



The Bethany Times

October—December • Volume 7, Issue 4

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!

Elise Natalia	7/15/2009
Nikolai Paul	7/15/2009
Elijah	7/20/2009
Elle Elizabeth	8/13/2009
Olivia Qiufang	8/21/2009
Vanessa Anne	8/23/2009
Anna Li	9/24/2009
Zamara Mercy	9/27/2009
Zayma Grace	9/27/2009
Selassie Selah	9/27/2009

Forever Families!

Riley	8/25/2009
Connie	8/28/2009

Please pray for these children as they continue to transition from foster care to their forever family...



Holidays and Special Days!

- Nov. 1—Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov. 21—National Adoption Day!
- Nov. 26—Thanksgiving
(BCS Closed 11/26-11/27)
- Dec. 21—1st Day of Winter
- Dec. 25—Christmas
(BCS Closed at noon 12/24, all day 12/25)
- Dec. 31—New Years Eve

“It Takes a Village” ...by Cindy Kruger

No doubt you have heard that phrase many times. Yet, it truly does take a village, a very large village, to carry out the various ministries within Bethany in an effort to serve more children.

The Bethany Village is comprised, at least in part, of loving families willing to answer the call of providing permanent homes for children, locally and abroad, literally waiting for a family to call their own. Knowing that every child will not be available for adoption, Bethany is actively engaged in providing care to as many of the estimated 143 million orphans as possible. The village, then, must also have persons willing to provide financial support to families, legal guardians, and orphanages so that the children can experience the love, security, and care they need. The village needs to include persons helping Bethany Christian Services respond to the orphan crisis through international child sponsorship.

Persons facing an unplanned pregnancy come from all walks of life, yet all share the need of Christians responding to their immediate crisis. Bethany provides Christian counselors to help persons through this difficult decision making process. This free, confidential counseling requires that village members provide financial support to the branch office so that such services and care can continue to be made available.

Scripture is filled with examples of a Christian's response to our hurting world. Given that all persons are not called to adopt, the village, OUR village, needs to have within it many Champions for Children. Persons and congregations participating in this program can partner with Bethany at various levels, including committing to prayer and the sharing of information, commitment to pray and give of time, talent, or treasure, or commit to join or start an Orphan and Adoption Ministry within their church.

Our village also needs to have within it volunteers who can provide support to staff, to adoptive families, and to children. These village members enrich the lives of others in many ways, depending on their skill sets, passions, and availability.

The village is not yet complete. There are also board members who give of their time and talents to care for God's children in need. They assist in strategic planning for the MN offices, support the branch director, aid in fund raising form participation to gift giving, and much more.

You know it takes a village to raise a child, and now more than ever, the village must come together to support the children who need our services the most. Gather your friends and join Bethany Christian Services of Minnesota staff and families for an evening of fun and fundraising at our 2009 Gala. You won't want to miss this opportunity to help wake and add to the village of those caring for God's children in need. See page two for more information.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.bethany.org/plymouth, or by calling the office at 763-553-0344, and having a ticket mailed to you.



It takes a village to raise a child,
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children who need our services the most.

Join your friends from Bethany Christian Services of MN for an evening of fun and fundraising.

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Appetizers and Silent Auction 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Dessert, Presentation and Live Auction 8:00 – 8:30 p.m.

Music and Dancing 8:30 – 9:30 p.m.

Marriott Minneapolis West

9960 Wayzata Blvd., St. Louis Park, MN 55426

Special Guests and MCs for the evening

Jeff & Lee from KKMS

To view an invitation, or to RSVP, please visit

[www. Bethany.org/plymouth](http://www.Bethany.org/plymouth) and go to our Events and Seminars page.

You may also request an invitation by calling our office!

Did you know...

November is **Celebrate Adoption Month!**

There are many ways that you can celebrate adoption.

- Create a life book telling the story of how your family came to be!
- Ask the leader at your place of worship to mention adoption in his/her services.
- Play in the leaves and talk about how each family tree is different.
- Invite local adoptive families to your home for hot chocolate or a multi-cultural buffet.
- Start a tradition of taking a family picture on the same day each year so you can see how everyone's changed.

For more ideas, check:

www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam

November 21st is

National Adoption Day!

National Adoption Day is a collective national effort to raise awareness of the 129,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent, loving families.

For more information, visit:

www.nationaladoptionday.org



Celebrate Adoption at

Circus of the Heart

on Sunday, November 1st

from 1 to 4 pm

Earle Brown Heritage Center
6155 Earle Brown Drive,
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

Honor families who have grown
through adoption and are waiting
to adopt. Free celebration!

For more information, visit

www.mnadopt.org

Contact the Editors: Jade Lichtsinn at jlichtsinn@bethany.org • Stacy Sielaff at ssielaff@bethany.org

What: Join Bethany staff, as well as other Bethany families and volunteers, in helping children waiting for a family to remember they are loved during Christmas time! For children who do not have families to call their own, Christmas can be a lonely time. So together we will be making cards to send as a reminder to these children that they have a heavenly Father who loves them and cares for them always!

****Card/craft supplies will be provided, but please bring your own favorites if you have any to spare!**

When: Tuesday, November 17th
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: Bethany Offices
3025 Harbor Lane N. Ste #316
Plymouth, MN 55419

RSVP to Stacy ssielaff@bethany.org or call at 763-553-0344 no later than **Friday, November 6th**



Please pray for all of the families that struggle to eat and stay warm during this season!

"Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get justice."

Proverbs 31:8-9

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

**"All of you together are Christ's body,
and each of you is a part of it."**

1 Corinthians 12:27

Do you have a great tip for other adoptive and prospective adoptive families? We would love to spread the wealth of knowledge that each and every one of you has gathered through your adoption journey—websites, trainings, support groups, community resources, or even just a funny story! The best advice comes from those who have been there before us, and all of you have amazing stories of God's blessings! Please share your suggestions, ideas, and advice! If you are interested, please mail or email questions or stories to **Jade at jlichtsinn@bethany.org** for publication in this newsletter.

"Mirth is God's medicine; everybody ought to bathe in it." ~Henry Beecher

A Kindergarten teacher was walking around observing her classroom of children while they were drawing pictures. As she got to one girl who was working very diligently, she asked her what she was working on.

The girl replied, "I'm drawing God."

The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like."

Without looking up from her drawing, the little girl said, "They will in a minute!"

<http://www.swapmeetdave.com/Humor/Religious.htm>



Trainings/Workshops

Check www.mnadopt.org for details on:

- October 2—Adoption Essentials: Kids in Crisis (Moorhead)
- October 9—ADHD: Misdiagnosed, Misunderstood, Mistreated (St. Paul)
- October 10—All Children Flourishing: A nurtured Heath Experience (St. Paul)
- October 22—Exploring Adoption Connections (St. Paul)

Check www.fraser.org/seminars for details on:

- October 12—Look and Learn: Visual Strategies (Minneapolis)
- October 20—Life Planning For Families Who Have Children with Disabilities (Minneapolis)

Check www.hopeadoptionsservices.org for details on:

- November 7—Multicultural Parenting in a Racist Society (Oak Park Heights)

Check www.cmh.umn.edu for details on:

- November 13—The Mind of a Child: Psychiatric challenges for today's youth (Minneapolis)
- December 7—Reactive Attachment Disorder: How to survive & thrive beyond the diagnosis (St. Paul)

Check www.hishandextendedministries.com for details on:

- November 7—A Child's Journey Home: Orphan Care/Adoption Conference (Duluth)

**"Adoption is not
about finding
children for
families; it is
about finding
families for
children."**

Joyce Marquire Pavao



2009 FALL EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

SEPTEMBER 2009

WHEN HOME IS A STRANGE PLACE

September 22 6:30-8:30pm

The transition from institutional care to family care in a foreign country to the United States that adoption can be challenging. Environmental expectations for adjustment of creating healthy family routine adoption. This seminar will help to lay the groundwork for that.

Rescheduled due to low registration. Look for further info later this winter.

OCTOBER 2009

ADOPTION TALK— October 13 6:30-8:30 pm

Have you started thinking about how to talk about adoption in your family? Do you know how children's perceptions of adoption change as they age?

Have you ever wondered how to advocate for your child at school or the doctor's office?

Well, Wonder No More!

NOVEMBER 2009

REFLECTIVE CHILD GUIDANCE

November 12 6:30-8:30 pm

Presented by Jenny Hanlon, MS, MEd

Sometimes children's behavior is puzzling, challenging, and downright overwhelming. This session will include a discussion about goals for children's behaviors and how to react based on these goals. It also addresses children's temperament and how to approach discipline according to a specific child's needs. Learn how to reflect on your parenting and teaching goals and the child's environment and how to take action to move forward. The overall goal of this workshop is to help participants gain a better understanding of child psychology and assist parents and teachers in planning an approach to child guidance.

Due to the busy-ness of the holiday season, there will be no scheduled training in December.

DETAILS...DETAILS...DETAILS!!!

LOCATION: Bethany Christian Services office in Plymouth, Minnesota
3025 Harbor Lane N. Suite #316

COST per presentation: \$20 per person OR \$30 per couple (includes take home materials)

REGISTRATION/CANCELLATION POLICY: Registration with payment is required 10 days prior to the scheduled presentation date. Presentations will be cancelled if fewer than 6 persons are registered to attend. If a session is cancelled, fees will be refunded. In the event of a cancellation, registrants will be contacted by telephone. If a registrant cancels less than 10 days prior to the presentation, those fees will not be refunded.

SPACE: Space is still limited. Register early!

PRESENTERS: Bethany Christian Services Adoption Staff

CHILD CARE: Sorry, none available. Sessions are not appropriate for attendance by children.

CLIP AND RETURN

REGISTRATION

Family Name _____

Telephone _____

Session Attendance:

attending _____ Name of Participants _____

attending _____ Name of Participants _____

_____ Sept. 22 _____

_____ Oct. 13 _____

_____ Nov. 12 _____