

# Life Net

Sharing the Life...that gives life!

## CROSSROADS PREGNANCY CENTER

### From the Heart of the Director

One heart at a time...one life at a time

A fetus was the first to rejoice at the news of Jesus.

Think on that.

*Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. And she cried out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And how has it happened to me, that the mother of my Lord would come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord." (Luke 1:39-45)*

**C**an you imagine this scene? Two pregnant women. Two mothers who launch the whole series of messianic miracles. The coming of Christ begins with these two conception miracles. Elizabeth is of "old age," married for many years to Zecharias, childless and barren. Mary is young, in her early teens, never been married and a virgin. They are relatives. They both have been chosen by God to be the human instruments in the two most extraordinary, supernatural, and significant births in the New Testament: **John the Baptist**, the prophesied forerunner of the Messiah and the greatest prophet who ever lived (Matt. 11:11), and **Jesus Christ**, Son of Man, Son of God, Savior of the world.

**The First Pronouncement:** When the angel Gabriel appeared to both Zecharias and Mary, he announced what the Old Testament prophecies foretold—to Zecharias, that his wife, Elizabeth, would give birth to the forerunner who would prepare the way for the Lord (Is. 40:3; Mal. 3:1) and to the virgin Mary—not only that the Most High would overshadow her to immaculately conceive the holy Son of God, (Is. 7:14), but also added, *"And behold, even your relative Elizabeth has also conceived a son in her old age; and she who was called barren is now in her sixth month. For nothing will be impossible with God."* (Luke 1:36-37)

Why did Gabriel mention Elizabeth? The news Mary just received came as a great surprise. Gabriel knew that this was startling and shocking information, for she was *"greatly troubled."* (Luke 1:29) So, he gave her this sign that there was someone she knew who also experienced a miracle conception. Mary believed Gabriel (*"...may it be done according to your word."*) (Luke 1:38) but this was beyond her comprehension. Mary would need someone to talk to and someone who would encourage and listen to her with understanding. There was one person who would be that verification, and that one person was Elizabeth--the living, personal confirmation that God was doing conception miracles *"for nothing will be impossible with God."*

**The First Beatitude of Praise and Recognition of the Savior:** *"Now at this time Mary arose and went in a hurry to the hill country, to a city of Judah, and entered the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."* (Luke 1:39-41) Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, instantly recognized that God was forming in Mary's womb the humanity of Jesus, the Savior of the world, and was the first to worship the unborn Savior! Elizabeth then bursts into the first song of worship, *"And she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what has been spoken to her from the Lord.'" (Luke 1:42-45)*

**The First Proclamation:** Mary also witnessed something astonishing that further confirmed that God had placed within her body His only begotten Son. *'And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb.'* (Luke 1:41) This movement of Elizabeth's baby was far more significant than the normal kicking of a baby in the womb. The special leap of this little baby prophet was not only the first proclamation, but also prophecy fulfilled as told by Gabriel to Zecharias, *"For he will be great in the sight of the Lord;... and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb."* (Luke 1:15) That little life of the greatest prophet who ever lived was used by God through the power of the Holy Spirit to not only indicate delight that the Messiah had been conceived in Mary, but also that he would make the first introduction of Christ to the world, *"Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"* (John 1:29)

What a remarkable account that commemorates the beginning of miraculous events that gave us the greatest gift to mankind the world has ever known. **God in human flesh—Immanuel, God with us, who would "save His people from their sins."** (Matt. 1:21, 23). That is what Gabriel said. That is what Mary believed. That is what Elizabeth confirmed.

As we celebrate the birth of our Savior, may we join in Mary's song of praise: **"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."** (Luke 1:46-47)

Merry Christmas!!

Kathryn Enloe, Director

The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 1:14



206 W. Lacey Blvd., Suite A  
Hanford CA 93230

Return Service Requested

If you would like to be removed from our mailing list, please contact us either by phone or email.

**Crossroads Staff**

Kathryn Enloe, Executive Director  
Anna Brookshier, Admin. Assistant  
Melissa Nydam, Client Services Manager

**Board of Directors**

Allyn Beauchamp, President  
Rick Koelewyn, Vice President  
Gene Pensiero, Jr., Secretary  
Adam Stieve  
Pat Mundy

**Accountants**

M. Green & Company

*LifeNet*

is a monthly publication of Crossroads Pregnancy Center a 501(C)(3) non-profit organization

Correspondence, inquiries, and tax-deductible gifts may be mailed to:

Crossroads Pregnancy Center  
P.O. Box 135, Hanford, CA 93232

Phone: (559) 583-1900

General E-mail: [contact@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:contact@crossroadscpc.com)  
[kathryne@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:kathryne@crossroadscpc.com)  
[melissan@crossroadscpc.com](mailto:melissan@crossroadscpc.com)

**Center Donations:** *December, when Love came down at Christmas time.*

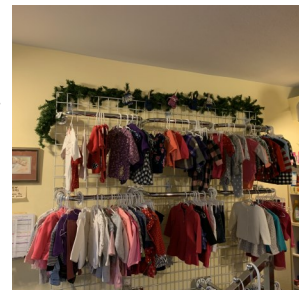
We thank our wonderful donors and supporters who graciously donate items for our Mom Store! A special thank you to **Kathy Fann, Regina Hernandez, Jill Naylor, Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Margaret Oliveira, Ella Schales, Mary Souza, KayDe Spreng, and Dusty Thomas** for your donations of baby clothes, diapers, crocheted blankets, baby equipment, books, and toys. Thank you **Donna Newton** for sharing your art of decorating the Mom Store!

**MOM STORE NEEDS:** Baby wipes; Girls clothing: Sizes 18M and 24M

**Donations accepted daily:**

Mon, Wed & Thurs (9:30-3:00 pm); Tues. (11-5:00 pm) Friday (9:30-12:30 pm)

***For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.*** (John 3:16)



**Amazon Smile:** Whenever you purchase your gifts through Amazon Smile, Amazon donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the Center. This is an easy way to support the Center throughout the year.

You can find us at <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/77-0028769>.



January 22, 2021  
48 years ~ Roe v. Wade  
Sanctity of Human Life Sunday  
will be commemorated on  
Sunday, January 17, 2021.



**Year-End Donations:** To be eligible for a 2020 tax-deduction, donations must be received or postmarked by **December 31**. Donations can be made in the form of cash or check, or online at <https://www.crossroadscpc.com/donateandvolunteer/>