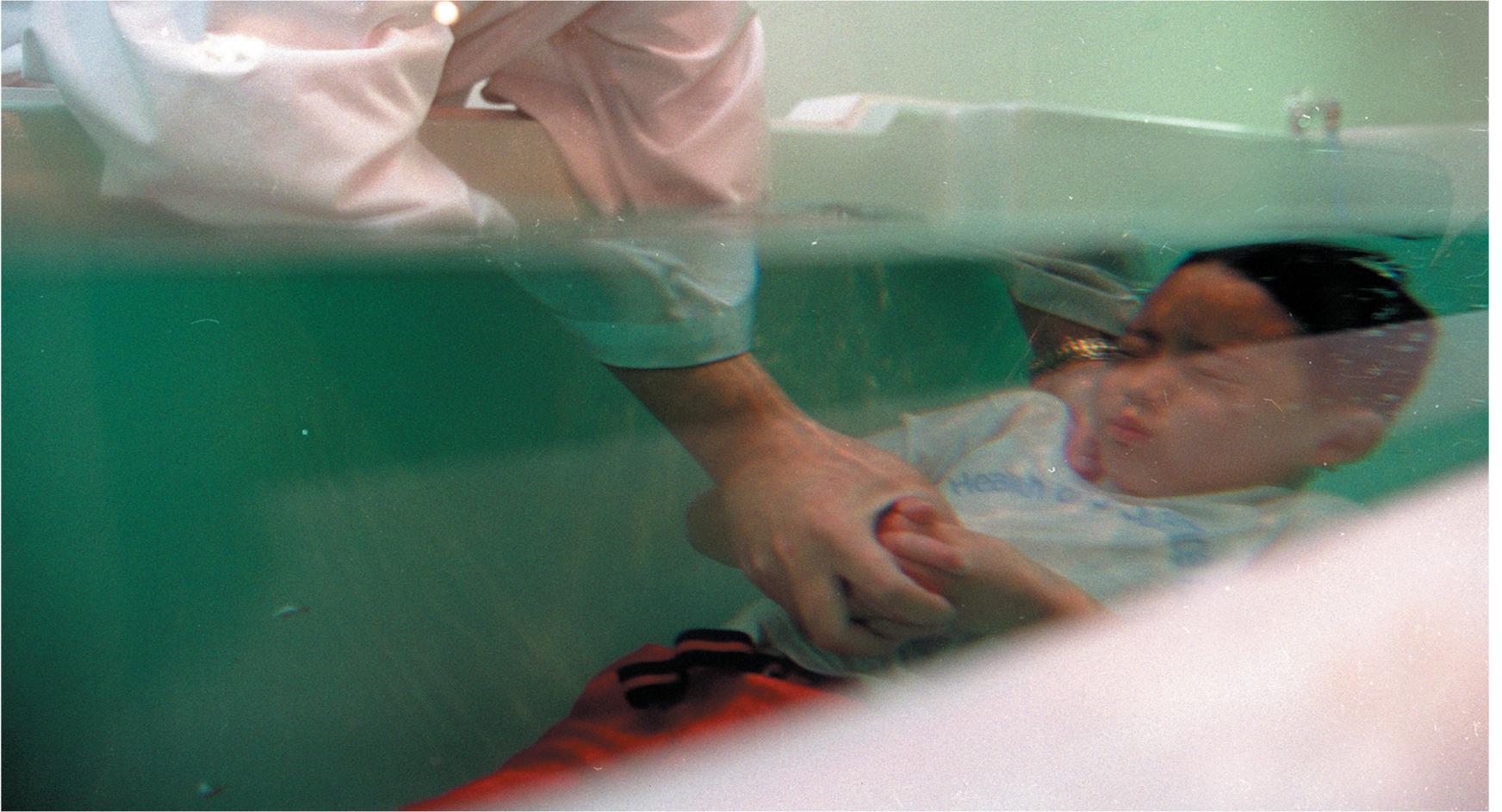
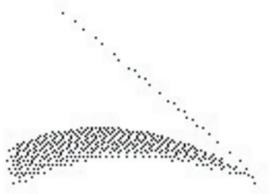




COLUMBIA MISSOURIAN

# Sunday



Jungkwun Cho, 7, is submerged under water for a baptism during a Sunday service at the Korean Baptist Church in Columbia, MO.

## Living new life together

*The Columbia Korean Baptist Church: Unifying the Korean community and providing spiritual center for its members*



Members of the Columbia Korean Baptist Church pray during a Sunday service.



Korean- English Bible.

The Columbia Korean Baptist Church is located in the northwestern side of the city at 3601 I-70 Dr. N. W. Columbia, MO. The Church brings together more than 180 Koreans and a few Americans. The majority of attendants are students and faculty members of the University of Missouri.

Some newcomers believed in God before coming into Columbia. Others were spiritually skeptics. They usually attend the church when they come to Columbia because it provides many helping hands for newcomers such as providing a rides from St. Louis airport, accommodating them before they settle down, and giving lots of advice regarding new life in America.

Regardless of the reason why newcomers attend to church, the majority of them become sincere Christians later. The church offers baptisms every month for those new Christians. One to thirteen new Christians are baptized every month.

The church also plays an important role in unifying the Korean community as well as providing spiritual center for its members. Members of the church prepare lunch and eat together every Sunday. It is an important time for Koreans because they can be free from strong pressures of adjusting to new situations. They talk with each other in Korean and enjoy Korean food. The church also offers several educational programs for children of Korean families such as Korean language school on every Saturday morning.

Besides of Sunday services, small groups of 4-7 families have their own meetings outside of the church. They meet once a week to share dinner and talk about their future, new lives in the U.S. and anything they want to share with others.



Suhyun Choi, left, takes care of Choi's five month-old baby, Soyun with others during a lunch after a Sunday service at the Columbia Korean Baptist Church.

Photos and story  
by  
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