

Daily Delivery

Presbyterians Pro-Life
RESEARCH, EDUCATION & CARE, INC.

*Praying... that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom... Having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you. Ephesians 1:16-18
Romans 15:13*

222nd General Assembly—Saturday, June 18, 2016

Welcome!

The members of the Presbyterians Pro-Life (PPL) team, welcome you to the 222nd General Assembly.

Who is PPL?

And why are they giving me this newsletter?

We are Presbyterians...

We are Presbyterians who unashamedly wear the 'pro-life' label as a modern-day symbol of an age-old conviction of the Christian Church. For 40 years we have come from all over the nation to General Assembly to proclaim that God regards human life as precious and unique in His creation. We speak in defense of human life, upholding the value of the family, and urging scriptural and moral integrity within the church.

Convicted by God's word,

Our conviction is rooted in Scripture's admonition to care for the weak and vulnerable, and not to kill the innocent. Scripture reveals—from beginning to end—that God creates and knows each of us. "Even before I was born," the Apostle Paul wrote, "God knew me and called me" (Gal 1:15).

Concerned by departure

In recent decades The PC (USA) has abandoned this Biblical teaching and has joined the culture in denying worth and humanity to the most helpless members of the human family: children waiting to be born.

Your present opportunity

In the coming days, you will be called on to make difficult decisions. As you seek to discern God's wisdom, and to be faithful to our Lord, Jesus Christ, we hope you will not forget those members of the PC(USA) who have not yet finished their stay in the wombs of their mothers and that you will show regard for those coming to the end of life and also vulnerable.

Sola Scriptura

"Your hands have made me and fashioned me; give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.

Psalm 119:73
NRSV

We are here for you!

PPL offers many resources to those at the Assembly. We will greet you often with a smile and a the **Daily Delivery**. Inside you will find provocative, Biblically based comment, information, challenge, and humor.

We want to meet you!

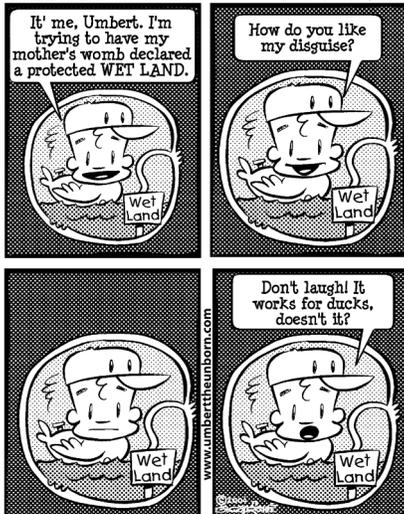
Please come visit us and browse our resources.

Find PPL at Exhibit Booth #155

We are praying for you

We are praying that God will work through you during the 222nd General Assembly to bring glory to Jesus Christ in the actions of this body. Together, let's find new ways to be Christ's Church "unto the least of these."

Umbert the Unborn by Gary Cangemi



What the church says on issues of human life is of great importance to us all

Commissioners to 222nd GA

You will make decisions about what the church will say to the world about human life in the coming days of this assembly. The beginning and end-of-life, the care and protection of children, the creation of human beings, racism and human slavery are all on your agenda. What you say about human life is of great importance to the church and to our world.

Those at beginning and end of life are particularly vulnerable

The tragic loss of life due to abortion is staggering. The 58 million babies lost to surgical abortions in America since Roe v. Wade are just the beginning. Globally, the number of babies destroyed by abortion is estimated to be 120 million every year. No one can calculate the loss of God's intended blessing to the world through these aborted babies.

Although euthanasia remains illegal in all of the U.S., six states (California, Washington, Oregon, Montana, New Mexico, and Vermont) have legalized 'Physician aid in dying' (PAD) or 'assisted suicide'. In PAD the doctor or other third party administers the dose and in the latter the patient self-administers the deadly chemical. Whether legal or illegal, hastening the death of any person inside or outside the womb is to assert our own wisdom above that of God who has appointed to each of us a time of natural death (Hebrews 9:27).

Human lives belong to God.

When the church places individual autonomy or avoidance of suffering above the intrinsic value of human life we deny God's

ownership over human life. We bear the *imago dei*—the image of God—we are owned by God (Genesis 1:26-27). Both abortion and physician assisted death destroy a life that belongs to God and is precious to him. When we choose death for ourselves or another human being we take within our own hands a dominion we are not given. It is a theft and a violence against God.

In Christ, the Christian Church has the hope the world longs to find.

A woman deserves more from her church than the false message that abortion is her "right" and "safe," "quick, and easy." That message leaves her alone and unsupported in

The Christian Church has always been and is now in a fierce spiritual battle for the imago dei—the image of God in humankind.

any pregnancy decision *except* abortion. She needs to experience tangible care and compassionate ministry that provides emotional and material support for her and life for her child.

An individual faced with a terminal illness, perhaps accompanied by suffering, does not need pastoral support for a decision to hasten death. He needs to hear again that God can be trusted to be faithful and present in all his circumstances. She needs to hear again that God will be enough for her both now and in the future. He may be afraid, she may lose hope, they each may feel alone. They need the active promise of the church that the community of faith will be present through the valley of the shadow of death.

Christianity is the answer to the culture of death and every cultural

dilemma and threat to human life.

Inside and outside the womb—God knows us, God sees us, God has purposes for our lives. The Christian understanding, that every life has value to God and that God compels us to care for the most vulnerable, has fueled centuries of compassionate care for orphans, widows and the poor. (Matt. 25:40; James 1:27)

The Christian Church has always been and is now in a fierce spiritual battle for the *imago dei*—the image of God in humankind. Human life matters because we have been created to reflect Christ's glory to the world! We are more than cosmic accidents or the descendants of apes. We are claimed by God as his adopted sons and daughters! The glorious news of the Gospel is that while sin has marred God's image in us, Jesus came to conform us to his own image restoring in us the glory of *imago dei*.

The Book of Confessions

7.244 Q. 134. Which is the Sixth Commandment?

A. The Sixth Commandment is, "Thou shalt not kill."

7.245 Q. 135. What are the duties required in the Sixth Commandment?

A. The duties required in the Sixth Commandment are: all careful studies and lawful endeavors, to preserve the life of ourselves and others, by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any; by just defense. . . Comforting and succoring the distressed, and protecting and defending the innocent.