



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **NC PREACHER, AN ORGAN RECIPIENT, RECOGNIZES THE LIFE-GIVING BENEFITS OF ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION**

### **EASTER BRINGS GIFT OF LIFE TO LIGHT**

**Durham, NC** – An estimated 6,000 people die nationally each year because they need organ transplants. Often the death of a person awaiting a transplant could have been avoided if more people had taken the appropriate steps to designate themselves as a donor. Myths and misconceptions, such as the false belief that donation is prohibited by religion, have prevented some people from signing up as donors. Despite popular misconceptions, there are almost no religious rules against donating organs or receiving transplants. Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish faiths support donation as an act of human benevolence in keeping with religious doctrine. They believe that this is essentially a gift of life to another person. Meanwhile, the religions of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam believe that organ donation is a matter of individual conscience. If you have questions in this regard, we encourage you to consult with your religious leader. No major religion opposes organ donation.

Pastor Larry W. McEntire, a religious leader and heart recipient from Asheboro, NC, whole-heartedly supports donation. He said, “It has been my privilege as a Pastor to not only visit people in their end of life, but also to share how people can help others have a second chance at life and live more productively because someone gave them that opportunity by organ donation”.

Thousands of North Carolinians are in need of vital organs and tissues. For many, the chance to live a full life won't come unless all of us consider organ and tissue donation. Discuss organ and tissue donation after religious observances this weekend with your family and friends. Help others find a chance to live a full life. Share your life, share your decision.

To learn more about religious views on donation visit [www.carolinadonorservices.org](http://www.carolinadonorservices.org)

**About Carolina Donor Services**

Carolina Donor Services is the federally-designated, non-profit organ and tissue donation organization serving 6.1 million people in 78 counties of North Carolina and Danville, Virginia. Carolina Donor Services maximizes the passing of the heroic gift of life from one human being to another through organ and tissue donation. In North Carolina, over 3,300 people are currently waiting for an organ transplant, and nationally, over 106,000 people are on the organ waiting list. For more information, visit [www.carolinadonorservices.org](http://www.carolinadonorservices.org); call 1-800-200-2672 or write 3621 Lyckan Parkway, Durham, NC 27707.

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