

Understanding Believer's Baptism

We are so excited that you want to be baptized! Your decision to turn from sin and to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior is the most important decision you will ever make - and believer's baptism is the next step. We believe that baptism should be a wonderful occasion not only for you, but for your family and friends as well. Please read the following information and answer the following questions to further understand and be prepared for your baptism.

WHAT IS BAPTISM? Baptism is an outward display of an inward decision to identify with Christ after repenting of sin and allowing Jesus to be your Lord and Savior. Jesus commanded it as well as demonstrated it with His own life.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED? Anyone who has been saved by faith but has not been scripturally baptized.

HOW SHOULD BAPTISM BE DONE? Baptism tangibly preaches Christ's death, burial, and resurrection and symbolizes spiritual re-birth. Full immersion in water following salvation is the only form of baptism that is fully obedient to scripture.

WHERE SHOULD WE BE BAPTIZED? Baptism could really be done anywhere as long as it is public and in water, just like Jesus's baptism. At our church, we may do baptisms inside in a stock tank, or outside in a pool, depending on the season.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING? A baptism shirt will be provided for you; please wear dark athletic bottoms, and bring a towel and a change of clothes. You should also invite friends and family to the service to witness this great event and take pictures!

For more information on what the Bible says about baptism, see Matthew 3:13-17 & 28:19; Acts 1-2, 8:16, 10:46, 19:4-5; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Colossians 2:11-12; Ephesians 2 & 4:3-6, & 1 Peter 3:18-21

Preparing for Your Baptism

Now that you understand more about baptism, you need to line up a meeting with a church leader to further prepare you for your baptism (see contact information at the end). Please answer the following questions before this important meeting:

Who is God? What is He like? _____

What is sin? When did you realize you were a sinner? _____

Why does sin separate us from God? _____

What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ? _____

How have you responded to the Gospel? _____

What circumstances and people have influenced that response? _____

Why do you want to be baptized? _____

Developing Your Testimony

At your baptism, you will get to publicly share your decision to submit your life to Jesus Christ. The goal of this time is to tell others about God's grace in your life and how you have responded to the Gospel. The following questions are to help you prepare your public testimony. Your testimony can be as long or as short as you would like - just speak from your heart and tell your "story." It is a good idea to practice what you plan to say with a friend before doing it in public, but you are welcome to bring a note card if you need one. Just think, your testimony could lead someone else to Christ!

What is your name? _____ **Shirt Size?** _____

How was your life before you were a Christ-follower? _____

Explain when, where, and how you came to faith in Jesus Christ: _____

Who helped you point your life to Christ? (friends, family, pastor, etc.) _____

How has this church family helped you after your salvation? _____

Your Declaration of Commitment

Right before your baptism, you will be asked, "Why have you come to be baptized?" Your answer to this question is called your "Declaration of Commitment" because you are publicly committing your life to God. On the lines below, write a personal declaration statement that you will use to respond to that question. It can be something as short as: "Because I want everyone to know that Jesus Christ is my Lord." We also want to know why you want to be baptized at New Anthem Church.

Why have you come to be baptized? _____

Why do you want to be baptized at New Anthem Church? _____

Now you're ready! If you have not yet, contact us at info@newanthemchurch.com or call 316.260.5048 to set up a time to speak with a church leader and set a date for your baptism. We look forward to celebrating together with you!