



Center for Hope Ministries

is destined to promote a natural and spiritual balance in the Christian life and to serve our local and global communities in the spirit of excellence.

Our Commitment

We are committed to your spiritual and natural development. With a sincere commitment to God and active involvement within ministry, we believe you will be transformed into a new person. So expect to:

- Be equipped with biblical tools to live a balanced Christian life.
- See our leaders model the Word of God in words and in deeds.
- Develop life-changing relationships within your church family.

It's common for parents to choose someone to serve as godparents to their child(ren). In accepting this role, one is committing to investing in the child's spiritual upbringing and personal development.

At Center for Hope, we welcome parents to invite assigned godparents, family members and friends to show support as they make a public commitment to spiritually lead and nurture their child. The presence of a godparent symbolizes their commitment to playing a supportive role in the child's spiritual development.

Parent Orientation Class

Prior to the ceremony, we offer a parent orientation class for the parents of child dedication candidates. The parent orientation class is designed to provide information about the spiritual commitment being made by the parents. Ministry representatives will be available to address any additional questions or concerns that may arise in preparation for the ceremony.

There is a two-step process

1. Register your child

Candidates for the Child Dedication ceremony should register at least two weeks prior to the event. Parents can register their child(ren) by contacting the CFH main office at 309-827-2009.

2. Attend the parent orientation

Parent orientation class will be offered prior to the scheduled ceremony. Parents must complete the class in order to participate in the Child Dedication ceremony.

Candidates for Child Dedication ceremony must be active members of Center for Hope. Child Dedication ceremony is offered twice a year.



CENTER FOR HOPE
MINISTRIES

14940 Old Colonial Road
Bloomington, IL 61705
Office: (309) 827-2009
Fax: (309) 827-2127

Web Address

www.cfhministries.org

Service Times

SUNDAY

Morning Glory: 8:00 AM - 9:15 AM
Sunday School: 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Worship Service: 10:45 AM - 1:00 PM

WEDNESDAY

Intercessory Prayer: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Bible Study: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM

Sunday Worship In the Summer

(June - August)

SUNDAY

Sunday School: 9:00 AM - 9:45 AM
Worship Service: 10:15 AM - 12:00 PM



Child

DEDICATION

CENTER FOR HOPE MINISTRIES

Overview

Child Dedication is a public ceremony showing the commitment made by you, the parent(s), before God, your church, and your family. It expresses your desire to lead and spiritually nurture your child in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, so your child will develop a desire to love God and love others.

The ceremony isn't just about your child, it's about you too. In making a commitment to raise your child in the fear of God, you will discover that it is not possible to truly raise your child to know God if you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and savior. With this in mind, our goal is to:

- Help parents recognize that children are a gift from God.
- Challenge parents to be examples in service and worship for their children.
- Encourage parents to recognize the value in raising their children in a Christian environment.
- Guide parents in understanding and accepting their responsibility in establishing a solid foundation of faith in God.

Baptism vs. Child Dedication

People often wonder what the difference is between Child Dedication and Baptism. Are they one in the same? No, Child Dedication is not the same as Baptism nor does it impart salvation on the child.

The Bible tells us that Baptism is a symbol of Christ's burial and resurrection, representing our new life in Christ. Keep in mind, Baptism does not MAKE you a believer - it shows that you ARE a believer.

Baptism does NOT get you into heaven. We must accept Christ as Lord and Savior to secure salvation and eternity in heaven. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith...it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2:8-9

Salvation

People often ask what happens if a baby or young child dies. We believe salvation is guaranteed to children who die before the age of accountability. Children are under God's spiritual care until the age when he or she can accept or reject Christ. Therefore, at CFH Ministries we do not baptize until children are old enough to articulate their understanding and belief. We dedicate children from birth to 11 years of age.

Your Role as a Parent

Though parents cannot decide their child's salvation, they can provide a strong spiritual foundation through teaching and by being an example. You have the most influence and the most significant role in developing your son or daughter's faith. Your example and prayers will help to guide children in their decision to confirm their faith as a believer when the time comes.

As a parent it is your responsibility to help shape your child's faith by:

- Attending weekly worship service, specifically during times when children's church is offered. This will afford your child the opportunity to learn more about God on their level so they can grow in faith.
- Getting involved with children's ministry activities, specifically your child's age group.
- Reading the Bible and praying with your child. Teach them by example that no matter what or when, he or she can always pray to Jesus and ask for help. Let your child know its okay to tell God "Thank You" and to say "I'm Sorry"

Making the Declaration

At Center for Hope, we believe children are a gift from God. It's our desire to raise children of faith who will represent Christ and become the next generation of leaders. Therefore, we hold Child Dedication ceremony in high regard. As a church family, we are committing to partner with the parents to help nurture and develop children according to God's Word. With this in mind, the idea of making a commitment to lead and spiritually nurture your child in cooperation with the Holy Spirit, should not be taken lightly. Our goal is for you to recognize your spiritual commitment. In essence, you are vowing to:

- Bring up your child in the fear of the Lord.
Mark 10:13-16, 1 Samuel 1:24-28
- Rededicate your home to the Lord as a place of Christian environment in which the spiritual nature of your child may grow and mature.
Joshua 24:15, 3 John 1:4
- Teach your child about God's love and of His gift of eternal life through His Son Jesus.
1 John 4:7-10
- Accept responsibility for helping my child discover his or her God given purpose in life.
Jeremiah 1:5

