INFORMATION CONCERNING BABY DEDICATIONS

Congratulations on your desire to dedicate your child to the Lord! This year’s baby dedication ceremony will be held on Sunday, Dec. 13th.

Baby dedication is an important step in the life of a family. A baby dedication is a time when we as parents, and as a congregation, give thanks for the children entrusted to our care. This is also when we agree to follow God’s leading and teaching in raising His children.

It is vital to realize a baby dedication is different from an infant baptism. While baptism is a decision that we all desire for our children to make for themselves, dedicating ourselves as parents and our children to the Lord can be an important first step to guiding our children into God’s Kingdom.

As with any commitment we make unto the Lord, I ask that you make this decision with intention, soberly and in prayer. This is not simply a hoop to jump through, it is a commitment before God in which we say, “I realize this is your child, God. Lead them where you want them to go. Use them to bring Glory to yourself. Guide us, as parents, to be examples of what it means to be a Christian.”

What you need to do:

1. Complete the baby dedication form and turn it in to Danny Sink no later than Nov. 29th.
2. Invite your family and friends to attend this special service on Dec. 13th. Making a commitment is easy, keeping it is harder. You need the partnership and accountability not only of your church family, but also those outside of this congregation that are important in your life.
3. **Write a letter and seal it in an envelope with your child’s name on it**. Tell your future child about the decision you’ve made to raise them in a Godly manner. Tell them how you pray for them, and what it means to you to fully trust God. This letter is to be put back until the day your child makes a decision for Christ and submits to baptism. On that day, what a special gift it will be for them to see how their salvation was an answer to prayers you began long ago.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at either 336-454-5282 or kidzonepastor@firstchristianhp.org. I pray that this ceremony will be a blessing to you and your entire family.

In His Service,

Danny Sink

Children’s Minister

First Christian Church of High Point

**BABY DEDICATION FORM**

**CHILD’S INFORMATION**

Child’s Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  Male  Female

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hospital where child was born: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Month Day Year

**PARENTS INFORMATION**

Mother’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Father’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Full Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(Please include City, State and Zip)

Home Phone Number: (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email Contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Mother’s Cell Number: (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Father’s Cell Number: (\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child lives with: \_\_\_ both parents \_\_\_mother \_\_\_father \_\_\_other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GRANDPARENTS INFORMATION**

Maternal Paternal

Grandmother’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grandmother’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grandfather’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Grandfather’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SIBLING INFORMATION**

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gender\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gender\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gender\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Who will participate in the Baby Dedication Ceremony?

Both parents Mother only Father only

Please email 2 pictures of your child to Danny Sink by Sunday, Nov. 29th for display during our ceremony. Also, please include a Bible Verse you would like used on your display. Send these to: kidzonepastor@firstchristianhp.org

What you need to know:

* You should plan to be here by 8:45 AM on the morning of the service. You will likely want to space out some seats for you and your family to sit at. This will give us a few minutes to answer questions and show you where you will be standing when you and your little one come forward.
* Please be sure you get pics and information in on time so that I can create the slides and have them to all of the computers that will need them for Sunday.
* We will conduct the service during both services. The ceremony will be near the beginning of the service, so if you want to leave following that portion of 2nd service instead of sitting through the entirety of service a second time please feel free. Since we have two services, we do not want anyone who attends one service to feel that they miss out, or that one service is the ‘lesser’ service. This is why with graduation Sundays, kids programs, etc. we try to keep both services the same.
* If you have family that will be unable to attend or that live out of town, we will be live streaming the 9 AM Service like normal. They can watch on our Facebook page, Webpage or our Vimeo Page.
* We ask only parents come up to the stage for the actual ceremony. As you will see in the information form we will recognize grandparents and siblings through the slide presentation, however to keep the stage area manageable, please only parents and Baby come forward.
* I will attach the order of the actual ceremony for you below so you can see how it will go. Of course I may make some small alterations between now and then, but this gives you the basic layout.
* Each of you will receive Babies first Bible as a gift from the church, a certificate of Dedication, and a sealed letter from the staff of the church to present to your child, along with your own, on the day they choose to accept the Lord and follow Him in Baptism.
* Bring your sealed letter with you the day of the Ceremony to put with your child’s materials.
* As always if you have any questions, please contact me and we will get them answered for you. I can’t wait for this year’s dedication and to celebrate the blessing you are all to the body here at FCCHP!

God Bless,

Danny Sink

Children’s Minister FCCHP

Baby Dedication Ceremony 12/13/2020

Danny Sink

### [Mark 10:13-16](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+10%3A13-16&version=ESV) ESV

And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.” And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.

 Scripture is clear how God feels about children. They are called arrows in our quiver, blessings, rewards… Some of the oldest stories in scripture tell about the joy of people like Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, & Jacob and Rachel at the birth of long awaited children.

Today we as a congregation join in that joy as we stand with these families in thanksgiving, celebrating the blessing that these children are.

At this time I would like to ask our families to come forward so that we can celebrate the decision you make today to raise your children in the way of the Lord.

Danny will Step forward and introduce each family. As each family is being introduced, the slides for that particular child will play on the big screen.

 We Call this Baby Dedication, but in truth, that is only a portion of what we do hear this morning.

First, we recognize that the beautiful children that these families bring today are a gift from God. And while as parents we call them our kids, we realize that they belong to Him alone, loaned to us for a short time. We come before God, thanking Him for blessing us with the responsibility and joy of being Parents.

Today we affirm that these children belong to God to do with as He sees fit, to guide and to use, to bring glory to the One who formed them in their Mother’s Womb. As Hannah did with Samuel, we dedicate our children to the service of God.

Secondly as parents, we come today to rededicate ourselves before God to live lives before our children and before all men that speaks to the faith we have in Christ. Today we commit to provide our children with the necessities of life through hard work and dedication. Today we promise to show them love that echoes the Father’s love for us, to teach our children the truths of God’s word, to discipline our children with love and teach them right from wrong, and to model for them what a Godly home looks like. Today, parents, we promise that when we make mistakes, as we all will, that we will humble ourselves and teach your children what it means to repent.

Finally, today we come together as a congregation to renew our commitment to all the children God has blessed and will bless our Church body with. We commit to support these families that stand before us today, joining in their joys and offering comfort and empathy in their sorrows. Today we acknowledge that the church is not a building, it is the living breathing body of Christ manifested through his people. We commit to do our best to live out lives that reflect Christ’s sacrificial love, to come along side of the parents to educate and edify these children. As a congregation we come to commit to be love, light, and salt and a second family to those who call FCC High Point home.

Parents, anytime that we come before God to make a commitment it is something that we should not take lightly. As I have counseled you leading up to this day, making a decision to dedicate your child and yourselves to Christ is not something to take lightly, it is not a hoop to jump through or something to mark off your to do list. So I ask you with seriousness and sobriety to listen and answer the following questions:

 Parents:

 Do you believe Jesus is the Christ? The Son of the Living God? IF so, answer I Do.

 I Do.

Do you confess Christ as your LORD and your Savior, placing your eternal hope in Him alone?

 I Do.

Do you acknowledge today that this child you bring to dedicate belongs to the LORD?

 I Do.

Do you promise, before the Lord, to live lives that provide a Godly example, to teach your child God’s word, to provide for their physical, emotional and spiritual needs, and to provide love, discipline and nurture in a biblical way?

 I Do.

Will you, with God’s guidance, lovingly lead your child to understand their need for Christ’s redemption, and encourage them to become a follower of Christ laying down their old life in baptism and being raised to life anew through the waters? If so answer I will.

 I Will.

Congregation-

 As I cautioned the parents, I also caution you to not to make a rash commitment before the LORD. No man can answer for another man, So I ask you to listen to the questions I now put before you. If you choose to commit, Answer I Will.

Do you Promise that you will take an active interest in the lives of these children and these families, offering support and love, and interceding on their behalf before the Throne of God?

 I Will.

Will you step forward and help to educate these little ones in the ways of the LORD?

 I Will.

Will you as the body of Christ be the hands of feet of our Savior to these little ones, serving them and teaching them what it means to live in the Service of Christ?

 I Will.

 As servant leaders in our Church, I would like to ask the deacons to come forward and lead our families in a private time of prayer. As the deacons pray with our families, I would ask that the congregation take this opportunity to silently lift these families and children before the LORD. At the end of our prayer time I will close us out in prayer.

 Prayer

 I would now like to present each of our families with a Baby Bible for each child dedicated here today along with a letter from our staff to be opened on the day your child follows Christ in Baptism. Each set of parents has also written a letter to their child to be delivered on that day. Parents I commend you for the decision you have made today…..