

Carpe Diem

F O R L I F E

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Complicated & Worthwhile Love: Adoption

by Robin Ferguson

I was talking with a friend of mine, whom I have known for a number of years and whose family—and various dramas—I am also intimately familiar with. Both of us laughed and groaned over their latest problems and squabbles. She finished her story with a sigh and simply said, “Family is complicated.” She shrugged after, a gesture that spoke equally of frustration and affection, as if to say, “What can I do? They make me crazy, but they are family.”

It’s a simple statement but a true one. Family *is* complicated. But complicated doesn’t mean “bad”. Humans, in general, are rather lazy in relationships—it’s much easier to cut ties with someone who is frustrating than to build those bonds. Complicated means work, work means difficulty, and difficult things are generally considered to be bad.

I have always wondered if this dread of complications is the reason more Christians do not adopt. Christians, by and large, are the leaders of counter-cultural norms, known for their charity and generosity, and more likely to oppose abortion than those who are not Christians. If that is the case, why aren’t there more adopted children sitting in our pews and at our dinner tables? I think it’s because we fear the complications of adoption.

There are complications outside of the immediate family that makes adoption a difficult prospect. Ask any adoptive parents and they will share with you stories of endless paperwork, delays, and red tape. This is especially true of international adoption. As many countries have either made adoption laws more stringent or prohibited inter-country adoption altogether, the process can be long and arduous. Adopting a child from China, for example, may take up to two years or more, and adoptive parents are required to have, among other things, a high school diploma, a net worth of at least \$80,000, and a body mass index of under 40. While many of these precautions were established to protect children, these delays can cause adoptive parents grief and frustration. Actual costs

can further complicate matters as agency and private adoption costs can range from \$5,000 to \$40,000 nationally and \$7,000 to \$30,000 internationally.

Additionally, there is the fear of complications brought by the children themselves. Many adopted children are not babies when they begin living with their new families. Children who have lived in the foster care system may bring with them emotional baggage, causing behavioral problems, bonding issues, and fears of being abandoned again. Adoptive parents may fear complicating their family dynamic, if they have biological children themselves, as well as the reaction of family and friends who may criticize their choice to raise a child not biologically their own or of a different race or with special needs.

Finally, there are complications that adoptive parents may not even know about. In 2017 the Hope for Orphans organization conducted a survey of 200 of their network’s orphan ministry leaders to learn about unmet needs of adoptive parents in the Church. 86% of participants desired more support for adoptive families within their individual churches, 73% desired more resources for parents of special needs children, and 40% said they struggled with spiritual warfare during and after the adoption process. How much more difficult is it for adoptive parents when they don’t feel that the Church is supporting them!

It is little wonder that even life-affirming Christians are reluctant to consider adoption. But we have to remember the most complicated adoption of all—our own adoption as children of God. In Romans 8:14-17, Paul writes a beautiful affirmation of adoption:

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are

Con’t. on page 2

Adoption Con't.

God's children. Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ.

Friends, we are, without a doubt, the worst adoptive children anyone could find, and God can more than understand the struggles of all adoptive parents. We come to God not with obedience and gratitude but with rebellion and dissatisfaction. We fight Him every day with every sinful thing we do. While as the Godhead He would not struggle with spiritual warfare, I am certain He must despair over our wayward and stubborn ways. And we are also the most expensive adoptive children ever—God did not spend money or valuables to bring us into His family, he spent the most precious thing He had, the blood of His only Son, Jesus. And yet, after knowing our unworthiness, how much we cost, and, yes, how complicated we are, he does not reject us (which we deserve) or use us as slaves, as Paul phrased it, but brings us into His family, so that we can call the King of Kings “father”!

If we have gained unimaginable love and acceptance through adoption in Christ, how can we allow our fears of the complications stop up from adopting, from showing the same love that God showed us? I won't pretend that adoption is an easy choice or that it won't have its challenges (although I'm going to share next about an organization whose mission it is to help Anglican families adopt). But, as my friend so aptly said, the nature of family itself is complicated, because we are fallen and sinful people. Don't let difficulties and fears stop you from including an adopted child at your family dinner table. Don't fear complicated—embrace it!

November is national adoption month. We encourage you to talk about adoption in your churches, at the pulpit or in small groups, and to share resources to help families who have adopted or those considering adoption. One of the greatest adoption resources we have in the Anglican Church is the Anglican Chaplain's Adoption Fund (ACAF). This fund is available to any family actively involved in an ACNA parish! We spoke with Rev. John Mabus, and he shared some information about ACAF and how it helps adoptive families:

What inspired the creation of the ACAF?

Christians are called to care for orphans as a reflection of God's gracious adoption of them into his family through Jesus Christ. Biblical Christianity is committed to the dignity of human life and pro-life initiatives. To support these efforts, Anglican Chaplains who were also adoptive parents created the Anglican Chaplains Adoption Fund (ACAF). The fund is committed to raising awareness of adoption needs and assisting adopting families and their churches. Specific ways that the fund supports Anglican families in the adoption process are providing prayer support and partnership, reimbursement directly to the adoption agency for specific expenses in the adoption process, and information, connections, and counsel on other resources for adopting families. While the ACAF falls

under the leadership of the Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy, it is a resource for any family actively involved in an ACNA parish.

What are some of the challenges faced by potential adoptive families?

That can depend on the type of adoption. International adoption can be expensive and complicated by changing laws and policies. It also may require one or even multiple trips to the child's native country. While adoption within the foster care system is inexpensive, the adoptive child may have emotional or medical issues. There is also a limited availability of infants. Domestic agency adoptions can have long or unpredictable waiting periods, and birth mothers may also decide against adoption at the last minute. There also may be high costs due to agency fees and medical bills.

Do you have any stories of a particular adoption experience that really impacted you?

Over this past year, the ACAF has partnered with three families that all are adopting from China. They are adopting children that might be passed over or age beyond the legal age to adopt. Yet, these three families are living out the love of the Gospel, by welcoming these children into their families. We are excited to see how God is moving in the hearts of his people throughout the church and opening up more opportunities to care for the orphan and those in need of loving families.

Why should the Church be interested in adoption?

Scripture tells us over and over that God has a heart for the orphan. One of the most important metaphors in scripture to describe God's saving act toward us through Jesus and applied by the Holy Spirit is our adoption into his families. We are told in James that the religion that God finds authentic and true must include the care of orphans. The church is actively engaged in supporting pro-life work, yet if we are telling mothers to not abort their children, we must be willing to help support them as parents or be available to provide Christian adoptive families for them to place their children. Further, the need for foster and adoptive families from the US foster care system is urgent. Of the 400,000 children in foster care, more than 100,000 of them are waiting to be adopted. Further, every year over 20,000 children age out of the foster care system, having never been placed in a family. Finally, the number of orphans internationally is overwhelming. The church should never have to ask or pray about, “Should we have a ministry to orphans?” The answer will always be yes, it is just a matter of seeking how God specifically has equipped and called individuals, families, and congregations to be a part.

Editor's Note: Matthew 25 has awarded the ACAF a grant, therefore your donations will be matched. Please give generously at AnglicanChaplains.org

I recently read through the Old Testament and one of the things that struck me was the number of battles fought by God's people. They were either attacking or being attacked, there were many enemies and the battles were often violent resulting in people dying. At times, God initiated the conflict and led His people in battle, while in other circumstances He allowed them to be captured and punished. Alliances were sometimes forged in pursuit of victory while other times God gave specific orders to ensure the conquest was successful.

The images of these battles came back to me recently when Planned Parenthood (PP) announced its new initiative to build an army of volunteers to fight to keep abortion legal and taxpayer funded. PP is dedicating \$500,000 to train 1000 volunteers during the month of September (that is twice Anglicans for Life's entire budget for this year!).

The implication of their hefty investment to recruit and train volunteers clearly indicates they recognize there is deficiency amongst their ranks, as it is hard to find people interested in defending the killing of unborn, vulnerable babies in the womb.

Another implication of their announcement is that we, the Church and all of God's people must be prepared to engage this group of newly trained pro-abortion volunteers. And like most of the battles in the Old Testament, we need God to guide us in the best strategies to defeat this new army.

As a pacifist, I admit I am much clearer about being life-affirming to protect the unborn but something tells me the time has come for Anglicans for Life to build our own army of volunteers to counter-attack the lies and half-truths PP's volunteers will be equipped to spread, especially amongst our young people.

AFL is renewing our mission of empowering and equipping every person in every church to do one thing every day to protect, honor, celebrate and when necessary, fight for life! Battling the foes of life with the love of God may sound Pollyanna, but as Christians who read both the Old and New Testaments – we must adopt Christ-like love to battle these new age Philistines! We will also continue to seek God's guidance for additional tactics and strategies to stand for life as

we build His life-loving army! I hope the stories of Esther and Mary Ellen in this issue of Carpe Diem highlight some of the daily things you can do for life.

The upcoming Summit 2018 in Washington DC (January 18th, 2018) and the Life Symposium in San Francisco (January 26th, 2018) also offers you and your church family opportunities to mobilize for this battle. Imagine the impact we would have if at least one representative of every church in the Anglican Communion was trained for life ministry? Are you the person from your congregation God is calling to lead the local life witness?

God has always employed His people to partner with Him to battle His enemies. Not because He can't defeat them without us but because together we bear witness to His grace and mercy in the midst of conflict.

If you can't join the battle then I ask that you help finance it! Please send a generous gift to Anglicans for Life to underwrite our efforts to equip, educate and mobilize God's people to make a difference for life.

We need manpower and we need money! Please help provide both! Email Georgette@AnglicansForLife.org or call 412-749-0455 to enlist!

Serving Him for Life,



Deacon Georgette Forney

P.S. As I prepared this newsletter for printing, further incentive for God's people to boldly stand for life came from an article featuring the Rev. Millie Horning Peters, a Kentucky United Methodist preacher who believes religious leaders should be more involved in *promoting* abortions and helping women get them, not less. In an interview with Yes Magazine, Peters described how she has been fighting against efforts in her home state to protect moms and babies from abortion and encouraging other clergy to get involved, too. According to her, "It's time for the religious left to rise up." AFL thinks it is time for those who love Jesus to rise up!

Anglicans for Life is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization, supported by churches, individuals, and foundations. Your donation makes it possible for us to uphold the biblical standard of the Sanctity of Life.

Please use the enclosed envelope to make a donation!
A financial statement is available upon request.

AnglicansForLife.org

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In Memory
Anglicans for Life joins

**the Zerby Family in honoring the life of
their friend Steve Marko.**

Meet Mary Ellen McElfresh, from Prayer to Sidewalk Counseling

How did you start/begin participating in this ministry? What or who inspired you?

I first became involved with 40 Days for Life in the fall of 2008 when I read an announcement in our church bulletin about a campaign in Alexandria, VA. Each time I saw this notice in the church bulletin, I felt a stirring within me to participate in the prayer vigil outside the abortion clinic. I realized that it was the Holy Spirit nudging me, because, being a very shy person, I would certainly not want to do this on my own. It still took a few more weeks for me to work up courage to call the campaign director, find a friend to go with me, and finally show up at the abortion clinic.

When we arrived, a volunteer gave each of us a sign, and we simply stood or walked on the sidewalk, praying silently for an hour. After that I continued to go to the prayer vigil whenever I could, eventually doing it year-round. The reactions of people vary greatly, from yelling and cursing at us, to thanking us for being there. We try to reflect the love of Christ in all that we do and say. Even when someone is cursing at us, the peace of God comes over me, and I am able to remain calm and loving.

When we learned of the plan to put up sign displays and hand out literature outside high schools and college campuses year-round, my husband and I began taking part in those efforts. At first I was not comfortable doing this, because they were using signs with pictures of aborted babies in their displays. However, after learning that some babies' lives were saved from abortion after their mothers saw such pictures, I began to take part in that outreach also. We now do this on a regular basis and are able to provide a lot of information to people. Some pregnant mothers arriving at a clinic for an abortion, upon seeing these pictures, have said, "I didn't know that's what was going to happen to my baby! I'm not getting an abortion."

What has been the most surprising or unexpected result of your ministry?

We mostly do not know what impact we are having, so it is a thrill when we receive feedback and learn that a baby's life has been saved through our efforts. A few months ago on a college campus, a student told us that her friend was one of the people yelling at us the previous year when we were there, but later,

when she became pregnant and was going to get an abortion, she remembered the pictures of the aborted babies, changed her mind, and kept her baby! Praise be to God for that result and for allowing us to know about it!

Another surprise happened after I had been participating in the prayer vigils for a few years. Wondering if we were even making a difference, I prayed and asked God to please let us know, somehow, if we were doing any good. That very week we were able to save a baby from abortion. His mother saw our sign saying "Women Deserve Better than Abortion. We Can Help," and we were able to put her in touch with a pregnancy help center which helped her throughout her pregnancy. We were able to meet her baby when he was a few months old and that was very special.

Many people want to serve Life but aren't sure how to start. What do you recommend to people who are considering starting or joining with a life ministry?

Start by praying about this and asking for God's guidance, wisdom, and help.

It is also very helpful to become familiar with the subjects of abortion—reasons to choose life, resources to help pregnant women, and answers to refute the pro-choice arguments. If people ask questions, hand them the literature that addresses those issues, or you can respond to the people directly when you become familiar with the facts and testimonies concerning abortion.

For those who are shy like me: I got into this type of pro-life ministry gradually, but over the years God has helped do things I thought I could never do. I would recommend calling leaders of a pro-life ministry you are interested in to find out more about volunteering. Ask all of your questions and concerns. You can participate to the extent that you like. At first I didn't try to speak to passersby, but as I became more familiar with the outreach and the subject matter, I started participating more.

How do you see God's hand in growing your ministry?

Only God knows all of the results of our ministry, but He has shown us samples of positive results, which is encouraging and motivating, and we are pleased and grateful to Him.

More people are hearing about our ministry, and we are hopeful that God will lead many of them to join us. We also hope that more people will decide to do this kind of ministry in their own area. Almost 3,000 babies are reported killed by abortion every day in the United States. The number of babies that could be saved would be greater if more people learn the truth about abortion and choose life, and this is directly proportional to the number of people who are willing to participate in pro-life outreaches to spread the word.



Action in Anglicans!

Life Leader Esther Clark of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Elkton, DE has committed to serving Life with the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Dover, DE and the Pregnancy Help Center in Elkton, MD by hosting multiple baby showers, to help moms who chose life have what

they need to care for their children! She shares some of what inspired her to start this ministry, how it has grown, and some suggestions on how you can start your own ministry!

I started helping the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Dover, DE and the Pregnancy Help Center in Elkton, MD about three years

ago. Learning that they received no monetary support from the government, as opposed to the \$500 million Planned Parenthood (which should be called Anti-Parenthood) receives, who offers no alternatives to abortion other than killing the baby. Well, I just could not stand by and do nothing.

I joined the Delaware Right Life organization and explained to my congregation at St. Peter's Anglican Church in Elkton, DE that if they did nothing else but join me in putting a Choose Life plate on their cars in Delaware or Maryland that that would be doing something. I also told them that I trained in the World Trade Center and lost 13 colleagues on 9/11, which we all thought was a horrible, preventable tragedy, yet we stand by and do nothing as over one million babies are murdered in the US annually. Our ministry has grown from my congregation by word of mouth, and my association with various clubs in our area.

The biggest surprise of all this was that my big mouth would actually start an annual Interdenominational Baby Shower in Dover, DE to support the Pregnancy Crisis Center in Dover, De. Women and men love to help babies!

I'm finding that more and more of my friends and acquaintances and even complete strangers are learning more about life issues and what they can do to save babies and protect themselves and others with end of life issues. I do see the Silent No More Campaign finally taking a turn so those who have suffered from the devastating effects of an abortion



Meet Esther Clark, Showering Moms with Help

can now speak up and save babies and others from the heartbreak of abortion.

If you are interested in serving in life ministry, I think the best place to start is in your church with your minister's guidance. Once you have established yourself there, have gotten comfortable with the information, and have the support of other volunteers, you can start with an Anglicans for Life Sunday. Explain what they do and how they can help. Continue to keep them aware with newsletters and announcements. Know what is going on in your community to protect life and support the local projects as well. Help your ministers by having the knowledge to help people in your community find the information and resources they need, whether they are facing a planned or unplanned pregnancy or end of life issues. What you know and what you do could truly be a lifesaving experience!

New AFL Chapter: Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton, IL

A common way for Anglican Churches to build Life-Affirming ministry at their church is to appoint someone to serve as a Life Leader. In 2015, Mindy Popp began serving as the Life Leader at the Church of the Resurrection, Wheaton, IL. After two years of outreach, meetings, discernment, and planning, Mindy



and her team, took the next step and officially applied to be designated an AFL Chapter! This summer I got to meet Mindy and her cute daughter Annie at the ACNA Assembly.

We would love to help you fulfill God's call to serve Him for life! Visit: / anglicansforlife.org/lead-life-ministry online or call 412-749-0455 to learn more.



AFL Welcomes New Team Members

Sammie Franks

After growing up in an environment where I heard the name of Jesus, attended church occasionally, and even claimed to be a Christian, it still was not until I was 18 years old that I truly experienced a relationship with our Savior and understood what it meant to be loved endlessly by the Creator of the universe. My journey in following Jesus' will for my life rather than my own has brought me to a program called the Pittsburgh Fellows, a young professional development program for recent college graduates that focuses on creating faith-based, servant leadership within our beautiful city of Pittsburgh. My involvement with the program began with several interviews within the nonprofit sector, but none of the organizations really fueled my passion for helping women and fighting for justice, or my desire to be mentored by a humble yet remarkable leader.

Anglicans for Life changed all of that. As soon as I walked in the door to our office and shook Georgette's hand, I knew that this woman was someone who would challenge me to develop myself professionally and encourage me to grow personally. I am now serving as the coordinator at AFL, where my primary job is to serve, connect, and provide churches with resources to protect the sanctity of life and provide healing to members of their community.

I am pro-life and pro-woman simply because women deserve better than what abortion brings them: emotional trauma, spiritual doubt and warfare, and physical and mental harm they must struggle with for the rest of their lives. Women deserve better. They deserve to be nurtured, to be protected, to be empathized with, to be empowered, and to be set free. Women were never created to be depressed, defeated, guilty, condemned, ashamed, or unworthy. We were created to be victorious over the things that should realistically crush us.

Georgette invited me to attend the ACNA Provincial Assembly with her in Wheaton, Illinois before I even had my first day at the office. Can you say "intimidating"? Of course, despite any fear I may have had, I said "yes" automatically. I've learned that I need to take the opportunities that are placed before me, no matter the discomfort, because being stretched allows for the highest potential for growth. Going into the trip, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I had little to no knowledge of the Anglican Church or its leadership. I had no face-to-face connections. I was quickly immersed in the Assembly and was pleasantly surprised to find the heart of who Jesus is in the Anglican Church. God was faithful, even in the unknown pasture that I was walking through.

I had the pleasure at the conference of hearing Louie Giglio, pastor of Passion City Church in Atlanta, Georgia speak about what we as Christians are called to do. My perspective was even more transformed by seeing the partnership that Archbishop Foley Beach and Pastor Louie had kept since their college years. The two men have a common goal of serving people, in the name of Jesus. Their different views on liturgy and teaching has never been and will never be the forefront of their conversation, but their common goal of sharing the Gospel was and remains the basis of their respect and friendship.

I adore this quote from Pastor Louie, and it will shape the rest of my thoughts in this post:

"Simply by our proximity to Jesus, we can bring hope and life to people and places trapped in discouragement and despair."

At the Assembly, I had many life-giving conversations with passionate, devoted volunteers who have committed themselves to fighting alongside of AFL to uphold God's word within our churches. I was blessed, as I know the rest of our staff was, to hear that our ministry is being cried out for loudly, but also silently, within churches.

What I realized when Pastor Louie was speaking was that even though Jesus already won the battle, we are still in it. There is no back-up plan for Jesus to reach the people of this world. Think about it. Jesus won, as He always will. Satan fell, as he always will. But our world is still fallen. We are still in battle. Jesus saved us, but we are commanded to take His word into all the earth, speak the truth, and allow the Holy Spirit to use us, for the things that break His heart. When we become closer to Him, we learn who He is. We learn about His character, His heart for those that are suffering from guilt, shame, persecution, and disconnection. When we know and understand Jesus, our perspective will shift.

I came back from the Assembly with a deeper desire to fight for all those affected by life issues and the choices that go along with them; that deeper desire came from really leaning into what God says about them. I urge you, Church, to take up your crosses and get into the battle for life. Get into the battle of delivering healing to members of your congregation that are desperately waiting for someone, anyone, to offer them a resource for the hurt they have shoved down inside of their souls. Get into the battle and offer words of affirmation. Get into the battle and give life through Jesus, just as we are given the same life through Him. I am looking forward to the day in which we stand at the feet of the Lord and reap the reward we are promised for glorifying Him (Galatians 6:9).



I am a birth doula. In anticipation of the many people saying, “Uh... What’s that?” let me explain. According to DONA International, a doula is defined as “a trained professional who provides continuous physical, emotional, and informational support to a mother before, during, and shortly after childbirth to help her achieve the healthiest, most satisfying experience possible.”

A few years ago, I started college with the intention of becoming an occupational therapist. From the beginning, I had a fascination with God’s Creation and I always knew that I wanted to work in the medical field. The intricacies of each body system, the perfection and faultless placement of each of the seven octillion atoms in every human body, is incredible. How is it possible to look at the human body and say that it came about by coincidence?

While in college, my twin sister and her husband had their first child. My sister had a problematic delivery that left her feeling traumatized, confused, and distraught. Watching her go through such a difficult experience was stressful, and I wondered how many other women had gone through similar birth experiences. Birth should not be a discouraging experience; it should be an exciting, life-altering event. I felt compelled to ensure that other women had positive birthing experiences.

It’s funny (and sometimes frightening) how God’s plan works in our lives. Shortly after my sister had her baby, I was involved in a serious car accident. Due to my injuries, I was forced to take months off of school to recuperate. My recovery was tough, during which I was involved in rigorous physical and occupational therapy. It was during this time that the Lord made it clear that I wasn’t fit to be an occupational therapist. However, it was also during this time that I started researching childbirth extensively and came across the term “doula”, which I had never heard before. It comes from the Greek language and it means, “woman who serves.” I learned that doulas advocate for women and help create a safe, empowering birth environment for moms. Thus, a doula was born!

It was not for another year and a half after becoming a doula that I came to work at Anglicans for Life. Initially, I was looking for a part-time job that would be flexible enough to allow me to continue my work as a doula, which had proven to be difficult. There are few things that are predictable about labor and delivery, and not many companies were accepting of an employee that randomly would have to leave the office to be with a laboring mom. After meeting with Georgette, however, I realized that God had surprised me yet again with a wonderful opportunity. Why does His provision surprise me still? It often does, but it never should; He always provides.

My first few months as the marketing assistant at AFL have brought me many opportunities for growth, spiritually and emotionally. I am a rather sensitive soul, and the devastating

stories of abortion, euthanasia, and disregard for the sanctity of life have been difficult for me to adjust to. It is my job to spread via social media the reality of how our culture degrades life.



This job can be like riding an emotional roller coaster. I’ve felt stretched, sickened, exhausted, and saddened. More than the negative feelings, however, I’ve felt grateful and humbled. AFL strives to affirm life, sharing how our Lord is sovereign over ALL of His creation. Specifically seeing the pain of abortion has brought me closer to God, as He has broken my heart in the way that His is broken for the unborn lives that are lost.

Working in these two areas simultaneously has been so eye opening. As a birth doula, I get to witness one of the most challenging yet extraordinarily profound parts of life. I get to honor and serve women as they bring life into the world. Pregnancy and birth is remarkable in a way that words cannot fully describe, something that I feel blessed and proud to have been equipped to experience as a woman.

As an employee at Anglicans for Life, I have also gotten to see the other side of how life is viewed: women are degraded. Women are told the lie that they can’t have both success and children at the same time. Ironically, women are told that their lives end when they bring forth life and raise children, that their lives are no longer worth as much as they would be if they had had an abortion. How incredibly demeaning that is. Pregnancy, birth, and motherhood are not an illness, hindrance, or burden. They are gifts from God.

Working in both occupations has shown me the importance of what I do in each environment respectively. The blessing of human life has never been clearer since beginning my work as a doula and yet the reality of how our society denigrates human life has never been more evident to me since starting at AFL. These jobs go hand in hand. Both positions have taught me countless things about the other. Being pro-life IS being pro-woman. God didn’t create us to destroy and degrade one another, but to sanctify and love one another. In fact, we have the ultimate example of love: the Love of God. “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” (John 3:16-17)

Through the love of God comes Life. God granted women the ability to house, deliver, and sustain a baby of its own volition. How empowering and honoring that is to women! I am overwhelmingly grateful to have two jobs that celebrate the gift of Life!

Anglicans for Life invites you to attend one of our national conferences taking place in January. **SUMMIT 2018** in Washington D.C. and the **Life Symposium** in San Francisco will feature great teaching, testimonies, and opportunities to strategize and mobilize our churches for Life-based ministry and outreach.

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Summit 2018

The Falls Church Anglican

Falls Church, VA

To learn more, visit:
www.AnglicansForLife.org/Summit or [Symposium](http://www.AnglicansForLife.org/Symposium)

Friday, January 19, 2018

Pre-March Anglican Worship

The Falls Church Anglican

Falls Church, VA

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