



NEWSLETTER – FALL EDITION 2018

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FROM PASTOR MAHER'S PEN

An Inconvenient Life

The teen looks at her midsection again, nothing is showing but she knows it is in there. Hiding, growing, ready to upend her life. She's not ready for it. She didn't plan for it. She doesn't want to have to deal with it. It's just too much to cope with. Why did this have to happen now?

The middle-aged man stares at his hands which tremble unbidden. Six months. Maybe seven. Stories on the internet say it is an unpleasant way to go. Weak, invalid, painful ... nothing about it sounds good. He's not sure he can go through with it. He knows he doesn't want his family to see him that way. He's never been a burden to anyone before, how can he live with himself if he became one at the end?

An anomaly with the prenatal tests the doctor said. A short life expectancy and poor quality of life are virtually guaranteed, he said. There are medical options to alleviate the suffering before it starts they stated in that knowing way. But of course the decision is up to you, the parents. So many words, but no real answers. What should they do? What can they do? What would you do if it were your child? No one will tell them.

The nightly news finishes another story about refugees at the border, followed by an in-depth expose on homeless in the streets. The politician turns off the TV with a sigh and a hand to her temples. This will play poorly in the poles and the election is looming closer every day. But who is supposed to pay for it all? Where are the

resources supposed to come from? Here opponents are going to have a field day with this. Can she spin this to her advantage, or is it all she can hope for to minimize the damage?

Time and time again we are brought to the harsh reality that all human life is inconvenient to someone somewhere at some time. Life is full of the unexpected, the broken, and the needy. And they all need more than what you were expecting to give. Life is full of suffering, and for that reason alone it is very rarely convenient.

And that is why all life requires compassion. It is the only true and lasting answer to the inconvenient truth of suffering. But what is compassion? It is the willingness to suffer alongside of another. To suffer with. To suffer for. Compassion is a virtue that is always terribly inconvenient. And that is why it is so hard for us live by it. But that is also why God is so very compassionate. He has always placed the value of the individual life over everything else. No matter who the individual, no matter what their suffering. Compassion for us selfish bunch is why He sent His only begotten Son into the flesh.

Consider if you will, Jesus was the ultimate unplanned pregnancy, turning the virgin Mary's life upside down – but with great pain and with great blessing. And this Jesus faced terrible death for our sins. Public, painful death He did not deserve, in full view of those He loved. To save those He loved. Indeed, throughout His ministry on earth He took the time to show care and compassion for every individual in their sickness, disease and infirmity. He gave value to those whose lives had none. No person was to little, to unworthy, to contemptible to receive His attention and compassion. A compassion that showed itself by being right in the middle of the worst of suffering this life springs on people. And He did it all, the incarnation, the caring, and the cross to call all people back to himself, to give them a home safe from the suffering of this life ... whatever the cost to Himself!

Life is inconvenient, but people ... all people ... no matter what they are facing, are worth our compassion because they already have His. May God grant us the courage to speak in love and act in compassion, as Jesus has done for us.

AN ARTICLE FROM LIFENEWS

BOY BORN WITH 2% OF HIS BRAIN NOW STUNNING DOCTORS YEARS AFTER HIS MOM REFUSED ABORTION

Doctors still shake their heads in amazement when they see 4-year-old Noah Wall.

Before he was born, Noah's parents learned that he had numerous health problems, the worst being that he only had 2 percent of his brain, [Christian News](#)



Network reports. Doctors told Shelly and Rob Wall that their son would die and recommended having an abortion, but the Walls refused.

Four years later, their son's life is being hailed as a medical miracle. Noah survived birth, and now doctors say his brain is growing and is almost fully functional. "The Boy With No Brain," a new documentary about Noah's life,

aired on British television last week.

"We've had three years not knowing how long he's going to live, so to hear his brain's almost back to normal is beyond belief," Shelly said in the documentary. "Rob and I broke down when we heard the news. It was like a dream. I've never known anything like it. Even the consultants were in tears."

In 2012, while Shelly was pregnant with Noah, doctors diagnosed him with spina bifida, chromosome abnormalities and hydrocephalus, according to the report. The family said their doctors recommended abortion five times.

"It was never an option for us. To me, we wanted to give Noah that chance of life," Rob said in the documentary.

Preparing for the worst, the Walls made funeral arrangements for their son before he was born. They even bought a coffin because they were told his chances of living outside the womb were so small.

When Noah arrived on March 6, 2012, the Walls said they heard him cry and felt relieved. Noah continued to surprise his parents and doctors. By his 1st birthday, his parents said he could smile, wave and say "mama" and "dada."

Here's more from the report:

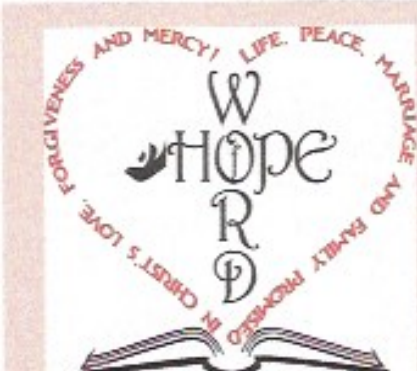
Noah was paralyzed from the chest down and required surgery for a large hole in his back. He also had only two percent brain tissue—the rest being filled with cerebrospinal fluid (CSF), which required the implantation of a drain. But as time went by, Noah progressed like other toddlers—talking and singing and smiling, and defying the odds.

Now, years later, doctors are now stunned to find that Noah's brain has grown substantially and is nearly fully functional.

The Walls said Noah still has medical problems and will need more surgeries, but he is doing so much better than everyone predicted.

"Every time we see the doctors they just shake their head. They're just amazed at what he can do," Shelly said.

LifeNews Oct 2018



For those who have had an abortion- there is a **Word of Hope** for broken hearts. Call 888.217.8679 or go to www.word-ofhope.org. **Word of Hope** is confidential and caring.

Word of Hope is a ministry of Lutherans for Life-Canada.

LFL-C WEBSITE. Please check it out at: www.lutheransforlife-canada.ca.

-LFL-C has a Facebook page. Just type in Lutherans for Life-Canada on your Fb search bar or Google it.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE-CANADA, IS A MINISTRY AND A LISTED SERVICE ORGANIZATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH CANADA.

Please continue to keep this ministry of Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life, in your prayers.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE, MAY 9TH, 2019 AS THE NEXT MARCH FOR LIFE AT PARLIAMENT HILL, OTTAWA.

Sick Kids Hospital Toronto will euthanize children with or without parental consent.

Alex Schadenberg
Executive Director - Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

A recent report for Sick Children that they are not euthanasia on policy states that a able to die by without the consent or knowledge of the parents.



from the Hospital in Toronto states only ready to do children but their child should be euthanasia

Sign the petition: [I Oppose Euthanasia for Children](#)

According to an article by [Sharon Kirkey for Sun Media](#), the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto published their policy on euthanasia and assisted suicide as a [report in the recent Journal of Medical Ethics](#). According to Kirkey:

The Sick Kids' working group says the hospital has willing doctors who could "safely and effectively" perform euthanasia for terminally ill youth 18 and older who meet the criteria as set out in federal law, and that it would be "antithetical" to its philosophy of care to have to transfer these patients to a strange and unfamiliar adult hospital. But it is a suggestion that euthanasia might one day take place without the involvement of parents that has provoked fresh controversy in the assisted-death debate.

Who does the Hospital for Sick Children believe that euthanasia can be safe and effective for?

Kirkey explains that the ethicists at the Children's Hospital believe that there is no difference between killing someone and letting them die. Clearly there is a difference between allowing a natural death and actually causing the death of a person. By blurring clear



distinctions ethicists minimize the ethical problems associated with doctors killing their patients. [Kirkey reports](#): The working group said it wasn't convinced that there is a meaningful difference for the patient "between being consensually assisted in dying (in the case of MAID) and being consensually allowed to die (in the case of refusing life-sustaining interventions)."

Sick Children's hospital is planning to apply the same policy for mature minors as they have for young adults. Kirkey explains that most Canadian provinces allow mature minors to make decisions about their own care, including withdrawing or withholding life support. She explains that in Ontario a minor can provide consent for treatment or withdrawal of treatment if they understand the "reasonably foreseeable consequences" of their decision. The Sick Kids' hospital stated that they encourage minors to involve their families in medical decisions.

Kirkey explains that the Hospitals for Sick Children is suggesting that children could decide to die by euthanasia without the consent of the parents:

The draft policy argues the same rules should apply to MAID since there is no meaningful ethical or practical distinction from the patient's perspective between assisted dying and other procedures that result in the end of a life, such as palliative sedation (where people sleep until they die) or withdrawing or withholding life-sustaining treatments.

Kirkey explains that the Sick Kids Hospital paper came out just ahead of the report by The Canadian Council of Academies that will make recommendations in December concerning the extension of euthanasia to mature minors. The same group is examining the extension of euthanasia to cases of mental illness alone, as well as incompetent people who requested euthanasia within an “advance directive”.

Please consider supporting Lutherans for Life-Canada through your prayers and making a financial contribution, or becoming a member. You are then placed on our mailing list and will receive our newsletters. If for some reason you would rather not receive a newsletter please indicate this to the treasurer when you submit your contribution.

WE GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR PRAYERS AND GIFTS

Membership Renewals and/or Donors to LFL-C from June 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018

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Rev. Richard Juritsch

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Ladies Guild, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Burlington, ON

Dave and Sheila Lindsay

Rev. Richard Lockstadt

LWML-Canada Assiniboine Zone, Roblin, MB

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church, Waterloo, ON

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Memorials to LFL-C from June 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018

Mark and Dorothy Korschmann

Tony Marchand

Jane Ryan

Lutherans For Life - Canada



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Lutherans for Life-Canada
C/o Mr. Alan Schmitt, Treasurer
75 Blackthorne Crescent
London ON N6J 4B3

Eight Objectives of the LFL-C are:

1. To provide an organization through which Lutheran Christians can unite to share dialogue and give common witness within the Church and society to their concern for the value and dignity of all human life;
2. To strengthen the existing common bond of concern by bringing Lutherans of like mind into contact with one another;
3. To gather and share pertinent information with its membership and develop strategies for witness and response;
4. To develop and distribute educational materials based upon the Word of God;
5. To identify resource people who can write and speak on behalf of the organization;
6. To monitor public and private action in order to enhance the right to life;
7. To respond to and co-operate with other groups in society who share similar concerns; and
8. To examine and correct popular but misleading stereotypes regarding pro-life advocacy.

To contact LFL-C please email us at:

info@lutheransforlife-canada.ca

To order Pro-life materials;

Concordia Publishing House – www.cph.org