies

Baptized By: Jalene Davies (Mom)

I grew up in a Christian home. I don't remember exactly when I became a Christian but it was when I was really little. I think I became a Christian because everyone else around me was but it wasn't ever really my own faith. I grew up coming to church and going to day camps every summer. I had done gymnastics for 8 years and something I regret not doing is sharing my faith with others. I was too scared to say anything because I didn't know what others would say.

I always knew Jesus was my Saviour and that He died for me but I never really questioned my faith until middle school. Grade 6 was a hard year for me, that's when Covid happened and school went online and I was having a hard time making friends, it felt like everyone had grown up and I hadn't. Also, going online made it harder to connect with people. Doing church online was very hard for me because it was hard to focus on Mark talking and it just wasn't the same as church in person. During covid I drifted from God, I didn't read my Bible much which is something I still struggle with to this day but I am getting better at it. Later in grade 8 on a weekend in October my brother, dad and I got into a quad crash, that experience made me realize how much God protects us and keeps us safe.

The summer of grade 10 I went to Camp Squeah to do a program called MUD and that brought me closer to God than I have ever been before and earlier that year I had made my faith fully my own. This summer I went back to Camp Squeah to do a program called SLT which challenged me to share my faith more openly with others and to try new things.

I want to get baptized because I want to publicly proclaim my faith and because I feel God moving in my life and want to share that with others.





Oliver Klassen

Baptized By: Eli Thiessen

I have grown up in a Christian home. My family has brought me to church and taught me about God's love and my need for him. This led me to accepting God into my heart at a young age. However, in grade 7 I struggled with my mental health. I struggled with OCD thoughts and behaviors. During this time my OCD thoughts made me believe that I had to prove my worth as a person, and I had to pay for every little mistake I made.

Through therapy I was able to control these thoughts and eventually, I realized that there is nothing I can do on my own, and my only salvation is Jesus. The following year, a friend invited me to volunteer as a leader at camp Luther, I agreed. I was surrounded by devoted Christ followers my age, as well as older followers. Seeing my young adult leaders so devoted to the campers and reading the bible every morning did something to me. I noticed this excitement everyone had. I just knew it was from God. I saw how God gave all of us energy when we prayed for it, and how God used the leaders through their interactions, with the campers, to show evidence of His love. I continued to volunteer the following year. I can see how this opportunity has developed a stronger and more personal relationship with God. These opportunities have shown me God's strength, and my need for his forgiveness.

I believe that Jesus died so that I can be right with God. For this reason, I want to be baptized, to symbolize my need for God.





Oliver Crossman

Baptized By: Jeff Crossman (Dad)

I grew up in a Christian home, so Jesus and the Bible are something that I've always known about and just accepted as true. Going to MEI for my entire school years - kindergarten to grade 12 meant that I was always learning about the Bible, but for most of my life my family didn't attend church. Until recently I didn't think about my faith much.

At the start of this school year, I felt like I was called to sign up for a Missions trip. I signed up for every trip available and ended up on the team going to Casa De Luz in Mexico. A major theme of some of the other testimonies shared during the trip was God's plan. I realized that I had plans for my life, but God had different ones. I was put on that Mexico team for a reason. It opened my eyes to what it meant to be a disciple. Seeing how I could be a light to other people changed my perspective of what being a Christian was really about. I had never seen God work in my life like this before. I looked back on my life and realized that I knew a lot about Jesus but didn't actually know him. After I got back, I found Bible class a lot more interesting, looking at the reliability of the Bible, and looking into other religions as well.

All of this solidified my faith and after a long time of calling myself a Christian, I finally decided to get baptized to show that I want to follow God's plan for me.





Lilly Crossman

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader)

Growing up I was always around a Christian environment and was aware of Christ. It wasn't until around the fifth grade that something switched in me and I started having doubts. My mental health got really bad at one point and I would often feel like Christ wasn't there for me or that He didn't love me as much because He let me go through trials. It wasn't until I was thirteen that I started going to youth and bible study regularly where I met Dan and Morgan. I started realizing how much more I needed to have a personal relationship with Christ rather than saying I was a Christian because it was what my parents believed. I remember once seeing a verse when I was in the eighth grade still struggling to understand why I would have to be hurt like that if God actually loved me. The verse was Romans 8:18 and it says "for the pain that you've been feeling cannot compare to the joy that is coming" and I was sitting alone in my room and broke down in tears. From that day forward I started praying more and my faith slowly but surely grew deeper.

March 2024 I was blessed enough to be on a local missions trip through my school. None of my close friends had signed up for it but there had been one girl that had been an off and on friend throughout my childhood. I had this change in my heart to forgive her as she is a sinner like me. The missions trip opened my eyes and made me think about things I hadn't before and it made me seriously consider going into the missionary ministry after high school. After the trip was over and I had grown close with more people I started regularly going to church and youth and doing Bible study over the phone with my friends and I knew in the back of my mind I was ready to fully give my life to Christ. Right now I feel on fire for the Lord and I feel so motivated to continue with my faith and take this next step and continue to serve and make disciples for the rest of my life on earth.





Hazel Crossman

Baptized By: Jeff Crossman (Dad)

I was raised in a Christian Home and have attended MEI since kindergarten. I don't remember exactly when I first realized that I was a sinner in need of a saviour, but my faith in God has grown as I have.

When I was younger my cousin got baptized, and even though I did not fully understand what it meant I knew that it was something important that I wanted to do someday. A few years later I decided I wanted to get baptized. Then my friend got baptized and it confirmed that I genuinely want to be baptized.

I want to be baptized because I want to publicly say that I'm a child of God and that I give my life to Him because He gave His son to die for my sins, and I believe in Jesus Christ.





Jade Lima

Baptized By: Avery Batten

In sixth grade my parents had split up and I was in a very lost place mentally. I would wake up every morning constantly blaming myself. My mom later, had gotten into a relationship with a man who was Christian, and I remember having so much hate for the relationship because I felt like she was betraying my dad.

Sometime during the relationship, he told my mom about a Christian camp on the island. At first, I wasn't open to the idea of accepting God into my life and I left for the camp believing that. The first year I went to camp, I was open to learning but I did not believe as much. It wasn't till I went the second year I really accepted God into my heart. When I arrived the second year, I remember carrying the weight of what had been happening with my parents and my own insecurities and I was really struggling with my mental health. I remember a pastor talking about surrendering all your pain and anxiety to God, that night I decided that I really wanted to live for Christ. I was able to surrender all the pain I was carrying and enjoy the rest of my week anxiety free.

After camp, I found myself wanting to know more about the life God has to offer but not really living for Him. I was not being the person God wanted me to be. During that time I got into a very toxic relationship that made me hate myself a lot and have no hope. I was so wrapped up in the bad stuff that was happening that I didn't take any time to just have a relationship with God.

When camp came around that year, I was still stuck in this relationship that had been hurting me. While I was there, I realized that God didn't want me with this person, they were pulling me away from Him. I needed to cast this person out of my life. Eventually at the end of the week at camp, God was able to give me the strength to do that. I was lifted from all the pain and hurt that this person was causing me. Throughout my life God has closed so many doors that I did not really know if I wanted them to close. Now, I see that I would not have seen the opportunities He was trying to show me without Him closing those doors. He does everything for a reason, and I know that I am chosen and called by Christ.





Joey Goerzen

Baptized By: Gerhard Goerzen (Dad)

I've grown up in a Christian home knowing about God from when I was little. My parents guided me towards God all my life by taking me to church on Sundays, praying with me, answering my questions and being models of what it looks like to live for Christ.

As I have gotten older and grown in my understanding of Christ, I've realized that I am a sinner in need of Jesus and that I can't get to God by my own power. In the last couple of years, I struggled with the truth of God and had doubts. I often asked questions about God and His promises for me. I would second guess His promise to take care of me and His promise of salvation. A verse that helped me with this was Revelation 1:8 where it says, "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is still to come, the Almighty" This verse shows me that God has and always will be there for me. When I turned 13 I had the opportunity to go to the life size Noah's ark in Kentucky, built by the dimensions given in the Bible. This had many informational facts about creation and the flood which made me realize God's plan for our redemption was already in place in the beginning. All of this helped with my understanding of the Bible and who God is.

I want to get baptized because Jesus paid the ultimate sacrifice for a debt that I could not pay. I know that God loves me and will never break His promises to me, so I want to commit my life to Him.





Prit Brar

Baptized By: Tyler Hiebert (Friend)

I had never really put too much thought into God, until I finally faced a struggle that took away my purpose. I started to look for answers that there has to be something more. I come from a Sikh household, so the idea of a God wasn't unfamiliar but it was more so who this God was. That's when I started to research, watching debates, and based on the overwhelming evidence it was clear to me that Christianity is the truth.

From grade 3 to grade 9 I was one of the best basketball players in B.C for my age group. So, when covid happened I got super lazy thinking I wouldn't have to train anymore and I would still be just as good. Ultimately, this led me to miss my grade 11 season. I was afraid that I would be judged for not being good as before. So, I thought taking the whole season off and training undercover would be better just so I wouldn't have to face the discomfort, humility, fear, insecurities, and many other things that were going on in my mind.

I eventually tried out for basketball in my grade 12 year but I wasn't satisfied, because I was not where I hoped to be. My overall health was at an all time low and it just didn't go as I planned.

Fast forward to March 2024 when I went to India. I had the opportunity to spread the gospel but I didn't, instead I foolishly followed the crowd. When I got back I just had enough, and that's when I truly surrendered to the Lord and gave up my life. It went from knowing Christianity is the truth based on evidence, to a lukewarm Christian, and then finally surrendering for real.

I am learning that what the Lord has in store for you is always good whether you realize it or not. I am growing because I've turned away from all my sin, I am happy and at peace more than ever. Following the Lord is the best! I want to be baptized because the Lord made me realize this is the next step in my lifelong Christian journey.



CENTRAL ABBOTSFORD LOCATION

Testimonies

Saturday

5:30PM Ellie Heath

Saturday • 5:30 PM

Central Abbotsford Location



Ellie Heath

Baptized By: Pastor Eric Heath

I was born into a Christian family, so I don't really remember the first time that I thought about God, but I think it was when I was about four or five. I realized for the first time that I was a sinner and I needed a saviour, and that Jesus was the only way. So it was at about this age that I accepted Jesus into my heart.

Right now, God is teaching me how to show His love on a day-to-day basis. Because I go to a Christian school and live in a Christian home, I find it hard to share my faith regularly. But God has been challenging me to live out my faith daily.

I want to be baptized to declare my faith publicly. I want people to know that I love and follow Jesus, Since He commanded us to be baptized, and He Himself was baptized. I want to follow Him in all things, including baptism.



EAST ABBOTSFORD LOCATION

Testimonies

SUNDAY

9 AM Emery Dick
Erik Kernel

11 AM Tracy Bickford
Karisa Seim
Josh Van Den
Bergh

Sunday • 9 AM

East Abbotsford Location



Emery Dick

Baptized By: Morgan Klassen (Youth Leader)

My name is Emery, I am in grade eight at Abbotsford Christian School. I have grown up in a family that loves the Lord and have always been taught about God throughout all aspects in my life. I am extremely fortunate to be able to go to a school with Christian views and that leads to the fact that I am learning more about the Lord every day, especially since my homeroom teacher has been such a good example of true faith to me this year.

I have been attending Northview for my whole life and have been learning about God from my parents, teachers, pastors, and my family. My parents are there for me when I need them and so are my grandparents and my cousin Brooklyn. I realized I was in need of a Savior was when I was five on the way home from VBS with my mom in the car. I asked the Lord into my heart then, and I am glad I did.

Since I was about the age of ten, I realized that I was a sinner and need God in my life, but especially last year in grade seven because I had a lot of friendship problems. I did and do still struggle with some intense anxiety but through those times I felt like I was learning the most and felt God taught me some valuable things that I need to know in my life. One of the things that God taught me was that I need him every second of my life, as well as that He is there for you in all your times whether they are difficult or easy. I have grown a lot through challenges at home and at school, the challenges often involve me having to work on being more patient with my family members and friends and showing God's love. My responses to the Lord over the years have been shaky and not as good as I would have liked them to be, but when I feel the Lord telling me to do something now, I try my best to listen to what he is saying.

I feel God calling me to truly follow Him and I have learned a lot through this year. I love the Lord and want to declare my faith by getting baptized and I think God is telling me it's time.





Erik Kernel

Baptized By: Pastor Levi Friesen

I grew up Catholic was baptized as an infant, and attended a private school where I learned a lot but never fully understood what it meant to follow Jesus. Faith felt more like tradition than a personal relationship. In my teenage years and early adulthood, I rebelled, filling the emptiness in my life with negative choices. Despite knowing I was living in sin, I continued down that path, always feeling a void that nothing could fill.

That all changed when Jesus revealed Himself to me in a powerful way. One night, in a dream, I was sledding with my family in the mountains, a place I've always considered my sanctuary. There, I saw Him—dressed in white, standing between the trees. His message was clear: "Enough is enough. I'm coming sooner than you think"; He gave me a knowing look, almost like a "I told you so," and led me to open the Bible to Psalms 108. When I did, I discovered that my wife's grandfather had highlighted that same passage decades earlier—on my exact birthdate. In that moment, I realized Jesus was speaking directly to me, and I could no longer ignore His call.

Baptism is my commitment to Jesus. I'm not perfect, but with Him, I believe I can become the man He created me to be—better as a husband, father, friend, and son. I'm done pretending. I'm ready to fully accept Him as my Saviour and walk in His grace from this day forward.



Sunday • 11 AM

East Abbotsford Location



Tracey Bickford

Baptized By: Pastor Levi Friesen

First I want to start off by saying I'm very happy and grateful to be here with the church, to be giving my testimony.

I'm going to speak about one of the many testimonies I have, I want to share what happened just a few months ago. A little backstory, I'm a single mom with five children and have been a single mom pretty much their whole lives. I've done everything myself with no help. July 31st of this year was a big day. It was the day we had to be out of our place. With no luck in finding anything in the whole month of looking I dropped to my knees that morning crying and praying knowing we would be homeless and living in my car that day as we had no place to go. I knelt down with tears flowing down my cheeks and I said "Lord I know you have plans for us, so I'm gonna leave it up to you, with my tears flowing everyday I never doubt you." I got up wiped my face and headed into my living room to finish cleaning. As I was grabbing my mop my phone rang..... it was one of the many places I viewed calling me back and letting me know I g the place and can move in that day. I couldn't thank him enough for the call. I hung up the phone screamed for my kids (they thought something was wrong lol) and told them we've got a place to move into. I again dropped to my knees and thanked the Lord for hearing my prayers and answering them.

I pray and thank him everyday, even through the tough times.





Karisa Seim

Baptized By: Rachel Havinga

I grew up in a traditional Christian home. Go to church every Sunday & be the first there and last to leave. It was just church on Sunday and nothing else. We lived as the world did, really. I knew of God from a really young age, and as I grew up I considered myself saved, but, I was so distracted by troubles at home, I didn't have time or a safe place to land where I could truly dig into who this God I thought I believed in was and is. Though I truly thought I was living for God, things were difficult. When I wanted to volunteer my time or read the Word or anything to do with God I found it almost draining and difficult to follow through with anything.

Last summer, God reached out to me. I was in a dark place after Covid ended as I had stopped going to church altogether. Then out of the darkness, He reached out and I heard Him. I had never heard His voice so clearly before. And through a series of events, I finally broke down and my soul reached the end of itself. I couldn't do it by myself anymore and in that moment He covered me with His grace. I had never felt or experienced a love so tender. Things got easier, praying and reading my Bible, giving of my time to others weren't as difficult anymore. In fact I found joy in those things. Life is still challenging at times but I'm so glad I get to spend the rest of my life with the bestest friend I will ever have. I am so happy and joyful that I am able to give my life to Him who lived & died for me. And to represent Him here until He comes or He takes me home. I will love Him always and forever, He is mine and I am His.





Josh Van Den Bergh

Baptized By:

My name is Josh, I'm 28 years old, I live in Chilliwack and I have a business in Abbotsford as a small time auto repair tech. My interests usually consist of anything that has an engine. Outside of work I love to tinker on things whether it's a bike, boat, car, computer, building things...

I was born in Zimbabwe, Africa into a Christian family, We prayed most nights together, so religion was never a mystery to me. When I was around the age of 6 my dad started to get death threats from government influenced locals. They started to break into different areas of the farm to show intimidation, poisoned our guard dogs and did similar things to our friends in the neighbouring farms.

One night my mom woke up with a strange feeling that something wasn't right. Her and my dad realized shortly after 2 or 3 men were trying to break into the house by the front door. My mom went to wake my sister and I up and we went to hide in one of the bedrooms. My dad stood in the hallway with his rifle pointed to the top of the front door frame. This was my most terrifying memory hearing the gunshot off only feet away from us. It was after that night my parents decided staying was not worth the risk to my sister and I so they chose to drop everything they owned and work for and abandoned the farm. Several miracles later we were able to find refuge in Canada.

This was in late 2004, shortly after in 2006 I gave my life to Christ. I want to get baptized because of the incredible grace and love God has shown me personally and also to our family. I was taught that I do not need to work to gain my parents' favour or love and I believe that is a reflection of how Christ is in our lives. I am responding to what He has done for me by choosing to be baptized as a public display of my commitment to following the Lord.

I am learning life isn't a walk in the park, even though my wife might say I seem to float through life – she has taught me to be intentional with my words, actions and thoughts. As a result she has encouraged me to take this step along with other steps in my life which is without a doubt God transforming me into the son/brother/husband and man He wants me to become.



MISSION LOCATION

Testimonies

SUNDAY

- 9 AM Zoey Kroeker
- Matt Arens
- Deborah Fonteyne
- Vince Fonteyne
- Warren Rettich
- 11 AM Abby Algra

Sunday • 9 AM

Mission Location



Zoey Kroeker

Baptized By: Mark & Kerry Kroeker (parents)

God has watched over me my entire life. I was born premature at only 33 weeks, but God made sure there was a hospital close by, that I weighed enough, and my lungs were developed early so that I didn't have any big health worries. I have grown up in a Christian family made up of my parents and my older sister, and we've gone to Northview church since I was a baby. I also go to a Christian school that talks a lot about Jesus, and I have always been surrounded by people who love God.

When I was about 5 years old I decided that I wanted to follow Jesus myself. Through hearing Bible stories and all the things He did, I came to love Jesus and I have wanted to be baptized for a while now.

God has been making changes in me as well. This last year was especially difficult because of challenges with a friend I had. God has been teaching me about patience, and forgiveness and giving many second chances. I want to be like Jesus, and He teaches us not to hold grudges and to be kind even when it's hard or when people hurt us.

I have also seen God answer many prayers, like healing my Grandma's cancer, protecting and healing Barrett, and blessing my family members with good jobs. I am learning to trust that He will take care of me too. There is still a lot for me to learn, but I am reading my Bible more and remembering it better. I want to be baptized to show everyone that I have chosen to follow Jesus, no matter what.





Matt Arens

**Baptized By: Pastor Frank Sawatsky
(Pastor of Worship & Outreach)**

When I was a child, my family went to church pretty regularly. As I grew older in my teens, we went less and less. I did not fully understand the gospel or how it benefited me. As life came fast through my young adulthood, I met some friends who invited me back to church. I was hesitant at first, but I always felt a pull to go back. I started going back to church and growing a relationship with God. I felt only He could heal the wounds that my life had brought to me.

Since then, I have been growing in my faith along with my wife, and we are doing our best to teach our two children well about the love of God. We are committed to raising our children in the faith. Even in our uncertain world, I put my faith in God's plan for me and our church family. I am comforted that I will grow closer in my relationship with Christ by studying his Word, and I am grateful for the church community at Northview, who help me with this endeavor.

I feel the need to be baptized as a public declaration of my faith. I want to publicly declare that I am saved. This is the way I want to live life and raise my children.





Deborah Fonteyne

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg

How I remember myself before I gave my life to Christ was someone who, on the outside looked cool, calm, collected, and in charge of life but on the inside, felt completely out of control. My life felt like it was completely falling apart. My marriage was failing, my work was overwhelming and the worst part for me was that my oldest child was lost and going down a path that no parent wants to see. I was lost, afraid, not sleeping, having panic attacks, and worst of all I think, was feeling like a failure, especially to my children.

In my darkest, scariest times, when I didn't know where my son was, I remember literally calling out to God and asking Him to wrap Himself around him to protect him, to bring him home, to help me find the strength to make the right (but very difficult) decisions in my life. The only way I could sleep for a few hours was to repeat the name of Jesus over and over again. This seemed to calm me and clear my mind enough to rest and regain my strength. I remember surrendering, albeit slowly, things I couldn't control and asking for Him to guide me. I began to reach out to people I trusted for support and gave up the need to make everything appear to be okay. And miracles began to happen! After months of not seeing my son, I was driving to work and made a detour. To this day, I remember hearing "go this way" and when I stopped at a light, I looked up and on the corner of the street was Adam staring right at me. I couldn't believe it! The path for my family and I began to bend at that moment. It has been a long journey and still is, but this truly was the beginning of me trusting in God and His plan for our lives.

Life has been so different since I began following Jesus. I no longer feel like I am wading through life as though I'm stuck in quicksand. I am better at truly appreciating the beautiful times without spending too much time worrying about when the next shoe will drop. I have been truly blessed over the last several years, and God has been bringing me closer and closer to Him. Recently my husband and I found Northview church and knew this is where we belonged. I feel renewed and unafraid of what life may bring, I no longer feel alone and my son Adam is beginning to turn to Christ too which is amazing.





Vince Fonteyne

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg

Before I gave my life to Christ, I went about my daily work and life, running here, there and everywhere. I never took the time to properly learn about the Old or New Testament, and their relevance to our daily lives and what the world is facing today. I also did not properly understand why Jesus gave His life up on the cross for us.

God was with me while I had a crisis with my business and the resultant failure of my previous marriage. I knew that He was there to give me strength and to guide me along the path to where I am now. I know that it was God's plan that He had for me all along. One of the most powerful experiences that started to awaken me to God, was when my business went through a civil lawsuit that lasted 8 years. On the same morning on the day the judge made the decision in my case, I was woken out of bed by two successive lightning strikes, close to my home. The judge's decision ended up being in my favor which meant I could keep my home and business. More recently, on Easter Sunday, we were drawn to Northview Church in Mission, and when we attended, we were greeted by total strangers welcoming us to the church, as if they knew.

God has made me look forward to Sunday services, it is definitely a highlight in my week! He has brought me to the point where I am ready to start learning about the Scriptures; both the Old and New Testament. God has also brought me to the point where I am learning to be more patient, as well as not being so connected to my work and to think about how I can make a difference in spreading the Word and helping others in need





Warren Rettich

Baptized By: Pastor Jesse Schellenberg

When I was about 10 years old, one Sunday after Sunday school at Downes road, I was waiting by myself at the back doors of the church. I think my parents had gone to bring the car around. A lady came up to me, and she asked me if I had understood what we talked about in Sunday school that evening. She asked if I understood what they had taught us about Jesus and His death and resurrection. I did understand, so I said yes, and she then asked if I wanted to pray with her to ask Jesus to be my Lord and Saviour. I said yes again, so together we prayed a simple prayer, and I accepted Him as my Saviour.

After that, for a few years, I continued attending church and things were relatively uneventful. At age 14 or 15, things started to change. I started noticing girls, and at that point any convictions I may have had about living free from sin went out the window. It didn't take long until I stopped attending church and soon all I cared about in life was hanging out with girls.

When I reached my early 20's, I also developed a deep desire to be "not sober" at all possible times. I would smoke weed every day, and get drunk every weekend. Sometimes harder drugs.

I started attending Northview again a few years ago, but I was still living my old life, and regardless of how badly I wanted to, I felt like I was never going to be able to change.

In the past year I have been freed from my addictions in a way that I had completely given up hope of ever happening. God reached me, in my sin-filled life, and slowly but surely He has helped me to put down one addiction after another. I wouldn't by any means say I'm living a sinless life now, but, I am ready to try and live my life the way Jesus would want me to. I want to get baptized so that I can have a day to look back on and say, that is the day my old life was finally dead.



Sunday • 11 AM

Mission Location



Abby Algra

Baptized By:

I grew up and was raised in a loving Christian home, my parents always brought me to church and would teach me all the stories of Jesus and His disciples. At a young age I accepted Jesus into my heart.

As my life went on and I started middle school I didn't have a relationship with God, nor did I care to continue to grow one. My family and I had a small falling out with the church and we didn't attend for a couple years after that. Eventually we did start to attend again around the end of middle school but I didn't start to take my relationship with God seriously until grade 11. I don't know if my perspective of how I saw the world changed, but something in me knew that it was time to start taking church a little more seriously.

One thing I didn't know at the time that was going to be so hard was being in the 16-17 age range and going to a public high school. There were so many temptations all around me throughout the week and going into the weekends it was easy to slip away and to fall into all the parties, alcohol, and drugs. But with lots of self-reflection I realized that I have never felt at my lowest then when I was disconnected from God and doing things that were not going to be long term solutions, but just helping in the moment.

Eventually all those temptations seemed less fun or important and the only thing that matters at the end of the day is God's plan for me. He is leading me to baptism as my next step in my relationship with Him.



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



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