

Bret's thoughts: Baptismal Pool Needs Repair

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Date: Monday, December 4, 2023 at 08:42 AM CST

All,

This is an opportunity to reconsider how we manage baptisms.

Currently we spend a great deal of time and expense to constantly maintain a full baptismal - 24/7/365. This requires Tom's attention, expensive pumps and heaters and chemicals.

What do we need?

We just need a way to immerse an adult fully in water when needed.

Instead of keeping a large baptismal filled with water 24/7/365 we could consider other options, possibly even a horse trough or large tub. This could quickly be filled when needed (we'll need at least tepid water) We could then get rid of much of the pump equipment under the baptismal and also reclaim some space (if desired).

My suggestion: let's see what the repair estimates look like. If large (to me over \$1,000), let's wait before making a decision and consider other options. We may decide to stay with current baptismal process and equipment but at least lets give options a thought.

---- Bret

On Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 12:10:45 PM CST, Elizabeth McPherson <emcpherson@mcknightcrossings.org> wrote:

Hello All,

Tom has informed me that our baptismal pool needs professional attention in order to get it up and running again. In his process of draining and re-painting the inside surface of the pool, he has discovered significant leaks that simple patching or spraying of flex seal will not correct.

It was when he tried to refill the pool, he discovered that much of the surface area *beneath* the baptismal pool (storage hallway behind the pulpit) was thoroughly saturated. And although Tom sprayed sealant on all the outer areas of the pool where he suspected were the cracks causing the leaks, he is not convinced that there aren't others yet unidentified; therefore, he's concerned about filling the pool again with water.

Tom and I believe that our baptismal pool needs professional resealing of the inner tub. It's had a lot of wear and tear through the years, and will continue to cause problems if we don't address the matter on a deeper level.

We have two calls out to pool repair professionals (Munoz Pool Repair & Thompson Custom), hoping we can get some estimates on a complete resealing of the inner body of our baptismal pool. (A quick Google search did not provide any companies in the St. Louis area that specialize in baptismal pools.)

If you know of any reputable service providers that do this kind of repair for fiberglass pools, let Tom or me know. And if you have any convictions on the best way to proceed, feel free to weigh in. Otherwise, I will let you know what we find out from these companies. And even try to locate a few more to call.

Thanks,
Elizabeth

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Elizabeth McPherson
Office Administrator

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