

2010 Water Baptism Services @ Colfax Assembly

March 7 June 13
November 7

Ready to be Baptized?

Step 1—Fill out the brief application on the reverse side of this page

Step 2—Circle the date of the Baptism Service you'd like to be part of (above).

Step 3—Send it to the church or give it to one of our Pastors.

Step 4—Start inviting friends and family to come and share your baptism with you.

What the Bible says about Baptism

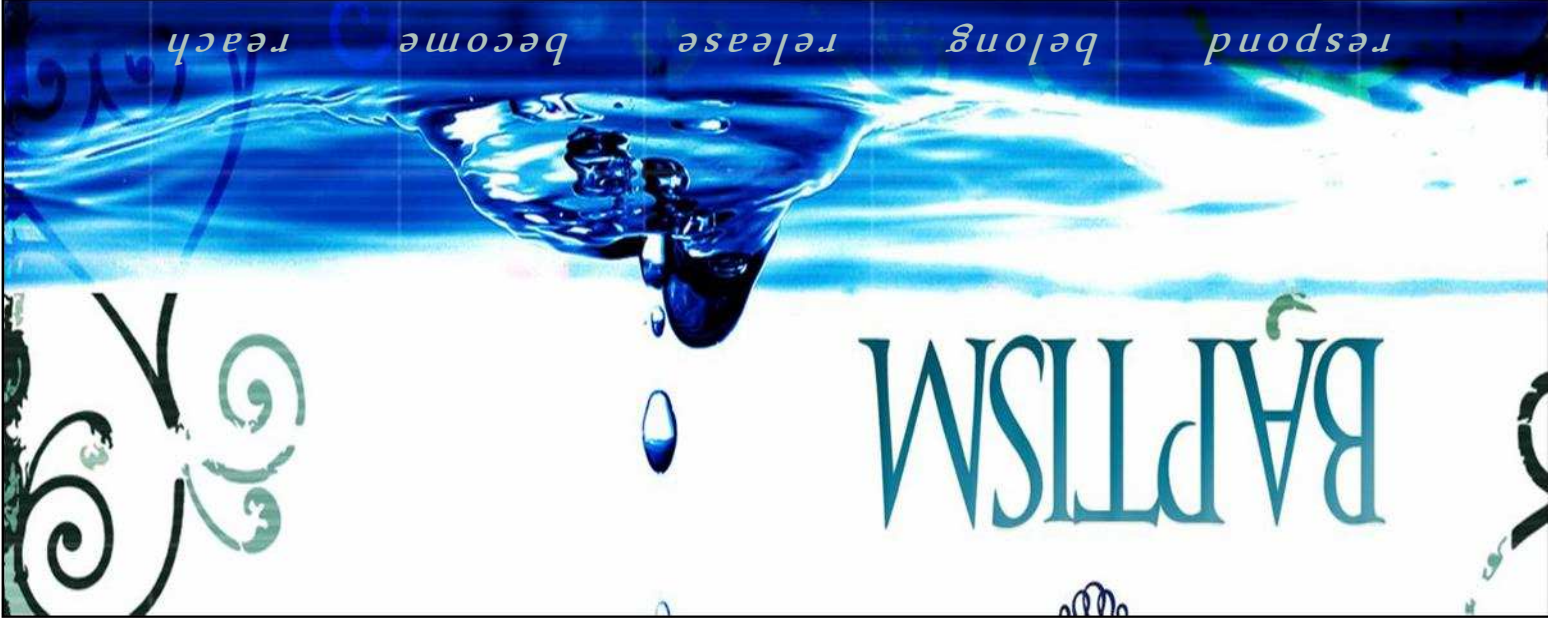
Matthew 3:13-17 "Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 28:19 "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Acts 2:36-39 (Peter): "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ." When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 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."

Romans 6:4-5 "We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection."

Titus 3:3-7 (Paul): "At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."



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Praise God!

I am excited about your decision to follow the Lord in Water Baptism—the first step after making a commitment to follow and serve Jesus. This pamphlet should help you in the process of understanding what Baptism is about and give you some Scriptural background for your next step in following Christ. Take some time to read about it, look up the Scripture references in the Bible and pray about it—the whole thing will mean so much more to you as a result.

Congratulations!

Pastor Bill Reynolds

Understanding Water Baptism

Water Baptism is one of the two oldest and most revered practices in the Church worldwide and throughout history (the other being Communion). Much more than just a ritual, Water Baptism is a symbolic act which Jesus Himself practiced, taught to His disciples—even commanded that it be carried on until His return ([Matthew 28:19](#)). Baptism follows salvation as a public declaration of a person having accepted Christ as their Savior.

The practice of Water Baptism is a public testimony to the world, signifying the death of the individual's sinful nature and new birth in Jesus Christ. It is an important event in the life of a Christ-Follower, confirming the transforming power of Jesus in their life.

“What if I was baptized as a child?”

Some persons were baptized as infants through a ceremony of sprinkling water (especially those raised in Catholic or Lutheran traditions). We believe that Jesus intended Baptism as a declaration of a person's resolve to follow Him as Lord and Savior—essentially surrendering their life and will to Him and to His leadership. Even Jesus waited until He was an adult before being baptized ([Luke 3:21-22](#)). For this reason we reserve Water Baptism for those who understand their own Salvation in Christ and wish to make a declaration of *their* choice.

We offer Infant/Child Dedication to parents who wish to declare their intent to raise their child in a Godly fashion and to receive the blessing of the larger Spiritual community, just as Jesus' parents did when He was still an infant ([Luke 2:21-23](#)).

Why baptism by Immersion?

Scripture *does not* declare that Baptism must be performed in any specific way, so we are careful not to dictate that either. However, the Water Baptism we see practiced in Scripture derives from the Jewish tradition of ritual bathing as a sign of repentance and renewal—typically by total immersion. The process of Baptism by total immersion is rich with symbolic meaning and is an unmistakable event.

Preparing for the Baptismal Service

- 1) Invite everyone you can! Water Baptism is first and foremost a PUBLIC declaration—it's a great opportunity to invite your friends and family to share this moment with you.
- 2) Both men & women should wear dark-colored slacks or jeans (no dresses or skirts, ladies) and a modest dark-colored shirt. Do not wear anything white or very light-colored. Swimsuits may be worn underneath clothing if desired.
- 3) Bring a change of clothing and a couple large towels.
- 4) Your Baptism will take place at the beginning of the service, during the Worship singing. Please arrive ready to go or early enough to change and be prepared before service starts. Please have all jewelry removed beforehand. Use a hair-tie for long hair.
- 5) Seating will be reserved at the front for all baptism candidates; please sit there to facilitate the ceremony.
- 6) Feel free to use the restrooms to change your clothing immediately after you have been baptized, or wait and celebrate with those being baptized after you.

(Please complete the following, detach this portion and return to a member of the Pastoral Staff)

I have accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Savior and believe that I am born again by the power of God. I desire to be obedient to the command and example of Jesus to be baptized in water (Matthew 28:19).

I understand that water baptism is a public testimony of my confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and my decision to serve Him.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Birthdate _____

Signature* _____

Date _____

* Parents/Guardians of applicants under 18 yrs. old: It is your *responsibility* to determine your child's *eligibility* for Water Baptism. Water Baptism at Colfax Assembly is available for those *over 5 years old* who have an understanding of its meaning.