Email – 4 May 27

Subject: Praying Blessing Over Your Graduate This Sunday!

**Hello Parents and Graduates!**

**First…congratulations** on getting through the graduations this last week! Now we look to the future and gather all our graduates before they scatter!

**Graduate Blessing Event at 9:00 Worship this Sunday! (June 2nd )** Here’s some details that will help you prepare:

* **All graduates invited!** No one needs to register beforehand to be part of this blessing event. We are simply pausing in our worship service to recognize our seniors graduating and send them forward with a blessing from our church and a blessing from their parents and other spiritual influencers.
* **Families bless their graduates!** The Blessing Event happens at the 9:00 Worship Service. You will be invited as a family, including any other spiritual influencers to come as a group to the front of the church. There will be lots of people getting up, so you won’t feel too much on the spot. Some might be in the aisles. Pastor Roger will invite everyone to move toward the front.
  + We will have 2 minutes for personal blessings. One or more can speak or pray a blessing over the graduate. Family members can lay a hand on them during this time. Some may want to write down their blessing or prayer and read it. Others might feel comfortable praying from the heart.
  + A sample blessing might be: *Gracious Lord, we pray a blessing over Jonathan. Thank you, Lord for how faithful and generous you have been. Thank you for Jonathan’s many accomplishments of high school. You are so gracious in giving him his musical talent, his academic achievements and the many friends he has. We now pray this blessing over him and his future: Jonathan, we bless you that you may be a man of conviction and confidence because of your trust in the Lord. We pray you grow deep in your relationship with the Lord, and that you would sense His leading in your life as you pursue the ambitions and dreams that the Lord lays on your heart. And we pray and bless you that you become that friend for others that consistently reaches out to those needing the encouragement of God’s love! In Jesus’ name, we speak these blessings!*
  + During the blessing you can present a Bible to your student and/or your personalized blanket with a selected Bible verse sewn in. You may want to read this Bible verse in your blessing prayer over your student. You might want to use their confirmation verse again in blessing them.
* **Blessing blanket (optional):** For those who have ordered a Blessing Blanket, they can be picked up anytime this week or before the service Sunday from the receptionist at the front desk.
* **New Study Bible (optional):** For those who still would like to present a new ESV Study Bible, we have one as gift for your student. These are very nice Bibles! And they are free to graduates! The can be picked up from the church office anytime this week or Sunday morning. We do encourage parents to write some encouraging messages in the Bible before presenting it. See attached document.

**Brunch for Graduates, Family and Spiritual Influencers—10:30! RSVP by 5 p.m. Wednesday May 29th**

Questions? Shoot an email.

Blessings to your Graduate!

Roger Theimer, Pastor-Faith Formation

Mike White, Director, Next Gen Ministries

Amanda White, Associate Director, Student Ministry