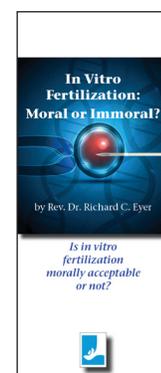
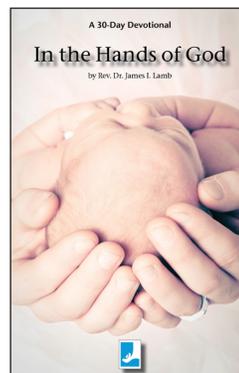


News and Notes

- **NEW RESOURCE: Redeemed – A Bulletin Insert for Christmas** – This new insert shares that, “Our Almighty Maker paints a bigger picture than one moment can behold. The God Who gives you Jesus Christ plans further than you can perceive. Every life has an important place, from fertilization to final breath.” *Item LFL1639BI. \$0.10 ea.*

UPDATED RESOURCE: In the Hands of God – A 30-Day Devotional Booklet – This well-received—and newly updated—devotional booklet by Rev. Dr. James Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life, invites you to consider some of the ways God reaches down with His hands and touches His creation. *Item LFL1604. \$1.00 ea.*

UPDATED RESOURCE: In Vitro Fertilization: Moral or Immoral? brochure – Since in vitro (Latin: in glass, referring to a petri dish) fertilization is a process involving issues within issues, there is often confusion resulting from attempts to answer that question. In this brochure (updated August 2019), Rev. Dr. Richard C. Eyer attempts to identify the separate issues and their moral standing so that the reader can evaluate the moral acceptability or unacceptability of in vitro fertilization. *Item LFL1002T. \$0.50 ea.*



- **The opportunities for LFL’s Frontlines to apply the For Life message are endless. For example, November is National Adoption Awareness Month.** Check out and order LFL’s resources on adoption (booklets, brochures, bulletin inserts) and share them with your congregation: www.lutheransforlife.org/life-issues/adoption. Here’s one more: Orphan Sunday (cafo.org/orphansunday/) is November 10. The Christian Alliance for Orphans (www.christianalliancefororphans.org) offers a wealth of resources to help Christians stand up for the orphan ... defend the fatherless ... care for the child that has no family ... visit orphans in their distress.



Directions • Lutherans For Life • News and Notes

- **CHECK OUT THE WORD OF HOPE WEBSITE:**
www.word-of-hope.org

- **Be sure to “Like” and follow LFL on social media!**
See links below:

www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife

twitter.com/ForLifers

www.instagram.com/lfly4life

www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL

www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts

Also see:

www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife

vimeo.com/user4132928

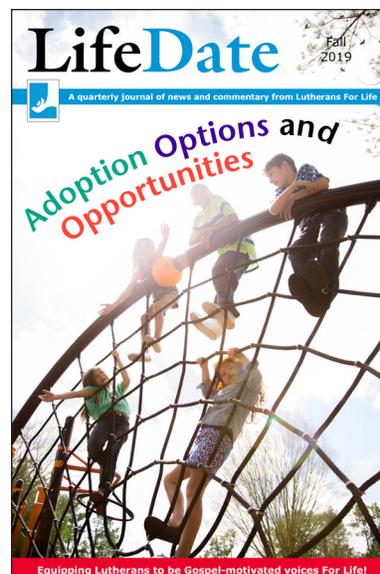
- **Please note that we have a Facebook group for Life Chapters, Life Teams, and LMCs:** www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL. The group includes an idea exchange and is a place to connect with other Frontline volunteers.

- **LifeDate is another way to share the For Life message with your congregation.** Order LifeDate in bulk quantities at no charge. (Donations for shipping cost will gladly be accepted.) Call 888.364.LIFE (5433) to order.

- **Life News is available each month to download and print.** *Life News* is a free monthly bulletin insert with life-issue news and more. Go to: www.lutheransforlife.org/media/life-news.

- **AmazonSmile** – Shop at AmazonSmile, and Amazon will make a donation to Lutherans For Life! Check it out through the link on our Store and Give pages at www.lutheransforlife.org and in our weekly *Life Notes* e-newsletter. (This is not an endorsement of all things Amazon, but it is a free opportunity for Amazon shoppers to support Lutherans For Life.)

- **Real Estate for Life** – “It takes so little to do so much to save the life of a child.” Real Estate for Life makes it easy for you to help Lutherans For Life by using funds a real estate company has already earmarked for commission fees at no extra cost to you. Under real estate law, Real Estate for Life will receive a referral fee. Pro-life organizations will receive 100% of the profits of that fee as a donation. Find out how it works at www.lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life, 877.543.3871, proliferealestate@yahoo.com.



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and Amazon will make
a donation to:

Lutherans For Life

Get started

amazon smile



September-October 2019

A Bible Study: The Gospel of Adoption

God talks a lot about adopting. In fact, adoption seems to make up a main theme in the Scriptures. Concern for orphans occurs frequently among the Old Testament Christians. And the New Testament Church has involved herself in adopting since the very beginning. Of course, the Heavenly Father finds high delight in undertaking adoption Himself. Adoption gives voice to the Gospel that God creates, redeems, and calls every human life to be His own precious treasure forever—no matter what age, appearance, ability, or history. Our Lord also invites humankind to experience the joy of adopting, but He doesn't limit the privilege only to couples struggling with infertility. He extends the opportunity to His whole household. And though adoption does come with costs, it also brings great blessings!

1. According to Ephesians 2:1-3, what makes adoption necessary for everyone?
2. How did God adopt the Hebrew people in Genesis 12:1-4 and 15:1-6?
3. What role do Acts 7:20-22 and Hosea 11:1 say adoption plays in the Exodus from Egypt?
4. How does Luke 15:4 explain why the Law (Exodus 22:21-22) and Prophets (Psalm 68:5-6; Jeremiah 7:5-7) speak so frequently about attending to the fatherless?
5. Read Matthew 1:24, Mark 10:14-15, and John 1:12-13. How did Jesus participate in adoption?
6. What changes does He cause to family ties in John 19:26-27 and Matthew 12:48-50 by His crucifixion and forgiveness?
7. What do adopting and grace have in common, in the words of John 15:16?
8. How does our Lord bring adoption and birth together in John 3:3-5 and Galatians 3:26-4:5?
9. Why do Luke 9:48 and Matthew 25:40 get Christians enthusiastic about adopting?



LAMBs – Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets

Through the skillfulness of some LFLers in Ohio, along with the Miami Valley Life Chapter, a new project entitled “LAMBs” (Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets) has been created. Although our world might tell us otherwise, children truly are a blessing. Therefore, Lutherans For Life would like to celebrate children, especially those families with a lot of them!

We would like to celebrate families that are awaiting the birth of their fourth or more child by gifting them with a homemade blanket. Do you know such a family in your Lutheran church? If so, please contact Rachel Geraci, our mission and ministry director, at rgeraci@lutheransforlife.org so that she can arrange for this gift to be sent to them. (Alternatively, you can fill out the form below and send it to Carol Houtler of the Miami Valley Life Chapter.)

Thank you for helping us care for your neighbor in this way!

“Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward” (Psalm 127:3).

LAMBs – Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets

Do you know a family in your congregation who is having its fourth or more child? Wouldn't it be nice to gift them with a homemade blanket in celebration of this new life? Simply by filling out this form, Lutherans For Life, the Miami Valley Life Chapter, and other Lutherans from the state of Ohio will ensure that a blanket made with love will be sent directly to this expectant mother anywhere within the continental United States. There are no strings attached. As the Body of Christ, we want to use this as an opportunity to share the mercy that our Savior Jesus Christ first showed us on the cross.

Your Name: _____

Your Congregation: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Mother's & Father's Names: _____

Baby's Gender: Boy ___ Girl ___

Mother's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Please send completed forms to: Carol Houtler/Miami Valley Life Chapter
7163 Pugliese Place
Dayton, OH 45415-1207



“He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms” (Isaiah 40:11a).



More about LAMBs – Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets

by Anne Cater, LAMBs Founder at Emanuel Lutheran Church, Lancaster, Ohio

“He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young” (Isaiah 40:11).

Many of you may have heard about the **LAMBs** project—giving blankets in support of large families—in past editions of *Directions* and *LifeDate*. Some of you may have requested a blanket for a family or may have been a recipient of one of the many blankets that have been sent out. But I am certain that many of you might be wondering, “What is **LAMBs**, who are they, what does **LAMBs** even mean?”

To begin with, **LAMBs** is an acronym for **Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets**, and we are more than a project. We are a small church group that formed two years ago to make baby blankets for our local pregnancy support center. It all started one Life Sunday when a speaker from Pregnancy Decision Health Center presented at our church in Lancaster, Ohio. As she spoke of what they were supporting and the need of material and support for the group, I had a light-bulb moment. I have some skill as a seamstress, and my mother and grandmother had both made simple baby blankets for me and others as I grew up. I knew others in the church who likewise sewed blankets. So, the Spirit led me to figure that, with my simple skills and with the support of others with similar skills, we could form a group to sew blankets for this health center to support life in our own way. I approached some of the ladies that I knew in the church and asked if they would be willing to help me in this endeavor. With their support, and after a discussion with our pastor, we began **LAMBs** in February of 2017. As we met over those first few months, we also decided to reach out to Lutherans For Life to see what resources and avenues were available.

But the question remains, “Who are we?” We are not your typical quilting or sewing group. We possess a wide variety of skills and levels of expertise, including quilting, knitting, and crocheting, ranging from novice to proficient. We take in all forms of blankets, and during our meetings, we make fleece-edged tied blankets that make great group projects. All of our blankets have a fabric woven label which provides information on where the blanket was made. In addition, when we bundle the blanket for donation, we tie a card to it with a message of love and support. Every few months on a given Sunday, we gather all the blankets we have made so far and bring them before God to bless and do His will. All of this we do in faith that God may reveal His grace and mercy through each blanket to whomever receives it.

We donate these blankets at both the local and national levels. Locally, we provide blankets to the Pregnancy Decision Health Center that supports all mothers and families that reach out for their life-affirming services. Nationally, we work with Lutherans For Life, who in turn helps us reach out to large families who are having their fourth or more child. I would like to thank Hilary Haak and Rachel Geraci from national Lutherans For Life and Carol from the Miami Valley Life Chapter, our distribution hub, for their support of the Lutherans For Life LAMBs outreach. Without their support, this could not be possible.



Directions • Lutherans For Life • Faith in Action

We are mission-minded For Life at its earliest stages as we pray for the states and the people that think life is a throw-a-way option—or just a “choice.” We support those who are providing good life options to those who are struggling with their given situation. However, life affirmation is needed at all stages of life as we struggle with end-of-life issues, such as assisted suicide. We wish to eventually reach out to the elderly and shut-ins—and to those that may just need to know of God’s love and that others care in life-affirming ways.

We are a small church group, however, and the demand for blankets is vast. Would YOU like to join with us? I know, you might be saying, “I don’t live in Ohio, how can I join?” What we would like to know is this: Do you have or know of a sewing group that is already making blankets for a For Life cause? Could they donate a certain number of blankets to go to Lutherans For Life? Could you or your group pray for these many life projects and the people they touch? If you wish to join **LAMBs**, reach out to us at lambsofemanuel@gmail.com, and we will send you the information you will need to get started!



Begotten in a Brave New World: A Christian Approach to Embryo Adoption

by Rev. Matthew H. Durance, Pastor at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greenleaf, Kansas, and District Life Coordinator – LCMS Kansas District

In Holy Scripture, God blessed Adam and Eve and gave them a command, **“Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it ...”** (Genesis 1:28a). In marriage, where God first blessed man and woman with children in the one-flesh union, God still blesses husbands and wives with children and brings forth life amidst a fallen, sinful world. Children are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3), yet in the wake of the sexual revolution and advances in modern medicine, children can now be conceived outside of the one-flesh union by means of in vitro fertilization (IVF), surrogacy, “three-parent embryos,” etc.

Embryo adoption comes out of the wake of IVF as a means to rescue children who have been conceived but are not implanted in a woman’s womb to grow and develop ... they are literally “frozen in time.” As Christians, we confess that from conception children are living and deserving of life, but we are also called to be discerning. When it comes to embryo adoption then, what ought we to do?

At the Kansas LFL annual meeting, I gave a presentation on embryo adoption, looking at what it is, the process of adoption, as well as pros and cons drawing from the witness of Holy Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions.

The key point we discussed as a group is that despite the wickedness of the world and our misuse of marriage, it is still God alone who “opens and closes the womb”—even though modern medicine has made these new techniques possible and the children conceived are truly our neighbors worthy of love and protection.

The presentation was well received, and good conversation ensued on this very important topic.



Reaching Pastors about Life Sunday

by Lyn Maaske, President, Lincoln Area Lutherans For Life

Thinking about ways to encourage our pastors to share the For Life message with their congregations, we decided to try yearly personal visits to area pastors prior to Life Sunday. We printed the Life Sunday materials and made appointments with the pastors. We found them to be welcoming and receptive. It is easy for busy pastors to overlook or misplace written letters and materials in the mail, but we found that by visiting them we established more personal relationships.

LFL has excellent Life Sunday materials. We simply reviewed these materials with the pastors and encouraged them to use whatever materials worked best in their specific planning. Since we have been doing these visits for many years, the pastors look forward to our visits. We discovered that one church has a house for unwed mothers. Another pastor's wife is a volunteer at a crisis pregnancy center here in Lincoln.

Several pastors have been willing to do a brief worship service prior to a group of us going to the Nebraska Walk for Life. In 2017, Pastor Michael Brown arranged for U.S. Senator Ben Sasse to speak at our Walk for Life service. Pastor Brown also hosted a Life Regional Conference and served as pastoral counselor to Nebraska Right to Life. Other pastors have also hosted Rev. Dr. James Lamb's and Rev. Michael Salemink's visits to Lincoln to present the For Life message at Bible classes and during sermons at our churches.

We find our pastoral visits to be effective and encouraging.





September-October 2019



Lutherans For Life • Life Team Tools Order Form 2019

NOTE: LIFE TEAM TOOLS ARE AVAILABLE ONLY FROM THE LFL NATIONAL OFFICE.

Lutherans For Life • 1101 5th Street • Nevada, IA 50201-1816 • 888.364.LIFE (5433)

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Email _____

Ship to (if different):

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

ITEM #	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
LTT1DVD		Life Team Tool 1 DVD	\$10	
LTT2DVD		Life Team Tool 2 DVD	\$10	
LTT3DVD		Life Team Tool 3 DVD	\$10	
LTT4DVD		Life Team Tool 4 DVD	\$10	
LTT1FM		Life Team Tool 1 Field Manual	\$10	
LTT2FM		Life Team Tool 2 Field Manual	\$10	
LTT3FM		Life Team Tool 3 Field Manual	\$10	
LTTBN		LIFE TEAM TOOL BUNDLE (Includes tools 1-4 and field manuals)	\$30	
			TOTAL	
			SHIPPING	\$15
			GRAND TOTAL	

LFL Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT. Hours subject to change without notice.

Are you purchasing this for a church? Please list name and address:

What is a LifeTeam?

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:

Amount \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Phone _____
Month / Year

Signature _____

You may also purchase Life Team Tools by credit card by calling 888.364.LIFE (5433).





Owen's Mission

**"A PERSON'S
A PERSON,
NO MATTER
HOW SMALL"
-DR. SEUSS**

Horton the elephant was right! The Bible agrees! In fact, the Bible says more: A person's a person created by God (Psalm 139:13-14), a person redeemed by Jesus (Galatians 3:13), and a person the Holy Spirit wants to call to be His child (1 Timothy 2:4), **no matter how small!**

Owen's Mission is a very special project of Lutherans For Life. The goal of this project is to honor Jesus by presenting a set of *Touch of Life* fetal models to every Lutheran elementary and high school in the country. (That's 970 schools affecting 133,000 students!) We want students to understand the God-given value of each life from the moment of conception. We want students to be motivated by what God has done as our Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier that gives value to life. We want students to value themselves and to value others as persons because of this God-given value.



Where did Owen's Mission come from? From a very small and special baby named Owen. Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former executive director of Lutherans For Life, shares his story:



"I held my little grandson Owen in the palm of my hand. He died at 21 weeks during prenatal surgery to remove a large tumor. The nurse brought him to our son as we waited in the recovery room for Owen's mother. I find it difficult to describe what I felt when I was able to hold him. I had held the 20-week *Touch of Life* fetal model in my hands hundreds of times in front of students from preschoolers to seminarians. Holding Owen revived in me the reality behind those models. I will never hold them in the same way again."

As Owen's grandpa, Dr. Lamb wanted to do something special to remember Owen, honor Jesus, and help others understand the value God gives to even the smallest of lives. With the help of Owen's family, *Owen's Mission* was born. We are training facilitators to present these fetal model sets along with a DVD message from Dr. Lamb.

You can support Owen's Mission by encouraging your Lutheran elementary or high school to have an Owen's Mission presentation! Call 888.364.LIFE (5433) or email info@lutheransforlife.org.

Speakers Bureau

www.lutheransforlife.org/about/speakers-bureau-concerts-for-life

Do you need a speaker? Lutherans For Life will work with you to help meet your needs for a speaker at a rally, convention, Bible study, worship service, public or parochial school, college/university, or workshop/seminar. A variety of formats are available.

General speaker guidelines (may vary by individual):

- Airfare/Mileage: Actual airfare and/or current standard IRS mileage rate to airport or event.
- Lodging: Quiet, nonsmoking hotel room.
- Honorarium: Affiliated speakers for Lutherans For Life are not in a paid position. Therefore, we ask that sponsoring groups provide an honorarium for affiliated speakers. The sponsoring group determines the amount of the honorarium. Honorariums depend on number of events. Honorariums begin at \$200.
- Meals: \$25 per day unless other arrangements are made.
- Other: A lectern will be needed. A TV, video projector, DVD player, and screen may be needed.

Speakers:

Jean Amundson (nationwide – based in Cleburne, Texas)
Linda D. Bartlett (nationwide – based in Iowa Falls, Iowa)
Rev. Paul M. Clark (nationwide – based in Fowler, Michigan)
Connie Davis (nationwide – based in Macomb, Michigan)
John Eidsmoe (nationwide – based in Pike Road, Alabama)
Kim Hardy (nationwide – based in Grand Haven, Michigan)
Kristi Hofferber (nationwide - based in Bethalto, Illinois)
Kimberly Ketola (nationwide – based in Peachtree City, Georgia)
Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb (nationwide and Canada – based in Marshalltown, Iowa)
Sheila Luck (nationwide – based in Scandinavia, Wisconsin)
Ryan C. MacPherson (nationwide – based in Mankato, Minnesota)
Allen Quist (within Minnesota and Iowa – based in St. Peter, Minnesota)
Rev. Michael W. Salemink (nationwide and Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)
Andrew Schatkin (nationwide – based in the New York/Long Island area)
Rev. Caleb Schewe (nationwide – based in Monticello, Iowa)
Alvin J. Schmidt (nationwide and in Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)
Carl F. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)
Diane E. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)
Patti Smith (nationwide – based in Huntington Beach, California)
Francis W. Szarejko (nationwide – based in the Kansas City, Missouri, area)
Ed Szeto (nationwide – based in Virginia)
Rev. Luke Timm (nationwide – based in Des Moines, Iowa)



Speaking Engagement Report Form

We appreciate the many hours our faithful Frontline workers contribute to sharing the For Life message. If you or your State Federation/Life Chapter have the opportunity to speak on life issues in your community, please let us know! This information will help us as we look at our strategic plan and determine the resources that are most needed to help you carry forth your mission For Life! Please return to the national office or email info@lutheransforlife.org.

Speaking Engagement Report Form	
Speaker's Name:	
Location:	
Date:	
Topic of Presentation:	
Audience presented to (teens, adults, children, etc.):	
Number of people in attendance:	
Resources used at presentation (DVD, brochures, articles, etc.):	

Directions • Lutherans For Life • Facts and Stats

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Rev. Scott Licht – National Director

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Deaconess Rachel Geraci – Mission and Ministry Director

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Jill Johnsen, South Dakota – Wessington

Paula Oldenburg, Wisconsin – Rhinelander

Lutherans For Life

1101 5th Street

Nevada, IA 50201-1816

info@lutheransforlife.org

www.lutheransforlife.org

888.364.LIFE (5433) or 515.382.2077

Since Roe v. Wade in 1973: 60,942,033 abortions in America

Source: www.nationalrighttolifeneeds.org/news/2019/01/national-right-to-life-releases-6th-annual-state-of-abortion-report/

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September-October 2019

The Basics of Lutherans For Life

Our Mission: Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life

Our Vision: Every Lutheran congregation upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same

Structure and Relationships

A local Life Chapter is a local organization that has been chartered by National Lutherans For Life. The Life Chapter is formally associated with and subject to, but not a part of, the corporation known as Lutherans For Life, Inc.

A State Federation is an organization that has been chartered by Lutherans For Life, Inc., in a state where there are at least five chartered Life Chapters. In a state where a State Federation exists, the Life Chapters also become affiliated with the State Federation. This occurs automatically at the same time a Life Chapter becomes chartered by Lutherans For Life, Inc. These relationships are basically the same whether or not the Life Chapter is incorporated. Thus, Lutherans For Life consists of a network of individual entities formally associated with each other.

Membership Information

All officers of State Federations and Life Chapters and Life Ministry Coordinators must be members in good standing of Lutheran congregations and members of National Lutherans For Life.

Membership contributions are divided among the national organization, State Federation, and local Life Chapter if it is chartered.

Life Chapters that wish to include a membership form in newsletters or correspondence are asked to maintain the form and information provided by the national office.

The local Life Chapter may not establish its own membership program since LFL has a “unified membership” program. When sending a membership form to the national office, make sure the Life Chapter name and number, if chartered, is written on the form in the space provided. This will ensure that the State Federation and local Life Chapter receive the proper remittance payment.

Membership Classifications

Annual Membership

- Annual members join by making a membership donation accompanied by a completed copy of the membership form (or by joining online).
- Annual memberships run from July 1 through June 30. New memberships will expire on June 30 of the year following the initial membership donation.
- An annual membership drive will begin in May of each year. Current members will receive renewal information at that time. The membership drive will also encourage new memberships, although they will be accepted at any time of the year.

Sponsor Membership

- Sponsor members pledge to contribute a certain amount each month and to pray regularly for Lutherans For Life.
- Sponsor members receive a monthly letter from the executive director.
- Sponsor members are asked to renew their monthly pledge each year as part of the annual membership drive.

The Remittance Program of LFL

All MEMBERSHIP donations are shared with the chartered State Federation and/or local Life Chapter to which the particular members may belong. The membership donations are divided as follows:

Annual Memberships:

- 20% goes to the local Life Chapter (If there is no local Life Chapter, this 20% goes to the State Federation.)
- 20% goes to the State Federation
- 60% remains at national

Sponsor Memberships:

- 1/12 goes to the local Life Chapter (If there is no local Life Chapter, this 1/12 goes to the State Federation.)
- 1/12 goes to the State Federation
- 10/12 remains at national

