



**Bethel Church**  
BELIEVE | BELONG | BECOME | BLESS

July 22, 2022

## Sunday, July 24, 2022 | Why Baptism is Important



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Matthew was an eyewitness to the life of Jesus, and he left us a record of what he experienced, heard, and saw. This is what he recorded as Jesus was leaving to go back to heaven after the resurrection: ***Jesus came near and said to them, “All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth. 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, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” Matthew 28:18-20 (CSB).***

These were some of the very last words that Jesus spoke. That makes them important for us to remember! Notice that he told his followers to spread the word about his story, **baptize them**, and teach them how to follow everything he taught them. He was very careful to tell them to baptize new followers in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Why is that so important?

Here are three reasons why this is so important for us today at Bethel Church.

1) Baptism is a public declaration of a private decision. This is a very public way to say that you have decided to follow Jesus.

2) Baptism is a personal declaration of a new association. This event is a way for you to say that you have surrendered your personal life to the mission of Jesus. This means that you are in the company of those who have been called to be those who live sent in all you do.

3) Baptism is not a condition of Salvation; it is evidence of Salvation. Baptism is the way that we tell others that we have already been changed and surrendered our life to Jesus. Baptism does not make our decision official; it is a way of displaying our earlier decision to follow Jesus.

If you have not followed Jesus in baptism, please consider this great opportunity to show the world that you have decided to follow Jesus! Let us know in the church office. We are planning on having a Baptism Celebration on Sunday, July 31.

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## **We are grateful.**

We, as Bethel Faith Family, are grateful for the blessing of the facility and vehicles that God has provided for us to serve others. We all bear the responsibility to maintain these assets. Here are a few reminders of what that requires:

- Please leave the worship center, classroom, meeting room, automobile, or outdoor spaces better than you found it.
  - Clean up the trash: coffee cups, papers, wrappers, etc.
  - Wipe down and sanitize appliances, counter tops, tables, and seats
  - Wash any utensils used
  - Turn off the appliances, lights, and electronics when you leave
- Community spaces are difficult to maintain at a temperature ideal for everyone.
  - Thermostat schedules/temperatures are set by the office manager as per knowledge of the facility and established standards
  - Thermostats may be adjusted by the office manager or designated support personnel
    - Please be aware changing the temperature takes time and it may be easier to put on a jacket or dress to your personal preference according to the room you will be in
    - Be sure to sit where you can see and hear but also will be most comfortable

You are encouraged to reach out to office staff with any non-emergency communications, questions, or concerns during regular business hours via in-person (Monday – Thursday, 9 am to 12 pm and 1 to 4 pm), office phone (308.532.7040), or email [office@bethelnp.org](mailto:office@bethelnp.org).



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## Production Team opportunities...

Any and all are welcome to join our team!  
No prior experience is needed, we will provide the training.



- Soundboard
- Worship graphics
- Camera operations
- Live stream support

Come and see if this is an area that God is calling you to help in.

Contact KeleeAnn Littrell, Director of Production, at [klittrell@bethelnp.org](mailto:klittrell@bethelnp.org), 308.660.0761 for more details, or contact the Bethel office, 308.532.7040.

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## Bethel 2022 Events ~ Save the Date

July 31 – Believers' Baptism  
August 4 to 5 – Global Leadership Summit at New Life Church  
August 12 to 13 – Elders Retreat at Maranatha Bible Camp  
Oct 22 and 23 – Missions Conference  
Nov 5 to 12 – Adult Mission to Guatemala

All events are subject to change.

Fall dates for Awana, Middle School and High School kick-offs coming soon!

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