

Yuba-Sutter Right to Life Committee

Quarterly Newsletter

www.ysrtl.org

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Message from the President of YSRTL

Christmas – a time to be thankful, a time to rejoice!

2009 has been a difficult year. Our pro-“choice” President has put many pro-abortion individuals in high places, supports a government-run health care that pays for abortions and is taking us down a dangerous fiscal path.

Although things seem grim there are also good things happening. A new Gallup Poll, conducted in May, finds 51% of Americans calling themselves "pro-life" on the issue of abortion and 42% "pro-choice." This is the first time a majority of U.S. adults have identified themselves as pro-life since Gallup began asking this question in 1995.

“40 Days for Life” started six years ago in Texas to Pray to End Abortion. The National statistics are in and this campaign which goes for 40 days both in the spring and fall has caused 26 Abortion workers to quit, 6 facilities to close and saved 2,150 babies and their Mothers. This fall, Hope Ithurburn headed up the first 40 Days campaign at our Planned Parenthood in Y.C. Many participated by praying on the sidewalk and handing out brochures. They experienced mostly positive responses from our community. What a blessing! God faithfully answers our prayers as we place our trust in Him.

I encourage all of you to continue to Pray to End Abortion, keep yourself informed and educated. (www.ysrtl.org has much information and many resource links) Join us in the West Coast Walk for Life on January 23rd and participate in 40 Days for Life this spring. If we each do just a little, much will be accomplished.

May Christ reign in your homes as we celebrate His birth.

Maureen Guth

WEST COAST WALK FOR LIFE

This year's West Coast Walk for Life will be on **Saturday, January 23, 2010**. Yuba Sutter Right to Life has two buses reserved for this inspiring event. Reserve your seat now as space is limited and **prices will be going up!**

Enclosed is my **early bird** bus fare of \$25 per person for _____ person/people for a total enclosed of \$ _____.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail this form with your check in the enclosed envelope to:

Yuba Sutter Right to Life
P.O. Box 1341
Yuba City, CA, 95992
www.ysrtl.org

IN THE NEWS:

BRYAN, Texas, November 9, 2009

(LifeSiteNews.com) - The director of the Planned Parenthood facility that was the birthplace of the **40 Days for Life** campaign quit her job after witnessing a 13-week-old unborn child fight for its life during an ultrasound guided abortion. In tears, Abby Johnson left the Planned Parenthood facility where she worked and joined the pro-lifers participating in the fall campaign of 40 Days for Life in front of the abortion clinic where she worked. In a recent interview with FOX Network host Mike Huckabee, Johnson recounted her conversion experience. “I saw the probe going into the woman’s uterus, and at that moment I saw the baby moving and trying to get away from the probe. And I thought, ‘It’s fighting for its life.’ My mind was racing, my heart was beating so fast, and I just was thinking, ‘Oh my gosh, make it stop.’ Then all of a sudden, it was over. I saw the baby just literally crumble, and it was over.” Ms. Johnson went on to say, “If clinic workers saw what was happening on that screen, they would be running out of those clinics. This is what the abortion industry does not want their workers to see....they don’t want people to see what’s actually happening in the woman’s womb.”

Ms. Johnson recounted how, prior to witnessing the ultrasound guided abortion, she was pressured by her superiors to bring in more abortions. “The money wasn’t in family planning, the money wasn’t in prevention, the money was in abortion and so I had a problem with that” said Johnson

“When I saw that ultrasound, not only did I say, ‘This is wrong and I will never participate in this again,’ but there was a part of me that said, ‘Not only will I not participate in it again, but I will fight to make sure women don’t have to experience this, that women have better choices.’” Abby encouraged the pro-lifers to keep engaging clinic workers, even when their words appear to be in vain. “You are in constant spiritual turmoil when you work in the abortion industry. Sometimes the clinic workers may act like they don’t hear you, they may never speak to you....but they can’t turn a deaf ear to what you’re saying.”



Yuba-Sutter Right to Life appreciates your support throughout the year. We depend upon your contributions, which are tax deductible, and we do our best to be good stewards of your donations. Please consider using the enclosed envelope & giving today.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

You Are Cordially Invited..... To our meetings! We meet the **first Wednesday of every month** at 7:00pm in the St. Isidore Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome! Call 673-1437 for details.

West Coast Walk for Life 2010: Mark your calendar for **January 23rd** and purchase your ticket to ride the YSRTL bus down to San Francisco. Just fill in the form on the other side of this page (page 1) and send in your check for \$25 per person. Or call Cliff at 713-7005, Mike at 218-7170, or Marcos at 751-6401 for more info.

40 Days for Life in December?? YES! And in January! Join us in front of the Planned Parenthood on Palora Avenue the **last Wednesday of each month** from 4-5pm. Be sure to check our website often for information on the Sacramento spring campaign which begins in February!

Interview With a Pro-Life Teen

David Kisling is 15 and staunchly pro-life. On October 20th, all of Yuba City High School knew it. October 20th was set aside as Pro-life Day of Silent Solidarity by [Stand True Ministries](#) which organized the event. "My friend knows that I like to participate in.....causes, so he told me about it", said David. Red arm bands and red duct tape on their mouths identified the students taking part in the sixth annual Pro-life Day of Silent Solidarity. According to one student, the high school was a sea of red duct tape. Bryan Kemper, President of Stand True Ministries, said that last year students from more than 4,800 school campuses in 25 countries stood together in solidarity against abortion. The students carried fliers explaining why they were silent. "By refusing to speak, the students create a huge buzz and abortion will be the most talked about subject on campus," Kemper explained. When asked if he encountered any difficulties or opposition during his participation in the event, David responded, "A lot of people called me stupid (and other names) and told me that I had no affect on the world. But I wasn't discouraged." As for his teachers, "...there was only one problem I had with a teacher.....I walked into class and he took roll and then we started reading. He called on me to read out loud and someone beside me said why I wasn't speaking that day.....he said, 'No. You will talk in my class or you will leave.' The way I saw it was that he gave me a choice, so I took the second option and left class to go sit in the VP's office to do my work." The way I see it, the future of the pro-life movement is in very capable hands. Thank you, David.



RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT: This week-end retreat offers a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can reconcile painful abortion emotions and begin the process of restoration, renewal and healing. The next retreat will be held **February 19-21, 2010**. To speak to someone confidentially, call (916)733-0161 or (888)HOPE-790, or email to projectrachel@diocese-sacramento.org. Or visit their website at www.RachelsVineyard.org.



A HEART-FELT THANK YOU:

Yuba-Sutter Right to Life sincerely thanks Hope Ithurburn for her dedication, hard work, and personal sacrifice in bringing [40 Days for Life](#) to Yuba City for the first time! We also thank each of you who took time out of your busy schedules to join us in praying for an end to abortion! Whether at Planned Parenthood or from your home.....THANK YOU!

Vanity, Money, and Death

Tennessee, October 27, 2009—(Children of God for Life) A bio-pharmaceutical company which produces dermatological and skin care products is using aborted fetal cell lines in several of their skin creams. Neocutis, the company making and selling the products, list the aborted fetal cells as "Processed Skin Proteins". A check of their [website](#) states the cells come from, "...**donated fetal skin following a one-time medical termination**" and that they have, "...**a lasting supply of cells for producing Neocutis' proprietary skin care ingredient Processed Skin Cell Proteins (PSP®)**." The skin tissue is reportedly taken from a 14-week old electively aborted male baby donated by the University Hospital in Switzerland. [Children of God for Life](#), a pro-life organization, is calling for a complete boycott of all Neocutis products, which are typically sold by dermatologists. Neocutis believes they are using the fetal skin cells in an ethical manner because they have the written permission of the parents who aborted the child and because they are using the cells to speed healing, ease suffering and improve the well-being of patients around the globe. We think they're just greedy. After all, a 1 ounce bottle of Neocutis' Journee Bio-Restorative Day Cream reportedly costs \$120. I wonder if the parents who gave their written consent did so on a contract entitling them to a portion of the profits. Another company, Plazan Cosmetics, uses human and pig placenta in their skin creams. Their [website](#) says their human placenta comes from hospitals in Russia. It appears ethical on the surface until you do some research and discover that Russia has a high abortion rate. According to a Russian news source, there are more abortions than births in Russia and the BBC reported that Russia has "13 terminations for every 10 live births." It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see their income relies on high abortion numbers.

Merry Christmas from Yuba-Sutter Right to Life!

THE GIFT OF A CHILD

During the *40 Days for Life* at our Yuba City Planned Parenthood, while praying the Rosary and meditating on the time when Jesus became separated from His parents, I was blessed with a deeper understanding of Mary and Joseph's anguish as they searched for Him. As I prayed, this narrative developed along with an understanding of how post-abortive women feel an anguish in the core of their being, and how it can lead many to turn to self-destructive behavior unless they are lovingly led to the forgiving embrace of God. It was a true gift from God and I share this with you with a great sense of humility. God is so good!

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary: And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Mary and Joseph were traveling back to Nazareth in a caravan of friends and family and others who were traveling in that direction. Mary thought Jesus was with Joseph and Joseph assumed Jesus was with Mary. After traveling for an entire day, they discovered that Jesus was missing. Panic seized them both as they frantically searched the caravan for Him. Not finding Him whom they hold so dear, they hurriedly and fearfully journeyed back to Jerusalem. It was the middle of the night when they finally arrived at the house where they had stayed during the Passover celebration. Eagerly Joseph knocked on the door, hoping and praying that Jesus was inside. After the inhabitants of the house were awakened by Joseph's insistent knocking, the door was opened and the holy couple learned their beloved Jesus was not inside. Fear gripped them both and Mary began to sob uncontrollably.

They were brought into the home and taken to the room they had occupied only a day earlier with their Son. Joseph arranged their belongings and Mary opened the crude window in the hopes of seeing or hearing her divine Son in the darkness. Without street lights or house lights and only a sliver of a moon, the night was completely black. All was silent. It was as if creation itself was holding its breath. Mary began to cry again. "Where could he be?" she wondered. She knelt down in prayer and Joseph did the same. Neither could sleep. They prayed for guidance. They prayed for Jesus' safety. They prayed they would find Him soon.

Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done to me according to Your word.

They were still in prayer when the first rays of sunlight began to illuminate Jerusalem. Excitedly they got up and hurried out in search of their dear Child. They knocked on doors to homes and shops and peered in every corner and down every street. They asked passers-by and searched the eyes of strangers for some hint at where Jesus might be. No one had seen Him. Day turned to night. Doors were closed and shops were emptied. Dejected and alone, they slowly made their way back to the home where they were staying. Again to the room they went without Jesus. Neither of them spoke. Both had soft tears streaming down their holy cheeks. Both fell to their knees in prayer.

Through the open window, the cry of a distant child was brought to them on the night air. Mary pulled herself up and clung to the window frame; searching the darkness in vain for her Son. Her heart was pierced through by the sword of a mother's anguish. The anguish that only a mother who has lost a child could know. The soft tears turned once again to uncontrollable sobbing. Joseph looked lovingly at his spouse, his heart breaking in his chest. Two days of searching; two days of worry and fear; two nights without Light.

The morning of the third day streamed through the open window and fell upon the couple as they knelt in prayer. Exhausted with grief but determined to find Jesus, Mary and Joseph slowly rose to their feet. Again they knocked on doors to homes and shops and peered in every corner and down every street. Again they asked passers-by and searched the eyes of strangers. Again their prayers seemed to go unanswered. Then, as they neared the Temple, the conversations of Rabbis filled the air. They spoke of a Child wise beyond His years. A Child whose questions are really answers to

the questions they've kept hidden deep in their hearts. A Child who speaks of God as a loving Father, a forgiving God, a merciful God.

And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

Mary's heart filled with Love and Consolation to the point she felt it might burst within her. She and Joseph glanced at one another briefly, each one unable to contain their joy. Quickly they ascended the many stairs of the Temple. They struggled to see within the dimly lit rooms as they hurried from one to the next listening and searching for Jesus. Then, the familiar voice filled their ears like a sweet melody sung by a Heavenly Choir. They rushed to Jesus, tears of joy falling to the holy ground before their Son's feet. Mary embraced Jesus, squeezing Him to her, holding Him tightly, breathing in His heavenly scent. Joseph rejoiced in the sight of this holy Child reunited with His loving mother.

We all know how the life of this Child ends. We all know the sacrifice and gift He made of Himself. He handed Himself over for ridicule, suffering, and death so that we might know the love and peace of the Father and have life.

When a woman has an abortion she does not forego motherhood. She is instead the mother of a child who has died. When she hears a child crying, her heart will likely be wrenched from her body. She will internally know how old her child would be if she had not had the abortion and, when she sees a child that age, her arms are pained by their emptiness. When a woman has an abortion, her pain and anguish never ends. And so many women, after an abortion, turn to drugs or alcohol. Sadly, some even turn to suicide in the hopes of being reunited with their child.

The child Jesus was a gift, not only to His mother, but to all the world for all eternity. This one Child forever changed the world and all who would ever dwell in it. This one Child was and is "...the way, the truth, and the LIFE." (Jn 14:6)

The gift of a child is not given to the mother only. The gift of a child is not given just to the family or community, but to all of humanity. Not only for the present, but for all eternity. A child is created *by* God *for* God. God does not bless every circumstance in which a child is conceived, but God always blesses the child conceived. God has created every child for a specific purpose that can only be fulfilled by that particular child. I cannot fulfill your purpose, and you cannot fulfill mine. When a child is killed by abortion, all of humanity suffers the loss. It may be easy to turn a blind eye to that which we do not see, but we are all affected by the roughly **46 million abortions worldwide each year** that are performed. With so many deaths, I can't help but wonder how all of our lives would be different if abortion didn't exist. Was the researcher who would have discovered the cure for cancer aborted? How many industry leaders were lost to abortion? How many preachers, musicians, and authors were killed? How many Einsteins, how many Mozarts, Alexander Flemings, and Martin Luther Kings have been lost to abortion? We may never know. But one thing is clear. We must stop turning a blind eye to the "choice" that is impacting all of humanity. We must work as diligently as possible to bring an end to abortion so that **all** of God's children will be welcomed and treasured as the gift they are.

And whoever receives one child such as this in my name receives me.

(Mk 9:37)

Written by Heather Pugh for the December 2009 YSRTL Newsletter.