

Life News



September
2015

www.lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

On July 30, Switzerland’s highest court declared a child could not have two fathers. The dispute centered on two men who both wanted to be listed as fathers of their child. The child was born of a surrogate mother from a donor egg. In the ruling, the court declared the “child must be protected from being downgraded to a commodity which can be ordered from a third party.” *(Center for Bioethics and Culture Network’s “This Week in Bioethics Ending July 31, 2015”; CLR Life News, 8/4/15)*

An undercover video was released on July 14 implicating Planned Parenthood with the sale of fetal body parts. [Several additional videos have since been released.] The Center for Medical Progress has released the video as part of a three-year investigation. In the video, Dr. Deborah Nucatola, identified as senior director of medical services at Planned Parenthood, appears in a restaurant with an actor posing as a “buyer.” They discuss the price of body parts and the abortion procedures involved. Planned Parenthood released a statement claiming that fetal tissue was provided to “support lifesaving scientific research.” *(Planned Parenthood, 7/14/15; SPUC, 7/16/15)*

Speaking Up For Life

“[M]y grandchildren need me to remind them of what happened at the baptismal font. Their baptism is ‘an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God ...’ (1 Peter 3:21-22). I can literally tell my grandchildren that their Lord and Savior rules! This means that someday, when they are teenagers, they won’t have to be subject to raging hormones or made foolish by lack of judgment. In remembering who they are, they will know the source of their wisdom and strength. This will affect their choices and behavior.” *Linda D. Bartlett, www.titus2-4life.org*

“Every human life is someone for whom Jesus shed His blood. Every human life is one He wants to call to faith in this redemptive event.” *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, Lutherans For Life*

“The world says, ‘All life is not equal,’ but God says, ‘All life I made.’ The devil says, ‘All life is not equal,’ but God says, ‘All life I love.’ The flesh says, ‘All life is not equal,’ but God says, ‘All life I desire be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.’” *Rev. Christopher Esget, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Alexandria, Virginia*

www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes

Help keep the life message before your congregation: **LifeDate** journal • **Life News** bulletin inserts • **Life Notes** email • **Life Quotes** and **Life Thoughts** in the Church Year

For news and commentary about Planned Parenthood go to:
www.lutheransforlife.org/planned-parenthood-the-latest

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Remember Jesus' words to Martha? **"Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things"** (Luke 10:41). Martha's desire to serve Jesus was not wrong, but it did distract her from that "one thing necessary." For example, this summer's vacation helped remind us that although fishing is great fun (even though I did not catch one fish!) it is really not the most important thing. It is just *part* of the important thing of being with family and enjoying time together.

I think we need to be careful that the recent events surrounding the now infamous Planned Parenthood videos do not become a distraction from what LFL is all about. To be sure, these videos help reveal—not just the horror of selling body parts of dismembered babies—but also the horrors of abortion itself. The more people we can get to see and understand this reality the better. We need to look at these revelations as opportunities to share our message.

That takes us back to that "one thing necessary." Jesus tells Martha, **"But one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her"** (Luke 10:42). That good portion, that necessary thing, is what we find listening to the words of Jesus, His words of truth and words of grace. As you know and as your committed support of LFL shows, that is what we strive to do.

Recent events give us opportunity to share Jesus' words of truth about the sacredness of unborn life as children created by God and redeemed by Jesus, little ones He wants to call His own in Baptism. To destroy human life in the womb is morally repugnant. To destroy the handiwork of God is spiritually incomprehensible.

Recent events also give us opportunity to share Jesus' words of grace. While the videos call people's attention to the tragedy of abortion, think what they stir up in the hearts of those who have had an abortion or who have participated in an abortion decision. Those who counsel post-abortive women and men talk of "trigger events," things like the sound of a vacuum cleaner or the due date of an aborted child. Seeing these videos, hearing others talk about them, reading news reports that describe them can be triggering great regret and guilt in the hearts of many across our country.

That is why we are making an effort to do more to publicize LFL's post-abortion hotline, Word of Hope. I am asking for your help. Does your congregation regularly publish in bulletins, newsletters, or on their website Word of Hope's contact number? It can be a very simple announcement: "Hurting from an abortion? A Word of Hope can help. Confidential and Caring. 888-217-8679; www.word-of-hope.org." Order several copies of the free Word of Hope brochure (Item LFL404T) from Concordia Publishing House and make them available in your church. We put ours in both the women's and men's bathrooms.

Thank you for your help on this and for all you do to help us share truth and grace!



**2015 LFL National Conference
October 30-31 • Petersburg, Kentucky**

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Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb • John Hawkins • Lori Trinche

This year's conference will also offer you plenty of time to explore the Creation Museum! Find out more and register at:

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