



Carpe Diem

Anglicans For Life's Quarterly Newsletter



JUNE 2024

AnglicansForLife.org

Will We Abort Grandma?

Canon Georgette Forney, AFL President

In 2013, my mother had a massive stroke and was put into "Comfort Care"; the doctors said she would never recover or become conscious again. As they made their case for us to accept this diagnosis and level of medical care they were proposing, they kept reinforcing how hard it was to care for someone in her condition. They insisted we weren't prepared to change diapers or handle feeding-tubes or turn my parent's home into a nursing facility for my mom.

As my sister and I sat and discussed the doctors' comments, I had an "A-Ha!" moment. The reasons the doctors used to justify withdrawing food and fluids (in essence, giving up hope of her getting better) were designed to undermine our fight for her life and the ongoing medical care we were seeking. It was all about how we couldn't do it.

This line of reasoning resonated with me because it was similar to the logic I used to justify my abortion.

As a 16 year-old, I wasn't prepared to change diapers and care for a baby. My best friend, who I confided in, said an abortion was a simpler, better, and wiser choice. Now, here I was as a 52 year-old being encouraged to prematurely end my mother's life—basically aborting her because my siblings, my dad, and I weren't capable enough to handle it.

Even some of the nurses told us such things that inferred Mom wouldn't want to be a burden to her family, and her quality of life was non-existent.

This experience confirmed for me the truth that some people in the medical community saw certain members of society as more expendable than others. It also affirmed the need for education to help prepare the elderly, their adult children, and loved ones for aging and dying. Anglicans For Life met this need by developing an 8-week educational program called *Embrace the Journey*.

We recognize that everyone will die someday. But it is critical to understand how advances in medical technology, health care rationing, and a fear of suffering or being a burden morph into justification to either artificially keeping someone alive at all costs or hastening their death, instead of letting life end naturally—in God's time.

We also acknowledge that no one wants to talk about our loved ones or we, ourselves, as aging, and dying. Everyone is afraid of offending one another or saying the wrong thing—so these difficult topics never get addressed until the family is in crisis mode. So, *Embrace the Journey* is designed to encourage families to discuss and talk about important

Continued on page 10

Inside this Issue

Feature Story	1 & 10
The Status of Abortion in America.....	2-3
Idaho Church Engages Young Anglicans.....	4

Youth Engagement Opportunities	4-5
Leadership News and Updates	6-9
Ministry Updates	11-12



The Status of Abortion in America

Canon Georgette Forney, AFL President

A lot has happened to impact the status of abortion in the United States since June 24, 2022, when the U.S. Supreme Court released its *Dobbs* decision which nullified *Roe v. Wade* and forced each state to establish its own legislation related to abortion. The biggest expectation was that abortion rates would plummet, especially when laws banning the procedure were passed in 14 states within the first year, after *Roe*. Sadly, the evidence, as outlined here, tells a very different story.

While exact abortion data is impossible to access because states are not required to report this information, the Alan Guttmacher Institute which is closely aligned with Planned Parenthood, conducts annual surveys with abortion clinics nationwide. Using data from their Monthly Abortion Provision Study,¹ they estimate 1,037,000 abortions occurred in 2023, which indicates abortion rates have increased annually since 2017 when there were 862,320 babies aborted.

Chemical abortion pills now account for 63% of all pregnancy terminations. Under the Biden Administration, tele-med services for chemical abortion pills were approved in 2021 and currently allow anyone to order the lethal pills online and have them shipped anywhere in America, including to states where abortion bans are in place.

It is important to note that while many who support abortion believe the state bans deny women their reproductive freedom, two current reports indicate access to abortion throughout pregnancy is still widely available in America.

First, a recent report by the Charlotte Lozier Institute² found that overall, the U.S. has some of the most permissive abortion laws worldwide. Their Executive Summary states:

- Of 193 U.N. countries, the United States is one of eight countries that allows, at the federal level, abortion on demand without any gestational limits along with Australia, Canada, China, Guinea-Bissau, Mexico, South Korea, and Vietnam.
- The United States is one of only 15 countries in the United Nations that permit abortion on demand past 15 weeks of gestation, meaning its abortion law is far more permissive than the vast majority of the world.
- 46 out of 50 European U.N. member countries restrict abortion on demand after 15 weeks of gestation.

Second, Planned Parenthood's (PP) annual report³ shows

that abortions and government funding for abortion is also increasing. According to the medical data portion of their report:

- 392,715 abortions were performed, up from last year's 374,155 abortions.
- 410,272 breast cancer screenings and Pap tests were performed, down from 470,419 the previous year.
- 129,216 preventive care visits occurred, down from 187,234 the previous year.
- 1,721 adoption referrals were given, down from 1,803 the previous year and less than half of the 4,279 reported just four years ago.

On the financial side of the PP report, there are increases as well:

- \$2.5 billion in net assets, up from \$2.3 billion the previous year.
- \$699 million in government funding (tax dollars), up from \$670 million the previous year.
- \$2 billion in total revenue, up from \$1.9 billion the previous year.
- \$977.5 million in private contributions and bequests.

The only number that went down for Planned Parenthood financially was their profit margin, which may be due to an increase in expenses, as they now provide funds for women to travel out of states with bans, to states where they can procure abortions.

The current administration is also concerned about abortion in the U.S. and recently amended the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA), [passed in December 2022, to ensure the workplace was more accessible to pregnant women by requiring employers to provide accommodations for expectant mothers under the Americans with Disabilities Act.] to now include abortion access.

According to LifeNews.com, "The PWFA requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations to a worker's known



limitations related to pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions, unless the accommodation will cause the employer an undue hardship. However, the bill does not define what is considered a "reasonable accommodation," or what is considered a "related medical condition."

Although the measure was meant to help and support pregnant women, Biden officials are using it to promote abortion. As a result, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission announced a new rule recently that amends PFWA, to impose pro-abortion regulations on virtually every employer in the country, even those who believe life begins at conception."

This rule applies to all employers with 15 or more employees, including not-for-profit organizations, churches, and ministries.

Not to be outdone by the current administration's abortion protections, 17 Democrat Attorneys General have formed a working group to protect access to abortion, they are led by Massachusetts Attorney General Andrea Campbell. According to Campbell, "The group will be prioritizing the use of abortion 'shield laws.' These laws provide legal protection to doctors and other entities that provide abortions or mail abortion pills to women in states where they are banned."

New York Attorneys General Letitia James wants to prevent women from having choices beyond abortion and recently served at least a dozen pregnancy resource centers in NY with a "Notice of Intention to Sue." Lawsuits of this nature could result

in closing every pregnancy center in New York.

Her letter to the centers falsely accuses them of "repeated and persistent misleading statements and omissions" about Abortion Pill Reversal. AG James gave the pregnancy centers 5 business days to respond. The pregnancy centers face \$5,000 in fines for every violation, meaning a \$5,000 fine for every time a pregnancy center responds to pregnant woman trying to save her baby through the Abortion Pill Reversal process.

Finally, as AFL reported in our March newsletter, eleven states have ballot initiatives that are designed to enshrine legalized abortion in each state; however, a judge in New York recently declared their ballot initiative invalid due to procedural mistakes made by the legislators.

It is hard to realize that while *Dobbs* overturned *Roe*, it hasn't decreased the number of abortions as expected, nor has its proponents changed their tactics. What has changed is people's perception that the abortion fight is over, when in all actuality, more babies are being destroyed in the womb.

¹ <https://www.gutmacher.org/2024/03/despite-bans-number-abortions-united-states-increased-2023>

² <https://lozierinstitute.org/gestational-limits-on-abortion-in-the-united-states-compared-to-international-norms/>

³ https://cdn.plannedparenthood.org/uploads/filer_public/ec/f4/ecf43d92-fcd2-4d11-b299-e67b5c3ac394/2024-ppfa-annualreport-c3-digital.pdf



ESTATE PLANNING THAT LEAVES A LASTING IMPACT FOR LIFE.

Leave a legacy for life by pledging a portion of your estate to Anglicans For Life. There is no cost to you now, and you can change your estate plans at any time. Your willed gift ensures that tomorrow's pro-lifers are equipped with the right information and resources. Call us to begin the conversation at (412) 749-0455.

AFL IS MOVING!

Anglicans For Life is pleased to announce that we will be moving our headquarters at the end of June! Our new home will be on the Trinity School for Ministry campus, in the Media Center. AFL recognizes the value of being a part of the broader Anglican Community that continues to grow in Ambridge, PA. Recently, an opportunity arose for us to relocate, just as our current lease is ending, and it seemed like God opened this door for us. We appreciate Trinity's Dean Hollon's willingness to support an environment where ministry and mission can flourish in the Anglican Communion.

AFL's new address beginning 7/1/24:
335 Sherman Street, Ambridge, PA 15003



Left to right: Georgette (holding Daisy), Anna, and Lori outside of the new office space.



IDAHO CHURCH ENGAGES YOUNG ANGLICANS

Sydney Alleyne, AFL Social Media Specialist

Recently, Georgette Forney, President of Anglicans For Life (AFL), had the privilege of speaking with Bishop Ben Fischer from Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church in Nampa, Idaho. This church is a shining example of a church that shares AFL's mission to uphold the Sanctity of Life. Bishop Ben's dedication to nurturing the next generation was front and center when AFL talked with him, "Values are formed by what we do, not what we say. If we don't invite younger people, then the formation won't happen." Without active engagement from younger members, the Sanctity of Life will not be seen as important for future generations.

Christ the Redeemer started as a mission gathering for university students and has evolved into a thriving church community – thanks to the influx of families who began attending. Their partnership with LifeLine Pregnancy Center during the 2023 World's Largest Baby Shower showcases their commitment to living out pro-life values. Central to their success is the spirit of individuals like Joyce, a lay member at Christ the Redeemer and a champion for life. Her leadership motivates the youth in the church, inspiring them to actively participate in pro-life initiatives. It's leaders like her who exemplify AFL's challenge to do one thing everyday for life, and ultimately ignite a passion for pro-life advocacy among the younger generation. When asked how she was able to get students involved in AFL's World's Largest Baby Shower in 2023 she stated:

"Though I became interested in Pro-Life advocacy as a young person, involving the youth in our church with AFL didn't naturally come to me ...That's why good leadership is such a blessing. In our church, Bishop Ben and our leadership have done such an incredible job of modeling what it looks like to honor children by including them in conversations like these. Every Sunday, the children are invited up to the front of the church for a mini children's sermon before they head off to their classes. On Sanctity of Life Sundays, our pastors take the opportunity to talk with our children about how our church is supporting mamas and babies in our community that might need the love of Christ during a hard season of fear and doubt. They are clear with our children and youth in explaining that God cares deeply about the small and the vulnerable in our midst. It's leadership like this that frees us up as lay people to continue pressing into opportunities to include our children in the AFL ministry. It's all part of an ongoing conversation that has the organic ability to take the form of service in ministry when opportunities arise."



Above: Christ the Redeemer Anglican Church, Nampa, Idaho, youth drop off donations collected during the 2023 World's Largest Baby Shower.

What sets Christ the Redeemer apart is their approach to youth engagement. By integrating discussions on the Sanctity of Life into their services and fostering an environment of inclusivity, they empower young individuals to become active participants in initiatives like the World's Largest Baby Shower. As Georgette stated in the interview, the work of Christ the Redeemer is part of their church DNA – meaning pro-life education for youth will live within the church for years to come.

In speaking with youth participants from the 2023 World's Largest Baby Shower, their reflections offer profound insights. Lorelei, at 13-years-old, acknowledges the impact of small gestures in supporting struggling mothers. For Ava, witnessing the generosity of her church community was not only heartwarming but a testament to the enduring spirit of compassion. And Jedi shared the reward of serving in his community—a sentiment shared by many who have experienced the joy of giving back.

As a result of Christ the Redeemer's youth participating in the World's Largest Baby Shower last year, many of the children like Jaebets, a 15-year-old, were able to recognize the transformative power of support in steering individuals away from the choice of abortion. Meanwhile, 10-year-old Jubal's acknowledged that life is unpredictable and it's a reminder to demonstrate compassion and understanding.

The World's Largest Baby Shower is not just an event; it's a movement—a call to action for individuals and churches to unite in support of life. By participating in this initiative, we have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of mothers and babies in need. Join us as we celebrate life and extend a helping hand to those in need—one baby shower at a time.

Youth Engagement



NEW OPPORTUNITY TO INVOLVE YOUR CHURCH'S YOUTH!

Every month, AFL hosts *Zoom for Life* at 8 pm ET on the second Monday of the month. These Zoom meetings are a wonderful opportunity to join fellow Anglican leaders, clergy, parishioners, and individuals for engaging conversations revolving around life topics. Each month, we host a new speaker to the meeting to discuss a different facet of life issues. The speaker always leaves time for questions and often highlights new resources.

During the July Zoom call, we are pleased to announce that we will be holding a special *Zoom for Life* meeting focused on youth ministry. This means we want you to invite your children, neighbors, friends, and youth group to this special meeting! Adults are still invited to this event, but we will be focusing on youth outreach and engagement. Stay tuned for the speaker announcement and don't forget to attend our other *Zoom for Life* meetings.

Save the Date

July

8

8 pm ET



Sign up for AFL's Zoom for Life meetings and receive our latest updates and news. Join our communication list!

Sign-up at AnglicansForLife.org/Communications

STUDENTS, SUBMIT YOUR ENTRIES FOR THE 2024 CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST!

For the third year in a row, AFL is happy to announce we will be accepting artwork from students of all ages for our annual Christmas Card fundraiser. Please read the contest details below and submit your entries online at AnglicansForLife.org/ChristmasCardContest or by scanning the QR code below.

Contest Rules:

- Artist must be a student.
- Artist must sign a release allowing AFL to use and print their artwork.
- Artist must be Anglican.
- Artwork must be inspired by Luke 2:1-20.

Contest Prize

- \$100 giftcard (winner's choice).
- One (1) free pack of ten (10) Christmas cards.
- Artist's design featured on the front of the AFL Christmas card.
- 50% off Christmas cards for the winner and members of the winner's church.
- Promotion and recognition on social media, AFL's website, and the official AFL newsletter, *Carpe Diem*.

DEADLINE: JULY 31, 2024



Leadership Updates



CHAPTER NEWS

The Falls Church Anglican, Falls Church, VA

Jeanne Lee, Chapter Leader, recently shared that following information about a special program her Chapter has developed to educate younger parish members about the value of life and how they were created.

Have you even wondered what it was like before you were born? Why are human beings so valuable? Are some human beings more valuable than others? What does God say about me?

At The Falls Church Anglican, elementary age children explored questions like these during special Sunday School lessons taught by volunteers from our Anglicans for Life chapter. This Mother's Day, we presented "In the Image of God". Last year, the kids enjoyed the lesson "Our Life Before Birth – It's Amazing!"



Together these lesson plans have included watching beautifully accurate videos of fetal development, listening to the heartbeat of a baby inside a pregnant mom from our church using a mobile fetal heartbeat doppler, hearing from dads on their important role, making booklets showing how preborn babies are similar to elementary kids, making bracelets communicating that the baby's heart starts beating after 3 weeks of life, discussing Genesis and the order of creation, thinking about whether our value changes based on our size/level of development/environment/degree of dependence (SLED)... and more!

We adapted these lessons to each age group and communicated with parents before and after class. The response has been so positive. Christian families and churches working together can instill Godly truths in our children so that they will not be swayed by the lies embedded in our culture which devalue human life.

AFL's Board Member, Lesley Hackman was one of the teachers this year and shares, "It was such a thrill to see how our first

graders were riveted as they watched the video showing a baby's development in the womb and asked if they could see it again.



After one first grader heard a baby's heartbeat in utero, he exclaimed in amazement; "You mean, it's actually alive in there? The whole time?" A lightbulb moment for him. "YES! It IS alive!"

Another child asked how the baby could open his eyes underwater without goggles. The teacher explained that the liquid is not like pool water, but is a special kind of water. "Oh," said the child, "You mean it doesn't have any harmful chemicals in it."

Another child asked "What do we do in God's image?" "Well", said the teacher, "It means that every time you do what your mom or dad asks you to do, every time you are kind to someone, every time you decide to stop what you want to do in order to help someone, or do what they want to do instead of always doing what you want to do – that is acting like Jesus... being His image... to others. When they see you being kind, obedient, or generous, that makes them want to be more like Jesus, too. You showed them what it looks like to be like Jesus." "Oh, I get it..ok" replied the boy who then asked to hear his own heart with the stethoscope.

These lesson plans are available online to view at tfcafl.org/elem-ed. We also have a Family Resource Box with great children's books about preborn life that our parents can borrow. We are glad to share all of these ideas, as you consider what might work at your church! Please feel free to contact Jeanne Lee at tfcafl@gmail.com. Let's come alongside parents and teach children about the sanctity of all human life, as created by God, to the glory of God.



Above: The Falls Church Anglican Chapter had fun participating in Virginia's annual March for Life alongside retired Bp. John Guernsey and his wife Meg.

Leadership Updates



CHAPTER NEWS (CONT.)

Emmaus Anglican Church, Castle Rock, CO

Scott Gough and Dcn. Deborah Robbins, Chapter Leaders, recently shared details of their witness at the 2024 Colorado March For Life hosted by Pro-Life Colorado.

Led by our rector, Fr. Theron Walker and Dcn. Deborah Robbins, twelve members of our church drove to our beautiful state Capitol to hear speakers, legislators and activists rally the crowd of thousands (only reported as "hundreds" in the local newspaper) in support for the lives is unborn children. Nationally known pro-Life author and activist Alexandra DeSanctis was our keynote speaker.

After an hour of speeches, the mile-long March began from the Capitol to Denver City Hall and then back. The marchers included members from every age, sex and nationality. I happened to have become embedded with a bunch of high school students who were, let's say, loudly enthusiastic pro-Lifers! What a joy it was to march alongside them.

Our group then was invited to a tour of Alternatives Pregnancy Center located in downtown Denver. We saw an impressive location manned by loving staff and volunteers dedicated to saving the lives of unborn children through counseling and services to mothers in crisis, as well addressing the issues of the fathers of these children.

As you may know, Colorado is controlled by on-demand, at-anytime-up-to-birth abortionists. We're fighting a battle to keep this extremist position out of the state constitution. Frankly, it may be an uphill struggle, but we're never giving up! Being at the March For Life with so many of our fellow Pro-Life Coloradans was uplifting, encouraging and inspiring for our Emmaus group. We'll be back next year!



Above and below: Emmaus Anglican Church Chapter members in Castle Rock, CO participate in their state's March for Life.



SIGNS FOR STATE MARCHES

Are you participating in a state march? Want to represent your beliefs and AFL? Order one of our "Anglicans celebrate, protect, and honor life" signs to take with you to the march. Signs measure 12" x 18" inches. Order yours at ShopAFL.org/sign.

\$5 each

Scan the QR code to order



Leadership Updates



CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

St. John's Anglican Church, Southhampton, PA

Denise Simone, Life Leader, shared that the Planned Parenthood near her home, in Warminster, PA is closing June 30th. She said, "I have to admit, as I walked up and down the street in front of Planned Parenthood, I prayed the clinic would close but not really believing it would happen. Once again, I underestimated the power of prayer and God's mighty hand!!"



Above: Christ Anglican Church's Life Leader, Cindy Sanders, posing with Georgette and church members in front of their World's Largest Baby Shower donations.

Christ Anglican Church, Reno, NV

Cindy Sanders, Life Leader, recently hosted Canon Georgette Forney to preach during their World's Largest Baby Shower. The quilts serving as the tablecloth are actually handmade baby quilts by women in their parish!



Above: The St. Francis at the Point Anglican Church Chapter standing outside the building they are renovating into a clothing closet for foster children.

St. Francis at the Point Anglican Church

Gypsie Van Antwerp, Chapter Leader, shared that their Chapter is working with other churches to renovate an old building into a clothes closet for foster children to have a place to shop.



Ed Speare, Chapter Leader for All Saints' Anglican Church, Woodbridge, VA reported on their annual Spring meeting in May. Margie DeHoust, All Saints' Church's Ambassador to "Life First" our local Pregnancy Support organization in Prince William County, reported that "Life Firsts" annual Fund-Raising Gala held in April exceeded its fundraising goal. Margie also updated attendees on our church's participation in the "Life First" Baby Bottle campaign which collects spare change, cash, and checks in special baby bottles handed out in early April, to be returned by May 26 with all proceeds going to support "Life First."

Chapter Leader, Ed Speare updated attendees on AFL's World's Largest Baby Shower and their participation in that event which also ends on May 26 with all material donations going to support parents who have come to "Life First" with an unplanned pregnancy and have chosen life for their child.

Ed also presented the main program on topics related to Aging, End-of-Life issues, and Dementia. There was plenty of good discussion on these subjects, with good questions from the participants as well as helpful comments. Each participant received a copy of the AFL's "Finishing Life" booklet to use in preparing information helpful for their own end of life/terminal illness wishes and desires, to support both themselves and their next of kin in handling personal affairs at a critical time.

In addition to our regular Chapter Members, we had a good number of attendees from our sister Anglican Parish, Immanuel Anglican, which has been looking to begin their own AFL Chapter. Their presence was most appreciated and helped facilitate a lot of the discussion these topics generated. Fr. Jedd Trenum, Associated Priest for All Saints' Church, formally closed the meeting in prayer.

Leadership Updates



Church of the Resurrection (Rez), Wheaton, IL

The Rev. Matthew Woodley, Chapter Leader, recently shared their version of the World's Largest Baby Shower.

A few years ago, we partnered with the Caring Network to open a Baby Bank in our church warehouse. Every other Thursday night from 5 to 7 pm we open our doors to women in our community who visited the pregnancy center and then were referred to our Baby Bank for supplies. We have a system to give these women a supply of diapers and wipes, formula, and sometimes lotion and shampoo, etc. We also have a clothing boutique with free children's clothing, maternity clothes, toys, books, hats, socks, etc.

Each time we're open we usually have between 35-45 women come--plus sometimes a boyfriend, a husband, a father or brother, and then lots of little kids too. It's kind of a madhouse sometimes! But it's incredibly fun and rewarding. We also offer to pray for our visitors, and we sometimes have some wonderful spiritual conversations with our guests who come from Muslim, Buddhist, Hindu, Christian backgrounds. We have also counted women from 18 different countries of origin--so lots of immigrants and refugees.

I get to volunteer and it's a great opportunity to connect with the men who come. But the real genius and heart behind the Baby Bank is a wonderful mom at Rez named Heather Johnson. Some of the women/families drive 30-45 minutes each way to get supplies, but they also come to see Heather. It's a place filled with lots of love, and people feel that love as soon as they walk through our doors. After we close up for the evening, Heather, me and all the volunteers gather to pray by name for each woman/family who was present that night. So far, Rez has raised nearly \$30,000 to provide supplies, and we also partner with other local churches.

BABY SHOWER UPDATE

Churches Across the US are participating in the World's LARGEST Baby Shower.

AFL is excited to announce we have already received a plethora of emails from churches participating in the World's LARGEST Baby Shower. We are humbled by the volume of donations churches have collected for local pregnancy centers or families in their congregation. This is our second year hosting this wonderful event, and we hope to continue the tradition next year. Please remember to send us photos from your shower along with an inventory of items collected. The World's Largest Baby Shower runs through the end of June.



Above: Donations collected by Holy Cross Church in Sugar Land, TX



Above: Items collected at Apostles Anglican Church Knoxville, TX.



Above: Organizers pose with gifts at Christ the King Anglican Church, Poway, CA.



WELCOME NEW CHAPTERS, LIFE LEADERS, AND LIFE-AFFIRMING CHURCHES!

NEW CHAPTER

Chapter Leader Matthew Hackmann, Church of the Resurrection, Chesterfield, MO

NEW LIFE LEADER

Mr. Leighton Ryder, St. John's Church, Delafield, WI

NEW LIFE-AFFIRMING CHURCHES

Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Plainville, CT

St. Mark's Anglican Church, Loomis, CA

WILL WE ABORT GRANDMA?

Continued from page 1



topics like funeral plans or what your wishes are, as you or your loved one nears death.

Embrace the Journey also addresses an issue called Advance Care Planning. Different than an Advance Directive, Advance Care Planning introduces many new terms regarding types of care elderly people may need; unfortunately, they don't always fully comprehend the implications of the various types of care discussed during those conversations. In other words, they (your elderly parent or friend) can agree to something unintentionally that will be hard to cancel or prevent in the future.

Finally *Embrace the Journey* discusses the inherent problems associated with assisted suicide, for example;

1. Assisted suicide undermines medical efforts to maintain and improve pain management and care for patients near the end-of-life, as well as the ability for patients to fully trust their doctors. No doctor can predict a person's life expectancy with 100% accuracy, and many patients outlive their "6 months or less" diagnosis.
2. Assisted suicide takes the freedom to die and turns it into a duty to die – as the choice to refuse healthcare treatments is taken away when insurance companies deny payment for life-saving treatment, but will pay for life-ending drugs. And rising health care costs or a fear of being a burden to others can pressure people to request lethal drugs.
3. Assisted suicide also glorifies death – media coverage of assisted suicide can glamorize suicide which leads to "imitative suicidal behaviors", especially amongst young or depressed people. In 2015, Oregon's health department reported that the rate of suicide among Oregonians has been increasing since 2000, 3 years after it legalized assisted suicide, and as of 2012, it was 42% higher than the national average.
4. Finally, assisted suicide increases risk of abuse because once lethal drugs have been prescribed, there is no supervision to assure the drugs are voluntarily taken by the patient and not ingested by someone else. Also, elder abuse is a major concern in America, and there is no protection to assure the patient requesting assisted suicide is not being coerced or forced to request death, especially by an heir.

There is a need to educate people about the impact assisted suicide will have in the future. Keep in mind that someday our lives will be the ones our children will be encouraged to abort. Plus, the abortion mentality has manifested itself in a blatant disregard/disrespect for the value of life, at any stage when that life becomes inconvenient.

Organizations like Anglicans For Life exists to be a voice, a witness, to the sacredness of life created in God's image. We encourage you to seek out resources like *Embrace the Journey* and help us educate others about these topics.

It is becoming even more important for the Church to address aging and dying issues as we see efforts growing at the national level to pass legislation that permits federal funding from Medicare to pay for patients to be killed using current assisted laws that are legal in 10 states as well as the District of Columbia. Ten additional states are also currently working to legalize assisted suicide.

The proposed bill, H.R. 8137 is sponsored by Rep. Brittany Pettersen (D-CO), who argues that assisted suicide should be eligible for federal funding; by saying that it's not really assisted suicide. According to Pettersen, "Medical aid-in-dying, an authorized medical practice, is not euthanasia, mercy killing, or assisted suicide."

Medical-aid-in-Dying (MaID) is now a glorified term employed to take the focus off the intention of the words –purposefully ending someone's life through a lethal injection or a fatal dose of death inducing medication while referring to it as a form of healthcare.

If we, as the Church, don't stop the growing acceptance of assisted suicide, we will need to develop programs in the future that are similar to the abortion aftercare programs (that are designed to help women feeling guilty for ending their baby's life,) –but ones designed to help families deal with the regret and grief associated with their loved ones being aborted via assisted suicide.

Editor's Note: You can view AFL's *Embrace the Journey* curriculum online at <http://shopafl.org/etjleadersguide>



HELP WANTED: POTENTIAL BOARD MEMBERS

Are you passionate about protecting the Sanctity of Life? We are seeking dedicated individuals to join our dynamic Board of Directors at our Life-Affirming Anglican ministry.

As a board member, you will have the opportunity to:

1. Work with our Board and President to help shape our future ministry.
2. Collaborate with like-minded individuals and experts in the field.
3. Drive initiatives that promote Life-Affirming values.
4. Make a difference in the lives of churches, women, children, and families.

We are looking for professionals with a diverse range of skills and backgrounds, including but not limited to:

- Nonprofit board experience
- Fundraising and development experience
- Human resource management
- Marketing and communications proficiency
- Public relations know-how
- Passion to advance Life-Affirming values

If you want to contribute your talents to a worthy cause and support our mission and values, we invite you to apply today. Help us make a difference and be a voice for the voiceless. Send your resume and letter of interest to the nominating committee via Georgette@AnglicansForLife.org.

HELP WANTED for BIOETHICS COMMISSION

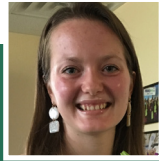
Anglicans For Life is developing a new website titled AnglicanBioethicsCenter.org to provide educational and pastoral information related to topics such as artificial reproductive technologies, vaccine use, transhumanism, and chimera research. We recognize that clergy are often asked difficult questions that have ethical, biblical, and moral implications and need a reputable resource with pertinent information. Our hope is that this new site will provide helpful articles, teachings, and Scripture references to equip leaders.

Therefore, Anglicans For Life needs to create an Anglican Ethics Commission that can help us in the development of content for this new website. If this sounds interesting to you, please send your resume and letter of interest to Georgette@AnglicansForLife.org.

DEDICATIONS

Anglicans For Life Joins...

- Deacon David & Doris Carlson in honoring the memory of John & Velma Carlson.
- Susan Austin in honor of Dawn Pedersen.
- Susan Austin in honoring the memory of Rosalie Jacobson.
- Mrs. Betsy Shelton in honoring the memory of Nathan Baily Cook and Sarah Brackett Shelton.
- The Very Rev. John & Laurie Munson in honoring the memory of Mama Jean Hardin.



“

Anglicans For Life is the top organization that I support. I value the monthly giving option because it's easy for me AND it gives AFL line of sight to incoming funds, so they can plan for the Kingdom work God has ahead of them. Praise God for this ministry!

Amy Nardozzi, Recurring Donor

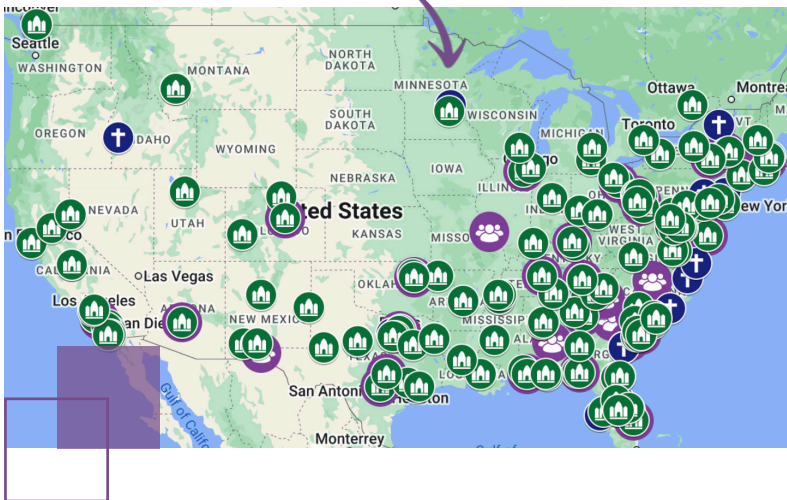
AFL NEEDS YOUR HELP DOUBLE YOUR DONATION

Now thru June 30 all new recurring donations are doubled!

Through our generous donors, and God's Grace, we continue to grow this ministry and impact the lives of Anglicans around the world. As a result of this incredible growth, AFL continues to create new goals, initiatives, and programs to spread His word and protect life.

By choosing to donate regularly (by credit card or EFT), you provide stability and predictability for AFL because we rely on the generosity of donations to fund our ministry. This also allows us to plan and execute our programs more effectively. Learn more at AnglicanForLife.org/Life-Champions.

Is your church featured?



CHECK THIS OUT: AFL'S LIFE MAP

AFL has a wonderful, interactive map on our website that identifies Life-Affirming Churches, AFL Chapters, and AFL Life Leaders across the United States. This map can aid website visitors in discovering churches that bear witness to the value of life.

If you would like your church to be featured on our map, visit our website at AnglicansForLife.org/get-involved/ to view the various ways your church can get involved in Life-Affirming ministry.

AFL's new address beginning 7/1/24: 335 Sherman Street, Ambridge, PA 15003

YOUR GIFTS WILL HELP CHANGE LIVES.

Anglicans For Life is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to uphold the Sanctity of Life by supporting all Life-Affirming churches across America. Our work is made possible thanks to the generosity of friends, churches and foundations like you. Please use the enclosed envelope to donate or visit us online at AnglicansForLife.org/Donate.

80 Leetsdale Industrial Drive, Suite 301, Leetsdale, PA 15056 | 412-749-0455 | AnglicansForLife.org



Scan to follow us on social media.