

# CHILD DEDICATION

The birth of a child brings with it an amazing joy and sense of great responsibility. As a parent begins to consider the many needs of their child, their hearts often turn to questions about faith and how to begin to direct their child spiritually. That's when we want to be there to help. Parent/Child Dedications are one way Cheyenne Hills can come along side you as a family and celebrate the joy and responsibility of helping you take those first steps together.

## WHAT IS A PARENT / CHILD DEDICATION?

Simply put, a parent/child dedication is an opportunity during the worship service for you as a parent to dedicate yourself, and your child to God, and to make a public commitment to model and teach your faith in Christ to your child. At the same time, the church promises to support the parent and the child as a family of faith.

At Cheyenne Hills, we believe in believer's baptism, which is really only possible for those who are able to make decisions to follow Christ. For this reason, we believe that children should be old enough to make this decision so that they can understand the true meaning of baptism before we baptize them. Being baptized doesn't make anyone a Christian. We become Christians when we ask Jesus to lead our lives, turning from sin and asking Him to be our Savior and take control of our lives. *(See FYI Sheet on Baptism)*

## EXTENDED FAMILY

You can encourage your family with the fact that we're following Scripture as we understand it and that we love children. Arguing over the theology of baptism is probably not the most productive option, but maintaining an attitude of love, patience and peace-making will go a long way. The most healthy course is to continue to affirm your relationships with extended family, and to acknowledge the right to have differing opinions. This will hopefully build bridges for the future.

## DEDICATION PROCESS

Dedications are usually held three times per year. These dates are listed in the weekend program once they are made available and on the child dedication page where you can sign up online at [www.cheyennehills.org/#/events/child-dedication](http://www.cheyennehills.org/#/events/child-dedication).

