

TreasureLand

Kid's Ministry

Together,
we are raising children
who Love God,
Love Each Other,
and Make a Difference
in their world.

This brochure is intended to help parents decide if their child is ready to be baptized and to participate in Communion.

You are welcome to call me if you would like to discuss these topics or any others regarding our Kid's Ministry.

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Other Bible passages about baptism to read and discuss with your children:

Colossians 2:12; Acts 2:38; Matthew 28:18-20

Child Dedication:

Child Dedication is a time of public and personal commitment, where parents make a promise to teach their kids about building a relationship with Jesus Christ. It is also a time where we as a body of believers at NorthRidge commit to helping and equipping the parents to fulfill that promise. To learn more and/or to schedule a child dedication, contact the church office at 763-428-5115 or email

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NORTHRIDGE
FELLOWSHIP

QUESTIONS
ABOUT
BAPTISM,
COMMUNION,
AND
PERSONAL FAITH
FOR CHILDREN



NORTHRIDGE
KIDS MINISTRY

PERSONAL FAITH

As in all other areas of life, spiritual growth occurs uniquely for each child. There is no predetermined age when a child is ready for any particular step of spiritual growth. If you are considering whether your child is ready to be baptized or to begin to participate in communion, the first thing you should consider is whether they have a personal faith in Christ.

In Kid's ministry we talk about "the ABC's" of making a faith commitment.

A = Admit you are a sinner. **Ask** Jesus to forgive you for your sins and make you clean.

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

B = Believe Jesus is God the Son. He died for our sins and rose from the dead.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

C = Commit to love Jesus and obey him as your Lord.

John 14:23 Jesus replied "If anyone loves me he will obey my teaching. My father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home in him."

THE BIBLE TELLS US ANYONE WHO BELIEVES THESE TRUTHS HAS ETERNAL LIFE.

John 5:24 "I tell you the truth, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be condemned; he has crossed over from death to life."

BAPTISM

What is Baptism? The word 'baptism' comes from the Greek word 'baptizo' which means to dunk under water. Being lowered into the water symbolizes our old self, along with our sins, being buried with Jesus. The water reminds us that through Jesus' death our sins are washed away. Being raised out of the water shows we are raised to a new life in Christ.

Romans 6:4 "We were 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."

When do we baptize at NorthRidge?

Baptism services are held three or four times a year. The first Sunday in June we hold a picnic and baptism in the Mississippi River in Otsego. During the cooler months we baptize using a portable pool at the church.

When should my child be baptized?

At NorthRidge we wait to baptize children until they are old enough to make their own decision to follow Jesus. As a general guideline we prefer to wait until a child is at least 7 years old. Many children will not be ready to understand the significance of faith and baptism until they are in their teen years.

It is important to be sure your child is comfortable enough with being dunked under the water before they are baptized. We don't want a fear of the water to distract your child from the true meaning of baptism.

When you feel your child is ready to be baptized please have them talk to one of the pastors. We would like to take a few moments to talk with them about their personal faith in Jesus and the significance of baptism.

BAPTISM IS A SIGNIFICANT MARKER IN A PERSON'S SPIRITUAL JOURNEY AS WELL AS AN IMPACTFUL TIME FOR THE GOSPEL TO BE SHARED. FAMILIES SHOULD CONSIDER WHO THEY WOULD LIKE TO INVITE TO SHARE THIS IMPORTANT EVENT.

COMMUNION

What is Communion? Communion and the Lord's Supper both refer to the bread and wine that Jesus shared with his disciples the night before he was crucified. At NorthRidge communion is usually observed on the first Sunday of each month during Sunday morning worship. When we take communion, we are celebrating the fact that Jesus' death and resurrection make it possible for us to be forgiven and to have a relationship with God.

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 "The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.' In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and the blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself."

CHILDREN WHO HAVE A PERSONAL FAITH IN JESUS ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LORD'S SUPPER WITH THEIR PARENTS.

Each time your child participates in the Lord's Supper they should be thinking of Jesus' love and sacrifice for them. If you don't feel your child is able to consider these things, it is better to have them wait to take communion.