

Baptism at Garden City Church

What Should I Bring?

We have special baptism garments for you to wear. You may want to bring a bathing suit, or a t-shirt and shorts, to wear under the garment. We provide towels.

Baptism During a Service

If you are being baptized during a worship service, a minister will be assigned to you. The minister will make arrangements to meet with you, discuss baptism with you and go over the details of the baptism. Before the baptism, the minister will pray with you and talk with you about any further questions you have. You may want to have someone to help you back stage during your baptism. If someone else is baptizing you, the church office or minister will need to know the arrangements prior to the baptism during a church service.

Who Can Baptize Me?

According to the Bible, any person that has been baptized by immersion can perform the baptism. If being baptized during a service, the person's comments should be brief (1 minute). They should introduce themselves, state their relationship with you, and take your confession of faith.

What Should Be Said?

We get many questions asking for the "correct words" to be used. The key to baptism has to do with the heart of the person who is submitting their life to God, not the precise words being said. The Bible reveals in Matthew 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." We also follow Acts 2:38: "Repent and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit."

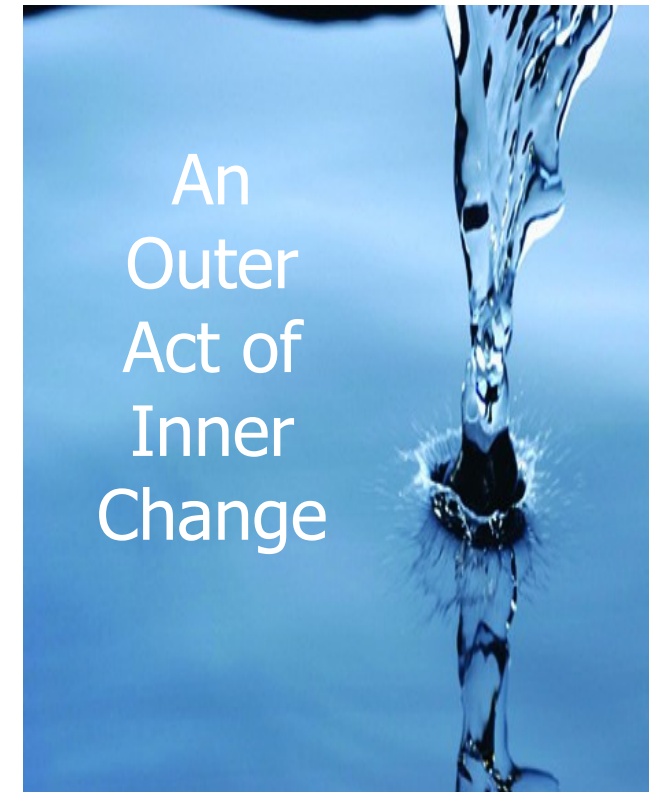
Discover Garden City

I have more Questions...

Baptism is just the beginning of your spiritual journey. We encourage you to attend Discover Garden City to help you understand how to continue to grow and learn what it means to be a Christian. Discover Garden City will help you begin your journey at Garden City Church of Christ. We will discuss baptism, what we believe, opportunities to grow in your relationship with God, where to serve in the church, how God has gifted you and how to plug in to life at our church. These classes are offered every other month on the last Sunday night. You can register for these classes by putting "Discover Garden City" on the yellow card during service, or by calling Melissa White at the church office at 372-1766 or email at mwhite@gardencitychurch.com.

**To Schedule Your Baptism or
Talk to a Minister Contact:**

Garden City Church of Christ
3245 Jonesville Rd
Columbus, IN 47201
812.372.1766



Connecting People to Christ, One Another & Service

What Is Baptism?

Baptism is a necessary step in your spiritual journey of faith in Christ. Baptism does not make you a believer. It is simply an obedient response and expression of your faith and commitment to Christ. Every example we see in the Bible demonstrates that first a person commits to believe in Christ and *then* he or she is baptized as an expression of that belief.



Why Be Baptized?

We follow Christ's example. Jesus said, "Let it be so now, it is proper for us to do this (be baptized) to fulfill all righteousness." Matthew 3:15

We follow Christ's commandment. "Jesus said, '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.'" Matthew 28:19

We demonstrate our faith. "...many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized." Acts 18:8

Is Baptism Necessary to Become a Member of Garden City?

Yes, if you have not been baptized by immersion. Our heart's desire is to simply obey the clear teaching of God's Word. So even if you were baptized as in infant, your baptism today represents an obedience to Christ's command for all those who come to faith in Him.

Common Questions

about baptism

When Should I Be Baptized?

As soon as you have decided to fully receive Christ into your life and have begun walking in a new direction, you should be baptized.

"Then Philip began with that very passage of scripture and told the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water. Why shouldn't I be baptized?' And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him." Acts 8:35-38

What If I Was Baptized As An Infant?

In the Bible, parents often brought their children to Jesus. He held them, prayed for them, and taught us all to welcome them. But, He did not baptize them or tell anyone else to baptize them. The New Testament records the baptisms of adult believers only. Baptism is for those who have made a personal decision to trust Christ alone for their salvation.



When Do Baptisms Take Place?

We love to have baptisms during our Sunday morning services so our church family can celebrate with you, and it's a great encouragement and public testimony to others. If you would prefer to have a private baptism, we will do everything to accommodate your schedule and preferences.



What Should I Expect?

If you're getting baptized during a worship service, you will make arrangements with a minister of the church at least a few days prior to the baptism. They will discuss the importance of

baptism, what will happen during the ceremony, and they will take you back to the baptistry and let you become familiar with what will happen during the service.

Can My Family All Be Baptized Together?

Yes, provided each family member understands the meaning of baptism and has placed his or her faith in Jesus Christ. If your children are interested in getting baptized, they are encouraged to fill out our "Baptism Packet" along with you, and then meet with a minister to discuss their baptism. While children do not need to meet specific requirements from us, during the time a child meets with a minister to discuss baptism, parents will be involved and help to make the final decision as to the "readiness" of their child's desire to be baptized. Adults with more questions about baptism are encouraged to attend "Discover Garden City" or call the church office to discuss baptism with a minister.