

A volunteer branch of Pro-Life Action Ministries

St. Mary's Using HealthPartners

By Jim Tuttle



Do not let my heart incline to any evil, to busy myself with wicked deeds in company with men who work iniquity, and let me not eat of their delicacies! 5 Let a righteous man strike me--it is a kindness; let him rebuke me--it is oil for my head; let my head not refuse it. Yet my prayer is continually against their evil deeds.

Psalms 141:4-5

It is a kindness to “strike” a friend to wake them up to a wrong. At least David thought so. St. Mary’s hospital has been a friend to the unborn—that is, until they agreed to do business with an organization that owns an abortion center (HealthPartners). Though they have tried to cover it up, St. Mary’s Hospital (SMDC) uses HealthPartners to manage its healthcare insurance. Sr. Kathleen Hofer (SMDC board chair) wrote me saying, “HealthPartners is not an abortion provider, it is a third party administrator of health insurance claims.” But in fact HealthPartners owns Regions Hospital in St. Paul, which operates *GYN Special Services*, an abortion clinic. This reminds me of Sergeant Schultz in the 70’s TV show *Hogan’s Heroes*, “**I see nothing!**”

We have no choice but to “strike” our friend with a reminder of their commitment to protect all life by holding signs up in public exposing this sad fact. May SMDC act quickly to end their relationship with HealthPartners. If not, we will continue as long as it takes.

You can help by writing Sr. Kathleen. I have fifteen or twenty people already committed to sending ten letters each (that is one letter for 10 weeks) but many more are needed. Just call or use the business return envelope to request ten pre-written letters that all you have to do is sign and mail. One hundred people would mean 1000 letters. I have included a sample letter in this newsletter for you to use to send to Sr Kathleen. You could make your own copies if you would like, just use your return address so that SMDC understands that it comes from you. I believe two or three thousand letters is very do-able for us to send.

If we can get St. Mary’s to cancel HealthPartners services, what a message it would send to HealthPartners headquarters to close its abortion practice. But if we fail, what is next for St. Mary’s Hospital? If St. Mary’s is

(continued on reverse side)

Sidewalk Counseling Encounters

New strategies have been put into place at the Duluth abortion center because of changes brought about by the election and other local changes. For the foreseeable future we will be spending an hour and fifteen minutes each weekday morning at the abortion center in prayer and in a sidewalk witness. We will be there from about 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. except abortion days, when we will be there by 7:30 a.m. and stay until 11:00 a.m.



A sidewalk witness is a witness to the public to the fact that they are doing abortions in the Building For [against] Women, and just what that means, so we are using graphic signs and our new “Justice For The Unborn” flag. (During our sidewalk counseling time we will not be using signs or the flag so as to encourage opportunities to talk with the clients). You are welcome to join us anytime. It is helpful if you plan to come some morning, that you call first, at 218-393-4954.



Above: Morning Witness



Right: My daughter April with new flag

Clinic Report January 1- Feb 15 '09	
Total clients going into building	39
Clients leaving before an abortion	3
Confirmed saves in Duluth this report	0
Total ministry-wide saves this year at time of publication	29

On the second floor of this building in Duluth, 588 abortions were committed in 2007.



Time to sign up for the Cemetery of the Innocents for 2009—
Call 218-393-4954

Ten babies for each sign are lost to abortion.

Main Events for 2009
—Opportunities for You to Get Involved—

- **Good Friday — April 10**
- **100 Miles for Life — June 13**
- **Parade witness— July 4**
- **Bike For Life — August 22**
- **Memorial Service — September 13**
- **Banquet — October (to be announced)**

allowed to continue its relationship with HealthPartners, than HP will be more brazen to sell its services without regard to its abortion practices, and St. Mary's will be less likely to stand at the next test to its pro-life stand. And that test will surely come in the years ahead. Tremendous pressure is coming for all medical and professional organizations regarding abortion. There are people in high places who want to require all hospitals to perform abortions. It is difficult for doctors even now to opt out of training to do abortions. What about the morning-after-pill? An abortifacient drug given out in virtually every emergency room for rape victims.

Our battle is far from new. Are we growing weak? Are we ready give in? Do the "pro-choice" people smell blood in the water? Are they getting ready to move in for the final blow to crush the pro-life movement? Well, if we do nothing about compromise in the ranks of those who claim to be pro-life, especially the local hospital that has a sacred trust regarding the protection of life, then we've given the pro-choice movement a green light to move in and take over.

In Psalm 141 David made reference to the

"delicacies" of the wicked. That is, the things that the wicked have to entice you. For St. Mary's, HealthPartners might have a great deal to offer by way of financial benefits. But even if it offered its services free of charge, the company is tainted with the blood of babies. The whole corporate structure—its CEO Mary Brainerd, its executive board—are culpable for the operations under its leadership. In short, it is guilty of innocent blood.

It will take humility and courage for St Mary's to admit they are wrong, so it is going to take a loud cry of protest to get its attention, perhaps for a couple of years. Are we up to it? Do we care enough to act in this matter? I cannot do it alone. What is needed is an emphatic message that comes from St. Mary's constituency which it cannot ignore. Please get on board this crusade!

Sign in front of Regions Hospital were abortions are committed, displaying HealthPartners logo and ownership.



Good Friday, April 10, 2009

Solemn Prayer for the End of Abortion

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**In front of the Building For Women
32 East First St., Duluth**

Starting at 11:00 a.m., a local pastor will come to speak on the crucifixion and lead in prayer for the ending of abortion. Every fifteen minutes, another local pastor will come to speak and lead in prayer. You are invited to join in the solemn time of prayer for as long as your schedule allows. You can come just to pray or to hold the eight-foot cross. The cross is to remind us that Jesus died to offer life. John 10:10: *"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full."* Call Jim Tuttle at (218) 393-4954 for more information.

Return Service Requested

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