



# The Bethany Times

January-March 2009 • Volume 7, Issue 1

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8: For everything there is a fixed time, and a time for every business under the sun. A time for birth and a time for death...A time for weeping and a time for laughing...A time for sorrow and a time for dancing...A time for search and a time for loss...A time to keep and a time to give away...A time for keeping quiet and a time for talk...A time for love and a time for hate...A time for war and a time for peace.

## Welcome Home

Emily Rose	10/26/08
Andrew Youxuan	11/1/08
Jillian MeiMing	11/19/08
Elena Marie	11/26/08
Garrett Absira	12/5/08
August Eun-Su	12/18/08
Serena Grace	12/19/08
Aliah Hope	12/19/08
Jonah Nicholas	12/19/08

## Forever Families

Please pray for these children who are transitioning from foster care to their forever family...

Breann Rose	11/20/08
Hannah Marie	11/20/08
Sheldon James	12/12/08
Jacob James	12/12/08

### Holidays!!!!

**New Year's Day—January 1** (BCS will be closed)

**MLK Jr. Day—January 19** (BCS will be closed)

**Chinese New Year—January 26**

**Valentine's Day—February 14**

**President's Day—February 16**



### Don't Forget!

Tax season is upon us and a Federal Tax Credit is available after an adoption has been finalized. Check out [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) for more info.

## 2008 by the Numbers

### International Adoption Program

- Total Placements: 21
- China: 5
- Colombia: 3
- Ethiopia: 1
- Guatemala: 5
- Hong Kong: 1
- Philippines: 1
- Russia : 1
- South Korea: 1
- Liberia: 3 (Independent adoption)
- Boys: 8 Girls: 13
- Children of Promise (special needs): 6
- First adoption for family: 11
- Sibling groups: 2 (3 siblings each)
- First and only child in family: 4
- Children under age 2 at adoption: 8
- Children age 2 and over: 13
- Families who have accepted referrals and are waiting to bring their child home: 9
- Families waiting for a referral (paperwork in foreign country): 15

**Note:** These statistics include families who used Bethany Christian Services for all aspects of their adoption and those for whom Bethany only completed their Home study and post-placement services.

### Waiting Children Adoption Program

- MN Placements: 8
- Out of State (into MN) placements: 3
- Total Finalized Placements: 9
- Sibling Groups Placed: 4
- Boys Placed: 6
- Girls Placed: 5
- Families Waiting for a Match: 7

### Domestic Infant Adoption Program

- Total Placements: 12 (one set of twins)
- Full Caucasian: 10
- Full African American: 1
- Multiracial: 1
- Birthmothers counseled in MN: 23
- Birthmothers from MN who completed adoption plans: 5
- Infants placed in MN from other BCS offices: 4
- Boys: 5 Girls: 7
- First and only child in family: 5
- Fully open adoptions: 1
- Longest wait for placement: 27 months and counting...
- Shortest wait in 2008: 42 days
- Current families awaiting placement (profiled): 20

### Embryo Adoption Program

- Total Births: 3 (one set of twins)
- Families awaiting match or transfer: 2
- Families completing paperwork: 1

# Upcoming BCS Trainings and Events

We are excited to once again offer trainings in the new year. See the attached flier for details or visit our website: [www.bethany.org/plymouth](http://www.bethany.org/plymouth). Remember to RSVP in advance as space is limited.

◆ **January 31—11th Annual Bethany Christian Services Volleyball Tournament!**

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Central MN Christian School Gym, Prinsburg, MN

All proceeds will benefit the work of Bethany Christian Services in West Central MN, serving adoptive families and those facing unplanned pregnancies. Visit our website for details and registration materials.

## Other Upcoming Trainings

Check out [www.starsnetwork.org](http://www.starsnetwork.org) under STARS calendar and then Training Newsletter for more information and additional training opportunities:

◆ **January 20—Transforming the Angry Child (St. Cloud)**

Check out [www.midwest.resolve.org](http://www.midwest.resolve.org) for more details on:

◆ **February 21—Resolve's 25th Annual Family Building Conference (Golden Valley)**

Check out [www.mnasap.org](http://www.mnasap.org) for more details on:

◆ **February 9-April 20—RAD: How to survive and thrive beyond the diagnosis (St. Paul)**

◆ **March 14—Strengthening Families: A conference for Adoptive, Foster and Kinship Parents with Richard J. Delaney, PhD (St. Paul)**

Check out [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org) for more details on:

◆ **January 19—Speak up for Special Education (New Hope)**

◆ **January 26—Helping Your Child with ADHD in School (Apple Valley)**

◆ **February 24—IDEA: Understanding the Individualized Education Program (IEP) (Minneapolis)**

◆ **March 2—Understanding the Individualized Education Program (IEP) (Winona)**

Check out [www.mofas.org](http://www.mofas.org) for more details on:

◆ **January 14-February 11th (Wednesdays)—The Family Seminar Series (on FASD) (St. Paul)**

Fieldhouse Open Play at the Plymouth Creek Center! Visit [www2.ci.plymouth.mn.us](http://www2.ci.plymouth.mn.us) for details

## The Daily Grind

Once again, December has been a month full of transitions for the Bethany office. The first of these changes was an office move...but we didn't move far—just down the hall! Our address is still the same, but the next time you stop in to visit, we are now closer to the elevators instead of at the far end of the hall. Please feel free to stop in and see our new office space—we'd love to show it off! A huge thank you goes out to the volunteers that helped us complete the move very efficiently. We also ask for your prayers, understanding and patience as we continue to settle into our new "home."

This month, we also sadly said farewell to Jane Hixson, MSW, LGSW. Jane has served as the adoption social worker for the MN Waiting Children program for the past 2 years. Jane demonstrated her dedication to serving children and families and did a wonderful job of helping equip families to be the best forever homes they can be. Jane will be greatly missed. We wish Jane many blessings as she embarks upon a new journey...as a Mom! Baby Hixson is due in January and we can't wait to meet this special blessing!

In January, a new social worker will join the Bethany family as the MN Waiting Children worker. We look forward to introducing her in the next newsletter. Please pray as she transitions into her new job—the learning curve is steep, but we have confidence that she will rise to the challenge!

### Prayer Corner

Please pray that many more children would be joined with their forever families in 2009!

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**Called to Care. Committed to Children.**



## Did you know...

Facts from:  
[www.babynamefacts.com](http://www.babynamefacts.com)

- ◆ 100 years ago, the most popular baby names were:

Boy: John, William, James, George and Joseph

Girl: Mary, Helen, Margaret, Anna and Ruth

- ◆ In 2007, the most popular baby names in Minnesota were:

Boy: Jacob, Ethan, Logan, Jack and Samuel

Girl: Ava, Olivia, Emma, Addison and Sophia

- ◆ In 1997, the most popular baby names in Minnesota were:

Boy: Jacob, Matthew, Nicholas, Andrew and Austin

Girl: Emily, Hanna, Savannah, Megan and Sarah

- ◆ In 2007, the most popular baby names in the USA were:

Boy: Jacob, Michael, Ethan, Joshua, Daniel

Girl: Emily, Isabella, Emma, Ava and Madison

- ◆ In 1997, the most popular baby names in the USA were:

Boy: Michael, Jacob, Matthew, Christopher and Joshua

Girl: Emily, Ashley, Jessica, Sarah and Hannah

- ◆ In a listing of the top 1000 most popular baby names, as compiled by the Social Security Administration:

Boy: #500—Titus, #1000—Trystan

Girl: #500—Aileen, #1000—Zaniya

- ◆ Current top names rising in popularity:

Boy: Kingston, Colt, Valentin, Jacoby, Zayden, Paxton,  
Jaydin, Madden, Sullivan and Jax

Girl: Miley, Mylee, Jordan, Abril, Jaslene, Audrina,  
Lilah, Khloe, Azul and Lyla