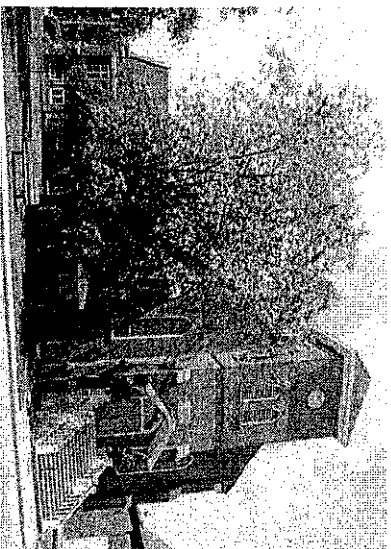


**To Contact our Church:**

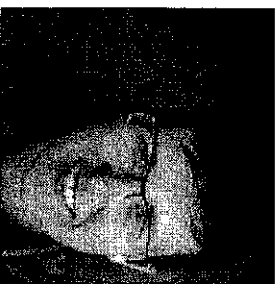
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**Baptism In  
The United Church of Canada\***

Baptism is a symbolic action that signifies the new life God gives us as we join the church community.

Baptism uses water as a symbolic cleansing that signifies the acceptance of new life within the church family. The sacrament of baptism is the single rite of initiation into the Christian community, the church.

The United Church offers baptism to all ages. We believe the gift of God's love doesn't depend on our ability to understand it, so we baptize people as infants right up through adulthood.

With children, instruction is given to parents or sponsors to equip them for the child's Christian nurture. During the ceremony, everyone in the congregation pledges support for the child and parents. Baptism is not a requirement for God's love. We believe people who die without baptism are in no way condemned, lost, or damned.

Baptism in the United Church is recognized by all denominations of the Christian church that practise infant baptism. Similarly, if people have already been baptized in another church, the United Church recognizes their baptism and welcomes them as Christians.  
\*From The United Church of Canada website.

The United Church of Canada

# Baptism

Lennoxville United Church



**Welcome! We are glad that you are seeking baptism in the Christian Church.  
This pamphlet seeks to answer some common questions about baptism at Lennoxville United Church.**

**Welcome to Lennoxville United Church.**  
**We are excited to journey with you through Baptism.**

**Baptism: A Sign of God's Love**

Baptism is a sign that people are loved by God and we believe that baptism is a visible sign for all to see. It is a sign of God's grace, where God takes the initiative. God declares love for us before we even have the ability to say we love God.

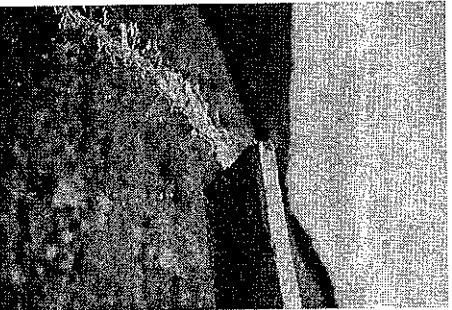
**Baptised into the Community of Faith**

Our understanding of the grace of God is why we baptize children and adults alike. Baptism is also a sign of welcoming. Through the sacrament of Baptism, people become a member of the Christian church in the world and a part of the community of faith here at Lennoxville United Church. On the day of your baptism, or your child's, the gathered church will promise: to love and recognize this human being as a beloved child of God. We pray that you, or your child, will grow to know that you or they are truly loved by God.  
Since the church community makes a promise as well, baptisms are held during the worship time on Sunday mornings.

**Seeking Adult Baptism**

If you are seeking to be baptized yourself, you will be invited to meet with the minister to begin your journey. The process is custom-made to meet your needs and hopes and takes slightly longer than a year.

**Role of Parents in Child Baptism**



Parents also make promises during their child's baptism. You will be asked to profess your own faith in our loving God, and indicate your desire to raise your child within the love of God. The minister will meet with you in the weeks leading up to your child's baptism. This is not a test, but an opportunity to participate in making your child's baptism unique, recognizing that each child is a unique expression of God's love. Our minister looks forward to joining you in celebrating the precious gift of your child.

**Waiting in Joyful Hope**

Baptism is special and important so it can take some time to prepare. This means that for children's baptism we need a few weeks advance notice as all baptisms are approved by the church's General Council (which meets 7 times a year). We will work together to find a Sunday that is both suitable to you and to the life of our faith community. The church looks forward to welcoming your entire family to celebrate the gift of God that your child is for this world, and we wish to continue to support you throughout your child's early and teenage years in hopes that they will one day affirm their own faith in our God of love.



Many Blessings

