

# Voices4Life

Issue XIX

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## Voices4Life

is published by the  
Kamloops Pro-Life Society  
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*I heard the bells on Christmas Day / Their old, familiar carols play, / and wild and  
sweet / The words repeat / of peace on earth, good-will to men.*

*—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1863*

## 2019 FUNDRAISER & SILENT AUCTION BANQUET

speaker/program TBA

**Saturday April 13, 2019**

OLPH Parish Centre  
635 Tranquille Rd.  
Kamloops, BC

For ticket info, please call the Pro-Life office at  
250-376-4054 or call 778-220-5584

## KPLS Membership Drive 2018-2019

Please join the Kamloops Pro-Life Society in the coming year! Taking out a membership does not require you to become active in the cause (although you certainly can, if you wish), but it does entitle you to a vote at our AGM and, more importantly, it amplifies our voice in support of the most vulnerable members of our society. You can find our membership form on page 4.  
Thank you for your support!



**Want to be more involved?**

**Do you have some spare hours?**

**We are seeking new board members, to be elected at our AGM in February.**

**Meetings are monthly; further commitments are as your time permits.**

## Annual General Meeting

**Wednesday  
February 20, 2019**

7:00 pm (6:30 registration)  
Bishop Harrington Room  
OLPH Parish Centre  
635 Tranquille Rd.

Refreshments to follow

*Please attend with your  
questions and ideas*

## President's Report

Dear Supporters,

It's been another productive fall, beginning with LifeChain in late September when we again distributed signs from 2 depots (thank-you First Baptist and Sacred Heart churches) and, despite rain, had greater participation than last year with over 100 attendees! We assisted the CWLs with the 40 Day Choose Life Vigil; fewer joined us this year, but we received much support from passers-by and many joined our final candle-light prayer service. Nancy Simms, Kathy Dahl, and her grandson Corbin Kelley gave an excellent presentation on their pro-life/pro-family work at the UN. Our brainstorming session at First Baptist resulted in sheets-worth of new ideas through which we will now sort and arrive at some revision of our focus going forward.

We will ring in 2019 with our newest project, the initiation of an essay contest aimed at grade 12 students, the prize being \$1000 towards post-secondary tuition. Euthanasia Prevention Coalition has recently created a powerful video - *Fatal Flaws* - which we will be presenting early next year. The list of annual spring events - our AGM, the fundraising banquet, Pro-life Sunday, and our support of the Alzheimer's Walk - may be augmented with an add-on or two chosen from our brainstorming session.

Returning to the present, for those of you who participate in the Advent season, we hope it is a time of reflective preparation. And, to each of you, as you seek to keep the true meaning of Christmas, may we join Tiny Tim in saying "God bless us everyone!"

Blessings,  
Garry Howell



## How do Christians live out our witness in this new context?

By David Guretzki, Executive Vice-President and resident theologian of the EFC

After a recent speaking event, I chatted with a person dismayed by the loss of Trinity Western University's Supreme Court case. I affirmed her dismay but also reminded her of signs that religious freedom is still being protected. For example, weeks earlier the same court, in the *Wall* case, protected a church in making a disciplinary decision.

But we aren't surprised Canada is increasingly moving toward what many call a post-Christian society. Discouraging, yes, but it's vital to discern that we are that much closer to the conditions that existed for the first-century church.

In the decades after Christ's ascension, the Way as it was called (e.g., Acts 9:2, 19:9, 24:14, etc.) was strange sounding and sometimes threatening to the society in which it appeared. Christians in Canada are still getting used to the idea that we aren't perceived as positively as once we were.

How should we live out our witness in this new context?

Some influential Christian thinkers advocate the Church disengaging from cultural, legal, political and social institutions. The Church should refocus on equipping Christians to teach our children, care for our elderly, sick and weak, while ministering to one another without reliance on the services of the State and broader culture.

Such goals are laudable, but disengagement might remove whatever salt and light remains. While there are deep ideological changes afoot, we mustn't forget there is no place on earth that is beyond Jesus' lordship. Jesus cares about and is present in courts, legislatures, health and social care systems, and schools and educational institutions.

Others advocate a more aggressive agenda where the Church storms the powers and seeks to win back lost territory. We must strategically place Christians in positions of influence in education, politics, law and medicine, they argue, if we are going to see a culture return to the ways of God.

These goals are laudable also, but aggressive maneuvering can mistakenly assume that societal changes are made through political and ideological power plays, rather than through the leading and strength of our Spirit-filled witness to Jesus.

What then should we do?

The early Church's cultural strategy isn't always easy to discern. That's because the Church at its best is led by the Holy Spirit whose direction, like the wind, cannot always be predicted (John 3:8).

In some cases, being led by the Spirit meant appealing directly to the political powers (as Paul did in Acts 25:11) or engaging in the marketplace of ideas as one voice among many (as Paul did at Athens in Acts 17). And sometimes it meant enduring persecution, even to the point of death (Stephen in Acts 7).

The Church in Canada must be ready (first) to be led by the Spirit and then (second) to be prepared patiently, humbly, sacrificially and courageously to engage or withdraw as we discern the Spirit's leading. A one-size fits all strategy doesn't necessarily align with King Jesus' sovereign ways.

This means the Church need not despair in these days when we are increasingly pushed to the margins. Rather, faithful Christians should take comfort that the Spirit of Jesus is at work even today, as in the first century, leading and guiding the Church in carrying out her mission – provided that we have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying. And then the courage to do it.

At the EFC it is our prayer that we would follow the strategy of being led by the Spirit. Sometimes we are called upon to speak before Parliament or the courts, and we pray that we will be faithful in doing so. Other times, we bring our denominational and organizational affiliates together to research, respond and facilitate ministry in Canada's rapidly changing context. Whatever the case, will you pray with us that we all – you and we together – would use the resources God has stewarded to us, and that we would do it with faithfulness, courage and in the power of the Holy Spirit?

(continued on next page)

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- If you're feeling discouraged right now, know you aren't alone. Find someone to pray with for our country. We are strengthened when we kneel together.
- Keep up to date at [www.TheEFC.ca](http://www.TheEFC.ca) on the issues the EFC, with your help, is engaged with.
- Dig into your neighbourhood life as a faithful witness. That is something we can all do always to keep the light of Christ shining in Canada.

*(reprinted with the kind permission of the  
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada)*

## ESSAY CONTEST

Are you a **grade 12 student**, or know of someone who is? Earn \$\$ towards your future post-secondary tuition. We are offering an **essay contest** to you with the due date of April 1st, 2019 and a **\$1000 prize** to the winner!

For details call 250-376-4054 to leave a message or email us at [kamloopsprolife@gmail.com](mailto:kamloopsprolife@gmail.com) and we will send you the criteria and application forms.

*The Canadian Physicians for Life is an excellent organization offering support to pro-life doctors and medical students, equipping them to be actively pro-life within their profession, despite the obstacles presented by the 'Culture of Death'. They are very worthy of your support. For more information please research Physicians for Life.*

### Your Impact: Inspiring Courage and Change

Over the last two years of my medical training, I became quite discouraged by my own thoughts and abilities regarding life issues. Confrontations with fellow students and preceptors had left me feeling lost because I knew how I thought and felt but was more often than not at a loss for why I believed in the pro-life message.

Having entered the reproductive medicine portion of our training, I was only beginning to feel further confused and alienated from the debate because I lacked the necessary skills to articulate my message to others. Speaking in all honesty, I was nearing the point of ignorance and seriously considering simply remaining silent in future discussions on these topics.

I can most certainly say, however, that having attended this conference, I am not only ready to stand by the pro-life position but am excited to share my thoughts and feelings with others. This year's conference has given me the confidence I so desperately needed to feel comfortable in engaging with others about such topics. I feel prepared not only to defend my viewpoints to others, but also to be the first to engage others about their ideas surrounding life. What is of most value, however, is that I feel I have gained the ability to do all this with the respect and compassion necessary in these discussions in order to avoid conflict and to spread a message of love (as speaker Stephanie Gray so eloquently put it).

Without your support, none of the above would have been possible. The trip would simply have been too far and too expensive for a weekend, and I have no doubt that I would have fallen silent in the life debate out of a lack of confidence in my own ability.

While it is becoming increasingly difficult to remain a defender of life in the medical community, I feel a renewed sense of optimism as conferences like this will continue to provide professionals with the skills necessary to spread the message of life. It is also my hope that one day I will be able to provide this opportunity to a trainee such as myself.

Thank you again for this incredible opportunity!  
– University of Alberta Medical Student



*(reprinted with the kind permission of the Canadian Physicians For Life)*

### Support KPLS! Buy a Great Little Coupon Book!!! Contents include:

A&W \* Senor Froggy \* Fun Zone! \* Bold Pizzeria \* The Pasta Place \* Great Can. Oil Change \*  
Oh! Sushi Mura \* Booster Juice \* Harper Mountain \* Joey's Restaurant \* DQ \* Kamloops Florist \*  
Falcon Lane Bowling \* Lil Monkey's Treehouse \* HOJA \* Wok Box \* Lo-Boy Market \* The Dunes \*  
Frenchie's Poutinerie \* Zack's \* Pineridge Golf \* BC Wildlife Park \* Eaglepoint Golf \* The Fun! Factor \*  
Caffe Motivo \* Pacific Taco \* Jump 360 \* Fun and Games

To purchase, call Linda @250-851-8605; or, visit St. Joseph's Book Store, 256 Nicola St.

### Did you Know?

Have you ever wondered what a newborn baby is frowning about? We don't know either, but he/she has been practising for a long time in utero -- from 10 weeks onward!



## Compassionate Community Care

Advice, help, and support regarding euthanasia, assisted suicide, and/or end-of-life treatment issues.

~Confidential and Free~

**1-855-675-8749**

If you or someone you know is facing problems with receiving positive chronic-illness care or positive end-of-life care or is contemplating euthanasia, please call Compassionate Community Care for life-affirming assistance.

## Cans For Cash

Take your empty bottles/cans to General Grants at any of these depots...

- \* 963 Camosun Crescent across from TRU
- \* 1395C Battle St.
- \* 611 Fortune Dr

...and inform them that you wish to donate the proceeds to Kamloops Pro-life Society. We have registered with all these locations. It's just that Simple!



**You Decide...** We appreciate your positive responses to our newsletters and hope that you will continue to find them informative. However, if you no longer wish to receive them, or to be phoned re: our events, please kindly let us know at the office. Call 376-4054 or email us at [kamloopsprolife@gmail.com](mailto:kamloopsprolife@gmail.com)

### Can You Help ?? Yes!

Independent Grocers honours our grocery slips just as Extra Foods did. So, please save your slips (also collect them from family members and friends) and hand them in to 331 Maple St. (bag them, slide them through the mail slot) or to OLPH Church. It's a wonderful way to help us pay our bills!

**~ IN LOVING MEMORY ~** If you are asked to make a donation to your favourite charity in lieu of flowers, please consider a gift to the Kamloops Pro Life Society. Also, you may wish to remember our organization in your will. Your support is a great blessing to us!

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this." (Isaiah 9:6-7 NIV)

**In order for receipts to be issued for the 2018 year, donations must be received in our mailbox on or before Friday, December 28, 2018. Please allow 5 business days for postal delivery.**

### **Kamloops Pro-Life Society—Box 24051, 70-700 Tranquille Road, Kamloops, BC V2B 8R3**

- I would like a Single Membership. Enclosed is.....\$10.00
- I would like a Senior Membership. Enclosed is .....\$ 5.00
- I would like a Family Membership. Enclosed is .....\$15.00
- I want to support the Advertising Campaign. Enclosed is my gift of .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Enclosed is a one-time donation in the amount of .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Enclosed are \_\_\_\_\_ post-dated cheques in the amount of .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please contact me regarding a pre-authorized debit payment plan.



**Please make all cheques payable to Kamloops Pro-Life Society**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_