



# Blackwood Uniting Church

*the church on the roundabout*

## *Baptism*



Have a think about this. Talk it over with your partner or someone close and then give one of the Ministers a call, to discuss this further and to make a date for the celebration you choose.

**We look forward to  
hearing from you.**

## **Worth Celebrating!**

The wonderful experience of becoming a parent can be difficult to describe.

A new life is suddenly placed in your arms, completely dependent on you for nurture, warmth, protection and love.

Blackwood Uniting Church is called by God to be an inclusive Christian community committed to justice, learning, service and care.



**Blackwood Uniting Church**  
266 Main Road  
Blackwood SA 5051

**Office Hours**  
10am - 3pm  
Tuesday - Friday

**P:** 08 8278 7699  
**F:** 08 8278 2501  
office@blackwood.unitingchurch.org.au  
www.blackwood.unitingchurch.org.au



It is normal to sometimes feel overwhelmed by the responsibility and, at times, we wonder about our ability to cope.

*As new parents  
we quickly discover that  
we cannot take on this task  
on our own.*

We all need people around us who will support, listen and help share the load.

In the middle of all this, it is quite normal to discover that our faith is reawakened. The birth of a child is as much a spiritual experience, as it is a physical and emotional one. We want the very best for our newborn and it is quite natural, to want God to be part of this.

**So how do we celebrate and express this deep spiritual connection and desire for our child to be blessed?**

One option is **Baptism**.

Basically, Baptism is the beginning of a new life in God. It celebrates the entry into the life of the Church. There are special prayers said and the Minister pours water over the child's head three times – **“In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit”**.

In the service of Baptism, as parents you are asked to make promises to bring up your child within the life of the Church, by worshipping regularly and participating in Christian education programs.

The Church community makes promises to support you in that task by providing for the Christian nurture of your children, as well as encouraging, praying for and supporting you.

For these reasons, this celebration of Baptism always occurs within a service of worship at a date organised between you and the Minister.

If you have not already done so, we invite you to attend a worship service in our Church, which will give you a better idea of how we do things.

Another option is **Thanksgiving and Blessing**.

This is a different way of celebrating God's blessing of your child. We believe that God is intimately involved in every part of our lives and it is good to both celebrate and ask for God's blessing. This service is a wonderful way of celebrating the start of our spiritual journey with God.

By choosing this option you give your child the opportunity to be baptised when they are older and able to make that step of faith for themselves.

This celebration of Thanksgiving and Blessing can occur within a service of worship or you may choose for it to take place at home, or in a park surrounded by family and friends.

**Before you commit yourself** we would like to explain what is involved in both these options and to give you the opportunity to ask questions you may have.

One of the Ministers here would value the opportunity to talk with you about these options as you explore a way of celebrating the experience of new life and parenthood.