



# The Bethany Times



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.

## Bethany Christian Services

Volume 6, Issue 4

October-December 2008

### Welcome Home...

- ☉ Dayne J. Thomas...March 15
- ☉ James Raephael Shaw...July 3
- ☉ Josiah James...August 25
- ☉ Elyse Irene...September 10
- ☉ Veronica Esther...September 11

### Forever Families...

- ☉ Tysen David...June 28
- ☉ Dakota...August 13
- ☉ Taleah Marie...August 13
- ☉ Jada Spring...August 13

### We need YOU to volunteer!

BCS needs volunteers to help with everything from answering phones in the office to working at fund-raising events. There is a job for every skill level, no matter how much or how little time you have to give. We even have jobs for those that like to work out of their home! We will be happy to work with you to customize your volunteer position so it fits your skills and our needs. Please prayerfully consider where you may be led to serve and call 763-553-0344 for more info and an application or email Kristen at: [khochmuth@bethany.org](mailto:khochmuth@bethany.org)

Christy, Erika and Jade, along with the entire staff, consistently reflect the light of Christ in all they do. Bethany IS committed to children. We are committed to the unborn child, as well as to all life. Children locally and abroad are in need of perma-

## Lessons Learned While Waiting



*Most adoptive families face frustration and fear during the "wait." The unpredictability and unknowns that can't be controlled are the perfect recipe for anxiety. Here are some lessons that adoptive parent Dawn Powell learned during her wait.*

1. Don't put your life on hold while waiting. Make plans, commit to engagements, vacations, etc. Plan and do whatever you would do normally. Psalm 90:12
2. Learn Contentment. If you do not have contentment through the difficulty of waiting, you will not have it through the difficulty of adjusting once your child arrives, or through the difficult times of child-rearing. Learn to live in the peace of Christ today, no matter what the circumstances. Philippians 4:11
3. Pray for your child as you wait. Take them with you before the throne of grace and leave them in the care of your Heavenly Father. James 5:16
4. Think of the things you can do now without your child (those things you will not do or would find more difficult to do once your child arrives) - And do them! Enjoy extra time available to pray, read, do hobbies, or spend with your spouse, friends, and family. Psalm 118: 24 and Ecclesiastes 3:1

5. Keep your hopes high and your expectations low (hope for the best, expect the worst). Happy is he who finds things better than anticipated!
6. Anticipate delays. There will be many. And as a friend once told me, "Do not doubt in the darkness what God has given you in the light." Persevere through the delays and thank God for them, knowing He has the perfect plan. James 1:2-4 and Ephesians 6:10-11.
7. When struggles come, ask yourself "What character trait is God developing in me as a result of this trial? What can I do to cooperate with Him as He conforms me to the image of His Son? What response to this situation would please God?" Romans 8:28, 29
8. Speak of God's goodness, dwell on His sovereignty, and train yourself to praise Him in all things, even when you do not "feel" like it (especially when you do not "feel" like it). God has ordained every day of your life (Psalm 239) and there are no "delays" from His divine perspective, only perfect timing. Read passages that speak to His awesome might and power. Psalm 31:19, Psalm 34, Psalm 65, and Psalm 147

This appeared with the article 'How to Make the Wait for Your Child Easier to Bear' by Deborah McCurdy. It was first published in 1987 by International Concerns for Children. May be reprinted without special permission, preferably in its entirety.

## Called to Care. Committed to Children.

From Executive Director, Cindy Kruger

Sound familiar? It's Bethany's new tagline, and I am grateful for the degree to which that statement is true! I am blessed to work with a staff that does feel called by God to the work they do here in the Plymouth and Willmar offices. I am blessed in that I get to witness Sara, Jane, or Kristina referencing how they see God working in and through a situation. It is a blessing to hear how Marlene cares for the unborn child as she walks with birth mothers, and to hear how some of these women come to see God's hand in their lives. I often hear firsthand the care and support Pam provides to her families. Denise,

Christy, Erika and Jade, along with the entire staff, consistently reflect the light of Christ in all they do. Bethany IS committed to children. We are committed to the unborn child, as well as to all life. Children locally and abroad are in need of permanent loving homes. We are also committed to children who remain in orphanages and other undesirable circumstances. Bethany has over 700 families sponsoring and caring for children overseas. Bethany has overseas mission trip opportunities for more people who are committed to children to care for them. This, and so much more, is Bethany today. Yes, we are committed to continuing to find quality Christian homes for children in need. We are also committed to caring for more children, in more ways, than ever before. Perhaps you would like to partner with Bethany to help us serve more children. Simply contact us at 763.553.0344 and we will be glad to discuss this with you. In so doing, I'm sure you will be blessed, as I have been, as a result of being a part of Bethany!

Prayer Corner: Please pray for a sold out Mark Schultz concert on October 5 and that all present would be greatly blessed!



# Daily Grind

This past quarter has brought changes for the staff at Bethany Christian Services. We said goodbye to 2 faithful employees in August, our Social Work Assistants, Melissa and Kathy. We wish Melissa blessings as she completes her Masters in Social Work degree. We also wish Kathy blessings as she pursues a job change. A huge thank you to both of these ladies for their service to BCS over the years! We also welcomed our new Office Administrator, Jade Lichtsinn, in August. Here are a few words from her...

Hello! My name is Jade Lichtsinn, and I am the newest addition to Bethany Christian Services. I am thoroughly enjoying my experience at Bethany and am excited to continue to meet the fantastic families that we serve. I recently graduated from Hamline University with a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and in Legal Studies, with a minor in Religion. I am currently applying to graduate school for social work. I have worked as a case manager at youth and family homeless shelters, as an after-school teacher, and continue to volunteer with the Special Olympics of Minnesota. I am originally from a family-owned farm in Dumont (a very small town in west central MN), and continue to spend many weekends on the farm with my family. I live in Minneapolis with my dog, Sysco, and cat, Reggie. When I am not at Bethany, I enjoy playing and coaching volleyball, being outside with my dog, attempting to play piano, and reading. I feel very blessed to have been given the opportunity to work at Bethany, and I hope to have the chance to meet as many of you as I can!



Thanks to all who helped make our "Every Family a Treasure" BCS picnic a success! We had a great time, despite the rainy weather, and hope you all did too! For those of you unable to join us this year, you were missed and we hope to see you there next year!



A very special Thank You to the Graupmanns—our photographers ([www.lorielensphotography.com](http://www.lorielensphotography.com)) and to the Gothman family, Brittany, Tommy, Joey and Daniel Chaffin and Lauren Marchant for their help with the Fish Pond and Facepainting!

## Bethany Christian Services

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*Called to Care. Committed to Children.*



## Upcoming BCS Events

Check [www.bethany.org/plymouth](http://www.bethany.org/plymouth) for details on:

- ◆ October 5—Mark Schultz concert at Bethel University, 7:00 pm  
(see [www.bethany.org/plymouth](http://www.bethany.org/plymouth))
- ◆ See the Educational Seminars insert for information on upcoming BCS Trainings

## Other Trainings/Workshops

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

- ◆ October 4 — 4th Annual St. Cloud Regional Conference on Adoption and Foster Care (Activities for the WHOLE family!)
- ◆ November 8 (Owatonna) and 15 (Rochester) — The Effects on Children Who Witness Domestic Violence (am) and Positive Behavior Management (pm)

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

- ◆ October 14, 21, 28 and November 3—Family FASD Seminar Series
- ◆ October 31—Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

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

- ◆ October 7—Communication Skills for Effective Partnership
- ◆ October 9—Is Your Child the Target of Bullying?
- ◆ October 14 and 21—Parenting with Positive Behavior Supports

Check [www.century.edu](http://www.century.edu) for details on:

- ◆ October 17—Turning Brutal Truths into Best Practices for At-Risk Children

**Don't forget to move your clocks back 1 hour on November 2!**



A big **THANK YOU** to all who participated in, volunteered at, prayed for and donated to our annual "Every Life a Promise Golf Challenge!" This event was held on August 8th. The weather was beautiful and a good time was had by all. We hope even more will join us next year!



## Did you know...

...November is National Adoption Month

Check out:

[www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam](http://www.childwelfare.gov/adoption/nam)

...National Adoption Day is November 15

Check out: [www.nationaladoptionday.org](http://www.nationaladoptionday.org)

Some ideas for celebrating this special day (feel free to add your own!)...

- Have a party to celebrate how your family was formed (including celebrating children added both through adoption and biologically)
- Tell one person who doesn't know you're in the adoption process about your impending adoption
- Send a card to someone you know who is in the adoption process or who has completed an adoption
- Ask one person or a group of family and friends to pray specifically for your adoption process
- Spend time in prayer for those children hoping for a forever family

## Holidays!!!!

**Thanksgiving—November 27** BCS will be closed Nov 27-28

**Merry Christmas!!!—December 25** BCS will be closed from noon on Dec 24-Dec 26. We will be back in the office on Monday, Dec. 29



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