

## Child Dedication

Child dedication at Bethel Church is a joyful recognition that every child is a gift from God (Psalm 127:3). It is a celebration of the wonderful privilege and blessing it is to be a parent!

God has entrusted you with a new life – one that will live eternally! He has chosen you to be a tangible expression of His love, character and values for your child. During dedication, parents have an opportunity to publicly acknowledge that our children ultimately belong to God and that we desire His plan for their lives. Child dedication is a sign of your commitment to raise your child in a Christian home and a church where he/she may come to know Jesus Christ as a personal savior.

We also believe that the people of Bethel Church have a responsibility to partner with you as you raise your child. The congregation will be challenged to pray for your family and to be godly examples for your child to follow.



Bethel Church does not offer baptism prior to an individual's choice to believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that mankind was originally created in the image of God but erred through sin. This spiritual death has been transmitted to the entire human race; the new birth of the believer comes only through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and no other act, including infant baptism, can result in salvation.

"I prayed for this child, and the Lord answered my prayer and gave Him to me."

1 Samuel 1:27

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."

Mark 10:14



## Dedication Meeting

Approximately 2-3 weeks prior to the dedication service, parents will be scheduled to meet privately with Pastor Gary Siefers. During the meeting, he will discuss procedures for the service and help parents complete forms for dedication certificates. If this is the parents' first dedication, he will also explain the rich meaning of this exciting celebration, and answer any questions parents might have.

## Baptism

During the elementary and preteen years, most children who have trusted Christ begin to consider being baptized.

Several times a year, we offer a two-class session to help children prepare for the baptism process. Children's Pastor Gary Siefers takes students to the Bible understand what it means to be a Christian and to learn about the meaning and method of baptism.

After the classes, children can take part in one of Bethel's baptism services.



## Is my child ready?

Baptism classes are for children who have already made a profession of faith. The following points are important markers of a child being ready to be baptized:

- Your child has accepted Jesus as his/her Savior and understands the plan of salvation.
- Your child *desires* to be baptized.
- You, as a parent, consider Bethel your church home and agree with Bethel Church's Statement of Faith.
- You, as a parent, are committed to supporting your child's spiritual growth.



## Ministry Staff

Dr. Gary Siefers . . . . . Children's Pastor  
Delia Williams . . . . . Ministry Director  
Anne Mogck . . . . . Ministry Director  
Jenn Huntman . . . . . Administrative Assistant



## Dedication & Baptism



Bethel Church

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