



B A B Y *dedication*

The dedication of our children is a celebration of God's gift, and a time in which we ask for his guidance and blessing in the life of the child. This time of dedication is as much for the parent(s)/guardian(s) as for the child. It is a time where you make a commitment before God and your faith community to guide your child in the way they should go.

We do not believe that the dedication of your child has any bearing on their salvation, but it is an opportunity for you to make Jesus the number one priority in your family's life. Psalm 127 tells us that children are a gift from God. Therefore, we have an awesome responsibility to love them, care for them and teach them. As parent(s)/guardian(s) who are seeking to follow Jesus, you have the great privilege and responsibility to model what it means to live in the ways of Jesus. More than anyone else, your children will watch you as they seek to follow Jesus themselves.

We also believe that it takes a village to raise a child and that it is important to journey together through this stage of life to encourage and support families in all that they do. Our Child Dedication Learning Group is designed to intentionally engage in conversations about what it means to be the primary spiritual voice in the lives of our children, connect families in similar stages of life together, and celebrate the commitments made before the greater faith community.

To participate in Child Dedications:

- We ask parent(s)/guardian(s) to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- We ask that parent(s)/guardian(s) ensure that their beliefs align with [DCC's Shared Story](#).
- We ask that parent(s)/guardian(s) agree to the affirmations listed on the second page that you'll make in front of your faith community.
- We ask that parent(s)/guardian(s) agree to complete all Child Dedication homework and participate in our 3 scheduled Learning Groups prior to the Dedication Service.
- We ask that parent(s)/guardian(s) complete the Child Dedication Submission Form to provide all necessary information to our Children's Pastors.

We are excited to be a part of this important journey with you. If you have questions about our Child Dedication process, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Michelle Haan

Wash Park Children's Pastor
720-261-7317

Maggie Knight

Uptown Children's Pastor
303-880-4074

OVERVIEW OF DEDICATION PROCESS

Dedication Service Dates for 2019:

- Spring 2019 = April 28
- Fall 2019 = November 10

Application:

We ask that a Child Dedication Application be completed for each child getting dedicated by the parent(s)/guardian(s) before the deadline for your desired Child Dedication Learning Group.

- Spring 2019 Application Deadline = January 31, 2019 (Opens January 3)
- Fall 2019 Application Deadline = September 13, 2019 (Opens August 26)

Learning Group Dates:

Each family participating in Child Dedications will be part of a Learning Group. We will meet 3 times prior to the dedication service and provide homework to complete in-between gatherings. These groups are designed to learn more about what it means to journey together and demonstrate God's love to our children. We'll focus on Prayer, Faith and Community. The dates for these group meetings are below. As part of participating in Child Dedications, we ask that you commit to attending all of these gatherings and complete the required homework. Childcare and light refreshments will be provided for all gatherings.

- Spring 2019 Dates:
 - March 16 | 9am - 11am
 - March 30 | 9am - 11am
 - April 13 | 9am - 11am
- Fall 2019 Dates:
 - October 5 | 9am - 11am
 - October 19 | 9am - 11am
 - November 2 | 9am - 11am

Dedication Service Highlights:

During our Dedication Service, we'll play a video introducing all of the participating families. We'll then say a few words from the platform about the dedication process and read through the affirmations with the families. We'll end with a time of prayer surrounded by our faith community. Directly following the gathering we'll have a small celebratory reception for your family and anyone who you've invited to participate in the dedications with you.

The affirmations on the following page are what will be read for the dedication in front of the church community. These words of dedication will be read by one of Pastors here at Denver Community Church. We encourage you to take some time to think and pray about the commitments you will be making. We are excited to be a part of this important day with you.



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Child Dedication Affirmations:

1. Do you acknowledge your child is a gift from God, and do you pledge to faithfully protect, provide, and nurture him or her as God's steward?
2. Do you pledge as parents to teach your children about God, to provide opportunities for them to learn from the Bible, and seek to be an example of following Jesus in His ways?
3. Do you pledge to model for your children the importance of loving and authentic relationships- with God, with others in your faith community, and with the world around us?
4. Do you pledge to show your child what it means to join God in His redemptive work by caring for the poor, comforting those who mourn, proclaiming freedom for the oppressed, fighting against injustice, and proclaiming the Good News in our city and the world?
5. Do you pledge to pray for your children to one day choose to follow Jesus, to grow and love him passionately and make his kingdom a deeper reality on this earth?