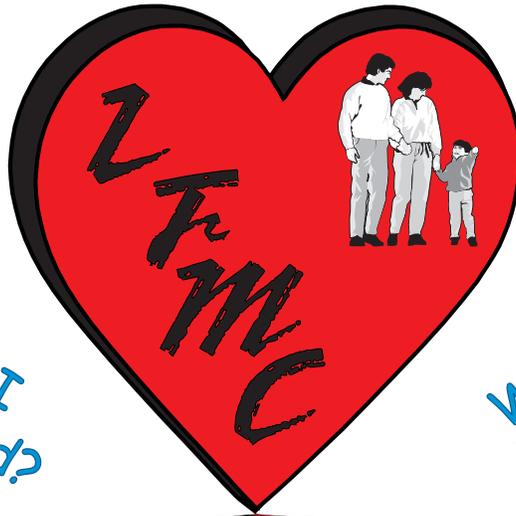


Baptism at



*How Will I
Be Baptized?*

*Who Should
Be Baptized?*

*What Does
Baptism Mean?*

*Should I Ever
Be Re-Baptized?*

*What Do I Wear?
Why Be Baptized?*

Here are some of the most commonly asked questions about water baptism.

WHY BE BAPTIZED?

1. To follow the example set by Jesus himself, "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." (Matthew 3:13-16)

2. To obey Christ's command, "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)

CONCLUSION: While salvation is a free gift of God's grace alone, the credibility of one's salvation is demonstrated by obedience. Taking the step of baptism demonstrates our obedience to Christ and His Word.

WHO SHOULD BE BAPTIZED?

The Bible teaches that every individual who puts his or her trust in Christ for salvation should be baptized. The Bible has many examples of this teaching. The people who heard Peter's first sermon asked, "Brothers, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37)

He answered: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins." (vs. 38) Their response: "Those who accepted His message were baptized..." (vs. 41)

In the book of Acts, numerous other examples of baptism of believers are given. For example: "But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. Simon himself believed, and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere..." (Acts 8:12-13)

"...many of the Corinthians who heard him believed and were baptized." (Acts 18:8)

CONCLUSION: These biblical examples indicate that the person who has first repented of sin and believed in Christ should then be baptized. One must first be a believer in Christ to be eligible for baptism.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

Baptism is an outward symbol of one's identification with Christ's death, burial and resurrection. The lowering of an individual into the water symbolizes his or her identification with Christ in His death and burial. Similarly, raising that person from the water symbolizes his or her identification with Christ in His resurrection and new life.

"Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We are 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." (Romans 6:3-5)

CONCLUSION: Baptism is an outward expression of an inward experience that has already taken place through faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

HOW WILL I BE BAPTIZED?

At LFMC we baptize by immersion. Primarily because we believe it is the scriptural method as is shown in the following examples.

1. Jesus was baptized by immersion. "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." (Matthew 3:16)

2. Because it is the only method practiced in scripture. "And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing." (Acts 8:38-39)

3. Because it is the literal meaning of the word baptize. The English word "baptize" is a transliteration of the Greek word "baptizo" which, if translated, means "to immerse or to dip under."

SHOULD I BE RE-BAPTIZED?

That depends upon the significance of your first "baptism". If you had actually trusted Christ as Savior prior to being baptized, there is no NEED to ever be re-baptized. You can, however consider being re-baptized if you were either physically or spiritually young and did not understand salvation or baptism. If your first "baptism" was as an infant and you were unable to personally declare your trust in Christ at that time. You should then seriously consider baptism now as a believer.

Arrival & Dress Questions

When Should I Arrive?

You should arrive in plenty of time to take your clothes to the changing room. The **men's** changing room is located through the left door (if you are facing the platform) and up the stairs. The **women's** changing room is located through the right door (if you are facing the platform) and up the stairs.

What Do I Wear?

Men should wear a dark colored shirt and jeans, shorts or slacks.

Women should wear a heavy, dark colored shirt and jeans, shorts or slacks.

Also, please wear a full set of undergarments. Remember, you can see through wet clothing.

What Do I Bring With Me?

Bring your clothes that you want to change into for the baptism.

Bring towels.

Bring dry undergarments.

You might want to bring a hair dryer, make-up, etc.

How Do I Sign Up To Be Baptized?

Read the information included in this brochure. Fill out the online Baptism Card. Or print the form below, fill it out and put it in the offering or take it by the church office anytime before 3:00 pm weekdays. You will then be contacted about the next baptismal service.

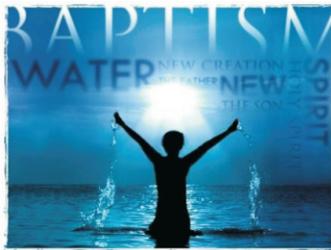
The Day Of The Your Baptism

Invite your friends and family.

We will usually video the service (check with the office to be sure) and have DVDs available but you can bring your own camcorder and camera.

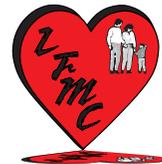
*Thank you for your decision to be baptized.
You are taking another step of obedience in following the Lord and He always responds to faith and obedience*

Pastor Bob



Baptismal Sign-up Card

Lamar Family Ministries Center
Hwy. 160 & Gulf
Lamar, MO 64759
417-681-9900
lamarfamilyministries.com



Name: _____

Age (if under 18): _____ Today's Date: _____

Phone Number: _____

Have you accepted Jesus as your Savior? _____

Please give a brief explanation of your salvation experience:

Please fill out and drop in the offering or take it by the LFMC office.