

LIFE NEWS—DECEMBER 2024



LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

[lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)



### Life Newsbytes

The Abortion Pill Rescue Network (APRN) has saved 6,000 babies since its founding in 2008, according to a November 20 press release from Heartbeat International. Founded by Dr. George Delgado, APRN has been managed by Heartbeat International since 2018. The network has a 24/7 hotline that connects women in 93 countries with providers who can help reverse their chemical abortions. Women who have taken mifepristone, the first pill in a chemical abortion procedure, can reverse the abortion by taking progesterone. Progesterone is naturally produced by a woman's body and has been used safely during pregnancy since the 1950s. It is also used to prevent miscarriages in women with a history of pregnancy loss. Heartbeat International's website states that studies have shown that 64-68% of women who take progesterone after mifepristone are able to save their pregnancies, and their babies have no increase in birth defects and a lower premature delivery rate than the general population. Christa Brown of Heartbeat International said, "Today we celebrate 6,000 children ... Imagine what our world would have lost if just one of them were not here. We are thankful for each of them and their brave mothers who ... realized the value of the life they carried and wanted a new plan — and the APRN was there to help." (Source: *Grace Porto, LifeNews.com, 11/22/24*)

### Speaking up For Life

"You might not be impressive by the world's standards. You might be a third-shift worker, a nameless neighbor, or a sinner who messed up in very public ways. But the angel declared good news for all people, which logically must include you. So, rejoice today! A Savior was born to you!" *Pastor Mike Novotny, Time of Grace*

"I don't know what exactly you expect this Christmas. But I can tell you to set your expectations high as you listen to God's Advent call. Listen to His promises. Look in the manger. And you'll find hope and unity now and into eternity." *Rev. Peter Sultzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

"This time of the year always fills us with cheer | But the reason we celebrate is not always clear | The cookies, the lights, the presents, the tree | The carols, the decorations, the family parties | But all of the delight and all of the fun | Does not mean a thing if we don't know God's Son | The tiny baby that was born to die | Can sometimes cause us to stop and ask why | Do we really deserve the sacrifice He made? | Are we worth the offering and the price that was paid? | In His eyes, we are, because He made us His own | And on the cross, the ultimate love was shown | So take joy in the season and spread His true love | But always remember the gift from above!" *Jerrod Nelson, Time of Grace*

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## Essay Testimonies

by Pastor Michael Salemink



Every year, our annual LFL State Federations Essay Contest renews my joy and hope. Hundreds of junior high and high school students across the country participate. They declare profound truth and love in giving voice to the sanctity of every human life. Their testimonies affirm that you're raising and instructing them well. And they assure us that successive generations will carry our message and ministry forward. But you should hear it for yourself:

"In 2020, my family fostered two beautiful girls, Athena and Roseanne ... We fostered for 3.5 months. As time went on, I realized God's plan for these girls and why He placed them in my home. As my love for them grew, I realized what a blessing foster care is—not just for me but for these children as well. We provided a safe home and a chance for them to see Christ." *Ally, Illinois*

"Last December, I coordinated a Christmas piano program for a local nursing home. As the facility doors swung open, I was slammed with the pungent smell of antiseptics, incessant beep of medical equipment, and overall presence of suffering in the room. A veil of pain, fatigue, and confusion seemed to shroud the residents. When the first notes of 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' rang on the piano, that veil was lifted immediately. The residents' faces brightened. Most of them started singing along. Through the gift of music, the assembly was bathed in Christ's light of salvation. After the last hymn ended, they begged us to come again soon. The adults in that room may have lost the ability to walk and talk as they once could, but they will never lose the ability to enjoy God's radiant blessings." *Emma, Texas*

"When I walked into a dilapidated Dairy Queen to meet another possible child to foster, I met Wylynn. The whole time we talked to Wylynn, you could see the light of life inside her. Wylynn was one of our many missing pieces. I am so thankful her mother chose life instead of abortion because without her, I would not be who I am today. We were so glad that God gave us a chance to live out our faith by adopting Wylynn and supporting life. There is a light inside every single foster child out there, a light of hope!" *Gracelynn, South Dakota*

"One of my sisters has dyslexia and dysgraphia. Often, she says she is dumb because of what she has. She thinks that because of her dyslexia and dysgraphia, she will never be considered intelligent. Once she gets past that, however, she is as happy as ever, we just need to help comfort her. She is incredibly smart; things are just much more difficult for her than people realize. Everyone's life shines in darkness." *Maria, Kansas*

"God created every one of us to shine brightly in the world He made for us. Each person is a candle, sustaining His light to share with others. When a baby is aborted, his or her candle is extinguished. Clearly, that is not what God wants for us. None of us are unimportant to God; He cares about all of us, no matter our size, age, parents, gender, or disabilities. Every candle has a special purpose God designed." *Christina, Missouri*

Thanks be to God for His abundant ongoing faithfulness!

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