

Thank you for your interest in dedicating your child! Here are some things you'll need to know about Child Dedication here at New Bridge:

- 1. A child is a God-given trust (Psalm 127:3). Child dedication is a ceremony that signifies your commitment to uphold that trust. It is an event that symbolizes your pledge to raise your child in a Christian home and church where he or she can come to know, love, and serve Jesus. It also signifies a commitment by the people of New Bridge to provide a loving, Christ-Centered community that supports and prays for your family.
- 2. Child dedication at New Bridge is not the same as infant baptism. We believe that baptism is a public statement of faith that can be made only by someone who has personally believed in Christ (Acts 2:41). Infants cannot make a personal decision to believe in Jesus.
- 3. If you have trusted in Jesus Christ as your Savior, you are invited to present your child in dedication to the Lord. While many parents dedicate very young children, your child does not have to be an infant.
- 4. You will not have to recite a pledge during the ceremony. You should, however, read and decide whether you are able to commit to this pledge:

"Declaring Christ as Savior and Lord, I this day acknowledge that my children are gifts from God, that I am a caretaker by His grace and, therefore, accept the responsibility for raising my family to know and follow Jesus. As a parent:

- * I will demonstrate for my child integrity in my personal life.
- * I will teach my child the meaning of fidelity in my marriage.
- * I will show my child the meaning of fellowship and servanthood through my church.
- * I will model my faith in my life, in prayer, and the application of the Bible's truth as I teach my child to follow Jesus as Lord.

With God as my strength, I promise to give my child every possible benefit of home, school, church, and community. And I ask His blessing upon him/her to guide and guard through all his/her years."