



Greater St. Louis  
7520 Big Bend Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63119  
[www.bethanymissouri.org](http://www.bethanymissouri.org)

Dear Adoptive Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in Bethany's adoption programs. We realize you may have gone through a long road in wanting to start or add to your family. We hope that Bethany can help you in your pursuit or answer any questions you may have. The enclosed brochures and general information will assist you in answering questions you may have regarding the infant adoption program at Bethany. It is important that as a potential applicant that you feel informed about our adoption programs. What sets Bethany apart from other agencies is that we are committed to working with families that share our faith in Jesus Christ and who are actively involved in their church.

Enclosed you will also find a pre-application. We are currently accepting pre-applications for children with special placement challenges and our Networking Program. For families interested in joining our Domestic Infant Program, you will begin the journey in what is called a Networking Program. Our Networking Program allows families to complete a home study with Bethany and post their profile on our website. Being home study ready also makes families ready and available to network with other agencies and attorneys while waiting to enter the Domestic Infant Program.

Once you have read through the enclosed information please feel free to contact us if you have any questions. We would also strongly encourage you to attend an Informational Meeting where we will discuss our adoption programs in detail. To learn the dates and times of our meetings please visit our website at [www.bethanymissouri.org](http://www.bethanymissouri.org) or contact our office at 314-781-6363, RSVP's are required and this meeting is mandatory if you wish to begin the application process.

Please prayerfully consider if Bethany Christian Services of Missouri may be in your future as you pursue adoption plans. May the Lord bless your adoption pursuits.

Sincerely,

Aimee Travers  
Adoption Specialist

### **Steps in Domestic Adoption**

- Attend Bethany's domestic adoption information meeting and/or complete and return the pre-application
- Receive notification of approval of pre-application
- Complete Bethany's formal application and return it to Bethany along with a \$550 non-refundable fee
- Receive approval of your formal application and are assigned a social worker
- Begin the assessment paperwork, assessment interviews, training requirements, and pay the assessment fee
- Complete Adoptive Family Education and Training
- Complete and submit Profile
- Wait for a match
- Meet your child's birthmother/father
- Await the birth of your child
- Pick up your child from the hospital or from the Bethany office
- Attend or wait for the termination hearing (legal process #1)
- Participate in post placement supervision requirements
- Attend the finalization hearing (legal process #2)

**BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES OF MISSOURI**  
**Greater St. Louis Branch**  
**ADOPTION SERVICES CONTRACT**

We, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby understand, agree, and pledge payment for the following services provided by BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES OF MISSOURI:

SERVICES TO ADOPTIVE PARENTS

\*See attached description of services.

SERVICES TO BIRTH PARENTS

\*See attached description of services.

*Since the availability of children is contingent upon circumstances beyond the control of BETHANY, we understand that BETHANY cannot be held responsible for placements not occurring within a projected time frame.*

For networking/full services provided, we agree to pay a fee of **\$20,000.00**, payable as follows:

Entry in the networking program the following fees apply:

1. \$ 550.00 **Application Fee** (non-refundable, due upon acceptance of application)
2. \$ 1,500.00 **Family Assessment Fee** (non-refundable, due prior to release of completed home study)

Entry in the full service program requires the Administration Fee to be paid upon entry. If a placement occurs all fees must be paid prior to actual placement.

3. \$ 3,500.00 **Administration Fee** (non-refundable, due upon approval, prior to profile presentation)
4. \$ 13,550.00 **Placement Service Fee** (total fee due at time of placement)
5. \$ 900.00 **Post-Placement Interview Fee** (total due at time of placement)
6. \$ **Additional Service Fees** *\*\*In addition to the above fees incurred, travel over 100 miles round*

*trip will be assessed at \$.45 per mile for driving or rental car expense (the least expensive of the two avenues), and a \$15.00 per hour charge for travel time outside our service area. Bethany assumes the cost of Missouri birthparent expenses including, but not limited to, household expenses, medical bills, travel, food, clothing,--not to exceed \$5000. Expenses in excess of \$5000 will be assumed by the adoptive family. Bethany will assume TPR court costs. If a private attorney is required, the adoptive family will assume the attorney's fees. In the case of interstate adoptions, additional fees may occur and will be paid by the adoptive family.*

*Annual updates are required until placement or withdrawal from Bethany's program, at a cost of \$300.00.*

We agree to be financially responsible for all care and support of the child once the child has been placed in our care. This includes, but is not limited to, the payment of all health and medical expenses for the child as of the date of placement.

We understand that BETHANY CHRISTIAN SERVICES OF MISSOURI is a licensed child placing agency by the Division of Family Services in Missouri and will, in accordance with this contract and the laws and regulations governing adoption in this state, perform the services set forth above. We understand that the fees of this contract may need to be renegotiated in the future, due to operational costs. If this should occur we will be presented with an updated contract at that time.

**SIGNATURES ON BEHALF OF THE PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS**

Adoptive Father \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Adoptive Mother \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address (Street) \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE ON BEHALF OF AGENCY**

Agency Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

**Bethany Christian Services  
Preliminary Domestic Adoption Application**

*Date of Application:* \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name:	Date of Marriage:
Husband's Name:	Wife's Name:
Husband's Date of Birth:	Wife's Date of Birth:
Husband's Age:	Wife's Age:
Street Address:	Home Phone:
City/State/Zip:	Husband's Work/Cell:
Email:	Wife's Work/Cell:
<b>Church Affiliation</b>	
Church Name:	
Denomination:	
Street Address/City/State/Zip:	
Pastor's Name:	<u>Are you and your spouse full members?</u> Yes _____ No _____
<i>Describe Involvement:</i>	
<b>Occupation</b>	
Husband's Occupation:	Wife's Occupation:
Husband's Employer:	Wife's Employer:
Annual Income:	Annual Income:

<b>Health</b>	
Husband's Height _____ Weight _____	Wife's Height _____ Weight _____
Major Health Concerns/Issues: Yes ___ No ___ <i>If Yes, please explain on the back of the application.</i>	Major Health Concerns/Issues: Yes ___ No ___ <i>If Yes, please explain on the back of the application.</i>

<b>Biological or Adopted Children</b>			
Name:	Biological ___ Adopted ___	Male ___ Female ___	Date of Birth:
Name:	Biological ___ Adopted ___	Male ___ Female ___	Date of Birth:
Do you have any past Criminal Convictions? Yes ___ No ___ If yes, please explain on the back of the application.			

<b>Adoption Questions: Regarding Openness to Children with Special Needs</b>	
Open to children with minor medical conditions Yes ___ No ___	
Open to children with major medical conditions Yes ___ No ___	
Open to children who have been drug/alcohol exposed Yes ___ No ___	
Open to full minority children Yes ___ No ___ Race: _____	
Open to bi-racial children Yes ___ No ___ Race: _____	
Open Adoption ___ Semi Open Adoption ___ Either ___	

Please complete and return to Bethany Christian Services:  
Greater St. Louis  
7520 Big Bend Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63119  
Fax # 314.781.6161

# **Bethany**

**Christian Services**

## **STATEMENT OF FAITH**

*Bethany Christian Services is founded upon the Scriptures which reveal the triune God. Members of the national board, local boards, staff and adoptive applicants indicate their personal agreement with Bethany's Statement of Faith by signing below.*

I believe that the sovereign, triune God created the world out of nothing and sustains His creation. The heavens and earth are His handiwork. He made man and woman in His image and likeness as the crown of creation. All creation reflects His greatness and power.

I believe that God created the family, giving Adam and Eve the responsibility to conceive, bear and nurture children. As the creator of life, God Himself begins each human life at conception and gives to each person, as His image bearer, meaning, dignity and value.

I believe that sin entered the world when Adam and Eve disobeyed God and sought to be independent of Him. As a result of this Fall, all people are estranged from God and live in a world permeated by sin.

I believe that God, by His grace, provided redemption and restoration in Jesus Christ for all who repent and believe. As the Savior, Jesus takes away the sins of the world. Jesus is the one in whom we are called to put our hope, our only hope for forgiveness of sin and for reconciliation with God and with one another.

I believe that in all matters of faith and life, the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the final authority. The Scriptures point us with full reliability to Jesus, God's Son. The Scriptures tell us that we receive forgiveness of sins by faith in Jesus Christ, and that God provides salvation by grace alone for those who repent and believe.

I believe that forgiveness comes through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, God's Son, who was made flesh, took our place in death, rose from the dead, and is now in glory with the Father interceding and praying for His people.

I believe that God, through His Spirit, lovingly calls, redeems and adopts us into His family, the Church and that, in gratitude for God's saving love in Christ, we are called to live a life of faithfulness and obedience according to the scriptures.

I believe that Jesus, through His Spirit, is presently directing God's work of making all things new.

I believe that the Christian Church, as the community of believers, has an obligation to protect, preserve, and enhance life as fully as possible for each person, born and unborn, from the beginning to the end of life. As Christians we are called to a life of faith into an ongoing ministry until that mission is completed by the coming of the Kingdom in its fullness. The Holy Spirit empowers us to fulfill that calling.

I, along with all followers of Christ, believe and wait expectantly for the triumphant return of Jesus Christ our King. At that time, I believe that Jesus Christ will gather us to Himself as one complete family and will, throughout eternity, fully enhance the lives of His children as citizens of His kingdom, sons and daughters in our Father's house. As His children we long hopefully for that day to appear and we face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior and Lord. To Him be the glory.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed \_\_\_\_\_

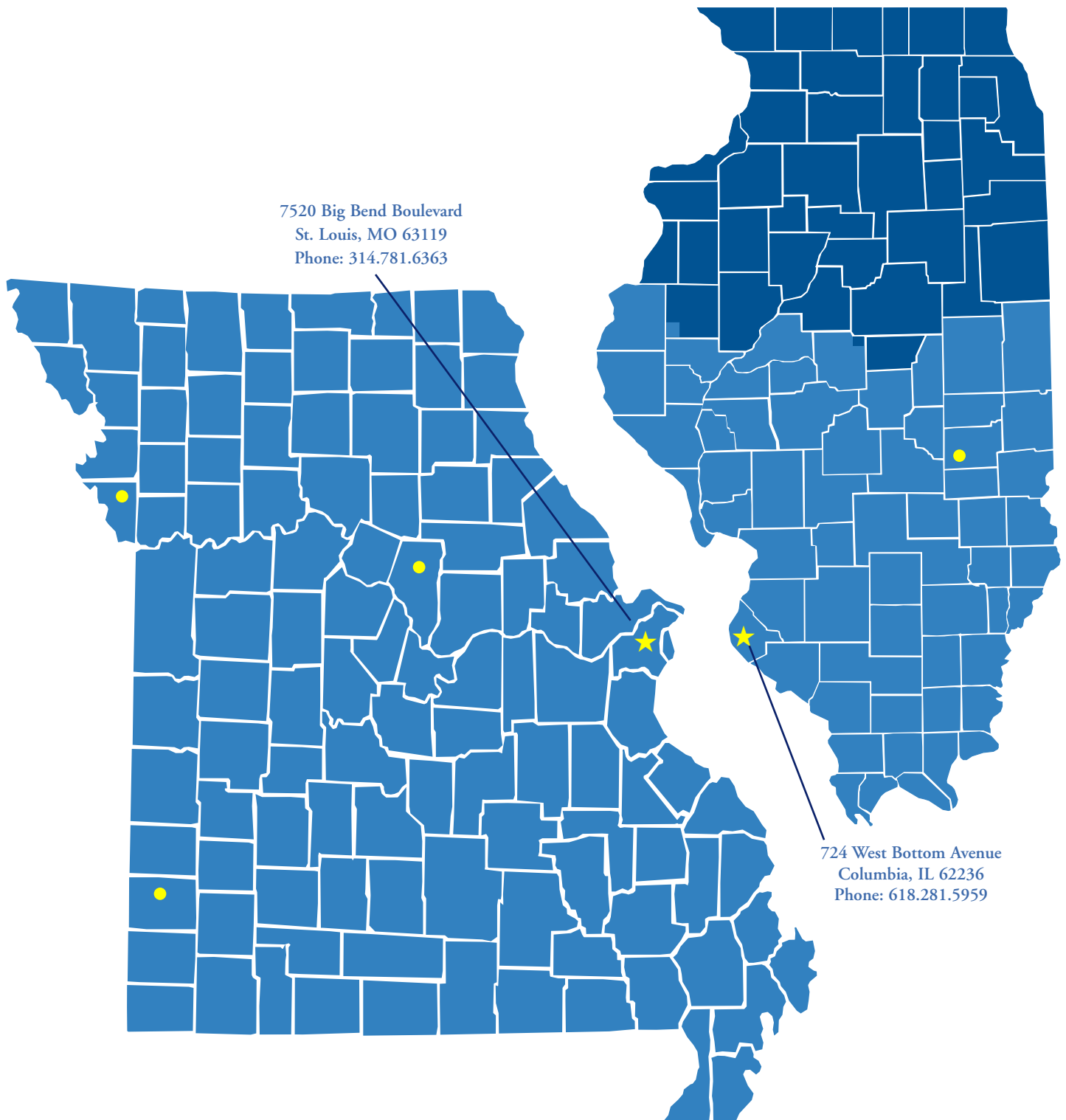
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Approved: September 15, 1987 Bethany Christian Services National Board  
Revised & Approved: July 15, 2003 Bethany Christian Services National Board  
Revised & Approved: January 18, 2005 Bethany Christian Services National Board

## FACT SHEET

- Bethany Christian Services of Missouri is part of an international, non-profit, 501(c)3 ministry that began in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in 1944.
- Bethany Christian Services is currently serving children and families in more than 70 U.S. locations and in more than a dozen countries.
- Bethany Christian Services of Missouri was established as a licensed child placing agency in 1978. Bethany's office serving Central/Southern Illinois received its license to work on July 11, 2007.
- Bethany is governed by a board of directors for the State of Missouri and an advisory board in Illinois. Our satellite branch office is located in St. Louis, Missouri. Outreach workers provide Bethany's services in Southwest Missouri, MD – Missouri, and the Kansas City area.
- Our goal is to promote life choices and Christian adoption services as an alternative to abortion throughout the state of Missouri.
- Bethany provides pregnancy counseling and a complete program of adoption services, both here in the U.S. and internationally.
- Bethany is *not* a crisis pregnancy center, but we work with centers around the state. They refer clients to Bethany for adoption services; we refer clients to them for pregnancy testing and post-abortion ministries.
- Our birthparent clients come from a variety of backgrounds and ages—as young as 11 years of age to some in their forties.
- People hear about Bethany through word of mouth, the Internet, Yellow Pages, public presentations, pastors, teachers, and crisis pregnancy centers. There is *no charge* for services to women with unplanned pregnancies.
- Our full- and part-time staff are Christians who worship in many different denominations
- Bethany is funded through contributions and adoption fees.

*Missouri and Southern Illinois  
Service Area Map*



*Adoption specialist are located in the areas indicated by yellow dots.*