Baptisms_{_}

Sunday, November 2, 2025



Wake Forest Campus 9:15 a.m.

- 1. Keshia Flis
- 2. Bob Stanley
- 3. Terri Stanley
- 4. Jason Klinger
- 5. Sammie Klinger
- 6. Harper Atkins
- 7. Jennifer King
- 8. Liam King
- 9. Raymond Stubblebine



Reshia Flis

Life Verse:

Ruth 1:16-17

"But Ruth replied, 'Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me."

†

Testimony:

Before I met Jesus, my life was filled with anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. I always felt different, questioning my worth and struggling with deep trauma that left me unable to trust others and God. I sought love and acceptance in places that only led to more pain.

In May, after being laid off and hitting another low, I turned to Jesus. I began reading my Bible each morning and praying at night. As I drew closer to Him, He reminded me to focus on what I have, not what I lost.

The realization that saved me was that Jesus already paid the price, so I can lean on His strength, not mine. I found my home church, and He's led me back to the beauty of horses and nature, where I feel closest to Him. I also make faith-based jewelry that inspires and reminds me to continue to walk in faith.

Since accepting Jesus as my Savior, I no longer feel suicidal. I know I am worthy because He made me.



Bob Stanley

Life Verse:

2 Corinthians 5:17-19

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come; the old is gone, the new is here! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation."

†

Testimony:

I was born into a Roman Catholic family and baptized as an infant. I attended both a Catholic high school and university, and my wife, Terri, and I even raised two sons in the faith. I thought that I understood Christianity.

But like many others, I became uncomfortable with things happening inside the Catholic hierarchy and, without a strong grasp of the truth and perfection of Christ's sacrifice, I stepped away from active Catholic Christianity.

I found myself at a loss when Terri, my loving wife, was introduced to Crossroads, and for years, I left her to follow Christ alone. But when COVID presented itself to the world, I knew I needed to reconnect with my faith.

I joined Terri in watching Pastor Andy online and in a Bible reading plan she was following. I pledged to myself that I was going to "learn and think"—not "question"—what we read out loud to each other.



Baptisms

Several months ago, as Pastor Ryan preached from the Gospel of John, I experienced my "behold" moment. I found myself wishing and then needing to recommit myself to God as an adult. Together with my patient, beautiful, and loving wife, Terri, I am rededicating my life to the Lord.



Terri Stanley

Life Verse:

Numbers 6:24-26

"The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace."

†

Testimony:

Being baptized as a baby and raised in the Catholic Church laid the foundation for my faith journey. But it wasn't until about ten years ago that I began reading the Bible in earnest, and I soon realized I was searching for a relationship with Jesus that I had not fully felt before.

As I got older, I became increasingly aware of how much God had impacted my life, and I knew I wanted to respond to His pursuit of me. So, I am here today recommitting myself to Christ. I am thankful for His guiding hand throughout my life.



Jason Klinger

Life Verse:

Luke 6:31

"Do to others as you would have them do to you."

†

Testimony:

I was introduced to Jesus as a child. My family went to a small, rural church, where we rarely missed services or Sunday school. I also attended a children's Bible study, and during one of the study meetings, I accepted Jesus as my Savior. I went on to complete confirmation at 13, and in my adult life, I was an active member of various churches. But following my late 20s, I found myself growing apart from Jesus, and at one point, questioning my faith altogether.

However, as I neared age 40, I developed a series of serious health issues. That, along with the birth of my daughter, fostered a return to and resolve in my relationship with Jesus.

Now, I feel called to baptism. I was baptized as an infant but not as an adult who has accepted Jesus into my heart and asked Him to be my Savior. It symbolizes my recommitment to my faith and is an outward acknowledgement that Jesus will love me unconditionally and wash away my sins. Thank you, Jesus!



Sammie Klinger

Life Verse:

Psalms 56:3

"When I am afraid, I put my trust in You."

†

Testimony:

I decided to trust in Jesus when I first learned to ride my bike. Jesus died on the cross to forgive our sins so we can be with Him in Heaven. I am getting baptized to show the church that I love and believe in Jesus.



Harper Atkins

Life Verse:

Isaiah 40:31

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

†

Testimony:

I have always gone to church and said I'm a Christian. However, my actions didn't always reflect my belief. I prayed only for my own needs and didn't listen for God's direction.

But when I went on my first mission trip to Asheville, I heard what He was trying to tell me all that time. On the very first night, I felt His presence so close to me. I knew He was speaking to me and guiding me to let Him into my heart. Throughout the rest of the week, I prayed to God, and I left Asheville having decided to dedicate my life to Him.

For a couple of years, I've wanted to get baptized, but it wasn't the right time. Now, I am truly ready for my new life with God.



Jennifer King

Life Verse:

James 1:2-3

"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance."

†

Testimony:

I was born into Catholicism and baptized as an infant. I completed all my sacraments of initiation, but soon after, my family and I stopped attending church. Because I occasionally prayed and went to church on holidays, I thought I had a relationship with God and Jesus.

But after my son was born, I couldn't shake the desire to attend consistently again. When I finally acted on this feeling, it took only one service to know it was where I was supposed to be. Each sermon spoke directly to me in some way. I realized that I did not know what it meant to truly have a relationship with God and Jesus, as I began to learn about His love for me and all of us in a way I never had before.

I see now just how much God has worked in my life. With Him by my side, I can find peace, hope, encouragement, and gratitude in my daily life and in my struggles. I am being baptized to publicly declare my faith in Jesus and strengthen my commitment to following Him.



Liam King

Life Verse:

Colossians 3:23

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters..."

†

Testimony:

Before I met Jesus, I knew I had my family to confide in, but sharing my thoughts with them didn't always feel like enough. And the older I got, the more I struggled, which made my sense of loneliness grow.

One day, my mom told me she thought we should start going to church. I didn't know much about it besides it being a place where we would talk about God. But when we did start going, I really enjoyed it. I quickly got involved in Crews, and over time, I began understanding who Jesus is, what He had done for me, and how I can fully depend on Him.

Now, when I need Him, I know I can pray and trust that He is listening. I feel safer and more comfortable knowing He is always with me and has a plan for me. I want to live a life with Jesus and show my commitment to following Him through baptism.



Raymond Stubblebine

Life Verse:

1 Corinthians 11:24

"...and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, 'This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

†

Testimony:

Before I met Jesus, I was totally committed to my professional career and determined to become president of the company I worked for. While I had been introduced to God in Catholic school, I didn't have a personal relationship with Him; success was my only motivation.

That changed in 2015 when I joined a prayer group and began to grow closer to God by praying for others. My wife was a very solid Christian, and I wanted the same wonderful relationship with Jesus that she had. Through her, I was introduced to the Holy Spirit, and He completely changed my heart.

Since I met Jesus, I am a better person. I was always focused on controlling my environment. Now, I focus on God.



Wake Forest Campus 11 a.m.

- 1. Danielle Steele
- 2. Reese Kakos
- 3. Jake Waters
- 4. Paityn Waters
- 5. Caroline Banning
- 6. Mark Stevens
- 7. Jillian Stevens
- 8. Titus Powers
- 9. Dallas Lentz
- 10. Archer Molaro
- 11. Grey Pittman
- 12. Matthew Prentice
- 13. Madeline Tegen



Danielle Steele

Life Verse:

John 13:7

"Jesus replied, 'You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand."

†

Testimony:

I was baptized as a baby in the Catholic Church over 50 years ago. But for much of my life, I struggled to understand why God would allow me to experience evil and despair. This often led me to doubt Jesus and keep Him at a distance.

But recently, when my son Hunter got a tattoo, he chose the verse John 13:7. As his mom and protector, his simple action opened my eyes and my heart to let Jesus in. If my 19-year-old son has faith even when he doesn't fully understand, then what excuse do I have?

My heart is telling me now is the time to reaffirm that first baptism. The Holy Spirit has spoken to me in several subtle ways over the last few years, and I now have the courage to open my heart and let Jesus in. I finally realized at the age of 54 that God does not make mistakes. It took me a while, but I am ready.



Reese Kakos

Life Verse:

Proverbs 4:25

"Let your eyes look straight ahead; fix your gaze directly before you."

†

Testimony:

My family has always gone to church. But one day, what I had learned clicked, and I believed in Jesus as my Savior for myself. I realized I wanted to follow Him for the rest of my life and accepted Him into my heart. He's already changed my life, as I have felt safer knowing He will always protect and guide me. Being baptized today is even more special, since it's my actual birthday but also the day I'm reborn.



Jake Waters

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

†

Testimony:

I grew up in church and had a knowledge of Jesus through school and family. But early in my life, my faith wasn't my own—I was just going through the motions of what I'd been taught. It wasn't until a mission trip that I really encountered Jesus and saw Him at work. Though that experience, I realized there's really something to the Christian faith. In my sophomore year of high school, the Lord took hold of me suddenly, and I decided to ask Jesus into my heart.

However, after graduating from high school, I began falling back into worldly ways and drifted from my faith for several years. It was when my mother became ill that I started to "come home" spiritually, returning to church.

At this point, I had a wife and a daughter, and with all the evil in the world, I knew I had to be an example for them and show them the right way—which I know is Jesus' way. That's why I feel a calling on my heart to get baptized and rededicate my life to the Lord.



Laityn Waters

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

†

Testimony:

I grew up going to church every Sunday, and while it meant my life was Godcentered, it was also just what I grew up with and what I knew.

But in 2024, my grandmother passed away after struggling with dementia. It was so hard for my family and me. I think that was really when God touched my heart and showed me that I needed to trust and have faith in Him.

Since then, I have been trusting in Him, and the Lord has really moved me and called me to Him. While my grandmother's death was the hardest thing that has happened to me, in the end, the Lord used that moment to call me to Him. To me, baptism symbolizes you giving your life to Christ and the Lord redeeming you of your sins.



Caroline Banning

Life Verse:

Matthew 19:26

"Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.'"

†

Testimony:

A few years ago, I developed an eating disorder and went through a really rough time. I put my trust in God, and I am here today, healthy and well, because of Him.



Mark Stevens

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

†

Testimony:

I attended the mission trip to western North Carolina, and that Thursday, I felt God's love. It made me want to live my life through Him and for Him, and that's why I'm getting baptized today.



Jillian Stevens

Life Verse:

Philippians 4:13

"I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

†

Testimony:

I attended the mission trip to western North Carolina and felt Jesus' love and presence in everything around me. That experience made me want to give my life to Him. I feel moved to be baptized and demonstrate my faith in Him.



Titus Lowers

Life Verse:

Jeremiah 29:13

"You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart."

†

Testimony:

Before I met God, I was anxious and depressed for years. I thought I knew Him and that I could prove His existence through science. But in the process, I started to become more of an atheist.

I was slowly giving up my faith—and thought I would give it up forever—until I went on the mission trip this past summer. I had a come-to-Jesus moment there when I finally set aside my doubts and surrendered to God.

Since then, I've seen the world in a way, as I've started crediting God for all the things He made. I am now able to fully enjoy the beauty of His creation.



Dallas Lentz

Life Verse:

Proverbs 3:5

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding."

†

Testimony:

I grew up in α household that believed in Jesus. We prayed, attended church, and followed the traditions, but I never truly lived my life for Jesus.

In my sophomore year of high school, I transferred to a small Christian school that held chapel every week. Teachers implemented prayer and the Word into their lessons. This is where I started learning more about how to follow Jesus with my everyday actions and the privilege I had to know Him.

Even throughout high school, I was still not living fully for God–I had one foot in and one out as I grappled with many questions. It wasn't until November of 2024 that I fully surrendered my life to Jesus. It has truly changed my life, filling me with peace and happiness. It has also helped me understand my purpose and a love I never knew I could have. I would like to be baptized at this time because I want to be born again, leaving my past behind me to serve God.



Archer Molaro

Life Verse:

1 John 1:9

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

†

Testimony:

In middle school, my parents divorced, and I started to struggle with feelings of depression. I tried to compensate for this with new people and activities. However, the people I chose to hang out with were not good influences, and the activities I participated in were not Godly. Together, they both left me feeling even more depressed. But as I went on youth trips with Crossroads and then the mission trip to western North Carolina, I experienced something new: feeling alive, at home with others, and wanted by God.

The Good News is that even though we sin and do not-so-great things, we can be forgiven for anything if we ask God. What saves us is believing in God and Jesus and taking the Holy Spirit into our hearts.



Grey Littman

Life Verse:

Job 2:13

"Then they sat on the ground with him for seven days and seven nights. No one said a word to him, because they saw how great his suffering was."

†

Testimony:

Before I gave my life to Christ, I was a Christian, but I didn't fully believe. All the spiritual disciplines—going to church, praying, and reading my Bible—felt more like chores to me, since I lacked a personal relationship with the Lord. I sinned without caring and barely showed up to church.

But a few months ago, I decided to go on the mission trip to western North Carolina. I went into that week wanting to find God and surrender to Him. I sat down with a friend and prayed God would open my heart and help me lean into Him. He answered my prayer, because during that week, I felt God's presence more than I ever have before. I decided to fully commit to Him and leave behind the things that were keeping me from Him.

After the mission trip, I came home and kept seeking the Lord by spending time with Him through praying and reading my Bible. Over time, I've dropped bad habits, and I want to keep seeking the Lord and growing with Him.



Matthew Prentice

Life Verse:

2 Chronicles 15:7

"But as for you, be strong and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded."

†

Testimony:

Before I truly knew Jesus, I went to church and small group every Sunday, but I never took time on my own to seek Him. As I have gotten older, though, I realized that just going to church isn't enough and the only way to grow closer to the Lord is to spend time with Him, through His Word and prayer.

Since I have accepted Jesus as my Savior, I have learned to trust in Him, which has led me to be less stressed and more joyful. My life is still changing as I get to know Jesus more, and I hope to see more of what He has in store.



Madeline Tegen

Life Passage:

Matthew 6:25-34

"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. [...] Each day has enough trouble of its own."

†

Testimony:

I accepted Jesus when I was younger, a choice I made largely because of the strength of my parents' faith. As I grew older, I tried to find a faith of my own, but it seemed out of reach. By the time I hit my sophomore year of high school, I was the furthest from God I had ever been. I wasn't connecting well with my peers at church, I was struggling with friendships at school, and I never once looked to God for help.

But that summer, on the Baltimore mission trip, there was one distinct night where the music made me feel God's presence for the first time in a long time. During the song "Homecoming," I felt so convicted and just laid everything down at the cross. I gave my trials and fears all back to God. It has changed my perspective on life, and I want the church to be a witness to how surrendering my life to Jesus has made me new.

