***A tiny baby – A giant task ahead…***

We believe that life with God is meant to be a family thing. Nobody has a greater potential to impact a child’s spiritual development than their parents! Your involvement in Family Dedication is a pledge to God and the congregation here that you are serious about that task that is ahead of you. As a church, our aim is to join you in this dedication and equip you as together we build spiritually healthy homes.

**It’s a process, not a program…** Dedicating your child is so much more than 5 minutes on the stage one Sunday — it’s a journey that lasts a lifetime. In this service and your preparation, we hope to get you started down that parenting road. We’ll encourage you to imagine the end, remind you that you can’t give what you don’t have, and explain how we’re here to partner with you for the next 18 years and beyond.

**Ready to get started?**
We have our Annual Family Dedication Day, the Sunday after Easter, every year. You must preregister to be on stage. To register, or for more information about Family Dedication contact Mandy at 522-6020.

We are excited to partner with parents as you celebrate new life. With the name change we have an improved process where we as the church can come alongside parents with encouragement and partner with you as you begin the journey with your precious child.

***Frequently Asked Questions***

1. **What is the age limit of children to participate in Family Dedication?**
With the new Family Dedication process, the age limit is 24 months old and younger. However, if you have never been involved in a Family Dedication and would like to participate and make this commitment to God, yourself, your family and before the congregation here, we want to give you this opportunity to do so.
2. **Can our other children go on stage with the family and the new baby?**
Yes, even if your older children have participated in Family Dedication before. This may be a timely reminder for your entire family about your dedication to raising your children to follow the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. **What about baptism?**
Family Dedication at CCA does not involve baby baptism. The Bible states that baptism is meant to take place at a time when an individual makes a personal decision to follow Christ and is old enough to repent of sin and publicly confess Jesus as Lord of his or her life.

Some people think that if a child dies before being baptized she or he will not go to heaven. We have confidence in a loving God who welcomes the little children. Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” Matthew 19:14
4. **What are the guidelines?**
	* **Parents**
	Family Dedication is open to parents who can truthfully say, “I will commit myself to raising this child to know the Lord Jesus Christ by loving, disciplining, training, and setting a Christ-like example.”
	* **Single Parents**
	Single parents are encouraged to participate in Family Dedication.
	* **Unmarried Parents**
	To help you in understanding and following God’s blueprint for families, unmarried parents who are living together are asked to live in separate residences or wait until they are married to dedicate their child. For further clarification of this or any other guideline, please contact Deryl Titus at 522-6020.
	* **Membership**
	Membership at Christian Church of Anchorage is NOT a requirement to participate.
5. **How do I register?**
Call the church office, 522-6020, or email Mandy at ccaoffice@gci.net. Late registrations cannot be accepted because there is planning involved.
6. **Additional Information**
	* **Preparation**
	Parents, meet in the Gathering Room 15 minutes before the 11am service begins. You must be on time. Check your Nursery or Preschool age children into their class first, right by the front door, that way both parents will be able to be in the Gathering Room to hear instructions before the service. Older children may join their parents in the Gathering Room. Arrangements can be made to bring younger children up from the Nursery/Preschool to participate in the Dedication.
	* **Invitation**
	We encourage you to invite relatives and friends to this special event. Photography and video can be taken of the Dedication Service.

**Family Dedication is a three-step process:
Step 1 Consider—**Consider the direction that Family Dedication is going to set for the course of your family.

**Step 2 Celebrate—**Participate in the Family Dedication ceremony. This is your opportunity to commit before God and the congregation that you will raise your children according to God's standards.

**Step 3 Connect—**Join a group with other parents in our church to give and get support. We'll discuss several options during the orientation before the service.