

Baptism at True North Community Church

If you want to be baptized, we ask that you listen to the following audio message, to be sure you know what baptism is and how it works:

<http://www.truenorthchurch.net/resources/messages/sermon/the-story:-17---baptism>

Here are some logistical details about the day of the baptism:

1. We do a baptism service on an annual basis at Heckscher State Park (Field 6). A map of Heckscher State Park can be found here:
<http://nysparks.com/parks/attachments/HeckscherSiteMap.pdf>
2. Visitors and family members are welcome, but remember that there is a parking fee (typically \$10). Video and photography is encouraged!
3. We ask that those being baptized wear a dark colored t-shirt over their bathing suit. This is for men as well as women. It's a modesty thing.
4. There are a LOT of people that get baptized each year, and there are some people we've actually never met in person before. To ensure we don't get your name wrong, you will each wear a name tag on your right shoulder.
5. You may be baptized by Pastor Bert, or by another member of our church staff. Pastor Bert is not able to do all the baptisms himself. Even at a very brisk 90 seconds apiece (counting time between baptisms), we'd be in the water for over an hour!! If you're a part of our youth ministries (Nucleus and Journey), or our kids ministry (Uptown) and you would like one of the leaders of these ministries to baptize you or assist in your baptism, just ask. They'd be honored.
7. In signing up to be baptized, you are making the following statements:
 - a) I am a Christian, saved by grace alone. I have received the free gift of God's forgiveness and I believe that the guilt of my sins has been lifted from me and placed onto Jesus.
 - b) I don't care who knows it. I am making a public statement that I belong to Jesus.
 - c) I am washing away an old life and I am turning from all sinful behavior. This does not mean I am perfect, but I desire to live a holy life.
 - d) True North is my home church. If you belong to another church, please let your pastor know of your intentions to be baptized here.
8. In the event of bad weather, check your email box and the church website for announcements or a rain date. We typically proceed with the baptism even if it is raining (as long as there is no risk of personal injury).

9. If you plan on being baptized and you can't make it, please let us know. We can try to arrange to baptize you another time. Baptisms can also be done in swimming pools or anyplace there's enough water to immerse someone, if it's a hassle to make it back to the beach.

10. Please be praying that God will prepare each person for this awesome experience and that everyone who makes this commitment will know and love Him better as a result.