

Baptism into Water

Every “believer” after a decision of faith should be baptized into water as an outward sign of an inward work. This symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus and our commitment to follow Him in this way spiritually. **It is not a requirement to be saved**, often referred to as a “sacrament”. It is an “ordinance” or a commandment by Jesus, not a suggestion.

[Matthew 28:19](#); [Romans 6:1-4](#); [Colossians 2:12](#)

We do not require you to be a formal member of our church, or group to participate. Only a public profession that you have accepted Christ. We practice immersion of adults or children who are old enough to make their own personal decision to do so. This is usually a one time event, however, if someone has strayed from their faith as an adult (prodigal), they may be re-baptized as a sign of a renewed commitment to Christ. You do not need to be baptized to show a commitment to membership in this local church.

If you are a candidate for the next “Baptism Bash” or celebration, we will offer you a free dark t-shirt and a towel. You should arrive at least 15 minutes early for instructions. You will receive a certificate with a photo to commemorate this event, and a video published online to share with friends or family who may not be able to attend.

Communion

Any believer may participate in “open” communion at AnewChurch. Again, **this is not a requirement for salvation** (a sacrament), but it is an ordinance, or a commandment from Jesus to do this in remembrance of Him.

The purpose of communion, or the Lord’s Supper, is an outward sign of an inward work. The bread (or cracker) represents the broken body of Christ, and the wine (or grape juice) represent His blood that was shed for our sins. The believer also identifies themselves as a part of the universal church, the Body of Christ.

We will endeavor to explain the public process in a fresh, relevant way without becoming a stale ritual by the format in which we partake of the elements. This will usually happen monthly.

[1 Corinthians 11:23-26](#); [Luke 22:17-20](#)