



2014

ADOPTIVE FAMILY EDUCATION SERIES

**INTERNATIONAL
Adoption Program**




BETHANY[®]
CHRISTIAN SERVICES

REQUIRED WORKSHOPS

Note: Families must have an approved Home Study before attending workshops

Adoption Learning Partners: Online Hague Package • 10 HOURS

The Journey of Attachment

This course provides practical tips on how to form and sustain this important bond.

Conspicuous Families: Race, Culture, and Adoption

Develop the skills needed to address common issues of racial identity and prejudice in transracial adoptions.

Medical Issues in International Adoption

This course provides an overview of the common medical issues and specific conditions internationally adopted children may face.

Finding the Missing Pieces:

Helping Adopted Children Deal with Grief and Loss

It is natural for adopted children to grieve the life and family they never knew, no matter how open the adoption or how happy their life with the adoptive family. This course provides adoptive parents with the tools needed to successfully address those feelings.

Adopting the Older Child

Parenting an older child presents a unique set of joy and challenges. This course will help adoptive parents determine if adopting an older child is right for them.

**Note: Courses can be found on:*

www.adoptionlearningpartners.org/bethanychristianservices.cfm

Follow the instructions for enrolling in the Hague package

(Branch code: F739BCS).

The cost of the training is \$124.50 for each prospective adoptive parent.

Adoptive Family Panel Discussion • 2 HOURS

This workshop will consist of a panel of adoptive parents and adoptees, openly and honestly sharing their personal insights and experiences on adoption—from the adoption process to adulthood and everything in between.

Advice and Expertise From a Medical Perspective • 3 HOURS

This workshop, presented by a medical professional experienced with international adoption, is designed to provide families adopting internationally with information on possible short and long term effects of prenatal substance and alcohol use; discuss potential medical, genetic, and social history information that may impact children adopted internationally; and identify how to access appropriate medical and genetic information prior to placement.



REQUIRED WORKSHOPS (continued)



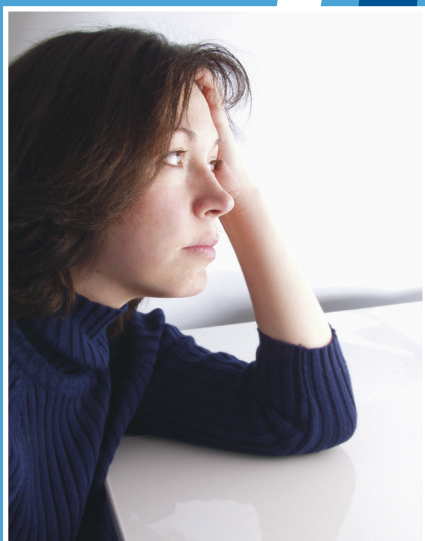
The Adoption Transition: Once Your Child is Home • 3 HOURS

Once the euphoria of arriving home and the congratulations from family and friends ends, what's next? This workshop provides insight into preparing for what to do and expect after bringing your child home. Topics include legal requirements, adjusting as a family, advocating for your child, talking about adoption, and adoption in the schools.

Adopting the Older Child Internationally • 2.5 HOURS

This workshop is designed for families adopting a post-institutionalized child age 4 and up. Topics will include understanding your child's life prior to placement, the transition period, managing behavior, language acquisition, addressing educational issues, and resources. **A panel of adoptive parents will also share their insight.**

Required for families adopting a child age 4 and older.



Understanding Depression After Adoption • 2 HOURS

There are many normal feelings that surround the adoption of a child. Until recently, only some of those feelings were openly discussed. This workshop is designed to discuss depression after adoption and learn ways to cope with the emotions and feelings that sometimes accompany adoption. **A panel of adoptive parents will join us to share their insight.**

RECOMMENDED READING: *The Post-Adoption Blues: Overcoming the Unforeseen Challenges of Adoption*, by Karen J. Foli Ph.D. and John R. Thompson M.D. (2004)

NOTE: Families can now choose to complete the independent alternative training to this workshop, which consists of article readings. Please request this from Kathileen Busse if you are interested.



OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS

Blended Families • 2 hours

Developed for families created through birth and adoption, this workshop explores the developmental stages of families and the impact of readjusting the family equilibrium to include another child or children. Strategies and resources for promoting the development of healthy sibling relationships will be explored. This workshop is also beneficial for families adopting a second time. **A panel of adoptive parents will join us to share their insight.** This workshop is open to children age 11 and older at the parents discretion. Simultaneously, a workshop for children ages 4-10 will participate in activities surrounding adding a sibling to their family.

OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS (continued)

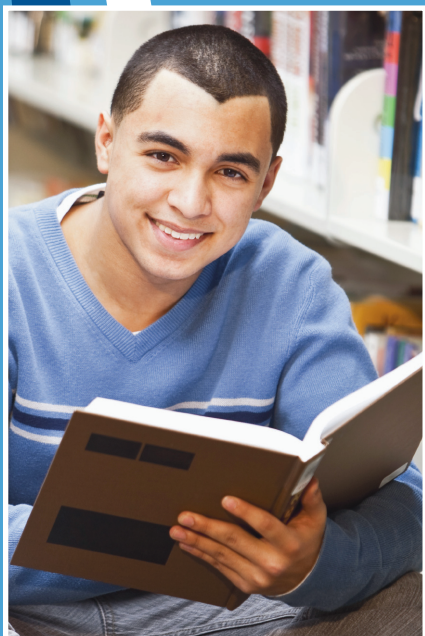


International Adoption Travel: What to Expect • 2 hours

Traveling internationally can be daunting, especially when preparing to adopt. This workshop covers topics including culture shock, travel tips, vacation vs. adoption travel, and the benefits of traveling to your child's birth country. Country specific families who have traveled recently will be present to share their experiences and tips with families.

Lifebooks: A Tool in Developing Your Adopted Child's Positive Self-Esteem and Identity • 2.5 HOURS

Adoption professionals have advocated the use of lifebooks as a means for helping adopted children understand their adoption and develop a positive identity and self-esteem. A lifebook is a place to honestly and sensitively record your child's early life and history from his or her point of view. This workshop will provide ideas to help you begin and complete this important record of your child's story, including some hands-on experience creating a page or two. This workshop is open to children ages 8 and up.



Transracial and Transcultural Needs in Adoption • 3 HOURS

Parenting across racial and cultural lines involves unique topics which are often not addressed in general parenting workshops. This workshop will help you better understand the dynamics of becoming a multicultural/racial family through adoption and how you can help your child grow up self-assured and culturally competent. **A panel of adoptive parents will also share their insight.**



Maintaining Healthy Hair and Skin for African American Children • 2 HOURS

Your child's appearance is important for their self-image. Understanding how to adequately care for hair and skin is crucial for encouraging your child's self-esteem. Many transracial adoptive parents do not know how to adequately care for their child's hair and skin needs. This workshop will include practical information, helpful techniques, demonstrations, useful products, and important tips. This workshop is taught by a professional hair stylist.

OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS (continued)



Raising Adopted Children and Talking About Adoption with Your Children, Family, and Friends • 3 HOURS

Adopted children progress through development into adulthood as all children do; however, they must also advance through another layer of development—understanding and accepting their adoption. This workshop will offer information related to general child development and the continuum of development of adopted children. Strategies and suggestions for fostering a healthy development of your child, as well as how and when to talk to your child about adoption using age appropriate adoption language, will also be discussed. In addition, talking to your family and friends about adoption will be discussed and will include what to tell and not tell about your adoption experience, your child’s personal story, and developing a repertoire of responses to both curious and intrusive questions from others. **A panel of adoptive parents will join us to share their insight.**

Unique Needs of the Adopted Child • 3 HOURS

Adopted children have unique needs based on the fact of being adopted. Although we do not want to view our children using only “adoption colored glasses,” we do need to be sensitive to their unique situation. This workshop will provide information on the basic needs of adopted children, including potential triggers to adoption issues. Other topics addressed include: understanding potential effects of abuse and neglect, cultural heritage, community resources, school needs, and advocating for your child.

Panel Discussion: Special Placement Needs • 2 HOURS

With 98 percent of all the orphans in the world age 5 or older, part of a sibling group, or having some special needs, families are facing a lot of questions and are in need of direction. Special Needs is an umbrella underneath which a staggering array of diagnosis can be wedged. Children with special needs may have mild learning disabilities or profound cognitive impairment. **During this workshop we will hear from a panel of adoptive parents who will share their insight.**

OPTIONAL WORKSHOPS (continued)

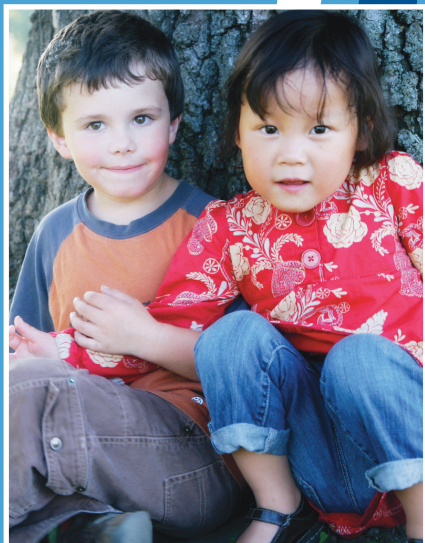


Discover Adoption—For Family and Friends • 1.5 HOURS

This workshop is designed for your family and close friends who are supporting you on your adoption journey. We will explore the process of adopting, how they can support you both during the adoption process and after you bring your child home, and have time to interact with others who have loved ones who are adopting.

Insights From Adult Adoptees • 2 HOURS

Do you ever wonder what your child may be thinking or feeling? Do you wonder what thoughts they may have as they get older? Join us as we hear directly from a panel of adult adoptees. Learn from their experiences as they share their unique perspective. All those questions that you have been thinking of and wondering about...this is the perfect environment to ask those questions and get some real life answers.



DISCUSSION & SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Waiting Family Connection Discussion and Support Meetings • 1.5 HOURS

These meetings are designed to be an informal time of connecting with other families preparing to adopt in order to encourage support and discussion during your wait. Meetings last 1½ hours and include a brief message, activity, or discussion topic, and then are open for additional sharing and support. These meetings are offered in both the Waukesha and Fond du Lac area. You will receive e-mails about upcoming events planned in each area.

Online Discussion Opportunities

Online discussion and support opportunities are wonderful ways to connect with other waiting families and receive information and support from families who may be at the same point in their adoption journey as you! Visit www.bethany.org, scroll to the bottom and click on “Discussions,” then click on “More” under one of the three topics. This will expand into more detailed topics to engage in further discussion.

To ensure space and materials, please register at least two (2) weeks prior to the workshop. To register, or for more information, contact:

Kathleen Busse, Adoption
Education Coordinator
Bethany Christian Services,
N14W23755 Stone Ridge Dr,
Ste 265,
Waukesha, WI 53188
kbusse@bethany.org or
262.547.6557

2014 SCHEDULE

JANUARY

Saturday, 11

Raising Adopted Children and Talking About Adoption with Your Children, Family, and Friends

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Community Church

Unique Needs of the Adopted Child

1:00–4:00 p.m. • Community Church

Saturday, 25

Lifebooks

2:00–4:30 p.m. • Oakwood Church

FEBRUARY

Saturday, 8

Panel Discussion: Special Placement Needs

9:00–11:00 a.m. • Community Church

Insights from Adult Adoptees

12:00–2:00 p.m. • Community Church

Tuesday, 11

Discover Adoption – For Family and Friends

6:00–7:30 p.m.

Bethany: Waukesha Office

MARCH

Monday, 3

Maintaining Healthy Hair and Skin for African American Children

6:30–8:30 p.m.

New Life Community Church

Saturday, 15

Adopting the Older Child Internationally

9:00–11:30 a.m. • Community Church

Blended Families

12:30–2:30 p.m. • Community Church

APRIL

Tuesday, 1

Understanding Depression After Adoption

6:30–8:30 p.m. • Community Church

Wednesday, 30

International Adoption Travel: What to Expect

6:00–8:00 p.m.

New Life Community Church

MAY

Saturday, 3

Lifebooks

2:00–4:30 p.m.

Appleton Alliance Church

MAY (continued)

Saturday, 17

Transracial and Transcultural Needs in Adoption

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

JUNE

Tuesday, 24

Advice and Expertise from a Medical Perspective

6:00–9:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Saturday, 28

Raising Adopted Children and Talking About Adoption with Your Children, Family, and Friends

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Unique Needs of the Adopted Child

1:00–4:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

JULY

Saturday, 12

The Adoption Transition: Once Your Child is Home

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Appleton Alliance Church

Adoptive Family Panel Discussion

1:00–3:00 p.m.

Appleton Alliance Church

Tuesday, 15

Understanding Depression After Adoption

6:30–8:30 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Saturday, 26

Panel Discussion: Special Placement Needs

9:00–11:00 a.m.

Fox River Christian Church

Insights from Adult Adoptees

12:00–2:00 p.m.

Fox River Christian Church

AUGUST

Saturday, 9

Transracial and Transcultural Needs in Adoption

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Appleton Alliance Church

Monday, 11

Maintaining Healthy Hair and Skin for African American Children

6:30–8:30 p.m.

New Life Community Church

Tuesday, 12

Discover Adoption – For Family and Friends

6:00–7:30 p.m. • Bethany: FDL Office

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, 13

Raising Adopted Children and Talking About Adoption with Your Children, Family, and Friends

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Unique Needs of the Adopted Child

1:00–4:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Saturday, 27

The Adoption Transition: Once Your Child is Home

9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

Adoptive Family Panel Discussion

1:00–3:00 p.m. • Brookfield CRC

OCTOBER

Wednesday, 8

Blended Families

6:00–8:00 p.m. • Cornerstone Church

Saturday, 18

Lifebooks

2:00–4:30 p.m. • Cornerstone Church

DECEMBER

Thursday, 4

Adopting the Older Child Internationally

6:00–8:30 p.m.

Bethany: Waukesha Office

LOCATIONS AND NOTES

BETHANY OFFICE – FDL

101 Wisconsin American Dr
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

BETHANY OFFICE – WAUKESHA

N14W23755 Stone Ridge Dr, Ste 265
Waukesha, WI 53188



APPLETON ALLIANCE CHURCH

2693 Grand Chute Blvd., Room C101
Appleton, WI 54913

COMMUNITY CHURCH

N6717 Streblov Dr
Fond du Lac, WI 54937

Please park in the back of the church.

CORNERSTONE CHURCH

N6W31449 Alberta Dr
Delafield, WI 53018

*Workshops are held in the
basement of the church.*

BROOKFIELD CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

14135 West Burleigh Rd
Brookfield, WI 53005

FOX RIVER CHRISTIAN CHURCH

546 W24130 Lawnsdale Rd
Waukesha, WI 53189

*Look for workshop location on their
announcement board.*

NEW LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

11919 W Bradley Road
Milwaukee, WI 53224

OAKWOOD CHURCH

3041 Oakwood Road
Hartland, WI 53029

ADOPTIVE PARENT EDUCATION REGISTRATION FORM

for families working with an agency other than Bethany Christian Services

Cost is \$30 per hour per couple (i.e. a three hour workshop is \$90 per couple).

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Adoption Agency: _____

Adoption Program/Country: _____ Age of Child Requested: _____

Workshop(s) Planning to Attend	Date	Cost
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Payment is enclosed. Make checks payable to Bethany Christian Services. Include workshop name in memo.

Return registration and payment to:

Bethany Christian Services,
Attn: Kathileen Busse
N14W23755 Stone Ridge Dr, Ste 265
Waukesha, WI 53188