



A quarterly journal of news and commentary from Lutherans For Life

Our society has chosen death over life—through abortion—more than 56,000,000 times since 1973.

- What does God’s Word say about human life?
- What does God’s Word say to those in a crisis pregnancy?
- What does God’s Word say to those who have chosen death as a solution to a problem?



“I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days ...”

Deuteronomy 30:19b-20a

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Lutherans For Life

Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

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Stopping a Story

by Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb

I know some who do not like the phrase “Bible stories.” I understand that. It may imply the Word of God is a fairy tale. Still, the Bible is a story, a *true* story, the “greatest story ever told” as we say. It’s a story without a beginning for it is from eternity. Yet, “once upon a time,” at just the right time (Galatians 4:4), the story takes on human flesh.

At the beginning of the story—Jesus’ conception—Gabriel gives a preview of the story. **“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end”** (Luke 1:32-33). This would be the story of God in the flesh from His conception to His resurrection and ascension and continuing on into eternity. It would be the story of God becoming great in weakness and suffering, the story of a King who would establish an eternal kingdom and reign over it forever with grace and truth.

Satan did not want this story to unfold. He tried to cut it short with Herod’s dread decree (Matthew 2:16). He tried to sidetrack the story through his temptations of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11). He tried to stop the story by challenging the Son of God to come down from the cross (Matthew 27:39-43). Satan failed. But he didn’t go away. He now does his best with his lies and deceit to keep us from telling the story.

Satan did not win. It is as a defeated enemy that he strives to malign the story. But the “gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18). The resurrection that we observed this month and continue to celebrate is our ongoing victory party!

Every life is a story to be told. Every life is a parchment crafted by God and purchased by the blood of Jesus upon which He desires to write a story to glorify His name.

Let me tell you a story, a true story. Once upon a time a man who had been adopted went on a journey to find his birth mother. He succeeded. As a young, unmarried schoolteacher, she had become pregnant. She went to another part of the country, gave birth, and placed her son for adoption. She never married or had other children. But because she chose not to cut a story short and let it be told, she met her son, his wife, and her grandchildren. One of her grandchildren was a Lutheran schoolteacher, and two others were studying to do so. Because she let the story be told, she had a family; she was part of the story.

Abortion does more than destroy a human life. It stops a story. Assisted suicide and euthanasia do more than bring a life to an end. They stop a story. These are stories God wants told, stories through whom He desires to work to touch the lives of others and to extend His rule of truth and grace. These are stories that will accomplish His purpose and bring glory to His name. The love of

Christ compels us to do all we can so these stories will be heard. And remember, because of our resurrected Savior, we are assured our story will never end. Put another way, we will live happily ever after!



Window to the Womb

by Lynette Auch, president of Lutherans For Life

“I have set before you life and death ... Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live” (Deuteronomy 30:19b).

The challenge from the LFL of South Dakota conference speaker was taken as a personal challenge. The high success rate of abortion-bound women to choose life for their baby, after seeing an ultrasound of their baby, was all one needed to hear to take up the challenge to introduce an ultrasound ministry to South Dakota. (“Ultrasound is a type of imaging [that] uses high-frequency sound waves to look at organs and structures inside the body. Health care professionals use it to view the heart, blood vessels, kidneys, liver, and other organs. During pregnancy, doctors use ultrasound to view the [baby].”) ¹

Through the encouragement and support of trusted and well-known contacts with vast circles of influence, the enthusiastic Southeast South Dakota chapter of Lutherans For Life joined in the challenge. Nothing less than a storm of conversation and creative ideas followed. We determined the ministry needs, which led to goals and strategy development. Brochures were developed and produced; endorsements were obtained; and promotional articles were written and distributed. Copies of the educational video, *Eyewitness to the Earliest Days of Life*, by Shari Richard, an obstetrical ultrasound expert and educator, were purchased. We took this video on the road across South Dakota, showed it to life-affirming congregations and groups, and pleaded our cause. The whole state was buzzing as participation in the challenge grew!

And participate they did! By the grace of God, nine months from the launch date of the fundraising campaign, over \$40,000 was raised (\$10,000 more than the goal). We had enough money to purchase an exam table, clinical gowns, gloves, and ultrasound gel, and to receive training to get the ultrasound ministry off the ground.

Over sixteen years later, faithful, life-affirming Lutherans, including LFL chapters and other friends of life, continue to financially support the ultrasound ministry at the Alpha Center in Sioux Falls. We have also been able to expand the ultrasound ministry to another pregnancy center in South Dakota.



Two lives saved through the efforts of South Dakota's ultrasound ministry.

Ultrasound images save lives. They provide an opportunity to share the Good News of the saving grace of Christ Jesus and plant the seed for the Holy Spirit to change hearts and heal the many lives involved in that one precious little life.

Shari Richard, founder of Sound Wave Images, wrote, “The eyewitness of ultrasound is the window to the heart and speaks the universal language of the soul. . . This gift of life is unique, it is transforming, and it is irreplaceable. As a result of my ultrasound profession and personal grief and pain from abortion, I incorporated Sound Wave Images in 1990. We are ‘Leading the Way with Ultrasound,’ and we are changing lives and touching hearts through the ‘window to the womb’ and the voices of millions of men, women, and families who are breaking the silence and sharing the truth that abortion hurts all!! It is my prayer that this message will continue to bring healing and hope to change hearts around the world to recognize the hidden and inherent beauty of every life. It is time to begin the journey back from death to life, from pain to healing, and from denial to purpose.”²

Our ultrasound ministry story is just one example of the many acts of love that life-affirming Christians do daily to help others choose life over death. Why do these faithful people do what they do? God’s Word. It compels us to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable and defenseless. Out of gratitude for what Christ has done for us, we reach out in defense of others.

Lutherans For Life is here to help in that defense by equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices for life. And we love life because *God Loves Life* as the song by the same title goes:

God Loves Life

Shy or bold
Girl or boy

From the moment of first conception
And His love is without exception

Now my heart in faith confesses
And each day my life He blesses

Rich or poor
Big or small

Yellow or red
Black or white

In love, His Son He gave us
Through Christ, our God has saved us

And when life on earth is ended
And in heaven our life’s extended

Short or tall
Young or old

Rich or poor
Big or small

In Water and Word He claims us
By the Spirit’s power, He names us

God Loves Life

Words and music by Terry K. Dittmer © 1995. You can listen and download a recording of “God Loves Life” at www.lutheransforlife.org/media/music-concerts-for-life.

1. “Ultrasound: MedlinePlus.” U.S National Library of Medicine. U.S. National Library of Medicine, n.d. Web. 21 Apr. 2015.
2. “Unborn.com.” Shari Richard. N.p., n.d. Web. 21 Apr. 2015.

Life Issues and the Pew

by Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb

When I was active on the National Pro-Life Religious Council, we did a workshop every year at the National Right to Life Convention entitled, “Here are the sheep! Where is the shepherd?” It was an effort to help people in the pew encourage their pastor to address the life issues from the pulpit. Some time ago I authored a brochure with a similar goal called “Life Issues and the Pulpit.” (You can read it and order printed copies through links at www.lutheransforlife.org.)

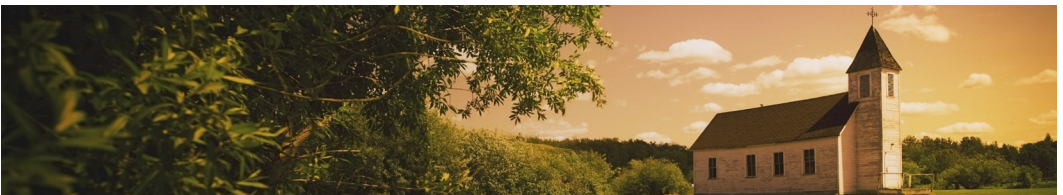
One year, during the discussion following our workshop, a pastor spoke up. “Hey! Here’s a shepherd! Where are the sheep!” He was expressing his frustration with people in the pew not supporting him when he did address life issues from the pulpit. So as a sequel to “Life Issues and the Pulpit,” I offer “Life Issues and the Pew.”

I do not hear it often, but even that is too often. A couple of examples: A young pastor just out of the seminary called me and said when he arrived at his congregation, an elder told him that he must never preach on abortion. Recently a pastor shared that at one of his congregations, the treasurer told him that if he ever preached on abortion, he would not get paid. This causes me great concern. (Which is the politically correct way of saying, “This makes me angry!”) But in an effort to be be righteously angry and not sin, allow me to share three thoughts about this attitude.

Conformed vs. Transformed

First, it tells us just how much secular thinking can permeate the church and how we can so easily be “conformed to this world” (Romans 12:2a) without even realizing it. We conform to the worldview that abortion is “a political issue” or “a social problem” or “a woman’s right to choose.” This conformity arises because the devil uses language to disguise the true nature of abortion. We hear good-sounding words like “choice” and “rights” and “compassion.” These words go into our ears and blind our eyes to the evil of abortion’s reality. Abortion is “shredding” and “dismembering” tiny bodies. Abortion is “murder.” And suggesting that this is the best way to help women in difficult situations is anything but compassionate.

When we look at abortion with “transformed” and “renewed” minds, we will “discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2b). When we see abortion for what it really is, the brutal murder of a child and the heartless treatment of a mother, the “never-preach-about-abortion” mentality becomes undeniably nonsensical. Do we tell our pastors never to preach about murder? Do we tell them never to preach about protecting the vulnerable or loving and showing compassion to people hurting and struggling? “Never preach about abortion, pastor,” is not the voice of a mind transformed by Christ. It is the voice of Satan.



Helping Satan

So, why doesn't Satan want us to preach about abortion? That brings me to my second point. "Never preach about abortion" implies a lack of understanding of preaching. I do not know any pastor who preaches about abortion as if it is some kind of "right to life" speech. Preaching is the proclamation of God's Word. When appropriate, that word can and should be applied to the sin of abortion as we apply His Word of Law and Gospel to any other sin.

That is why Satan does not want us to preach about abortion. He does not want this wrong thing called wrong. No one else is calling it wrong. Indeed, the world calls it good. If the church does not call it wrong, Satan knows such silence affirms it as right and good in the minds of many, including many Christians. "Never preach about abortion" helps promote Satan's favorite line, "Did God really say ... ?" (Genesis 3:1) "Did God really say abortion is wrong? You never hear anything about it in church, do you?"

Satan also does not want us to preach about abortion because he does not want us to tell people what God, in Jesus Christ, has done about this wrong thing. Jesus suffered God's wrath over the sin of abortion! Satan hates that! He loves to burden hearts with guilt and regret and hopelessness. He loves to make people feel separated from God. That's why Satan loves abortion so much. Because of its nature, abortion makes the women and men involved in this sin feel as if it is too big to be forgiven. So the evil one is delighted when it never comes up in a sermon. Again, it helps with that favorite line of his, "Did God really say you can be forgiven for *this* sin? You never hear anything about it in church, do you?"

For or Against

Finally, "never preach about abortion" reveals what I call an "against mentality." "I don't want my pastor railing against abortion." We stated above that it is necessary to call this sin a sin. However, such preaching is not predicated upon being against what society is for. It derives from being for what God is for. In other words, we do not affirm life because we live in a society that doesn't, but because we serve a God who does. We are not for life just because life is precious. Anybody can do that. We are for life because life is precious to God.

We have a positive message to proclaim. As I love to say, the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the most powerful and positive For Life message in the universe. It is tailor made for these issues of life and death, pain and suffering, regret and guilt and hopelessness. So we are *against* abortion because we are *for* the life of that unborn child. We are for the life of that unborn child because God is. That child is handmade by God (Psalm 139:13; Job 10:8). Jesus Christ shed His blood for that child since His sacrifice was once and for all (Hebrews 10:10). The Holy Spirit desires to call that child into an eternal relationship with God (1 Timothy 2:4).

"Pastor, never preach about abortion." My prayer is that I will not hear that anymore. I also pray it will not be replaced with "Preach against abortion, pastor." What I'd love to hear more from the pew would be, "Preach about God's love for life and the value He gives to life. Preach, pastor, so I am moved to love and value and defend every life."

Also see: www.lutheransforlife.org/article/life-issues-and-the-pulpit-a-letter-to-pastors-from-jim-lamb

God is Pro-Life

by Professor Joseph Lau

Perhaps you have seen the bumper sticker or heard the expression, “God is Pro-Life.” Exactly what does that mean? Because there are so many life-and-death discussions permeating our society, especially around election time, it may be helpful to review what God says about being Pro-Life.

Physical Life

Our God is the “I Am” God – Jehovah (*YHWH* in Hebrew). He is eternal, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. Any talk of “life” must begin with the Giver of life, our Triune God. **“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being”** (Genesis 2:7). The life in humans comes from God; there is no life apart from God. Even the laws of science disprove the idea that something living can come from something non-living. The evolutionary ideas of the Big Bang Theory require one to accept spontaneous generation as a possibility. God’s Word does not. Humans are **“fearfully and wonderfully made”** (Psalm 139:14). God is Pro-Life.

From the time we are conceived until the time God stops our beating heart, He has a purpose for our lives.

Eternal Life

Our first parents, Adam and Eve, fell into sin in the Garden of Eden. Death became a part of life for the first time; and not just temporal death on this earth, but spiritual and eternal death in hell. However, God is Pro-Life. He rescued lost mankind by promising and sending a substitute, His Son, to suffer and die on behalf of all humans ever born. **“And [Christ] Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world”** (1 John 2:2). In this way, God redeemed us from eternal death. “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die” (John 11:25-26). God is Pro-Life.



When does the life that God created begin? Those who believe that abortion is an appropriate response to an unwanted pregnancy would have us believe that life does not begin until the birth of the child, or at the earliest, when a child can live outside the womb. The Bible does not teach that. **“Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me”** (Psalm 51:5). Life begins at conception. Anyone who would purposely take the life of a child who has been conceived is guilty of murder. Job responded to his friends, **“Did not He who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same One fashion us in the womb?”** (Job 31:15). God gave life to us in the womb. A baby’s time of grace should not be cut short. God is Pro-Life.

Terminally Ill

Just as we hear much about a woman’s right to end a pregnancy, we have also heard much about an individual’s right to die. Some feel that if the quality of one’s life is no longer sufficient, he should have the right to end his life on his own terms. This opinion is often voiced in connection with those who have been diagnosed with a terminal illness. God clearly states in Deuteronomy 32:39, **“Now see that I, even I, am He, and there is no God besides Me; I kill and I make alive.”** It is God who determines the time of grace for each soul. May we confess with the psalmist David, **“My times are in Your hand”** (Psalm 31:15). From the time we are conceived until the time God stops our beating hearts, He has a purpose for our lives. **“He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again”** (2 Corinthians 5:15). We have been called according to His purpose. May we redeem the time in His service. Be Pro-Life just as He is.

From “The Lutheran Spokesman,” January 2015. Used by permission. Joseph Lau is a professor at Immanuel Lutheran College in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

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www.Y4Life.org

Since Roe v. Wade in 1973: 57,762,169 abortions in America

Source: www.lifenews.com/2015/01/21/57762169-abortions-in-america-since-roe-vs-wade-in-1973

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Three-Parent Children

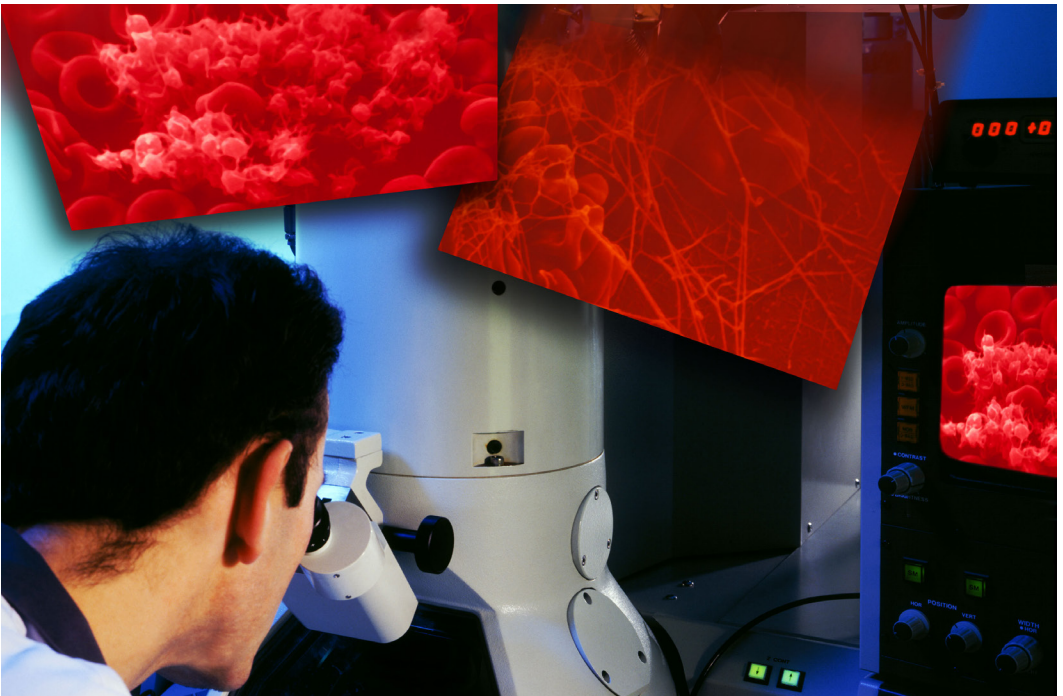
by Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb

The goal of the procedure that led to the reality of “three-parent children” is to prevent mitochondrial disease. This procedure is now allowed in Britain. The mitochondria are not part of a cell’s nucleus but exist in the cytoplasm of the cell separate from the nucleus. Mitochondria are often referred to as the cell’s “power house” or “battery.” The mitochondrion does contain some genetic material: 37 out of our 20,000 genes.

A variety of mitochondrial diseases occur when these genes are missing or defective. It can be determined through genetic testing if a woman’s egg cell has defective mitochondrial genes. Let’s call this woman Sally. The idea of this procedure is to use a donor egg with no mitochondrial disease. Let’s call our donor Jane. You remove the nucleus from Jane’s egg. Now you have an egg cell with no nucleus and a healthy mitochondrion. You take the nucleus from Sally’s egg and transfer it into Jane’s egg. Now you have an egg cell with Sally’s nucleus and her 20,000 genes and Jane’s mitochondrion with her 37 genes. That’s the basics.

Now, there are two ways this procedure can be done. (You can find a link to diagrams here: www.lutheransforlife.org/article/three-parent-children.)

1. **Maternal Spindle Transfer** – This is pretty much what is described above. Neither Sally nor Jane’s eggs are fertilized. Fertilization with Joe’s sperm happens after the transfer of Sally’s nucleus into Jane’s egg cell. Joe’s sperm makes him the third “parent” of the resulting embryonic child. This child,



then, has genetic “input” from Jane’s nucleus, Joe’s sperm, and a tiny amount from Sally’s mitochondrion.

2. **Pronuclear Transfer** – The first thing that happens here is that both Sally and Jane’s eggs are fertilized with Joe’s sperm. Now you are no longer working with two egg cells but with two embryonic children. The child from Sally’s egg will have mitochondrial disease. The child from Jane’s egg will not. Next you do the same as above. Before the nuclei (already fertilized) can accomplish their first cell division, Jane’s nucleus is removed and discarded. Sally’s fertilized nucleus is transferred into Jane’s cytoplasm with the good mitochondrion.

There are many problems with these procedures. Maternal Spindle Transfer raises these issues:

- The nucleus is subject to harm in the transfer.
- There is uncertainty about genetic compatibility.
- There is uncertainty about genetic abnormalities and the introduction of mutations.
- The procedure violates the one-flesh union of marriage. “Three parents,” by definition, is contrary to God’s design.
- Not all the embryos produced may survive and, thus, there may be a violation of the Fifth Commandment against murder and hurting and harming.
- The First Commandment is always an issue in such technology. We fail to trust in God’s truth and put ourselves in the place of God.

The above problems are all inherent in Pronuclear Transfer as well. Plus, you definitely have the intentional destruction of human life inherent in this procedure. Many ethicists also oppose this technology because it might open the door to the creation of designer children.

While we can understand the great desire to prevent our children from contracting disease, we cannot resort to technology that does so at the cost of hurting and harming other children and violates God’s plan for procreation within the one-flesh union of marriage.

Adoption would be a God-pleasing way of receiving the gift of children without introduction of life-threatening technology.

Also see:

The Handiwork of God

www.lutheransforlife.org/sermon/the-handiwork-of-god

Stem Cell Research and Cloning 101: A Primer

www.lutheransforlife.org/sermon/stem-cell-research-and-cloning-101-a-primer

Human Cloning—Watch the Language

www.lutheransforlife.org/sermon/dr-lamb-human-cloning----watch-the-language

Loving Our Neighbor

by Linda D. Bartlett

Who is our neighbor? In God’s world, our neighbor is more than the person who lives in the house next door. Our neighbor is the stranger in need, the student in our class, our associate at work, our parent or grandparent, and our child. Our neighbor may not think and act the way we do. We may feel awkward with them because our beliefs are polar opposite. But, in God’s world, they are our neighbor.

What are we to do with our neighbor? Jesus says, “**You shall love your neighbor as yourself**” (Mark 12:31). This love is second only to the love we are to have for God.

I am thinking right now of four Christian friends. Each one is the parent of a son or a daughter who has admitted they are in a gay or lesbian relationship. These parents love their children but, with the desire to live under the character and authority of God and His Word in Christ, these parents cannot accept the behavior and lifestyle of their children.

My friends, and others like them, agonize, asking: What can we do? How do we embrace our child but not their behavior? How do we nurture a godly relationship with our child? In fact, how do we even engage in conversation with our child on some kind of common ground?

Glenn T. Stanton, author of the new book *Loving My (LGBT) Neighbor*, offers six truths* that he defines as “mere Christianity.” These points, writes Stanton, “are the



great equalizers of humanity, putting us all in the same boat for good and for bad, proclaiming that no one person is better or worse, loved more or less, nor more or less deserving of love than another.” These truths are:

- Everybody is a human person. No exceptions.
- Every human person is of inestimable worth and value, none more than another. No exceptions.
- Everyone is deeply and passionately loved by God. No exceptions.
- Unfortunately, everyone is burdened with a terminal illness: sin. No exceptions.
- All, as children of Adam, are tragically separated from God, but this does not diminish God’s boundless love for us. But it does devastatingly hinder our relationship with Him. All of us, no exceptions.
- Therefore, everyone is in desperate need of repentance, healing, and a new life that comes only in surrender and submission to Christ. No exceptions.

Because we live in such a sexualized culture, there is need, I think, to explain what it means to be a “human person.” In this culture, sexuality is “central to being human.” But the Christian parent is called to see their neighbor—indeed, their child—differently. Parents of a son or daughter who struggles with any kind of sexual desire (for the opposite or same sex) will best love that child in light of how God sees them.

To be human means to be male or female created in God’s image. Although fallen from that perfect image (and burdened with the terminal illness called sin), God still wants His people to reflect His holiness. Nowhere in Scripture does God say: be sexual for I the Lord your God am sexual. What He says is this: “**As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, ‘You shall be holy, for I am holy’**” (1 Peter 1:14-16). Sexuality is not the central part of being human. Sexuality describes feelings, desires, thoughts, and physical intimacy. Because of sexual procreation, life goes on. We have birthdays and anniversaries. But sexuality is not the sum total of who we are as male or female persons.

Our human yet holy identity is the common ground for even the most awkward discussions between one neighbor and another, between parent and child. Failing to see our neighbor or child as God does will ultimately affect the way we fear, love, and trust God. It may cause us to love conditionally rather than unconditionally or close doors rather than open them.

It’s true that I am not facing the same challenge as my four friends. If they said to me, “You speak so easily of all this, what can you possibly know,” I would have to confess that I know only what Jesus tells us all: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” How we see our neighbor—indeed, our child—matters. It changes the way we approach them, welcome them, speak to them, serve them, and endure with them.

**“Six truths” is excerpted from “The Odd Couple” by Glenn T. Stanton in CITIZEN, March 2015. Linda Bartlett, former president of Lutherans For Life, strives to help mentor biblical womanhood through Titus 2 for Life (www.titus2-4life.org; ezerwoman.wordpress.com; www.ouridentitymatters.com).*

The Exit suicide clinic in Switzerland reports 583 assisted suicides in 2014—a 27% increase from the previous year. Exit explained the rise in numbers was due to greater media interest in euthanasia, an aging population, and an increase in cases of dementia. The average age of those deciding to end their lives with the organization is 77.5 years. Last May, Exit extended assisted suicide to elderly healthy people living with physical or psychological pain. A 2014 Swiss study discovered that Swiss euthanasia clinic patrons had no underlying illness in 16% of the cases. Euthanasia and assisted suicide seem to have become socially acceptable in countries where those practices are legal. Recent statistics found euthanasia increased by 27% in 2013 in Belgium and 15% in 2013 in the Netherlands, while assisted suicide increased by 44% in 2014 in Oregon and 43% in 2013 in Washington State. (*LifeSiteNews.com*, 3/12/15; *CLR Life News*, 3/13/15)

A Canadian court dismissed a case seeking to force a nursing home facility to starve an Alzheimer's patient to death despite her willingness to take nourishment. The family of an 83-year-old woman requested that their mother have food and fluids withdrawn by staff at the Vancouver nursing home where she resides. Justice Mary Newbury of the British Columbia Court of Appeal issued her ruling stating that the woman—who has advanced Alzheimer's disease—is consenting to nourishment and fluids when she opens her mouth to take food and water. The family argued unsuccessfully that it was their mother's wish while she was competent that she not be fed if she was in her current condition. Bioethicist Wesley J. Smith said, "This only marks the beginning of the debate about forced starvation in nursing homes, not the end"... An intervener in the case from the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition applauded the court decision, saying a successful appeal would have set a dangerous precedent forcing health-care providers to "sit back and watch patients starve to death." (*NRL News Today*, 3/4/15; *CLR Life News*, 3/5/15)

The number of IVF embryos killed in the UK has increased almost every year since records began, now amounting to 170,000 a year (2,053,656 since 1990), according to new figures from the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority (HFEA). (*Catholic Herald*, 3/11/15; *SPUC* 3/18/15)

The British abortion industry's buffer-zone "Back-Off" campaign is a money-driven exercise designed to stop women receiving help to avoid abortions. Paul Tully, SPUC's general secretary, said: "The campaign against these pro-life counsellors is being supported and run by private abortion clinics and others with financial interests in abortion. They do not want women getting help to avoid abortions." (*SPUC*, 3/4/15)



**Number of abortions worldwide:
Per year: approximately 42 million
Per day: approximately 115,000
Source: abortionno.org; National Right to Life**

LFL Resources on Abortion

A Love for Life (book) – Dennis Di Mauro takes a biblically-based look at the arguments and theologies of today’s most prominent pro-choice clergy. *Item LFL215B. \$16.00 ea.*

Abortion and the Message of the Church: Sin or Salvation? – Dr. James Lamb shows that throughout history, the Church has called abortion sin. *Item LFL205T. \$0.50 ea.*

The Faith of Unborn Children (book) – A scholarly witness to the value of children before birth. The author is Johann Georg Walch. *Item LFL211B. \$4.95 ea.*

God’s Word for an Unplanned Pregnancy – Linda Luecke writes, “The God who made you knows and loves you. He urges you to choose life today.” *Item LFL912. \$1.00 ea.*

Implementing a Pro-Life Theology in a Lutheran Congregation – Dr. David L. Adams says it is time for the Church to put pro-life convictions into action. *Item LFL208B. \$0.75 ea.*

Life Issues and the Pulpit – Author James Lamb writes life issues are spiritual issues, and “the Church and her pastors have what it takes—the Gospel!” *Item LFL1629B. \$1.00 ea.*

Scripture Quotations – Quotes from the English Standard Version related to the life issues. *Item LFL204T. \$1.50 ea.*

Speak Up For Life –This booklet takes a look at life issues based on Luther’s Small Catechism—and is sized to insert right into the catechism itself! *Item LFL212B. \$0.50 ea.*

Women, Abortion, and the Church: Responsibilities and Rights – Is abortion the lesser of two evils? Dr. Jean Garton asks, “Why should we offer a woman an evil of any sort?” *Item LFL201A. \$0.50 ea.*

A Lutheran Catechism on Abortion and Life – A question and answer primer on abortion and life by David A. Kaufmann, Ph.D., F.A.C.S.M. *Item LFL104B. \$1.00 ea.*

Broken Walls – A lack of understanding of what abortion is and what abortion does leads some in the Church to whitewash the truth about abortion. *Item LFL209T. \$0.50 ea.*

How to Help a Shepherd Give Leadership on Life Issues – Suggestions from members of the National Pro-Life Religious Council (and revised by Lutherans For Life) on ways to encourage pastors to speak up for life. *Item LFL1624. \$0.50 ea.*



Best Way to Order LFL Resources: At www.cph.org or 800.325.3040.
Shipping/handling applies to all orders. Quantity pricing on select resources.



More LFL Resources including *GOD'S WORD for Life*

Along with abortion, Lutherans For Life offers Word-based resources on adoption, bioethics, end-of-life, family living, fetal development, sexual purity, and more.

GOD'S WORD for Life Bible

A ONE-OF-A-KIND RESOURCE – **ON SALE!**

Paperback: *Item LFL1618, \$1.50 each; Hardcover:* *Item LFL1619, \$10.00 each;*

Leather: *Item FL1619C, \$12.50 each*

DVDs

The Other End of Life takes a look at end-of-life issues. *Item LFL1409DVD. \$5.00 ea.*

Hope for Broken Hearts – The Gospel and Post-Abortion Syndrome – Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb examines how the Gospel of Jesus Christ speaks so powerfully to women and men struggling in the aftermath of an abortion. *Item LFL1407. \$5.00 ea.*

The Abundant Life – Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb helps us better understand what Jesus meant when He said in John 10:10 that He came to give us an abundant life. *Item LFL1408DVD. \$5.00 ea.*

Suggested Resources to Share with Pastors

Biblical Manhood – By Dr. Francis Monseth. *Item LFL304B. \$2.00 ea.*

Word of Hope offers information on LFL's post-abortion ministry.

WOH – Abortion. Item LFL404T. FREE; WOH – Abuse. Item LFL909T. FREE

More Resources

Marriage – A Statement by Lutherans For Life – God is clear about what He still intends marriage to be. *Item LFL905T. \$0.50 ea.*

Educational Resource Manual – Digital Edition – A credit-card sized USB drive featuring PDFs and video files of many of LFL's resources. *Item LFL1607USB. \$15.00 ea.*

Tips for Teens On How to Say “No” – UPDATED – *Item LFL602T. \$0.50 ea.*

Posters

Watch Me Grow Posters illustrate the growth stages of a baby in the womb. Several options available. The posters, and accompanying booklet, have been well-received.



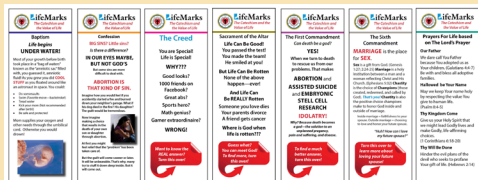
Best Way to Order LFL Resources: At www.cph.org or 800.325.3040.

Shipping/handling applies to all orders. Quantity pricing on select resources.

More For Life Resources for Confirmation and Sunday School



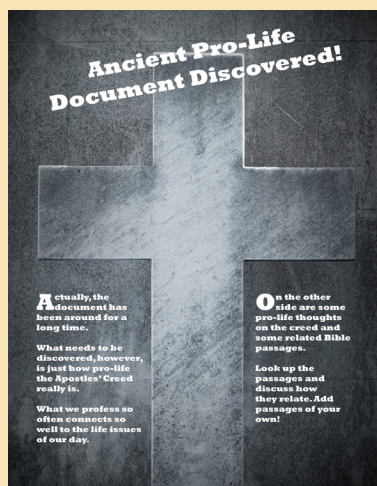
LifeMarks
The Catechism and
the Value of Life



**Baptism • Confession • The Creed • Sacrament of the Altar • The First Commandment
The Sixth Commandment • Prayers For Life based on the Lord's Prayer**

LifeMarks is a set of seven bookmarks designed to directly apply the Bible's teachings on life as found in *Luther's Small Catechism*. Item LFL1632. **\$0.25 per set.**

"Very attractive and easy to understand." "Wonderful, perfect for confirmation students."



Ancient Pro-Life Document Discovered!

It is amazing just how pro-life the Apostles Creed really is.

What we profess so often connects so well to the life issues of our day.

This Bible study includes pro-life thoughts on the creed and related Bible passages.

Item LFL1630. **\$0.50 ea.**

Best Way to Order LFL Resources: At www.cph.org or 800.325.3040.

Shipping/handling applies to all orders. Quantity pricing on select resources.



Teaching For Life®

www.lutheransforlife.org/store-teaching-for-life

Teaching For Life® teaches nine key pro-life concepts by giving ideas on how to integrate them into religion, math, social studies, etc.

Teaching For Life® offers lessons for five grade levels (PK-K, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8) and provides the teacher with all that is needed to teach a key life concept each month.

Lesson Plans and CD

Grades PK-K. Item LFL720C. \$49.99 ea. Grades 5-6. Item LFL725C. \$49.99 ea.

Grades 1-2. Item LFL721C. \$49.99 ea. Grades 7-8. Item LFL727C. \$49.99 ea.

Grades 3-4. Item LFL723C. \$49.99 ea.

Complete package/45 lesson plans/CD/all grade levels: Item LFL729C. \$199.99 ea.



Order LFL's **Teaching For Life®** at www.cph.org!

Teaching For Life®

Teaching For Life® Online

NEW is LFL's latest means of "equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life"! This self-study, online course is designed for junior high through adult. **And it's FREE!** The course is based on nine key For Life concepts and instructs on all the basic life issues.

ONLINE

Each of the nine lessons contains an engaging Bible study that will help the student apply God's Word of Life to the lesson's topic. The Bible study is followed by "Case Studies," which will help apply what has been learned to practical situations. Then, for those who want even more, there is "Digging Deeper," which will allow the student to link to a variety of readings, videos, YouTube clips, and ideas for action.

It's easy, fun, self-paced, and packed full of Word-based and Gospel-centered For Life information. So go to the link below and let the For Life learning begin.

We pray you will enjoy learning and that you will become equipped to help others become Gospel-motivated voices For Life!

www.lutheransforlife.org/media/teaching-for-life-online

Help apply God's Word to the life issues! Consider purchasing **Teaching For Life®** for your favorite teacher or school!

LFL Board Announces New Executive Director Elect

As many of you know, LFL's present executive director, Dr. James Lamb, will be retiring at the end of this year. Over a year ago, the LFL board of directors formed a search committee which did a comprehensive job describing the director's position and ascertaining the type of person needed to fill the role. They held extensive phone interviews with applicants, narrowed it down to three candidates, and conducted face-to-face interviews. At the February national board of directors meeting, a new director was nominated. A call was subsequently issued, and it is our joy to share that the call has been accepted.

The new executive director will be Rev. Michael Salemink (SAUL-uh-mink), presently pastor of St. James Lutheran Church in Lafayette, Indiana. He is married to Heather and they have three children: Christian, 11; Nathan, 8; and Luke, 6. Because of his family and the wisdom of relocating before a new school year begins, Rev. Salemink may come on board as early as September. We find this to be a positive choice, as Dr. Lamb and other staff will have ample time to help him make the transition from parish pastor to executive director.

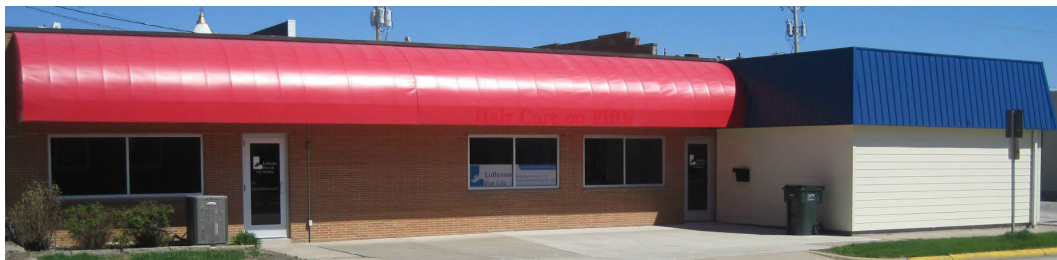


Since our national director, Scott Licht, runs all of the day-to-day operations of the ministry from the Nevada, Iowa, office, it is not as critical for the executive director to be there. The executive director is now more the "face" of LFL who writes, speaks, and preaches. At this point, it appears Pastor Salemink and his family will be relocating to St. Louis. This provides a centralized location, easy airport access, and a number of school choices for their children. Please keep Pastor Salemink and his family in your prayers. Much change is ahead for them!

New National Office Open House Held April 28

Dr. Lamb says, "The change came about because of stewardship concerns. The former 6700 square foot building served us well when we housed our own inventory and did our own order fulfillment. But, as you know, Concordia Publishing House (www.cph.org) has been doing that for us for a number of years. Also, more of our staff works remotely ... reducing the need for local office space. Add to this the three acres of property we maintained, and I think you will see the wisdom of downsizing." Our new address is 1101 5th Street, Nevada, IA 50201-1816. *Membership and other contributions can continue to be sent to PO Box 76, Garden City, IA 50102-0076.*

Find open house photos at www.lutheransforlife.org/about/photo-gallery.



Working on the Hearts of a Community

by Lori Trinche

Living in a northern climate, the seasons of spring and summer are a time of looking forward to longer and warmer days, the return of colorful flowers and birds, the awakening of the soil to plant again, and a time of growth and fruitfulness! Thanks be to God! We have certainly been blessed with growth in the number of Life Teams and those interested in starting either a new Life Team or chapter and in the stories beginning to come in from our precious volunteers from the annual activity reports. Sometimes the work is difficult and tiring—at other times simply filled with delight—but always with a very special purpose from the Lord and giver of Life! So be encouraged, pray without ceasing, and press ahead. One story I would like to share is by Waunita J. Watt, from our Life Team in Creston, Iowa.

In the past few years, Creston, Iowa, has seen God working on the hearts of this community to bring some amazing changes.

In April 2012, the city of Creston was hit by a tornado—a turning point for many in our small town. By the grace of God, no one was killed. The tornado did significant damage to our hospital, community college, and several homes on the north side of town. This was difficult for everyone, but it brought the community together. By talking, working together, serving our neighbors, and listening with compassion, we met the needs of our community and built some strong relationships. This was the beginning of a “God Plan.”

Through this building of relationships and communications, a “40 Days for Life” event was proposed. This sparked talk about what God could do if we peacefully prayed at the local Planned Parenthood affiliate. We heard how it could have an impact on those who worked at Planned Parenthood and those who utilized their services. This event involved anyone who was willing to pray for at-risk children and their mothers. (At that time, a young woman could have a TeleMed abortion performed here in Creston.)

Many of those who were praying were also listening and talking with one another about the possibility of opening a crisis pregnancy center in Creston for those facing unplanned pregnancy and sexual health crises. Shortly after 40 Days for Life, our Planned Parenthood location closed. God used this event in His “God Plan.”

After the closing of the Planned Parenthood office, opening a crisis pregnancy center continued to weigh heavily on the hearts of many. A task force was put together to explore the possibilities. One option was to partner with a clinic that was already up and operating—the LC Clinic in Stuart, Iowa. The LC Clinic focuses on offering men and women medically accurate and non-judgmental care, allowing their clients the opportunity to make informed decisions for themselves regarding their health.

Timing was important. How could we get a clinic going soon and have it be a clinic that was reputable? This is where the “God Plan” begins to reveal itself

in a significant way. God was making this more than a talking point. God was going to make it a reality! LC Clinic in Stuart wanted to open a branch clinic in Creston. This solved a lot of the problems of opening a clinic on our own.

Then came the next step in the “God Plan.” It was asked, “What if the old Planned Parenthood building could be the location for the LC Clinic in Creston?” It was proposed that we start raising funds for a portable ultrasound machine that could be shared between the Creston and Stuart locations. To raise the funds, we thought outside the box and decided to have a trap shoot at the local gun range!

There was good response from the business community—and there was a “God Plan” in this as well. A local tattoo artist was asked to be one of those supporting businesses. At first, great hesitation was expressed by this person about sponsoring an event of this type and for this cause. By God’s grace and mercy, He used the words spoken by ordinary people to change the heart of this tattoo artist. This business became a significant supporter of the event.

A “God Plan” is not always our plan. We may be hesitant to approach some people, unsure of what to say, how to say it, or whether it will even be received. Yet we trust in God to bring the right attitude and words to our mouths because His attitude toward us is not to deal with us as sinners but as His chosen children.

It was wonderful to see the response from the community—and to see the donations come in! This is an example of a fun event that brought awareness about our clinic and its work. God worked His miracle and we watched. All those who attended had a wonderful time.

Right now, we are witnessing another part of the “God Plan.” Remember the idea—that we believe God planted—about the Planned Parenthood building? It is a reality. The LC Clinic has purchased it and will open its Creston office in this building. A building that had been used to take the lives of so many precious children is going to be a place that God uses to save children. We have witnessed a “God Plan” realized and a community brought together. Now we wait in eager anticipation of the next “God Plan.”

Lori Trinche is the Mission & Ministry Coordinator for Lutherans For Life. 708.839.1200 ext. 225/ltrinche@lutheransforlife.org.

A woman with long dark hair, wearing a vibrant red dress, is shown from the waist up. She is holding a small, square ultrasound image in her left hand, which shows a fetus in a womb. Her right hand is resting on her pregnant belly. The background is a solid, deep red color.

www.iowalclclinic.org/about-us.html

“A building that had been used to take the lives of so many precious children is going to be a place that God uses to save children.”

Is Your Church Part of the 4%—or the 96%?

by John Hawkins, director of development for Lutherans For Life

Ever since it was founded, Lutherans For Life (LFL) has received financial support from pro-life Lutheran congregations. In fact, LFL would not exist nationally without the cash donations, gifts, offerings, grants, etc. that our churches provide. May God be praised! Still, in any calendar year, only about four percent of Lutheran congregations send gifts to LFL. That means ninety-six percent do not—or about *19 out of 20* churches nationally.

Now, some churches rotate their mission giving each year, and therefore may support another ministry this year and LFL in the next. Likewise, many congregations support local LFL chapters and federations and not LFL nationally (at least on an annual basis). Others still support a local crisis pregnancy center, etc. in lieu of making a gift to LFL.

While all of these ways are fine when it comes to helping affirm life, LFL national really needs all the support it can get from Lutheran congregations.

Why is this? For three main reasons:

First of all, LFL is the only national ministry which is solely dedicated to providing life issue advocacy, educational conferences, training, speakers, and resource materials (such as Bible studies, brochures, booklets, DVDs and videos, a quarterly journal, and Life Sunday materials, etc.) from a Lutheran perspective. LFL makes these available for all Lutheran congregations, schools, LFL state federations, local chapters, Life Teams, and individuals and households. Of course, we can only wonder just what the status of life-affirmation would be in our Lutheran community if LFL did not exist. Fortunately, LFL does most certainly exist, and this has been made possible by the gift support provided by churches and other committed friends.

Second, LFL has found itself facing a new funding challenge since early last year which was totally unexpected. Namely, Thrivent Financial announced in early 2014 that it would no longer allow members to direct their choice dollars to LFL. This is per a new policy that they wanted to take a “neutral” position on pro-life/“pro-choice” advocacy groups. In 2014, that meant that LFL would have to forgo at least \$30,000 from Thrivent members (based on 2013 receipts) and possibly as much as \$70,000 collectively via other sources (e.g., Thrivent monies sent to local churches and chapters and then forwarded to LFL).

Fortunately, many churches directed rotating and special offerings to LFL in 2014. For the most part, therefore, we were able to make up the difference. (And if your church is one who did this, many thanks and may God bless you!) While we hope many of these congregations will help LFL again in 2015, some will not because of other obligations. So, we are asking other churches to step forward this year and help us with a gift, offering, etc.

Last but not least, we know the “other side” both receives and relies on ample financial support from sympathetic churches and religious entities. A good example of this occurred in early 2014 when Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas donated \$443,750 to Planned Parenthood Trust of South Texas. Many members of the clergy also serve on Planned Parenthood boards across the country. While no specific

figures are available, it is likely that funding received by them from religious groups is in the seven-figures range or higher. This leads us to a question.

How can your congregation help LFL if it is not already doing so?

One way would be to include LFL in the church budget, either for a fixed dollar amount (at any level) or a percentage of overall receipts for the year. If you are on a fiscal year that runs from July-June, now would be a good time to consider this. If you are on a calendar year, you can do this when you draw up your 2016 budget.

A second way would be to designate a regular “rotating” offering done at the church for LFL. For example, if your church designates Advent offerings for specific ministries, LFL could be included on the list. Some churches collect offerings for third parties on a monthly or bi-monthly basis, such as on “5th Sundays,” selected holidays or special services (e.g., Mother’s Day, Thanksgiving, Good Friday), etc.

Last but not least, many congregations have been collecting special door or plate offerings on an otherwise undesignated Sunday for LFL (especially in lieu of the Thrivent decision).

If your church is currently part of the “96%” and would be open to helping LFL, we can assist you in the process. We can send you a letter that works well in making a request to congregational leaders. We can also send you a customizable sample bulletin insert and other helpful materials. Please contact me at 512.468.9777 or jhawkins@lutheransforlife.org if we can assist you in this way.

In 2015, we hope that ten percent of Lutheran congregations will stand up for life and make a financial gift to LFL. Our gratitude in Christ for your consideration, prayers, and support in this special way.

Please note this article is not intended as legal or financial advice. For assistance in specific cases, you are encouraged to seek the advice of an attorney or other professional advisors.

Get Involved Today!

- As a Lutherans For Life supporter, you decide how you can help! It might be through an **annual membership gift** or a **monthly or quarterly sponsor gift**.
- **Volunteers** can become involved locally. (Start a Life Team in your congregation!)
- **Because of you, LFL is impacting thousands of people annually through the Gospel of Christ.**
- Contact us—or go to the LFL website—to find out more ways to help, including: **Combined Federal Campaign** – (LFL ID# 11508), **Automatic Bank Drafts**, **Employer Matching Gifts**, **Planned Gifts**, **Online Shopping Rebates through iGive.com**, www.goodsearch.com.
- Also be sure to find out more **Real Estate for Life**. It is an easy way for you to help LFL by using funds a real estate company has already earmarked for commission fees at no extra cost to you.

www.lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life



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 1078 schools affecting 139,000 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? Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life, shares his story:

“I held my little grandson, Owen, in the palm of my hand. He died at twenty-one weeks during pre-natal 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 twenty-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:

- Giving a personal gift
- Encouraging your school to give
- Encouraging your congregation to give
- Encouraging groups within your congregation to give

Our Goal: \$175,000

To give a gift online to Lutherans For Life go to: www.lutheransforlife.org/give. You can also send your check to:

Lutherans For Life
PO Box 76
Garden City, IA 50102-0076

Please designate your gift to “Owen's Mission.”

Amount Raised So Far: \$58,000 plus

Life Thoughts in the Church Year

(Based on appointed readings from *Lutheran Service Book*)

July 5 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – We tend to associate power with strength. God associates power with weakness. “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness” (2 Corinthians 12:9). In the weakness of a debilitating illness, we may say, “This is not a good quality of life.” God says, “The weaker you are, the more My power can be displayed!” How’s that for quality? Prayer: God, I offer you my weaknesses so that Your strength might abound. Amen.

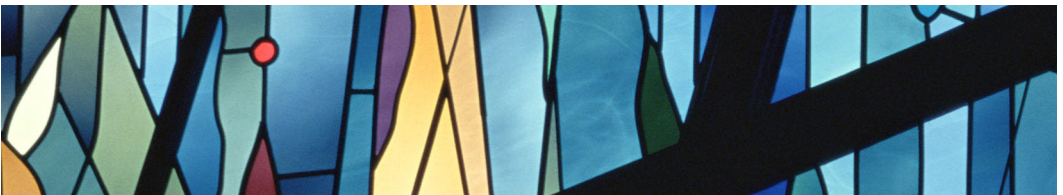
July 12 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – In Amos 7:7-15, God sets a plumb line in the midst of His people. Israel’s problem was more than deviation from God’s plumb line. They had forgotten there was a plumb line! Deviations in sexuality, marriage, and the value of life among God’s people today reflect more than neglect of the truth. They reflect an abandonment of the truth. Lovingly proclaiming truth is of utmost importance in our churches. Prayer: Father, give me boldness and love to share Your truth. Amen.

July 19 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – “The Lord is our righteousness” (Jeremiah 23:6). What comforting truth for hearts troubled with sin’s guilt that keeps resurfacing. Sometimes a past sin can be so haunting that we do not always feel forgiven, or we cannot forgive ourselves. The sin of abortion is a prime example. But our righteousness does not depend upon us or our feelings. Our righteousness is Christ! Prayer: Our Righteousness, may my comfort and hope be anchored in You and not my feelings. Amen.

July 26 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost – At our baptisms God’s Spirit joins us to Christ. We live in Him and He in us. That means His power is “at work within us” (Ephesians 3:20b). Paul is heavy on the adverbs when it comes to what this means. “Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think ...” (3:20a). No matter what situations may be storming around us, Jesus speaks, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid” (Mark 6:50). Prayer: Lord, calm my fears and may your power be at work in me. Amen.

August 2 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – Jesus is the Bread of Life that came down from heaven to give us eternal life (John 6:33-35). Therefore, we can be assured that He will not forsake us in this life and will provide our daily bread. We need not turn to the “deceitful schemes” of this world, which so often involve death, to rescue us from our problems (Ephesians 4:14). We partake of and trust in the Bread of Life. Prayer: Bread of Life, having given me eternal life, enable me to live this life focused on You and Your will. Amen.

August 9 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost – A debilitating disease or terminal illness can cause us to despair and even say words like Elijah, “I have had enough, LORD ... Take my life” (1 Kings 19:4). There is nothing wrong with desiring to leave the suffering of this world and be with Christ. But it is up to Him, not us, to take our lives. As long as He gives life, He can give purpose to our lives. Prayer: Jesus, in the midst of my suffering, give me patience to endure and faith to trust in Your will. Amen.



August 16 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost – There is more to walking as children of light than avoiding the “unfruitful works of darkness” (Ephesians 4:11a). We are also to “expose them” (11b). Our churches dare not be silent because certain works of darkness are politically charged and controversial. God compels us to address them, for we have the message of the Light who alone can bring hope into people’s lives darkened by sin. Prayer: Holy Spirit, use us to lovingly expose the deeds of darkness by the light that is Christ. Amen.

August 23 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Perhaps we could raise the level of respect and honor for marriage if we focused less on what it isn’t and more upon what it is, and teach, as Paul, that “it refers to Christ and the church” (Ephesians 5:31). Prayer: Lord, help us see marriage as a picture of Your sacrificial and loving relationship to Your Church. Amen.

August 30 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – The picture of the armor-clad Christian in Ephesians 6:10-20 is one of defense not offense. We are not fighting to obtain truth. We have the truth. We fight to defend the truth upon which we stand. Be encouraged in this spiritual battle that can seem so frustrating at times. “Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might” (6:10). Prayer: Thank You for Your truth, Lord, and Your armor. Help us stand firm. Amen.

September 6 – Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Do we not commit the sin of partiality (James 2:1-10) if we treat our born neighbors differently from the way we treat our neighbors who are unborn? Does not the love of Christ compel us to love them the same and treat them the same? Prayer: Father, help me and Your people to love *all* of our neighbors as You have loved us. Amen.

September 13 – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Our tongues can get us into trouble (James 3:5-12). But our Suffering Servant, Jesus, has a tongue that can “sustain with a word him who is weary” (Isaiah 50:4). In a society ever more willing to eliminate the weary, we need to point them to the sustaining word of Jesus. We need to *be* Jesus to them and help carry their burdens. Prayer: Thank You, Jesus, for Your sustaining word. Give me opportunity to share it with others. Amen.

September 20 – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – Jesus would make no distinction between the child He held in His arms (Mark 9:36) and the child in the womb of a woman who may have been listening to Him. When we receive such children and love them, we receive and love Jesus and His heavenly Father. Prayer: Lord, help us receive You when we receive little children, born and unborn. Amen.

September 27 – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Sometimes we forget that prayer is an avenue we can use to address the life issues. We can pray for those in crisis pregnancies and those who may be dealing with the guilt of a past abortion. We can pray for the chronically ill, the terminally ill, and those who care for them. We can pray for infertile couples and those seeking to adopt. We can pray for boldness to speak out For Life in our churches. “The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (James 5:16b). Prayer: Thank You, Father, for declaring us righteous in Jesus. Hear us when we pray for those in need. Amen.





2015 Lutherans For Life National Conference

Created • **Redeemed** • **Called**

October 30-31, 2015
Petersburg, Kentucky

www.lutheransforlife.org
creationmuseum.org

Here are the wonderful speakers scheduled to join us in October:

Ken Ham on "The Gospel in Genesis"

Dr. David Menton on "Fearfully and Wonderfully Made"

Col. John Eidsmoe on "Evolution vs. the Sanctity of Human Life"

Timothy Goeglein on "Faith in the Halls of Power"

Buddy Davis with a "Creation Concert"

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb on "Created, Redeemed, Called—The Trinitarian Value of Human Life"

John Hawkins on estate planning

Lori Trinche on Life Teams

This year's conference will also offer you plenty of time to explore the **Creation Museum!**

REGISTER NOW!

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

"But now thus says the Lord, he who created you ... 'Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine'" (Isaiah 43:1).



**Pre-Conference Events
Friday, October 30**

Creation Museum Tour
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Christian Estate Planning
with John Hawkins** – This seminar will focus on how you can testify to your Christian faith and provide for your family and your favorite ministries.
2:00–3:00 p.m.

**Life Team Seminar with Lori
Trinche** – This workshop will be a time of encouragement, sharing, and education for the “hands and feet” of LFL!
3:00–4:00 p.m.





Lutherans For Life National Conference • October 30-31, 2015

Creation Museum • 2800 Bullittsburg Church Road • Petersburg, Kentucky 41080

SCHEDULE: 2015 LFL National Conference

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Registration • Exhibitor set up

10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. **Creation Museum Tour**

Pre-Conference Workshops:

2:00-3:00 Christian Estate Planning with John Hawkins

3:00-4:00 Life Team Seminar with Lori Trinche

5:00 Opening Worship Service

6:30 Banquet

7:30-9:00 Keynote Address – Ken Ham – The Gospel in Genesis

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

7:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 Plenary 1 – Faith in the Halls of Power with Timothy Goeglein

9:30 Break and announcements

9:45 Plenary 2 – Fearfully and Wonderfully Made
with Dr. David Menton

10:45 Break

11:00 Plenary 3 – Evolution vs. the Sanctity of Human Life
with Col. John Eidsmoe

12:00 Lunch

12:30-3:00 Creation Museum Tour

3:00 Creation Concert with Buddy Davis

4:00 An Exciting Look at LFL's Future with the outgoing and incoming executive directors – (A special guest appearance by Dr. Lamb's cousin Ole, and his wife Lena, may be a possibility! What might they have to say to the new guy?)

Our conference offers great speakers, wonderful workshops, and life-affirming fellowship! We hope to see you in October!

Created • Redeemed • Called

October 30-31, 2015 • Creation Museum • Petersburg, Kentucky



REGISTRATION FEES

Adult registration* (Early Bird) – \$100
Adult registration* (after 9/15/15) – \$125
Student registration* - \$50
Child registration* (6-12) – \$30
Child 5 and under* – no charge
Saturday only registration* – \$75
Friday only registration – \$50 (Creation Museum ticket NOT included)

*Registration includes a ticket to the Creation Museum. Notes: Children 5 and under are admitted free, but please include them when registering. Financial assistance is available for students.

MAKE YOUR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS!

Cincinnati Airport Marriott
2395 Progress Drive
Hebron, Kentucky 41048

800.696.0165 or 859.586.0166

Conference room rate: \$95.00 (plus tax)



<https://aws.passkey.com/event/13167836/owner/2374/home>

Reserve your rooms early! To obtain the group rate, mention that you will be attending the Lutherans For Life National Conference.

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP!

Instead of placing "ads" in a conference book, sponsorship donations will be listed and acknowledged in the conference information folder.

Sponsorship levels are:

Bronze - \$50 • Silver - \$100

Gold - \$250 • Platinum - \$500

Sponsorships may be given in honor or memory of someone or event. Download the sponsorship form from the conference page on the website (www.lutheransforlife.org/conference).

Conference Sponsorship!

Virginia Flo • National Conference Director • vflo@lutheransforlife.org

Lutherans For Life ...

- **Applies God's Word**, both His Law and His Gospel, to all the life issues—abortion, chastity, assisted suicide and euthanasia, and bio-technology.
- **Assists For-Life Christians** in offering the hope and help of the Good News of Jesus Christ to: women with an untimely pregnancy; women, men, and families suffering under the guilt of an abortion; young people with questions and concerns about sexuality; and the elderly and those with disabilities or terminal illnesses.
- **Believes God gives the gift of life to all people**—from the moment of conception until natural death.
- **Needs your support to continue to encourage, educate, and uplift with a Gospel-centered, Word-based message of hope, forgiveness, and new life!**

Lutherans For Life ...

Witnesses to the sanctity of human life through education based on the Word of God.

Serves through individuals who volunteer at pregnancy care centers, with hospice, through prayer, and in a wide variety of caring activities.

Educates and Encourages through conferences and workshops, printed resources (including our *LifeDate* journal, *Life News*, *Life Quotes*, and *Directions*), Life Sunday materials and Bible studies, curricula (including Teaching For Life®), video, and through www.lutheransforlife.org.

Equips local congregations to speak out on life issues in their communities through chapters and Life Teams. Many Lutherans For Life state federations and chapters also support a variety of compassionate, caring pregnancy and post-abortion ministries that offer pre- and post-natal counseling, parenting skills workshops, and lifestyle counsel.

Share the Life Message All Through the Year!

Lutherans For Life offers several easy ways to keep the life message before your congregation!

Order **LifeDate** in bulk quantities at no charge. (Donations for shipping cost will gladly be accepted.) Call 888.364.LIFE.

Download **Life News**, our monthly bulletin insert with life-issue news and more!

Sign up for **Life Notes**, our weekly email update.

Share **Life Quotes** and **Life Thoughts in the Church Year** in weekly congregational bulletins (or monthly newsletters).



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.

Our Philosophy ... Lutherans For Life believes that the Church is compelled by God's Word to speak and act on behalf of those who are vulnerable and defenseless. The crisis of our times is the repudiation of biblical truth manifested in the wanton destruction of innocent human life through legalized abortion-on-demand and the growing threat to the lives of others through legalized assisted suicide and euthanasia. Therefore, as Lutherans For Life, we will strive to give witness, from a biblical perspective, to the Church and society on these and other related issues such as chastity, post-abortion healing, and family living.

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LFL has 11 state federations, 117 local chapters, 137 Life Ministry Coordinators, 86 Life Team Leaders, and 96 Life Teams in the US.

LifeDate

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www.lutheransforlife.org/about/chapters-and-life-teams