

Exciting news! Our **Embryo Adoption Program** is growing!
Congratulations to:
Steven and Holly Bogue on the birth of their son, **Ethan**, on January 15
Brian and Jamie Scott on the birth of their daughter, **Libby**, on January 25

Bethany Christian Services is offering a six-week **infertility support group** to address the impact of infertility on marriage, friendships, spirituality, and finances. The group also investigates ethical issues that can arise during treatment. The cost is \$10 per session (for couples or individuals) and meetings will be each Tuesday night from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at the Bethany office located off of Rosa Parks Blvd. in Nashville. If you are interested, please email sfindley@bethany.org or call the office at 615-242-0909 for dates.

Attention: the Domestic Monthly Meeting will be held February 19th at the Z. Alexander Looby's Public Library, 2301 Rosa Parks Blvd., Nashville, TN. (Metro Center Blvd has been renamed Rosa Parks Blvd.) The library is just down from our Bethany office. The meeting will be in the conference room from 6:30 to 7:30. **THERE IS NO CHILDCARE; if needed, you will need to make other arrangements.** Our speaker is adoption attorney, Ned Williams. He will be giving information about the legal adoption process as well as answering your questions. Please take advantage of an opportunity to attend and participate in this much requested topic. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Carolyn Walker at cwalker@bethany.org or call the office at 242.0909.

Free! Embryo Donation /adoption information session

The medical, relationship and legal information you need to make the right decision for your family.
Tuesday, February 26
6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location to be determined
Call the Bethany office at 615.242.0909 for more information or to register.
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An e-mail I received...
Hi Everyone -
To offer the most current adoption information and support, we have established an AdoptUsKids blog, located at adoptuskids.blogspot.com. It is directed specifically at meeting families' needs throughout the search and placement process. Check it out! I look forward to "talking" with you there!
- Kate Kirkpatrick, National Family Network Coordinator

Volunteers -

I send our e-mails periodically asking for help - everything from helping a birth mother move to helping out a family with a very sick child to helping to spread the word about a need or event. If you'd like to be receiving these e-mails, please let me know and I'll be glad to add you to the list. If you are getting these e-mails and prefer not to, please let me know and I'll be glad to remove you from the list. Thanks! - Tammy

Champions for Children -

Speaking of volunteers - here is a very specific way to volunteer...We are working on getting our Champions for Children program going again (or better). If you are interested in helping with this program with your church, please let me know!

Champions for Children

Did You Know...

That there are two million children living in orphanages in Russia and China?

That there are millions of other children worldwide waiting to know the love of a permanent family?

That in the United States, there are half a million children in foster care, many of whom are waiting to be adopted?

That one in five couples experiences infertility, pregnancy loss, or infant death?

That in the U.S. alone, there are 1.3 million induced abortions performed each year?

Our Christian Response

These facts are daunting, but God has shown us how we should respond. Scripture is filled with examples of a Christian's response to a hurting world. The purpose of Bethany's Champions for Children program is to help meet the needs of vulnerable children and families in our community, our nation, and our world. By becoming a Champion for Children, you can help ensure that one thing these forgotten children will never be without is HOPE.

What Champions for Children Do

There are many ways that Champions for Children can assist children and families, both locally and internationally. Champions for Children are involved in a variety of activities, depending on the specific services offered by the local Bethany office. Champions may choose to do the following:

- . Encourage the church secretary to include Bethany announcements in the church bulletin or newsletter. View sample announcements

- . Be watchful for opportunities to refer to Bethany individuals or families who may be interested in adoption, facing a crisis pregnancy, struggling with infertility, or who want to become a volunteer.

- . Meet with the pastor to provide information about how Bethany Christian Services serves vulnerable children and families.

- . Display and distribute Bethany's printed materials- such as posters and LifeLines magazines-to staff and church members, as appropriate.

- . Provide a list of speakers from Bethany for Sunday school classes, church services, or training workshops.

- . Encourage the church to distribute Bethany's bulletin inserts during November (National Adoption Month) and on Sanctity of Human Life Sunday in January.

- . Follow-up with appropriate church leaders to see if they have received Bethany's request for offerings/support and be willing to personally encourage support for Bethany.

Qualifications for Becoming a Champion for Children

As a Champion for Children, you would:

- . Be an adult in good standing with your church.
- . Have a passion for helping vulnerable children and families.
- . Have some knowledge about Bethany Christian Services and be willing to receive training for achieving the purpose described above.
- . Be willing to speak positively about Bethany's ministry. However, Champions do not have to be "public speakers."
- . Be willing to keep Bethany informed about the activities/efforts you engage in as a Champion for Children.
- . Have an e-mail address that you use regularly.

Please let me know if you'd like to be involved with this ministry!