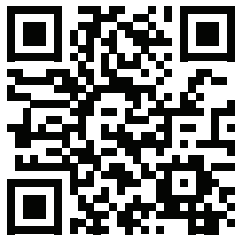




By Greg Brezina

Watch  
This  
First



*"We hold these truths to be self-evident,  
that all men are created equal, that they are  
endowed by their Creator with certain unal-  
ienable rights, that among these are life..."*

*The Declaration of Independence*

Remember the infamous Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision? On January 22, 1973, the U.S. Supreme Court Justices Warren E. Burger; William O. Douglas; William J. Brennan, Jr.; Potter Stewart; Thurgood Marshall; Harry Blackmun; and Lewis F. Powell, Jr. made the killing of unborn children in America legal. By dissenting, Justices Byron White and William Rehnquist courageously fought for the lives of what has turned out to be an estimated 57 million Americans killed since that day.<sup>1</sup>

After that deadly decision, a few said that the abortion issue was settled; however, it was not. Many Americans continue this acrimonious debate. The State of Texas passed a Sonogram Law that requires all pregnant mothers to have an opportunity to view their babies and listen to their heartbeats before an abortion. Abortion-

ists contested the law but were overruled. Why disagree with the Sonogram Law if a fetus is just an inanimate clump of cells? Sonograms better inform mothers about the choice they are making. Who wouldn't want mothers better informed? Do those who disagree fear that when a mother sees her fetus and hears his or her heartbeat, she will not see a blob of flesh but a growing and developing baby?

If the fetus is an unwanted "tumor", remove it. But if life begins at conception and the fetus is a baby that is simply growing, developing and protected inside the mother's womb just like a baby outside the womb, then we must protect him or her inside the womb just like we protect human life outside the womb.

Women also need to be better informed about Post Abortion Stress Syndrome (PASS). PASS symptoms may start during

continued inside...

Please take a few minutes before reading this newsletter to watch Nick Vujicic's encouraging testimony. He was born without arms and legs. God is using him to bless millions.

You can view his story by scanning the QR code above with your smartphone or by visiting our website at:

[CFTministry.org/nick.html](http://CFTministry.org/nick.html)



*All life is precious. The following is an article about how one Christian family and their neighbors have beautifully chosen to honor life in the midst of their daily difficulties, inconveniences and sufferings.*

## Teen With Down Syndrome Represents Ninth-Graders at North Oconee Homecoming

By ANNA ALYSSA MCKOY

Frances Grace, meaning “free gift,” according to websites on name origins, is a perfect full name for Grace Callaway, a ninth-grader at North Oconee High School.

Born with mosaic Down syndrome, which accounts for about 3 percent of Down syndrome cases, Grace was chosen by her freshmen classmates to represent them on the homecoming court at Friday night’s North Oconee football game.

In effect, she became the ninth-graders’ homecoming queen, and was recognized with the rest of the homecoming court at Friday’s game.

Grace’s dad, Lamar Callaway, was touched by the honor bestowed on his daughter.

“This is a big thing and says a lot about that school and especially that class,” he said. “(Many studies show that) 90 percent of all Down’s children are aborted and never get a chance at life. How sad is that?”

If Grace’s selection as the ninth grade’s representative on the homecoming court says a lot about the school, the school says a lot about Grace.

“She sees in everybody else what she wants them to see in her,” said Terrie Dukes, another one of Grace’s teachers. “Grace is not defined by any disability, but by her personality.”

Because Lamar and Karen Callaway’s three other children were born healthy, Lamar wasn’t worried at all about any potential health consequences with their fourth child. Karen, though, was different.

“I was 39 when she was born, so I knew I was at risk for having a baby with Down syndrome,” Karen said. “My doctor asked if we wanted prenatal testing, but the only reason to find out before birth was so we could abort. We knew we were not considering that, so we did not test.”

While she was pregnant, she said, when out shopping for groceries she often no-

ticed children with disabilities shopping with a parent.

“I remember the Lord whispering, ‘Can you love a child like that?’” Karen Callaway recalled. “Finally, I said, ‘Yes, Lord, even a child like that.’ When Grace was born, I knew instantly (that she had Down syndrome), but it was still not easy for me.”

Remembering the moments after Grace’s delivery, Lamar said, “Karen looked at me and said ‘Lamar, she has Down’s.’ We both cried and cried for what seemed like days.”

Dave Sandridge, pastor at First Baptist Church in Greensboro, where the Callaways were attending church at the time, and Sandridge’s wife, were helpful in the early days of Grace’s life, Lamar remembered.

“Wow, what a godsend they were,” he said. “They knew the struggles that were coming because they had a child that was autistic. They comforted and encouraged Karen and me.”

Whatever the baby-naming books might say about the name Grace, the name the Callaways gave their daughter is biblical, inspired by the story of the priest Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, recounted in the Gospel of Luke. Struck dumb after expressing disbelief at an angel’s assurance that his barren wife would conceive a son, Zechariah did not speak again until that son was born.

“It came time to name our new daughter, and I looked at Karen, as I guess as Zechariah ... looked at Elizabeth when their child, John, was born,” said Lamar Callaway. “I said, ‘Her name is Grace.’ God had impressed on me that his grace was sufficient, and it would be made perfect in weakness.”

And in fact, Grace’s time outside of school these days is packed with extra-curricular activities. She’s been involved with Extra Special People, a local organi-



zation that works to enhance the lives of children with developmental disabilities and their families.

She was in the chorus at Malcom Bridge Middle School for three years, and is continuing that pursuit at North Oconee High School.

The Callaways have attended Athens Church for nine years. "They have welcomed Grace without question in their youth programs," Karen Callaway said, "and she goes on a weekend retreat twice a year."

Grace's greatest passion, though, is cheerleading. "I love to see all of my friends at practice," she said.

Grace has competed with a local special-needs cheerleading team for the past few years, and within the past couple of years, she's added classes at DanceFX, where she does hip-hop dancing.

At North Oconee High School, Grace went through cheerleading tryouts and won a spot on the school's junior varsity football sideline cheering team.

In addition to representing NOHS ninth-

graders at homecoming on Friday, Grace Callaway reached another milestone, celebrating her 16th birthday.

"It means so much to us for her to be on the court," Karen Callaway said, "and we have been so encouraged that everyone is so happy for her."

Anna Alyssa McKoy, a North Oconee High School student, is an intern at the Athens Banner-Herald with the Young Dawgs program of the University of Georgia.

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## Choose Life Continued From The Front

the abortion, immediately after the abortion or even years later. They can include guilt, shame, anxiety, denial, depression and/or suicidal thoughts. PASS can also be linked to eating disorders, drug or alcohol abuse, and self-punishment as those suffering struggle to cope with the symptoms. A conscience can be seared, but it cannot be silenced.

Women should also be well informed about the possibility of bodily harm from the abortion procedure. Every year anywhere from 36,000 (pro-choice estimates) to 185,000 (pro-life estimates) mothers' bodies are injured from having an abortion.<sup>2</sup> Since 1973, over 200 mothers have died as a result of complications from abortions.<sup>3</sup>

Mothers abort their babies for various reasons. Many are confused about when life begins. They may also be under severe emotional stress, be pressured by significant people in their lives and/or have serious financial difficulties. Others abort because their baby is an unwanted inconvenience or has birth defects discovered through testing. About 1% of abortions rid the mother of a baby conceived by rape or incest and another 1% are performed to save the life of the mother.<sup>4</sup>

Mothers carrying babies with birth defects often contemplate abortions in order to avoid a lifetime of difficulty, inconvenience and suffering for all concerned. However, we live in a fallen world. Every person on earth is inconvenienced or suffers daily physically and/or psychologically to one degree or another. If the goal

of abortion is to eliminate inconvenience, stop difficulty and alleviate suffering, then all babies should be aborted because all help generate inconvenience, difficulty and suffering. Do you know of anyone who has been awakened from a sound sleep by a baby crying in the early morning hours?

Giving mothers and the abortion industry the power to determine who lives and who does not speeds up America's slippery slide down an immoral slope. The killing of babies who are deemed worthless inside the womb opens the door to the killing of others outside the womb who are deemed worthless.

Let us not forget the voiceless babies. Join me in praying that the U.S. Supreme Court would end the killing industry they made legal, Congress would end funding abortions and the President would use his powers to help unwed pregnant mothers.

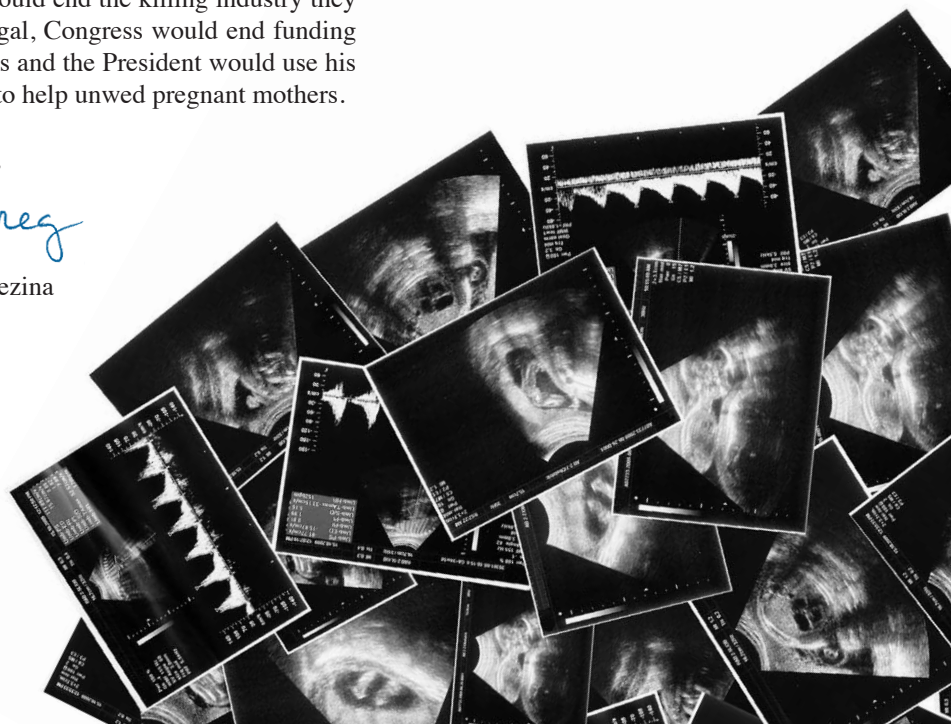
Praying,

*Greg*

Greg Brezina

PS. There is hope for those struggling with PASS. One can receive complete forgiveness and healing of their guilt and shame in Christ. If you want to know more, call our office and set up an appointment. Our discipleship counseling staff will graciously guide you through Scriptures into how to experience Christ's Abundant Life. If you are unable to come into our office, please contact the closest Network220 ministry office ([www.network220.org](http://www.network220.org)) or Christian pro-life center for the assistance they provide.

1. [www.nrlc.org/uploads/factsheets/FS01AbortionintheUS.pdf](http://www.nrlc.org/uploads/factsheets/FS01AbortionintheUS.pdf)
2. [www.prolifeaction.org/hotline/2011/inaccurate/](http://www.prolifeaction.org/hotline/2011/inaccurate/)
3. <http://www.nrlc.org/abortion/medicalfacts/safety/>
4. <http://www.abortionfacts.com/facts/8>



# UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENCOURAGEMENT & GROWTH

**JUNE 4  
2015**

## **ADDICTION RECOVERY CLASS** (NEWNAN, GA)

The CFT Recovery Program is a Biblically based, Christ-centered approach to overcoming addictions. The program is designed for a small group of men, who will gather for one two-hour session every Thursday evening for 15 weeks. Come discover how to live victoriously in Christ. Call for more information and to register. - 770-502-8050



**AUG 21-22  
2015**

## **GROW IN GRACE SEMINAR** (NEWNAN, GA)

Come learn how to consistently experience Christ's love, joy, and peace in the midst of busyness and stress. This seminar takes place on a Friday night and Saturday which is perfect for those of you looking to take a weekend to get away and be encouraged in your faith. Call for more information and to register. - 770-502-8050



**OCT 16-17  
2015**

## **CHRISTIAN COUPLES' SEMINAR** (NEWNAN, GA)

Don't miss this opportunity for you and your spouse to take an important time-out, have a date away from the demands of daily living, and be biblically encouraged and strengthened in your marriage relationship. Call for more information and to register. - 770-502-8050



## **Discipleship Counseling For Children**

Christian Families Today provides visual arts discipleship counseling for children over 5 years old and discipleship counseling for teens. Our counselors can help them express their emotions constructively and assist with anger, abuse, self-esteem, anxiety, divorce, grief and other behavioral and developmental life issues.

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