

Thank You to the members of New Life Lutheran Church, Lake Zurich, for your generous Diaper Drive donations. And a special thank you to the Branch Connection ladies group of New Life for hosting the drive and for obtaining matching funds. These donations will help us build bridges to share the Gospel with our clients and will make many babies happier and healthier.

Welcome Aboard!

We're thrilled to welcome our new receptionists and clothes closet helpers! Thank you for volunteering!

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Or does your school library need books?



We have more donated books than we need, and we'd be glad to pass them on. Just phone our office at 847-949-4443, and we'll return your message as soon as possible.

Pregnancy & Life Resources

located at

**300 N. Seymour, Mundelein, IL 60060
847-949-4443**

Donation checks may be made to
WELS Lutherans for Life
and mailed to

359 Cambridge Drive, Grayslake, IL 60030

**Find us on Facebook at
*Pregnancy & Life Resources.***



Conceptions

*A Newsletter of WELS Lutherans for Life
An Affiliate of Christian Life Resources*

Autumn 2021

Pregnancy and Life Resources of Mundelein

A Shepherd's Message

A New Lease on Life

Jade and David Presnell felt called by God to adopt an older boy with Down syndrome. Jade often would follow the Facebook page of Reece's Rainbow — an advocacy organization dedicated to finding families for children with Down syndrome and other special needs. Sometimes she would check their "waiting child" photolisting and scroll through photos of amazing, resilient children waiting to be united with their forever families. Well, one night Jade saw a picture of an adorable, special needs Chinese boy, and she could not stop thinking about him and other kids like him who needed a home, who needed a family. Jade and her husband put it to prayer, and, according to Jade's words, "we pushed aside our fears, worries, and uncertainties and moved forward in trust and faith in God." She stated it was the best decision they had ever made.

The same could be true for the little boy they adopted named Micah. Without a family, he was helpless and hopeless on his own. He needed help, and he got it. We were in the same boat as baby Micah. Hopeless and helpless; on our own. We were in desperate need of help. Therefore, because of our desperate need, God stepped in

to solve the issue and adopted us into his family. “But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship” (Galatians 4:4,5). The Greek word for adoption to sonship is a legal term referring to the full legal standing of a child. That means we are legitimate children of God! The beautiful truth of the matter is that no matter if you are adopted or not, whether you had a good upbringing or not, we all share the same heavenly Father. A Father who protects us from harm, provides for all our physical and spiritual needs, and promises a brighter future in glory everlasting.

Our adoption into God’s family inspires our appreciation for God and the life he offers. Jade Presnell says “it doesn’t take an extraordinary person or people to adopt. It just takes love, perseverance and patience.” Who better to encourage people to adopt children in need, to help people cherish life, and to speak up for pro-life issues, than people who have been adopted into God’s family!? We are people who enjoy life to the full, now and forever.

Pastor Joshua Free
Abiding Peace Lutheran Church, Elgin, IL

Act... in Love

Here’s a practical way to glorify our Lord, the Creator and Sustainer of Life, and to help others extend their time of grace. Sign up with the Illinois Secretary of State’s Life Goes On Organ/Tissue Donor Program by visiting lifegoeson.com and registering online. But don’t stop there! Tell your relatives and friends about it, and **tell them why** you registered. If we Christians don’t express the sanctity of life, who will?

***Dear children, let us not love with words or speech
but with actions and in truth.*** | John 3:18 NIV



Adopting a Snowflake

What should be done with 400,000 frozen embryos that are cryo-preserved after in vitro fertilization (IVF) procedures?

In some cases, those embryos are waiting to be thawed and transferred to their biological mothers with the hope they will implant and grow. Some are destined for termination in a garbage can or through experimentation in a lab. Others are waiting for their biological parents to decide their fate. And, since the mid-1990’s, there is one more option: adoption.

Adopting embryos is a fairly new concept and has not yet received widespread acceptability. Yet, it also holds some potential benefit that should be evaluated. For an adoption to take place, the biological parents agree to donate their embryos, and a potential adoptive couple is chosen as acceptable recipients of those embryos.

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So what does God’s Word say? We know that these embryos are human beings (Psalm 51:5). We also know that God demands an accountability of the lives of others (Genesis 9:5-6), and he expects we will provide for others in the same way we would provide for our own well-being (Luke 10:27). It is clear that all people, including these young children, should be given the opportunity to live, and Christians have the responsibility to preserve and protect those lives. It is for these reasons that some Christian adoption agencies promote embryo adoption as a positive, life-affirming alternative.

Each one of these embryos, called Snowflakes, is frozen, unique, and fragile. Adopting them is not an easy procedure. A number of medical, physical, emotional, and ethical issues first need to be addressed. In the end, however, there seems to be a rather large pool of Christian couples who are compelled to adopt some of these embryos, and that is a good situation.

We are guided by God’s Word to provide the best for others, and it is clear that life for these young children is far better than intentional destruction. In addition, these couples will raise those children in homes that focus on Christ as Lord and Savior. Embryo adoption might not be the ideal practice, but it seems clear that it is far better than the alternatives.

Excerpted from *Christian Life Resources*