

Life News

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www.lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

Five Abortion Clinics Close in Five Weeks

– Between September 28 and October 29, 2015, the following five abortion facilities have ceased abortion services, with four of the facilities shutting down for good:

- Ocala Women's Center in Ocala, Florida
- Albany Medical-Surgical Center in Chicago, Illinois
- Appleton Health Center Planned Parenthood in Appleton, Wisconsin
- Summit Women's Center in Bridgeport, Connecticut
- Amethyst Health Center in Manassas, Virginia

So far, 21 abortion clinics have shut down in 2015 alone. (Source: *Live Action News, Operation Rescue*, 11/3/15; *CLR LifeWire*, 11/4/15)

A new review has found that assisted suicide becomes more routine in places where it is legalized.

The Anscombe Bioethics Centre has produced the guide which links official data from the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Oregon, and Washington, as well as UK parliamentary reports and journal research. The report notes that in every place assisted suicide is legalized, “numbers have increased over time and continue to do so.” The report also observes “a shift from permitting assisted suicide for cancer victims to include other diseases.” (Christian Institute, 8/20/15; SPUC, 9/9/15)

Hurting from abortion? A **Word of Hope** can help.
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Speaking Up For Life

“The step He made in leaving heaven’s high throne to be born in Bethlehem is a descent we cannot imagine, replacing the perfection of paradise with a world soured by sin and sadness. Jesus’ birth gives us an indication of the amount and quality of His love and commitment ... No other faith can tell its followers: ‘Look into the manger and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord has done to save you’ (see Luke 2:15). Christianity—and Christianity alone—says, ‘We have a Redeemer who not only felt sorry for sin-sick souls, He actually took that sickness into Himself and carried it until it was gone and He could say, ‘It is finished.’”

Rev. Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of The Lutheran Hour

“[T]he very hand that formed us in the beginning and shapes us in our mother’s womb came to seek us in these latter days, when we were lost, laying hold on His lost sheep and placing it on His shoulders and joyfully restoring it to the sheepfold of life.” *Irenaeus, second bishop of Lyons (second century)*

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2015 Lutherans For Life National Conference



Nearly 400 Lutherans gathered October 30-31 at both the Cincinnati Airport Marriott and the Creation Museum in Petersburg, Kentucky, from across the United States and Canada for the 2015 Lutherans For Life National Conference. The theme: **Created • Redeemed • Called.**

In her welcome to the conference, LFL president, Lynette Auch, wrote, “Only an adventuresome, creative triune God could and would create man and woman so fearfully and wonderfully in His image. Even though that image was corrupted by sin, He chose to redeem us by the blood of His one and only Son and call us into a relationship with Him as His own!”

Focusing on the conference theme in his final opening worship service sermon, Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, said life issues “can be complicated, confusing, controversial, and uncomfortable ... But the focus of this conference ... is, in fact, very simple ... Every life has value because every life is someone created by God, redeemed by the blood of Jesus, and someone He either has called or wants to call into an eternal relationship with Him.”

During the opening worship service, Rev. Michael W. Salemink was installed as the new executive director of Lutherans For Life. Rev. Salemink began serving as executive director-elect of Lutherans For Life in August 2015.

In his keynote address, Ken Ham, President and Founder of Answers in Genesis, pointed out that our culture is becoming less Christian every day. He also stated that if we read Romans 1, we will find described a culture very similar in many ways to the one we are living in now. He said that while so many in the church base their evangelism efforts on what Peter did in Acts 2, we need to realize that we are now living in an Acts 17—Paul in Athens—culture. He encouraged Christians to ... build on the foundation of God’s Word and not the fallible word of man.

At the end of the conference, Rev. Michael Salemink said, “We are not here today just to demand defunding Planned Parenthood, though we would welcome that development ... We are not here just to protest the harvesting and marketing of babies’ bodies, though we adamantly oppose such an obviously irrational and horribly immoral thing taking place in our communities. ... We are here today not because of fear or force or anger but because of love and joy and hope. We are here today because we want to be here, because God is here, because this is where Jesus Himself is within and among the least of these His brothers and sisters, His people, His children, and He is working repentance, forgiveness, and everlasting salvation.”

Other plenary speakers included: Timothy Goeglein, Senior Advisor to the President and Vice President for External Relations at Focus on the Family in Washington; Dr. David Menton, a speaker and researcher at Answers in Genesis; and Col. John Eidsmoe, a member of the Lutherans For Life Board of Directors. There was also a Creation Concert with Buddy Davis, a speaker and singer/songwriter for Answers in Genesis; and “An Exciting Look at LFL’s Future” with the outgoing and incoming executive directors, Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb and Rev Michael Salemink. There was also a special guest appearance by Dr. Lamb’s “cousin,” Ole, and his wife, Lena.

Find photos, audio, and video from the 2015 LFL National Conference at www.lutheransforlife.org/conference. The 2016 LFL National Conference is set for October 21-22 at St. Michael’s Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Minnesota.