LIFE BEGINS AT CONCEPTION

8 Weeks: Now a small-scale baby, at approximately 3 cm (1 1/8”) and weighing a gram (1/30th oz.), yet sensitive to touch.

11 Weeks: The unborn now “practices” breathing, since he/she will have to breathe air immediately after birth. Baby urinates, and stomach muscles can now contract. Vocal chords and taste buds form.

12 Weeks: The unborn baby is now about 3 inches long, weighing approximately 3 ounces. His/her heart begins to beat, the eyes form, and the skeleton of the arms and legs begin to form.

13 Weeks: The unborn baby is about 3 inches long, weighing approximately ½ ounce. The child’s eyes, ears and face are developing.

14 Weeks from conception: At this age, the heart pumps several quarts of blood through the body daily! The unborn baby can recognize his/her mother’s voice.

15 Weeks: In the growth development of the unborn baby, a wild production of nerve cells begins and the child’s brain begins to develop. The skin of the baby is transparent, while the layer of fat stored underneath for insulation and nourishment is still non-existent.

18-20 Weeks: The baby has grown in size approximately 7 times. He is capable of living in the outside world, should a miscarriage occur, but not in the uterus! The baby is now 8-9 inches long and weighs approximately 1 pound. His/her heart is beginning to beat with a steady rhythm. His/her lungs are developing and are capable of basic breathing.

20-26 Weeks: The unborn baby is being massaged by the mother’s movements, and is “actively moving about inside the safety of the womb.” He/she can hear her mother’s voice and can kick, as well as thumb-suck. The thumb-sucking may occur.

26-32 Weeks: The unborn baby is fully formed with all structures present in the adult body. He/she is able to live outside the mother’s body. The unborn baby’s fingerprints are being engraved. The baby can have he/she has eyes, ears, and even a tongue!

33+ weeks: The baby is well proportioned. The skin is covered with a layer of fat stored underneath for insulation and nourishment. The baby is using four of the five senses (vision, hearing, taste, and touch), opens and closes his eyes, and...