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www.lutheransforlife.org



### Life Newsbytes

In Washington D.C., on October 15, the March for Life announced its 2020 theme, emphasizing the pro-life movement's support for women through the slogan **"Life Empowers: Pro-Life is Pro-Woman."** March for Life President Jeanne Mancini told those gathered, "We've come a long way from 'safe legal and rare' to 'shout your abortion' ... We know this message about women and abortion is both deceptive and hurtful." Her remarks were followed by comments from Gloria Purvis, radio host and Chairperson for Black Catholics United for Life, Serrin Foster, president of Feminists for Life, and Victoria Cobb, president of The Family Foundation of Virginia. The March for Life president said that this year's 47th March for Life will focus on recognizing the dignity of life empowers women. (The March for Life is set for Friday, January 24, 2020. Lutherans For Life will be there! Check the link at [www.lutheransforlife.org/event/1280253-2020-01-24-march-for-life-2020](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/event/1280253-2020-01-24-march-for-life-2020) for more details as they become available.)

For more life-issue news go to:  
[www.lutheransforlife.org/life-blog](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/life-blog)

For those who have had an abortion—a **Word of Hope**  
888.217.8679  
[www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org)

### Speaking up For Life

"How can we remain silent when life itself is in question? Standing firm and trusting in Jesus Christ, the Lord and Savior of life, and being willing to use our voices to speak up and share the truth about the value of human life are so very important as the world crumbles around us." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life Regional Director of Minnesota*

"When we see those suffering from disease or disability ... vulnerable, helpless, destined by many to assisted suicide or euthanasia—we are compelled to speak and defend and help because it is the Christ thing to do. For Christ reveals a God who knows about suffering not just because He's God, but because He suffered. We have a message of a God present in suffering, at work in suffering, and accomplishing His purpose in suffering." *Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life*

"God is the ultimate Designer. He designed the greatest good the world has ever seen to come from the most heinous evil mankind has ever produced. You are never too stained for God to love. When you are feeling weak and foolish, give thanks to God for that, because that's exactly the kind of person that God likes to use." *Rev. Dan Larsen is pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minnesota, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Sanborn, Minnesota*

[www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-quotes)

## Adoption – God's "WANTED!" Sign

by Pastor Michael Salemkink

*I am adopted; I'm a special kid, you see.  
I'm proud to be a member of the royal family.  
I'm adopted. I'm chosen. I bear my Father's name.*

I grew up with both my biological parents. I only ever called one lady "Mom" and one man "Dad." But I still loved these lyrics from my favorite kindergarten song. (In case you're curious, it comes from a corny school musical named *Down by the Creek Bank*. It came out in 1978, but you can still purchase the score today from [www.brentwoodbenson.com](http://www.brentwoodbenson.com). If you like, listen to the ditty at YouTube.) I bet I made my music teacher Mrs. Fredricksen sing it more times than she cared to.

Adoption makes up the Christian's identity. We belong because God has adopted us. He has not begotten us from His own substance like the Eternal Son. And we do not always behave as His children and reflect His character. Still, He has chosen us who did not first choose Him. He calls us His beloved and declares Himself well-pleased with us. Our Almighty Maker comes to us childlike in Jesus Christ. He abandons His Only Begotten Son to secure us a space in His kingdom and household and family. No matter what age, appearance, ability, or history, human beings may have Lord God for our Heavenly Father. His adoptive washing of Holy Baptism births us anew and from above and forever. Sin renders us unworthy, but the Lamb once slain and raised again ensures we never end up unwanted.

Adoption on earth embodies this grace. Christians engage in adopting not only because we desire to raise children but also—and above all—because the Most High desires their survival and salvation. We adopt because we have been so adopted. We adopt because little ones need homes. We adopt because we have homes and families to share. Life issues mean more than just political debates. Life issues involve more than just personal choices or someone else's problems. Life issues are always people and Gospel.

**"But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons." (Galatians 4:4-5 EHV)**

