

Meridian Pastoral Charge Baptism Policy

Baptism is the primary way in which we welcome children and adults into the church family. It is one of two sacraments that we celebrate, the other is communion.

In baptism through the making of promises and the proclamation of faith individuals, and parents on their child's behalf, commit to the work and ministry of the church.

Baptism is one of the ways that we as individuals experience the love of God and share that love within the community of faith. It reminds us that we are part of something greater than ourselves, we are a part of God's family.

Baptism welcomes us as individuals into a place where we are accepted and loved for who we are as children of God.

All are welcome to seek baptism for themselves or their children. In the case of children it is the policy of the United Church of Canada that at least one parent be a confirmed member of the United Church. In cases where neither parent is a confirmed member of the Church a sponsor will be named by the Church Board, who will take the vows with the parents prior to baptism.

Parents who are not confirmed members are encouraged to become confirmed members at the same time their child is baptized.

It is also the policy of this Pastoral Charge that those seeking to have their child baptized meet with the minister for baptism preparation classes in which the meaning of baptism and the commitment involved will be discussed.

For those seeking baptism as an adult it is required that individuals take Church membership classes which will include learning about the United Church of Canada; its beliefs, practices and history. Adults being baptized become through confession of faith, confirmed members of the United Church.

We do not have set dates for baptism. A date for baptism may be arranged in consultation with the minister or church board.. We also request that no flash photography be taken during the baptism as it happens with the context of worship.

All baptisms taking place on the Meridian Pastoral Charge will be presided over by the covenanted minister. The involvement of other clergy may be discussed with the minister.

There are no fees for baptism.

For more information please contact the minister at rev.meridian@gmail.com