

# Hope For Life



2017 Lutherans For Life Regional Conferences

Ft. Wayne, Indiana • New Braunfels, Texas • Lincoln, Nebraska • Pekin, Illinois

Lutherans For **Life** Regional Conference

October 21, 2017

Redeemer Lutheran Church

Lincoln, Nebraska

[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect ...” (1 Peter 3:15)

Your prayers, volunteer involvement, and financial support allow Lutherans For Life to accomplish its Gospel-centered work.

During the conference, participants will be given an additional opportunity to support the organization.

Thank you for prayerfully considering how you, your family, and your congregation can help.



## *A Word From Our President*

**A** hearty welcome and thank you for attending this 2017 Lutherans For Life Regional Conference!

We are so excited to be offering regional conferences this year. It is a new direction for LFL in our mission of **equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life!** A tremendous amount of work and planning has gone into these conferences designed to bring wonderful speakers to learn from and great fellowship to encourage.

As we near the sunset of the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of the Reformation and have reflected upon the example of the great reformer Martin Luther to “stand firm” on the promises found in God’s Word, we find renewed strength and “Hope For Life.”

**“But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect ...”** (1 Peter 3:15)

### **HOPE**

What is hope? A biblical definition of “hope” could be “confident expectation.” I really like that definition of hope. God’s Word assures us of our eternal salvation through the selfless, loving sacrifice of His only Son, Jesus Christ. Whatever the journey in this life manages to throw at us, we can live with “confident expectation” that our future is secure. We have this **hope for life!**

I cannot wait to hear what messages of hope our line-up of speakers will have for us! I have this “confident expectation” that God will truly bless us through their Holy Spirit-led messages, helping us to be better equipped Gospel-motivated voices for life!

Living in “confident expectation” while serving the Lord of Life with you,

Lynette Auch  
President

# 2017 Lutherans For Life Regional Conference Agenda

## Redeemer Lutheran Church • Lincoln, Nebraska

### Saturday, October 21, 2017

#### Friday, October 20

7:00 p.m. **REMEDY DRIVE CONCERT** at St. John Lutheran Church, Seward, Nebraska

#### Saturday, October 21

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION** at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lincoln

9:00 a.m. – 9:25 a.m. **Opening/Welcome** (Rev. Michael Brown)  
*Devotion, singing, housekeeping update*

9:25 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **LFL Update**

9:30 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. **Plenary #1** – Laura Davis – “Defusing the Tension: Revealing the Heart of the Abortion Debate”

10:20 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. **BREAK**

10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. **LFL Update**

10:55 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Plenary #2** – Brian Young – “Creation”

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Essay Contest Presentations**

12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m. **LUNCH & Visit Exhibits**

12:50 p.m. – 12:55 p.m. **LFL Update**

12:55 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. **Plenary #3** – David Zach of Remedy Drive – “Human Trafficking”

1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **BREAK**

2:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m. **Plenary #4** – Greg Baker – “Christian Witness in the Public Square”

2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **BREAK**

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. **Plenary #5** – Rev. Michael Salemink – “Standing Out in the Field” – How to be a life-minded congregation and community

4:00 p.m. **Closing Prayer** – Rev. Michael Brown

# Conference Speakers and Topics



**Greg Baker**

**Executive Director of the Church Ambassador Network  
– Family Leadership Foundation**

Greg is a 2009 graduate of the University of Iowa. His inspiration to make a difference through politics began early in his high school years. His passion stemmed from the strategy necessary to pass legislation and to win elections. This passion fueled him to the position of state chairman for The College Republicans of the State of Iowa. Greg’s pursuit in politics took a radical turn after his acceptance of Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior, with his focus turning sharply from self to the pursuit of God’s righteousness in the civic arena. This new focus brought Greg to The Family Leader in 2010. At The Family Leader Foundation, Greg leads a network of nearly 2,000 evangelical churches in Iowa. The goal of the network is to build a relationship between the churches of Iowa and their government. One of the ways they accomplish this is by bringing hundreds of pastors to the capitol every year. Every day while legislators are in session, Greg leads a group of pastors to offer biblical counsel to the elected officials. During the off-season, Greg and the ambassador team lead pastoral meetings with the executive branch of Iowa and Iowa’s federal office holders. Greg and his wife, Ashley, were married in June of 2012 and reside in Des Moines.

**Conference Topic: “Christian Witness in the Public Square”** – Greg Baker is an unabashed leader in being a witness For Life in his work in Iowa. He spends a good share of his time at the state capitol working with legislators and Christian leaders through biblical counseling and willingness to share his beliefs relative to legislation being considered. His work has been significant in warding off harmful legislation that would negatively affect our beliefs and jeopardize our very being. He will relate some of his experiences in the public square working in an environment where he openly shares his beliefs to elected officials and helps faith leaders know how they too can witness boldly.



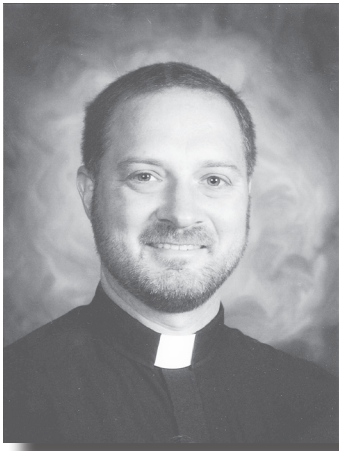
**Laura Davis**

**Director of Y4Life**

Laura Davis joined the Lutherans For Life national staff in June 2012. She is the daughter of a Lutheran pastor and a Lutheran preschool teacher from Katy, Texas. She received a Bachelor of Arts in history from Texas A&M University in 2010 and a Master of Public Service and Administration at A&M’s Bush School of Government and Public Service in 2012 with an emphasis on nonprofit management. She completed an internship at a pregnancy resource center in Lynnwood, Washington, and has previously served on the Lutherans For Life National Board of Directors. She currently resides in Edmonds, Washington.

**Conference Topic: “Defusing the Tension: Revealing the Heart of the Abortion Debate”** – When the topic of abortion is brought up in conversation, there are usually strong emotions and opinions on both sides. Because of this, it is important to be able to understand why people believe what they believe about this issue and the perspectives that determine their arguments. This workshop will help students and adults alike identify the reason behind the rhetoric and turn what is often a frustrating debate into a productive conversation and an opportunity to share Christ’s love.

# Conference Speakers and Topics



## **Rev. Michael Salemink** **Executive Director of Lutherans For Life**

Rev. Michael W. Salemink began serving as executive director-elect of Lutherans For Life in August 2015 and became executive director on January 1, 2016. He received a B.A. in theology from Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Illinois, in 1999 and a Master of Divinity from Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 2003. He has served as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Webster, Minnesota, (2003-2005) and as associate pastor of St. James Lutheran Church and School in Lafayette, Indiana (2005-2015). Rev. Salemink and his wife, Heather, have been married since 2000 and reside in St. Louis, Missouri, where they attend Immanuel Lutheran Church, Olivette, with their three sons: Christian, Nathan, and Luke.

**Conference Topic: “Standing Out in the Life Field”** will explore why, what, and how Lutheran congregations can speak truth and show love in the context of life issues such as elective abortion, embryo-destroying experimentation, and physician-assisted suicide. Rev. Salemink and Lutherans For Life will assist you in finding motivation, getting education, and taking action according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for respecting, protecting, and serving our neighbors in need.



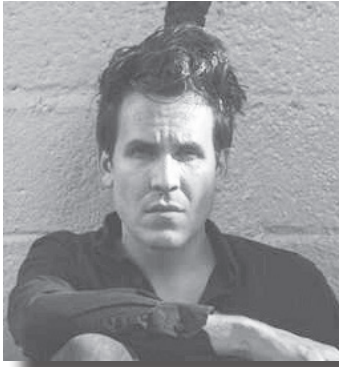
## **Brian Young** **Director of Creation Instruction Association**

Brian Young, an internationally known speaker and author, was a teacher and principal for ten years before becoming director of Creation Instruction Association. He has now been speaking on the topic of creation and biblical authority for 20 years, participating in debates at universities; going into prisons; and sharing at churches, schools, and camps around the world. He uses the Bible as the foundation for science and education.

**Conference Topic: “Creation”** – Creation Instruction Association teaches and confesses the inspiration, inerrancy, and authority of the Word of God, not just for theology but for our scientific understanding and morals as well. Science does not interpret Scripture; rather Scripture interprets Scripture. Though we believe the doctrine of creation is important, it is secondary to the Gospel; however, we see the doctrine of creation as a foundation for the Gospel of Christ.

We hold to a young earth just a few thousand years old; a global flood of Noah; sin, death, and disease through the curse in the Garden; and salvation through Jesus. We believe all of mankind have sinned, but the Holy Spirit enables the sinner to repent and believe upon Jesus who was conceived of the virgin Mary, Who was placed on the cross to suffer and die, and Who rose physically from the dead to redeem those who repent and call upon Him. We believe in the Trinity and salvation through Jesus Christ alone and by His grace alone.

# Conference Speakers and Topics



## David Zach

David is the leader of the band Remedy Drive that will be performing on the campus of Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska, on Friday evening, October 20, 2017. He will also share important details of his work in human trafficking in his Saturday presentation. Upon returning from deployment overseas, David has used the band as his platform to advocate for the victims of human trafficking, to shine a light on slavery, and to speak about his time overseas with the goal of recruiting and funding the fight—which is the modern underground railroad. He has spoken at many of the major music festivals during talkback sessions, main stages, and seminar tents. He also speaks at colleges, conferences, high school campuses, and churches. David’s message centers upon a core belief of both Remedy Drive and The Exodus Road - “Justice is in the hands of the ordinary.”

## Conference Topic: “Fighting Sex Trafficking - From the Stage to the Front Lines” –

David has joined a volunteer force of undercover operatives that go into brothels in the red-light districts where underage girls and boys are sold by the hour. His role while undercover with the counter-trafficking organization, The Exodus Road, is to identify instances of minors being sold and to capture actionable evidence of their trafficking using covert gear, some of which is funded by the Remedy Drive community and fan base. The idea that “justice is in the hands of the ordinary” is a major theme of both David’s conversations and the emphasis of the band. If an ordinary song writer from Nebraska can contribute to the freedom of trafficked girls and boys from around the world, then we all have a unique role to play in the arenas of justice, compassion, and mercy.

# National Essay Contest Winners

The LFL Council of Federation Presidents (COFP) sponsors an annual essay contest for students in grades 6-8 and 9-12. A winner for each category is chosen from all participating state entries. Those national winners are asked to share their essay at the LFL Regional and/or National Conferences. They receive a \$250 award as well as free registration, hotel, and a travel stipend. All entries are based on life issues relative to the conference theme and Bible reference. This year's national winners are as follows:



**Ellie Nixon** is an eighth-grade student at Immanuel Lutheran Church and School in St. Charles, Missouri. Daughter of Jeff and Christine Nixon and big sister to Ian, Ellie brings joy to the people around her through her humor and actions. Ellie is tenderhearted and always open to helping those in need. She is active in church, Sunday school, and youth group and assists in the Connections Cafe, serving and greeting members on Sunday. A fan of art and American history, Ellie also loves playing volleyball, both for her school and club teams, and running track in the spring. Ellie enjoys reading, chorus, exercise, and designing special gifts for friends. The title of Ellie's essay is "God's Plan for Life."



**Kenzie Anne Boozikee** was born on February 1, 1999, and baptized on March 1 by her great-grandfather, the late Pastor H. H. Schauland, at St. John's Lutheran in Ireton, Iowa. The Boozikee family currently lives in Glencoe, Minnesota. Pastor Dan Welch confirmed Kenzie on April 28, 2013, at First Lutheran in Glencoe. Her parents are Kevin and Sherri Boozikee, who are both graduates of Concordia University Nebraska and both educators. Kenzie has two siblings, Terrin (22), a first-year teacher at New Ulm Middle School, and Kobe (14), a freshman at Glencoe Silver Lake High School. Topping off the family are two dogs, Taz and Turk.

Kenzie attended First Lutheran for pre-school through eighth grade and Mayer Lutheran High School in Mayer, Minnesota, where she graduated in May 2017 with honors. She is currently a freshman at Bethel University in Arden Hills, Minnesota, where she is studying sports psychology and journalism and playing for the Bethel women's soccer team. Kenzie is very active socially, academically, and in church. She attended both the LCMS San Antonio and New Orleans Youth Gatherings and looks forward to serving at the Minnesota Gathering. She is faith-filled with strong beliefs taught by her parents and grandparents, Lutheran teachers, and pastors. She loves the Lord, her church, family, and friends. She is a member of the National Honor Society. She is an enthusiastic writer of essays and poetry. She loves soccer, having been the captain of her high school soccer team and her summer soccer team (Crow River) where she also played indoors. She also coached a summer team of 14-year-old girls. Living in Minnesota, she enjoys both summer and winter fishing. She has also managed a part-time job at Unhinged Pizza.

Kenzie has a toughness, having endured injuries to both her left and right ACLs (knees) in back-to-back years. She had them both reconstructed, endured months of physical therapy, and returned to play soccer through high school and now college. This ordeal has inspired her to want to help other injured athletes "survive" their injuries by using their faith and God-given talents. She participated in the high school choir, has a beautiful voice, and loves to both sing and listen to music. She has lots of energy, loves any kind of physical challenge, and is highly competitive. Her personality unfolds with being a social butterfly with a sense of humor and many friends. She is kindhearted and caring, tough but sensitive. Kenzie owns a contagious giggle known well by family and friends. Her sweet personality is revealed with a sweet tooth for chocolate-frosted donuts.

As her mother shares, "Kenzie has always been our little 'go-getter' and 'fighter' filled with energy and all sorts of love for life. Now that she has chosen to speak publicly about her faith and her beliefs, we as parents are overwhelmed with pride. God had plans for Kenzie before she was even born, and we are just watching them all unfold. TO GOD BE THE GLORY!" The title of her winning essay is "Choosing Life Reflects the God of Life."



## A Special Thank You to ...

- Rev. Michael Brown, Associate Pastor at Redeemer Lutheran Church, in providing conference assistance with congregational support and the special food for the day, providing Redeemer Lutheran Church as our host congregation, and for serving as conference chaplain.
- To Rev. Mark H. Ebert, Administrative Pastor at Redeemer, for supporting our conference and the use of Redeemer Lutheran Church as our host congregation.
- To the members of Redeemer Lutheran Church who provided conference support throughout the day and the refreshments and special German dinner to commemorate the 500th Reformation Anniversary Celebration.
- LCMS Nebraska District Office of President Richard Snow for providing publicity throughout the Nebraska District.
- The LaQuinta Hotel staff for making their accommodations for our travelers special.
- Virginia Flo, LFL National Conference Director and Regional Director of Minnesota, for organizing the conference presenters, location, and conference schedule.
- Hilary Haak, LFL Mission & Ministry Director, for her work with the Frontline, supporting our Life Teams and Life Chapters across the country.
- Laura Davis, LFL Y4Life Director, for her work with youth.
- Lowell Highby, LFL Director of Communications, for promoting and communicating conference details to all of our LFL constituents.
- Chrissie Gillette, Word of Hope Director, for providing Word of Hope support to those suffering due to an abortion decision.
- Dr. Barbara Geistfeld, LFL Texas Regional Director, for her work in supporting the Frontline Life Teams and Life Chapters.
- Jerilyn Richard for maintaining all of the registration information and making sure we were up-to-date and able to stay current with increased interest and participation in this year's conference.
- Debra Freese for her willingness to help wherever needed when our LFL members called the national office for help.
- Rev. Michael Salemink, LFL Executive Director, for his leadership and dedication to For Life work and for his enthusiasm and desire to keep LFL's focus on being Gospel-motivated voices For Life.
- Rev. Scott Licht, LFL National Director, for his continued leadership and overall organizational vision, keeping the organization focused and encouraged.
- Lynette Auch, LFL National President, and the entire LFL Board of Directors for their faithful leadership.
- The LFL Council of Federation Presidents who keep LFL active and moving forward in our State Federations and the Frontline.

- Our Life Teams and Life Chapters who work so diligently every day to affirm life in so many God-pleasing ways.
- Our workshop presenters—Laura Davis, Brian Young, David Zach, Greg Baker, Rev. Michael Salemink—for their dynamic presentations that are both important to the life issues and inspirational.
- All of our LFL staff that took on many duties at the conference in order to make everyone's visit one to remember.
- All of the exhibitors who make an investment in time and money to share their For Life work.
- KFUE Radio in St. Louis, Missouri, for conducting numerous pre-conference interviews to promote the conference and inform their listeners of the For Life work conducted by Lutherans For Life.
- The members of the Life Chapters who provided video footage to promote the Frontline work of Lutherans For Life.
- Our LFL National Student Essay winners, Ellie Nixon and Kenzie Boozikee, for sharing the faith through their essays For Life.
- All the Life Teams and Life Chapters across the country helping to provide life-affirming work in their local communities and promoting our regional conferences to those in their surrounding areas.

# Thank You to Our Conference Exhibitors ...

Lutherans For Life  
[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

Voice of Care  
[voiceofcare.org](http://voiceofcare.org)

Remedy Drive  
[www.remedydrive.com](http://www.remedydrive.com)

Theodore Allwardt  
[tmallwardt@yahoo.com](mailto:tmallwardt@yahoo.com)

American Church Group Iowa/Nebraska Brotherhood Mutual  
[www.americanchurchgroup-iowa-nebraska.com](http://www.americanchurchgroup-iowa-nebraska.com)

Creation Instruction Association  
[www.creationinstruction.org](http://www.creationinstruction.org)

# **Thank You to Our Conference Sponsors ...**

Lutherans For Life of Indiana

Bruce and Cindy Blake in memory of Mike Jolley, a tireless advocate of the unborn

A special thank you to:

Rev. Dr. Jeff and Renee Gibbs

Earl and Joanne Iseler

Patty Hunter

Dale and Diane Wetherell

Rev. John Davis

Mr. James Kriegel

## **National Lutherans For Life Staff**

Rev. Michael W. Salemink – Executive Director  
Rev. Scott Licht – National Director  
John Hawkins – Director of Development  
Lowell J. Highby – Director of Communications  
Hilary Haak – Mission and Ministry Director  
Laura Davis – Director of Y4Life  
Jerilyn Richard – Data Analyst  
Kim Nessa – Accountant  
Debra Freese – Office Clerk  
Katie Friedrich – Office Assistant  
Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, Deaconess Intern – Director of Word of Hope

## **National LFL Board of Directors**

Lynette Auch, President – Lesterville, South Dakota  
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## **Regional Directors**

Barb Geistfeld, DVM (ret'd), Texas  
– Spring Branch  
Virginia Flo, Minnesota – Eagan  
*Virginia also serves as national conference director.*

## **State Federation Presidents**

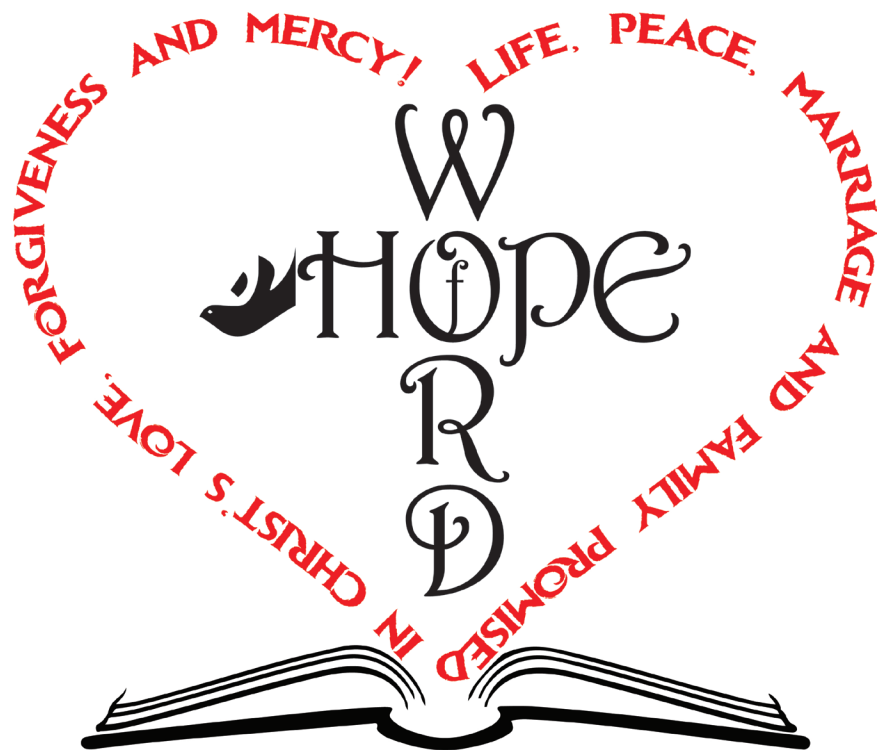
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Keith Alabach, Indiana – Marion  
Rev. Richard Salcido, Iowa – Ida Grove  
Jeanne Mackay, Kansas – Lenexa  
Connie Davis, Michigan – Macomb  
Diane Albers, Missouri – St. Louis  
Helen Lewis, Montana – Great Falls  
Bob Saeger, Nebraska – Waco  
Rev. Chris Brademeyer, North Dakota – Oakes  
Jill Johnsen, South Dakota – Wessington  
Paula Oldenburg, Wisconsin – Rhinelander

## **Lutherans For [Life](#)**

**1101 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Nevada, IA 50201-1816**

**[info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org)  
[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)  
**888.364.LIFE (5433) or  
515.382.2077****

LFL has 11 State Federations, 96 Life Chapters, 110 Life Ministry Coordinators, and 58 Life Teams in the US.




For those who have had an abortion—  
there is a **Word of Hope** for  
broken hearts.

Call 888.217.8679 or go to  
[www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org).

**Word of Hope** is confidential and caring.

**Word of Hope** is a ministry of  
Lutherans For **Life**.



**Attention all Life Teams and Life Chapters!**

**Join in on the Frontline call to get LFL updates and new project ideas.**

**When:** Monday, January 8, 2018  
7:00-8:00 p.m. CT

**What:** There will be a devotion, LFL activity update, life project ideas, and Q & A.

**CONNECT:** Dial: 563.999.2090 – Upon being prompted, add PIN 889227 to join the call.

[www.lutheransforlife.org/about/life-chapters-and-life-teams](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/about/life-chapters-and-life-teams)

**Check Out “Life on the Web” on our Life Blog**

**Life on the Web ...**



**Lutherans For Life**

**[www.lutheransforlife.org/life-blog](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/life-blog)**

# Hope For Life



**“B**ut in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense** to anyone who asks you for a reason **for the hope that is in you**; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

**“F**or it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God’s will, than for doing evil.”

1 Peter 3:15-17

[www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

Life Sunday  
January 21, 2018

*Bulletin Inserts*  
*Bible Study*  
*Children’s Message*  
*Worship Service*  
*Sermons*

[www.lutheransforlife.org/  
store-life-sunday-2018](http://www.lutheransforlife.org/store-life-sunday-2018)



**Lutherans For Life**

Bible-based and Gospel-focused  
materials for all ages on:

Abortion • Adoption • Bioethics  
Creation • End of Life  
Family Living • Post-Abortion Healing  
Fetal Development • Sexual Purity

**Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life**





**NOTES**

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*Mark your calendars ...*

**2018  
Lutherans For Life  
National Conference  
St. Louis, Missouri  
October 12-13**



**From  
Age  
to  
Age  
the  
Same**

You “have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you.

I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.”

Isaiah 46:3b-4