

What is Infant or Child Dedication?

Dedication is a formal Christian ceremony whereby a Christian parent or parents accomplish the following:



- **First**, they publicly acknowledge that children are gifts *from* God, entrusted to parents *by* God, and that as parents they are accountable *before* God for their child's welfare and development.
- **Second**, they openly present their child to the Lord for His purposes and His glory.
- **Third**, they freely commit themselves to raising their child as loving stewards, pledging to honor God by seeking His will for their child.

In response, the church commits itself to serve and assist parents in the development of their children. The pastor then offers a formal prayer of dedication.

Scheduling a Dedication

Parents desiring to dedicate a child should contact the church office by calling 419-668-9208. Nearly any day can be considered for a child dedication.

Mother's Day and Father's Day are ideal dates to dedicate a child, but the church limits the number of children dedicated in each service on those days.

If you have any questions regarding the Biblical basis for child dedication, please feel free to contact Pastor Bruce by phone or e-mail.

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Dedicating Children to the Lord

AT
NORWALK
ALLIANCE CHURCH



**What
Parents
Need to
Know**

Commonly asked questions...

Q. Can we dedicate more than one child at a time?

A. Yes



Q. Is there an age limit for dedication?

A. While there is no age limit, we recommend children be dedicated during the first few years of life. If parents become followers of Christ when their children are school age or teens, they may participate publicly, or the pastor will gladly arrange a private ceremony if the children are uncomfortable with a public dedication.

Q. Can grandparents and other children stand with us during the ceremony?

A. Yes, extended family members are welcome to stand as witnesses to the ceremony. But parents should remember that only they and the church are participants in the ceremony.

Dedication details

Dedications may be requested to take place during either worship service.

Parents are asked to submit 3 photos for the power point presentation; these pictures should include one newborn, one family and one of your choice.

These photos **must** be into the office no later than 1 week before the dedication.

At the appointed time, parents will be called to the front of the sanctuary with their child and face the congregation. After introducing the couple and their child, the Pastor will ask the parents if they commit themselves to God's will in the life their child. They will respond with, "We do." The congregation will then be challenged to commit themselves to assisting the parents in their duties through example and involvement.

Pastor will then take the child in his arms, or lays hands on the child, while he leads in a prayer of dedication. Parents may ask specific elders or pastors to conduct the ceremony. Parents may also ask one or two friends or family members to stand as witnesses during the ceremony.

Child Dedication Request

Child's Full Name: _____

Dedication date and service time requested:

_____/_____/_____ () 9:00am () 10:45am

Comments on Name: (Traditional Meanings, Family Significance, etc.)

Date and year of Birth: ____/____/____

City and State of Birth _____

Person requesting the Dedication: _____

Father's Name: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Guardian's Name: If Applicable _____