



First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville

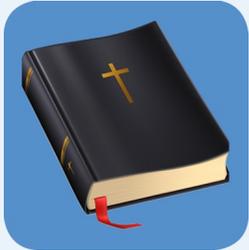
Faith Step #3 Anniversary of Baptism

We are a companionship of faith on a spiritual adventure following Jesus Christ.



Faith Step Marker

Families will be invited to attend a celebration (ordinarily in January) on *Baptism of the Lord Sunday* to mark the first anniversary of their child's baptism. The families will gather for a brief reception to receive a *sea shell Christmas ornament* as a remembrance of their child's special day. Each year as the ornament is hung on the tree, we hope it will provide an opportunity to share family stories of the day each child was baptized and welcomed into the family of God.



Bible Verse (NRSV)

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs."

Mark 10:14



We Believe – *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*

Q1–Who are you?

I am a child of God.

Q2–What does it mean to be a child of God?

That I belong to God, who loves me.

Q42–What is baptism?

Through baptism I am adopted and welcomed into God's family. In the water of baptism I share in the dying and rising of Jesus, who washes away my sins. I am made one with him, and with all who are joined to him in the church.



Caring Conversations

Tell your child the story of his/her baptismal day—who was there, what you were thinking/feeling on that day. Ask others present who were also there to share their memories. Then tell stories from your own baptism. Finally, share what the baptism of this child meant/means to you.



Music

- *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise* (Presbyterian Hymnal #498)
- (CD) *We Sing More Bible Songs*



Faith-filled Actions

Consider contributing to *Living Waters for the World* in honor of your child's Baptism Anniversary. This is a global mission resource of the Synod of Living Waters, a governing body of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It trains, equips, links and supports mission teams to share the gift of clean water with communities in need. www.livingwatersfortheworld.org



Prayer

Dear Lord, we thank you for the gift of *(child's name)*. We are so thankful that you sent him/her to be a special part of our family. We are thankful that he/she is a part of your family too. Today, when we remember the day *(child's name)* was baptized, we ask for the wisdom and strength to continue to teach him/her about you and about how much you love this special child of God.

Thank you, Loving God, for water. Today we remember the sustaining and cleansing power of the water of baptism in each of our lives. We pray especially for the children whose lives depend on being relieved from the dangers of germ-infested water that runs through the communities where they live. Provide clean water for all your children. Give us the understanding and the will to work so that we may have a part in answering this prayer. We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.



Books (available in church library) for Children

- *At Your Baptism*, Eerdmans Books for Young Readers
- *Bedtime Blessings, 100 Bedtime Stories & Activities for Blessing Your Child* by John Trent
- *God Loves Me series* from <http://www.faithaliveresources.org/Products/CategoryCenter/CHGL/god-loves-me.aspx>

for Parents

- *The Blessing* by John Trent and Gary Smalley



On the Web

- www.theblessing.com
- www.livingwatersfortheworld.org
- The Beginner's Bible by Zondervan (iPad app)
- The ABC's of God by readtheWord (iPad/iPhone app)



Who to Contact

- Our **Director of Children Ministries** is Jan Schuett at jschuett@boxp.net
- **Bible Time for Toddlers** is a program offered September through April on Thursday afternoons. Interested? Contact Jan Schuett.
- **CLUB M.O.M.** (Meeting Other Mothers) is a parenting group that welcomes mothers of young children. Regular meetings are set for 10:00–11:30 AM on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month September through April.