



## What We Believe About Water Baptism

### Who Should Be Baptized?

Christians believe that the blood of Jesus Christ, shed on the cross, provides the sole basis for the forgiveness of sin. Therefore, salvation occurs only when a person places his or her faith in the death and resurrection of Christ as the sufficient payment for his or her sin.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, then you are ready to be baptized. Just like a bride and groom show others their love for one another by wearing wedding bands, your baptism is your opportunity to show others that you have accepted Christ and are now walking with Him.

If you have any questions about how to begin a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, please contact Pastor Mike or the church office.

### What Does Baptism Symbolize?

Baptism is a way of showing others that you have entered into a relationship with Jesus Christ. It symbolizes what took place in your heart at the time of salvation:

- \* Accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.
- \* Shared in His death and resurrection, illustrated by going under the water (dead to your old life), then rising again (new life).
- \* Were symbolically washed clean, and sins were forgiven by His death on the cross.

Because Jesus set the example for us by being baptized (Matthew 3:13-17) and then instructed us to be baptized (Matthew 28:19), baptism is an act of obedience. While it is not necessary for salvation, it demonstrates submission to God. We immerse rather than sprinkle at Celebration because we believe Scripture shows that Jesus modeled that for us as the way to publicly acknowledge our faith in Him.

### What about Infant Baptism or Christening?

Some denominations choose to baptize or christen infants. While we recognize the right of other churches to practice infant baptism, we understand Scripture to teach that professing believers who are old enough to understand qualify for baptism. Baptism does not make you a believer, rather it shows that you already believe.

### Can I be Baptized Again?

Yes! Even if you were baptized before but feel as though being baptized again would add meaning to your walk with Christ, then by all means be baptized. It is not necessary, but it is available.

### What is the Baptism Process?

The baptism process at Celebration has been designed to be both simple and meaningful. From the registration form to the baptism celebration, each step has been carefully planned with you in mind:

1. Listen to Pastor Mike's baptism message on CD found on the information counter in the foyer.
2. Sign up and complete the Water Baptism Registration Form. We will contact you to confirm your baptism.
3. Be prepared to share a 2 minute or less testimony just before being baptized. You can simply answer the questions: What does Jesus mean to me? And/or, What difference has Jesus made in my life?
4. Get baptized! Baptisms take place on Sunday afternoons at various private backyard pools in the Dillsburg area.

For questions, please contact the office, 432-5662.

