

A Visual aid for parents to compare the two options.

	Family Thanksgiving	Infant Baptism
What is it?	A Christian Thanksgiving in a Service of Worship. This is a public occasion suitable for family and friends to mark the birth of a child. It is offered and hosted by the local church.	Water is used to point to God's grace and promises being extended to children, and families. This takes place within the context of a Service of Worship.
Its meaning:	It enables parents and the Christian community to celebrate the arrival of a child in a meaningful way. It allows the church to pray for the family and for the years ahead.	It celebrates a child's entry into the Christian family as parents publicly profess faith in Christ and seek to provide a Christian home environment.
Respecting the future	This is an open-ended, one-Sunday event shared with others in the church. No future expectations are attached to this celebration but the family will always be welcome to attend at any time.	Growing their own faith in Christ, parents will want to offer the benefits to their child by pledging to offer their child regular access to the worship and nurture of the Church.
The Church provides:	A suitable acknowledgment in a normal Service of worship. Prayers for the family and child are offered and a certificate is presented to mark the occasion. The Church offers a continuing connection and interest in your family without obligation.	Continuing Christian worship is provided and a certificate is presented. A positive environment for children to experience Christian education and to choose to become a follower of Christ is promised by the Christian community.