



WELS Nursing Today

Seeing is believing

Written by Peter Georgson, executive director of WELS Lutherans for Life, Metro-Milwaukee

Ultrasound. Amazing technology. It has been called “the window to the womb.” It is a lifesaving technology we need to employ. The following article was posted online:

Woman rejects abortion after she sees her baby on ultrasound

Rebekah Nancarrow had an ultrasound at Planned Parenthood (for which she paid \$80), but wasn't allowed to see the image. She was told by a Planned Parenthood worker that seeing the fetus on the screen “will only make it harder on you.”

Nancarrow later went to a crisis pregnancy center and was given a free ultrasound. This time she was allowed to view it. Nancarrow was so moved by what she saw on the ultrasound screen that she changed her mind about having an abortion and decided to have her baby. She says:

Had I not had the sonogram, I would have had the abortion. But that sonogram just confirmed 100% to me that this was a life within me, not a tissue or glob.

Nancarrow's story reveals two things. One, that pregnancy resource centers are lifesavers and should be supported by pro-lifers. Two, that there is a reason why pro-abortion groups like Planned Parenthood fight against laws allowing women to see their baby on the ultrasound screen. These abortion providers know that if more women saw the baby moving in their wombs, there would be fewer abortions.

(Live Action News)

This story illustrates why WELS Lutherans for Life (WLFL) is working to provide ultrasound to the abortion-minded women we serve and to reach more abortion-minded women throughout Southeastern Wisconsin.

Our target client is the woman who believes abortion is her only option. All paid and volunteer staff use compassionate care, free and confidential services, and community referrals to help mothers choose life for their pre-born children.



We are committed to providing a safe, nonjudgmental place for individuals to sort through the hard decisions surrounding unplanned pregnancies and lifestyle issues.

We understand the way we can most respect our clients is by equipping them to make their own informed decisions and assuring them they're not walking this hard path alone. Ultrasound images and sounds are powerful in helping women and men choose life for their unborn children.

Currently we refer our abortion-determined clients to other pro-life ultrasound providers. Sometimes this works well, but we believe we would be more effective in saving lives by offering this service as part of our own ministry.

WLFL is working to implement the ultrasound program. WLFL was established in 1982 to operate Associated Pregnancy Services, a life-affirming pregnancy care center. For the last 11 years we've been conveniently located in West Allis on the corner of 85th Street and Lincoln Avenue.

We look forward to serving more women with this technology that literally saves lives.

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We are putting together a taskforce to implement this program. If you are interested in more information or want to learn how you can help, please contact Peter Georgson at Peter@ALife2.com or 414-727-8176. See more about WLFL at www.ALife2.com.



Online Parish Nursing class underway

The first ever online WLC Parish Nurse Course is in full swing at mid-semester (at the time of this writing). There are 10 students participating in the class from across the nation—from Wisconsin to Florida to Montana. There are even two students from Antigua, and the instructor, Carlo, is currently working overseas in Saudi Arabia. The class relies on discussion boards for communication and

conversation. Most weeks there are discussion posts or a paper due.

Throughout the semester, five visitations have been assigned, where students are to focus more on spirituality than healthcare. The goal is to make the class more comfortable in this domain of parish nursing. Then there is the bigger assignment to create a plan for a learning activity for their respective congregation and hopefully implement if time allows. It is a step-by-step process, much like the nursing process—starting with assessment, planning, and implementation. By the end of the course students should be able to successfully develop educational activities to grow parish nursing in their respective congregations. So far some project ideas



in the class are implementing a creative recruiting process for blood donors, school health programs, CPR, diabetes prevention, BP checks, nutrition and exercise, and caring for the aging.

The comradery within the group has been wonderful, and the enthusiasm is infectious.

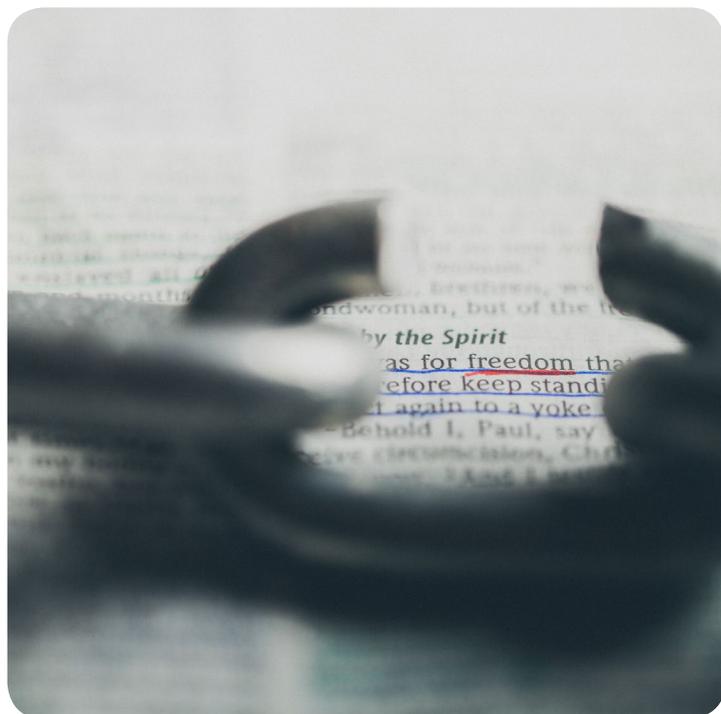
The comradery within the group has been wonderful, and the enthusiasm is infectious. Carlo engages the class with his encouragement and constructive discussion. Whether you currently have a program or need to get one started, every nurse is encouraged to get involved with parish nursing at their congregation. *As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.* (1 Peter 4:10)



Freedom for the Captives

By Sheryl Cowling, LCSW, BCPC, BCETS of WLCFS—Christian Family Counseling

The issue of child abuse is one that impacts so many of God's people. Too often those who love God know the pain caused by childhood neglect and abuse—whether that abuse is physical, emotional, sexual, or some combination of these. Sadly, statistics from multiple sources reinforce that about one in ten children are neglected and are emotionally abused, about one in four are physically abused, and about one of every six boys and one of every four girls are sexually abused. Just look around the next time you are worshiping in church at the faces of your brothers and sisters in Christ, and know that many of them carry much pain, often



hidden from others due to the toxic shame that such mistreatment often causes.

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In response to the needs that result from child maltreatment, the WELS Commission on Special Ministries developed a team of pastors, seminary professors, mental health providers, and a legal expert with the goal of developing a website that could provide valuable information to pastors, teachers, survivors, and their loved ones. The result is freedomforcaptives.com.

This website contains valuable information about child abuse and neglect and offers many resources to those who want to reach out with love and compassion to those who are hurting. The website contains links to Bible passages that offer hope and healing. It has information about how to find a counselor with special training in working with survivors. It includes reviews of books written by Christian authors. There are also links to other websites and online resources, plus much more.

Please take a few minutes to check out the website at freedomforcaptives.com and share it with family and friends, pastors and teachers. Please encourage those who may want additional information or support to get in touch with us through the "Contact Us" page on the website.

Together we can share God's healing power as we "proclaim freedom for the captives" (Isaiah 61:1).

Sheryl is a psychotherapist who specializes in Christian counseling for survivors of abuse and other trauma. She is a member of Crown of Life Lutheran in Hubertus, Wis.



• News & Notes •

- The **2016 Seminary Mission & Ministry** event is scheduled to take place on February 2-4 and WELSNA is sending a representative to help staff the Commission on Special Ministries display that Thursday. We will offer WELSNA materials and talk to seminary students, introducing them to WELSNA/Parish Nursing and perhaps giving them a vision of how a parish nurse might serve in their future congregation. Sheryl Cowling, LCSW of WLCFS and part of the new initiative, "Freedom for the Captives," is offering a workshop for the seminary students titled, "I have a sexual abuse survivor in my office, what should I say?" We are pleased to announce that Sheryl will also be one of the breakout speakers at the 2016 Spring Conference.
- The **2016 Spring Conference Committee** is hard at work and here are a few highlights. The conference will be on April 1 and 2 at the Center for Mission & Ministry in Waukesha, Wis. The focus will be "Our Time of Grace" with "May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and by his grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word." from 2 Thess. 2:16-17 to guide the day. We have some great speakers lined up, and the schedule is being finalized. Nancy Ninman APNP from the UW Health Movement Disorder Clinic will speak on Building Relationships with Patients: establishing trust, bridging the gap. Online registration will go live on February 29. More information will be coming soon. We hope to Livestream the day.
- The **WELSNA/WLC Nursing Scholarship** was established because nursing is a unique, caring profession which exists to serve God's people and reflect Christ's love worldwide. WELSNA invites you to partner with us to help prepare the next generation of compassionate and capable nurses through a yearly \$1,000 scholarship for a junior nursing student at Wisconsin Lutheran College. Our WELSNA scholarship has two distinct funds that may receive a gift. The current total of the annual scholarship fund is \$2,093, which means that there are funds for disbursements in the 2016-2017 school year and the 2017-2018 school year. The current total of the endowed scholarship fund is currently \$1,943. Once the endowed scholarship fund reaches a total of \$25,000 the interest will provide a yearly \$1000 scholarship. It has been suggested that for the near term, any gifts be directed to the endowed fund to try and build that fund up. If you would like to make a gift or would like more information about the WELSNA Scholarship at WLC, please don't hesitate to contact Kristine Metzger at kris.metzger@wlc.edu or call her at 414-443-8925. Any gift, small or large will make a difference. Please join us in helping to prepare the next generation of compassionate and capable Christian nurses. The second annual scholarship will be awarded to a deserving WLC junior nursing student at the 2016 Spring Conference. Special note! Sheryl Scott, WLC Nursing Chair and some of her students will bring a panel discussion as one of the breakout sessions. A great opportunity to interact with our students and also view the Senior Poster Presentations.



Special Ministries WELS Nurses Association
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