

Baptisms

Sunday, March 8, 2026



Baptisms

Millbrook Campus

9:15 a.m.

1. Group 1
 - a. Ezra Hodges
 - b. Carter Thetford
2. Group 2
 - a. Denise Thompson
 - b. Abigail Yelverton

Baptisms

Ezra Hodges

Life Verse:

John 15:18

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."

†

Testimony:

I **have grown up** in church hearing about Jesus. But it was only recently that I became curious about baptism and asked my mom and dad about it. As they spoke to me, I learned more about the meaning behind baptism and the things God did for us. In that moment, I prayed and asked God to be my Savior.

Baptisms

Carter Thetford

Life Verse:

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."

†

Testimony:

One Wednesday night after church, I learned my friend had asked Jesus into his heart. I asked my mom a lot of questions and decided I wanted to follow Jesus, too. My mom and I prayed together, and I asked Jesus to save me and forgive me of my sins. I want to be baptized to show everyone that I am now a follower of Jesus.

Baptisms

Denise Thompson

Life Verse:

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."

†

Testimony:

Before I met Jesus, I was a strong-willed person. I found it difficult to forgive others when they wronged me. This meant I went through life on my own, with few friends or family members around.

But now, with Jesus in my life, I'm changing. I'm becoming more forgiving and learning the value of friendships. I want to walk through life with believers and minister to others, so they can experience the sense of belonging and love that comes through repentance and trust in God.

I believe the Lord our Savior has died and risen to save us from our sin. I want to be baptized today to repent of my sin and find freedom in Jesus.

Baptisms

Abigail Yelverton

Life Verse:

John 13:34

"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

†

Testimony:

Before I met Jesus, life felt fine—except I didn't fully understand why we needed to go to church.

But as I got older, I started to pay more attention to my feelings—and one day, I realized I was having a different experience. I felt a sense of goodness and connectedness wash over me in church. After that encounter, my life has felt fuller. I am now more connected to the people around me, to myself, and to the Lord.

I realize that saying Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior is one thing, while truly accepting Him is a larger step. That's why I want to be baptized, to both accept and declare that He is my Lord and Savior.

Baptisms

Millbrook Campus

11 a.m.

1. Group 1

- a. Lucas Williams
- b. Sheppard Williams
- c. Elijah Shelton
- d. Jatelynn Mayfield
- e. Shalyia Ennis
- f. Luis Vicenty

2. Group 2

- a. Colby Pridgen
- b. Angel Pridgen
- c. Jeremy Kendrick
- d. Trudy Catt
- e. Savannah Dix
- f. James St. Laurent
- g. Madison Morris

Baptisms

Lucas Williams

Life Verse:

Psalm 23:1-5

"The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for His name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows."

†

Testimony:

For as long as I can remember, I've always believed in God and known that Jesus came and died for my sins. I want to take the next step in following Jesus by showing everyone I believe in our God.

Baptisms

Sheppard Williams

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:6

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

†

Testimony:

I have always believed in God, but when I was six, during VBS, I asked God into my heart. I know He saved me, and now, I want to declare my belief to everyone.

Baptisms

Elijah Shelton

Life Verse:

Matthew 3:13-17

"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. 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 alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

†

Testimony:

I **prayed on my parents'** bed for Jesus to forgive me for my sins and to be in my heart and all around me. I believe He brought healing and miracles to the sick and hurt, died on the cross for our sins, and rose from the dead.

Baptisms

Jatellynn Mayfield

Life Verse:

2 Corinthians 5:17

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"

†

Testimony:

I **was raised in a** Christian household, but I didn't truly know God for myself until 2020. That year, I struggled with depression and often felt unwanted, overlooked, and resigned to a cycle of people-pleasing.

Then one day, at my lowest point, Christ met me in my room, and for the first time, I experienced perfect peace. Since then, I have been freed from depression.

After encountering Christ, life did not become easier, but my faith and love still grew. I have faced many challenges—including life-threatening illness, loss, and poor decisions—but God has always been faithful to see me through. He has never let me down, even when I have been disobedient.

Because of this, I want to publicly show my commitment to God. He never fails, so I am confident He will continue His work in me.

Baptisms

Shalyia Ennis

Life Verse:

Galatians 6:2

“Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

†

Testimony:

Before Jesus, my life was driven by a deep desire to feel supported and loved. I tried to fill a Jesus-sized hole in my heart with the things of the world. I thought Jesus couldn't offer me the love and support I needed because He wasn't physically there.

I kept seeking comfort elsewhere until I moved from Queens, New York to Raleigh. Though I hated that I'd moved, I felt my interest in the Bible growing. I read Scripture every now and then, opening my heart little by little to the Lord.

But the real turning point came when my mom forced me to go to church in late 2024. As I kept attending and engaging with followers of Christ, I started to develop a relationship with Him on my own—and eventually accepted Him as my Savior.

Finding Christ has been the best thing to ever happen to me. Now, even through adversities, I stay content and in peace knowing that God has me, and He'll give me exactly what I need.

Baptisms

Luis Vicenty

Life Verse:

Acts 3:19

“Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”

†

Testimony:

Before Jesus, I was living a life of sin. I met Him at one of the lowest points of my life, when hurt and guilt were all I felt. He opened a door then for me to learn from those mistakes—and to repent, grow, and be forgiven. Just knowing that God sees me and forgives me has changed me immensely, and I strive to be a better man and example to my daughter each and every day.

Baptisms

Colby Bridgen

Life Verse:

Psalm 34:18

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit."

†

Testimony:

My life before Jesus was a mess. In my youth, I claimed to be a believer, but I never sought a personal relationship with Him and chose to act foolishly.

I met Jesus in my deepest valley. I found myself praying for a God-sent wife, and He sent me Angel. I love the way God knows our hearts, and I believe He brought Angel and me together to truly know one another's hearts as well. We study together, seek God's favor over our marriage, and—through His divine unity—minister to each other like no one else could.

As God worked in me and in my marriage, I also received deliverance from addiction through the almighty power of Jesus Christ. Calling on His name in true repentance brought instantaneous transformation for me.

My life has been a nonstop sanctification process where God has revealed His glory to me through His love, grace, and mercy. His light warms me more and more as I devote my all to Him.



Baptisms

Angel Bridgen

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:6-7

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

†

Testimony:

I **have always been** a Christian and believed in God—but for much of my life, my faith was passive. I turned to Him in moments of deep difficulty and thanked Him when things were going well, but I didn’t involve Him in my daily life. This distance left me anxious and unsettled. I struggled with a lack of purpose and belonging, with a fear of the future, and with questions about the meaning of life.

A turning point came when I met my husband—my best friend and confidant. His faith was stronger and more consistent than mine, and he encouraged me to draw closer to God and walked beside me as I grew. Together, we now pray daily, read Scripture, and give thanks in all seasons.

As I have grown closer to Jesus, my life has been transformed. I wake each day with peace and purpose, feeling like a new creation in Christ. Where I once felt fear, I now experience trust, direction, and a desire to honor God every day.

Baptisms

Jeremy Kendrick

Life Verse:

Ephesians 5:8

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light..."

†

Testimony:

Last year, I got divorced after 11 years in marriage and fell into a slump. Nothing else was working for me, so I decided to return to Christianity—even though I feared I wouldn't be accepted.

But that fear fell away when one day, on TV, I watched a visual representation of the Gospel. It explained sin and how, because of God's love and forgiveness through Jesus, we can all be accepted and loved.

There are still struggles I have to deal with, but the truth that those struggles are temporary shines brighter, because I know Jesus walks beside me.

Baptisms

Trudy Catt

Life Verse:

Psalm 37:4

“Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

†

Testimony:

My life before Jesus was completely unfulfilling. No matter what I did—whether working harder, striving to be the best in my field, or consuming things to distract myself from my true feelings—I was never happy.

But one day, I had a moment of clarity. I messaged my neighbor, who I knew was close to God, and asked for her help. Before she could respond, I looked out my window and saw her husband John—a pastor—walking by my house cradling their baby. I went outside, and through tears, I told him what was happening to me. He asked me if we could pray together—and later that day, I met with him and his wife to try and understand what I was missing.

I now understand it was no coincidence that I saw him that day. My life has changed in ways that I never thought possible. I don't worry like I used to. I find joy in the little things, and I know that no matter what happens, God is there for me—and that He always will be!

Baptisms

Savannah Dix

Life Verse:

Matthew 5:16

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

†

Testimony:

Before Christ, my life was a wreck. I grew up in church and knew all the basics of becoming a Christian. But it wasn't until I got older that I truly understood what it meant to accept the Lord Jesus as my Savior.

I first invited Jesus into my heart at FUGE Camp in the summer of 2017. I don't remember what the sermon was about—only that I felt overwhelmingly convicted to get right with Him.

Since then, I tried my best to serve Him, but I'll admit it hasn't always been easy, and for a while, I strayed. However, after having my son and watching him grow, I realized I hadn't been fully committed to following the Lord. I have now asked Him back into my heart and made Him the center of my life.

I want to be baptized at this time because I have rededicated my life to Christ. I want to show that I am changed before my family and my church.

Baptisms

James St. Laurent

Life Verse:

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

†

Testimony:

I **accepted Jesus at a** young age, but I never fully understood what it meant to follow Him. As I got older, I kept Him on the back burner and only relied on myself.

In high school, lust and pride ruled my life, and I felt ashamed all the time. I struggled for years. Things only got worse when I got to college—baseball wasn’t working out, and I ended up hurting the people I loved by choosing to go so far. I really began to resent myself.

But when I was 20, I had a physical encounter with Christ. I was having my first panic attack, and for the first time in a long time, I prayed. Immediately, I felt an unexplainable peace that I had not felt since I was a kid. I wanted to fully understand what happened—and Jesus was the only logical answer.

I sought Him for the first time after that and finally dedicated myself to following Him. I continued to struggle, but I always found peace by trusting in Him and His promise. Because of Him, I have overcome my selfish desires. Now, I am fully confident in Him above all else.

Baptisms

Madison Morris

Life Verse:

2 Timothy 1:9

"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time."

†

Testimony:

When I was six years old, I was riding an ATV that crashed into a metal fence. Both my eye socket and my nose were fractured. But God blessed me by waking me up, and I believe He protected me from worse harm.

The good news about Jesus Christ is that He is our Savior, and He is the reason we are here today. I want to be baptized to be washed clean of my sins.