



April 3, 2024

Dear Parents/Families of Graduating Seniors,

As the end of your student's High School experience is approaching, I can imagine you have mixed emotions of excitement, nervousness, anticipation and joy. In the midst of all those emotions I want to remind and assure you that God has some amazing plans for your graduate! I cannot wait to see how God is going to use them to further His kingdom in the world. It is my prayer that they will continue to grow in their faith and seek His will in the years to come.

With that said, I am excited to announce that on **Sunday, May 19 @ 6:00pm**, family and friends of the Class of 2024 are invited to celebrate our graduating seniors at a special Baccalaureate service. The event will take place in the Sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church Bakersfield and will include media presentations, worship, a message, senior recognition and a reception to follow.

In order to make this event successful, we need your help in three ways.

- **We need pictures of your student.** Please forward the following pictures of your student:

- Baby picture or two
- Toddler picture
- Elementary school picture
- Junior high picture
- High school picture
- Senior picture
- A few extras that you think capture their personality

- **What are your student's post high school plans?** What is your student doing after high school? What college, declared major, military service or career choice are they pursuing after they graduate?

**Please email pictures and post high school information to [aileen@fpbchurch.com](mailto:aileen@fpbchurch.com) by May 1st.**

- **A parental blessing.** We are asking for parents of our current seniors to share a brief (2-3 minute) recognition for their student during the Baccalaureate service. We recommend each person uses this time to share how they have seen their student grow throughout high school and what they are hoping for them in the future, as well as a relevant Bible verse to share with the group. I encourage you to take some time beforehand to think through and write out what you want to say (*just in case you get a little nervous and emotional while blessing your student*).

It is our sincere hope that this will be a special, personal time for parents to honor their child's past and encourage them in their continued walk with Jesus. If you have any questions about this element of our service, please let me know.

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Thank you all for your support and prayers for our high school ministry and our senior class. These students have been an enormous blessing to our church and we pray that they will continue to be a blessing wherever the Lord calls them.

Please RSVP to: [aileen@fpbchurch.com](mailto:aileen@fpbchurch.com) and include an estimate of the number of people who will be attending in support of your student.

Blessings,

Preston Henry,  
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