WHY BABY DEDICATIONS?

Pastor Jason

It seems like I've done more baby dedications in the past 2 years than I have in the past 5 to 10 years prior. This is a good thing! This is a sign of a healthy church with healthy families. The face of a vibrant church should always look trans-generational and span many decades. A growing church will attract and minister to young families who need and want practical spiritual wisdom and advice poured into their parenting and marriages. We dedicate our children to the Lord, not as a religious observance, but as a REAL statement that we acknowledge His lordship over our lives and the life of our child. We also submit them back to the One to whom they truly belong, in recognition that we are actually their stewards who have been entrusted to love them and train them into godly men and women. Infant baptism does not avail anything. No Scripture teaches us to baptize babies, but consecrating all that we have back to the Lord is taught throughout the Bible. What more valuable and precious thing is there to dedicate back to the Lord than the beautiful lives that He gave to fathers and mothers to steward in the way of the Lord?



One of the recent challenges made to our Thrive youth is to intentionally disciple others. When you think about discipleship, it's easy to become intimidated with the idea of teaching long sermons, deep biblical principles, and Bible story after Bible story. Discipling at its core involves the intentional pursuit of someone to share what you know about God and His word. You are accountable to teach only the things that you know! When we look at Jesus's challenge to the disciples in Matthew 28:19-20, His very first expectation of the believers who He discipled was to turn around and disciple someone else. Many of our youth have been taught and discipled a great deal. Over half of our youth group regularly attend daily Bible classes in addition to Wednesday and Sunday services, and the teaching you as parents impart into their lives. As a leadership team, we are encouraging them to ask God who they might disciple. Discipling someone is not meant to be something we wait until adulthood or an official leadership position within a church to do. Discipleship is actually perfect for teenagers because they naturally have the time and the desire to spend free time with their peers. Much of Jesus' time spent with His disciples was simply living their lives as an example of biblical principles and having spiritual conversations along the way. We encourage parents and family of youth to challenge their teens to disciple someone else. We all know the principle that when we give away what we have received, God can give us even more! Let this be an inspiration to all of us to go OUT and make disciples.

Celina, OH 45822

529 North Walnut Street new





The Connection

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YOUTH!!!

Our Annual Youth Super Bowl party will be held at the Youth Center starting at 6:00 Please bring a side to share and your

favorite game. Kickoff is at 6:30 pm. We hope to see all of our youth there!



Tickets for this amazing concert at the Mercer County Fair can be bought at the church office. Grandstand Track seats are \$40.



Sign up on New Life's Facebook Page (Not Group), for a great night with a great cause. For \$25, you can order a meal at Willow Bend in Van Wert with \$10 going toward House of Hope. Then enjoy the evening with tickets are \$30 and Ken Kington at Van Wert Live. Tickets range from \$25-\$45 for his show.

GUEST SPEAKERS

January 30, 10:00 am



Guy and Betty Carey will be delivering the message on this day. They have been developing leaders for over 30 years.



Kimberly & Randy Genau from the ministry, Alabaster House, in our nations capitol will be sharing with us.



Plan to bring your favorite games and a snack to share. We will meet at the youth center at 6 pm. See you there!

BERT FARIAS

Pastor Bruce

Bert Farias and his wife Carolyn will be with us on Friday evening, February 18, and Sunday morning, February 20. Bert is a featured blogger for Charisma magazines' Opinion section which has a growing readership of 3 million people worldwide. We have been reading Bert's articles in Charisma News Daily for several years and we have been talking with him the last couple of months and are excited to be able to have him and his wife Carolyn come to New Life. Bert is a messenger of the

Lord carrying a the Church and anointing of ministry with demonstrations the power of d i v i n e write, he has multiple books on helping to



spirit of revival to the nations. An fire marks His frequent of the Spirit and God. With a commission to also authored with an emphasis restore the true

spirit of Christianity in the Church and its leaders, as well as preparing the saints for the glory of God, the harvest, and the soon return of the Lord.

Carolyn Farias is a dynamic prophetic intercessor who carries the spirit of prayer. She teaches the body of Christ how to follow the unction of the Holy Spirit and demonstrates the flow necessary to keep the inward fire fueled and engaged. She has a special and unusual anointing of the Holy Spirit to draw forth in prayer provision of the wisdom of God. This is going to be a powerful time in the spirit.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Discipleship 1: February 6, 5 - 7 pm Discipleship 3: January 30, 8:00 - 9:15 am



RECAP ON WINTER CAMP

Pastor Justin

1 Timothy 4:13-16 "Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership." Heading into camp this year, we felt like God was speaking to us as leaders to impart a gift into the lives of the youth. We believe that there is power in the laying on of hands and the speaking of a prophetic word. Friday night started out with a spiritual explosion as our prophetic teams ministered to all our youth. On Friday night, a highlight for us was witnessing youth speaking to other youth. As the spirit of prophecy was being stirred in the atmosphere, the youth started to operate in the prophetic. It was a sight to see!

Throughout the weekend we mixed in worship, messages, games, and fellowship. As leaders, we were blessed by the hearts of the students as they worshipped the Lord. Our messages we shared with the youth revolved around trusting the Lord, living in covenant with the Lord and having spiritual accountability. Teaching our youth to be in covenant with the Lord is so important in a day when the word covenant carries little value. A key component of covenant is to live with the understanding that you are "giving up the right to quit".

Camps serve as a way for kids to grow in the Lord and to prioritize what is most important. Cultivating relationships and spending time together will hopefully forge bonds that we pray will last a lifetime. Make sure you mark your calendar for June 20-24, we will be at Camp Michindoh for our summer camp! We appreciate your prayers and support!

