

LIFE NEWS—SEPTEMBER 2023



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Life Newsbytes

On August 23, the Center for Biblical Worldview at Family Research Council released the results of a nationwide study analyzing the beliefs of American churchgoers. Of the 1,009 survey participants, 72% reported weekly church attendance, while the other 28% said they go to church at least monthly ... About one out of every six respondents (16%) admitted to having ever paid for, encouraged, or chosen to have an abortion. Among these, 56% indicated they read the Bible weekly, and 62% attend church weekly. Additionally, 50% of those who have participated in an abortion said the Bible was “clear and decisive” on the topic of abortion. (Only 26% said the Bible was “unclear or ambiguous.”) ... Christians might be surprised to learn that around 17% of female churchgoers have had an abortion, and 15% of male churchgoers have paid for or actively encouraged someone to get an abortion ... Among the 65% who said the Bible indicates when human life begins, 52% said it teaches that life begins “upon fertilization of the female egg.” Other responses included once the child has been delivered and begins breathing (8%), once the embryo/fetus reaches viability (7%), six weeks after the fertilization of the female egg (6%), sometime during the first three months after fertilization (3%), and sometime after three months but before six months after fertilization (3%). (*The Washington Stand*, 8/26/23, [washingtonstand.com/commentary/regarding-abortion-the-views-of-regular-churchgoers-are-surprisingly-mixed](https://www.washingtonstand.com/commentary/regarding-abortion-the-views-of-regular-churchgoers-are-surprisingly-mixed))

Speaking up For Life

“A Christian funeral isn’t the end. Yes, we don’t deny death. That would be foolish and insensitive. But in Christ, we defy death. That’s Christian. Because the dead don’t stay down when Jesus is involved. They are saints triumphant! Encourage one another with these words.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

“Every time we speak up for the sanctity of life—whether for the unborn, the disabled, the elderly, or the marginalized—we speak for hope. Every time we drop some coins or a check into a baby bottle, we stand for hope and healing and life. Every time we personally care for someone or hug someone or talk to someone who is in a crisis pregnancy or is disabled or is elderly or is marginalized, we show them Christ. We show them the common ground that transcends all our differences. We show them that all our lives matter because God made us. He chose each of us to be His child, and He will never leave us or forsake us. Let us never give up on baby bottle drives and hugs and smiles. The world needs us!” *Barbara A. Geistfeld, D.V.M., Assistant Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life*

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with visits to the

Ark Encounter and Creation Museum

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