



# Lutherans For Life of Illinois

## AFFIRMING LIFE IN ILLINOIS

### Transportation to the March on Chicago

Lutherans for Life of Illinois will be present at the Convention mentioned on the right. Stop by and say hello!

To avoid the traffic and have easy parking you can ride the bus with fellow Lutherans from Trinity, 1101 Kimberly Way, Lisle, IL 60532. They will have pre-event worship at 9:00 a.m. And the bus will leave at 9:45, returning at 4:45. There is a suggested donation of \$20 to help defray the cost of the bus. **Reservations must be made by January 7th.** Questions or reservations at 630.234.1491 or [kbwrk123@gmail.com](mailto:kbwrk123@gmail.com)

A bus will also depart from Trinity, 16850 W. 159th Street, Tinley Park, IL 60477 at 11:30, with a charge of \$7. Questions or rsvp contact Connie Cappel at 815-791-6168 or Email Nettie at [aschuman@tlcs.org](mailto:aschuman@tlcs.org)

### 2020 MARCH FOR LIFE CHICAGO

Registration & Information: [www.MarchForLifeChicago.org](http://www.MarchForLifeChicago.org)  
JANUARY 11, 2020



**8AM - 12PM YOUTH RALLY**  
Join hundreds of teens for energetic music and inspiring talks on the beauty of life from headliners Greg & Lizzy.

**8AM - 5:30PM CONVENTION**  
Meet 30+ organizations from 12+ states! Get connected to live pro life year round. Free with registration.



**1-3PM RALLY & MARCH at DALEY PLAZA**  
Thousands march in the streets for life!  
Speakers feature:  
- Claire Culwell (abortion survivor)  
- Dr. Karen Diegman  
- Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, and more!  
Full list at [www.MarchForLifeChicago.org](http://www.MarchForLifeChicago.org)

**5:30PM - 8:30PM BANQUET**  
Hear Claire Culwell's full story and raise funds for the largest pro-life event in the Midwest. Banquet includes a cocktail hour, dinner, and a powerful program.



**8:30PM - 11PM SWING DANCING**  
Swing by the dance to celebrate life!  
Featuring live music by the Flat Cats, a swing dancing lesson, and cocktails!



March & Rally: Daley Plaza | All other: Congress Plaza Hotel  
March for Life Chicago is a united front of 50+ organizations standing for life.

### Lutherans For Life of Illinois Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4

Winter 2019-2020

### Save the date, Illinois

- ☺ The NALC Life Conference will be held Thursday, January 23, 2020 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Joppa, MD. Details at <https://thenalc.org/lifeministries/>
- ☺ The Lenten 40 Days for Life vigil begins February 26 and ends April 5, 2020
- ☺ Affirming Life—Reaching Out: 101 Ways to Be Pro Life, 9:00—Noon, at Trinity Lutheran Church Tinley Park. More info from LCMS-NID as the date gets closer.

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### Why I Attend March for Life

I will be honest with you, protest is not my thing ... I'm not by nature a "fighter". So, it was with great reluctance that I first attended the March for Life on Chicago. It was not what I expected and now I'm hooked on this event. Prior to marching, thousands of people stand in the cold to hear incredible speakers address Life Issues. In the past those speakers have included

Adult Adopted Children, Adoptive Parents, Grown babies who survived abortion, Women who valiantly made a choice for Life, and adult survivors who regret their choice. This year, Rev. Matthew Harrison, President of the LCMS, is expected to be among the speakers.



This year for the first time, the March will be held on a Saturday, January 11, 2020, in the Daley Plaza. It promises to live up to the vision of March for Life: "...that, marching together in hope, we call upon religious, civic, and community leaders to renew every effort to build a nation that affirms the authentic dignity of women and men, the gift of children, and a culture dedicated to protecting life at every stage of development in law and love."

## Life Comes in Chapters...

As the new year begins, LFL Chapters in Illinois are celebrating "Life Sunday" in a variety of ways.

The Peoria area Chapter is planning for their annual "Pennies for Life Campaign". It is the only fundraiser they do every year. Members of area congregations donate one penny for each year of life God has given

them. It is a good reminder of God's sovereignty over the days of our lives from conception to last breath. As Psalm 139: 16 says, "*Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.*" Isn't it wonderful to

know that none of the things that surprise us, surprise God? He knew about every day of our lives before there were any days to our lives! On top of that He loves us, assigned value to each of us, and paid for our redemption...a price that there are not enough pennies in the whole world to pay...it cost Jesus his life!

—LL

## Find a Chapter Near You

### Coles County Chapter LFL

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month  
At St. John's Mattoon  
Contact: Velma Price, 217-246-2553

### Dupage County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
Contact: Beth Kraegel,  
630-279-0041

### Four -S Chapter LFL

Meets 2nd Tues of Month  
At member homes  
Contact: Dale Wetherell,  
[dwet@hofne.nc.com](mailto:dwet@hofne.nc.com)

### Heartbeat Chapter LFL

Meets quarterly  
At Trinity, Roanoke  
Contact: Trinity, 309-923-5251

### Illinois Valley Chapter LFL

Meets via email and as needed  
At Salem Lutheran, Jacksonville  
Contact: Libby Nobis, 217-491-3026

### McHenry County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
Contact: Genny Hertel,  
815-568-8425

### Metro East Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
Contact: Ruth Walther,  
618-277-5744

### New Hope Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
At Faith or Calvary in Watseka  
Contact: Lowell or MaryAnn Cluver,

815-923-273

### Northwest Suburban Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
At St. Peter Lutheran Church  
Contact: Greg Frey, 630-215-3062

### Peoria Area Chapter LFL

Meets 4th Monday of the month  
At Bethel, Morton  
Contact: Robert Wegner, 309-481-4886

### Southwestern Illinois Chapter LFL

Meets via Facebook & email  
Contact: Jennifer Roscow, 618-972-5366

### Will County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed  
At St. Peter's, Joliet

## Chapter Outreach -McHenry County LFL

The Life Chain Sunday in McHenry County has become more than just 90 minutes of silent prayer and witness to the sanctity of life. Genny Hertel tells me that a group who was planning to take part in Life Chain gathered an hour before the appointed time. They had a prayer walk, stopping to pray at each church along the way and leaving brochures for post abortion healing. The prayer walk led to the Life chain site, where normal Life Chain Sunday began.



Living Faith is a beautiful thing!  
"If...one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good<sup>[1]</sup> is that?"—James 2:16

As an additional part of their Life Chain Sunday observation, baby quilts were given to 4 area pregnancy resource centers. The lovely quilts were created by the Zion Lutheran quilters. Pastor Ripke, of Zion Lutheran Church in Marengo had a beautiful service of dedication for the quilts. In an inspiring labor of love and example of living faith, they are warmly wrapping those precious babies in a whole lot of love!

## Answered Prayer: Youth Essay Contest Leadership

This year the Lutherans for Life Youth Essay Contest is based on the verse, *"On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem weaker are indispensable"*, First Corinthians 12:22. Any 6th–12th grade Lutheran student or student in a Lutheran school is eligible to participate. Lutheran students may also enter through a home school, congregation e.g. confirmation class, youth group when validated by the pastor or teacher.

As you know if you have been praying with us here in Illinois, our long-time Essay Contest Coordinator, Sandy Goss retired from that position earlier this year. We have been praying that God would raise up somebody to take over that position so that Illinois Lutheran Youth could still participate.

God has answered our prayers! He has sent us a couple of dedicated, retired Lutheran educators, Russ and Cathy Benning.

Most recently, Cathy taught at Our Savior Lutheran School in Spring-



field, while Russ taught at Trinity Lutheran School in Springfield. Prior to that, they taught in Lansing and Chicago.

Not only have Russ and Cathy been dedicated to teaching children by the classroom-full for a combined 76 years, they have also raised four sons of their own, one of whom is adopted. Son Jonathan and his wife live in Minneapolis, where Jon is a graphic artist. Their son Paul and his wife, Jessica, live across the street with Russ and Cathy along with 4 of their grandchildren. Paul is a special ed. teacher. Son David and his wife Rachel live in New Berlin, Illinois, where David is the pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church. Son Jarrod and his wife Kasie live in Mokena, Illinois. Jarrod works at Panduit in

Tinley Park. Now that there are grandchildren to be enjoyed, as well, I understand from Cathy that time with those little people is one of the best things about retirement. She is also enjoying baking, reading, and time with friends, while Russ is delighted to be in the garden more and to occasionally sub.

Their hope for the essay contest is simple: to help affirm the sanctity of Life! For this year's contest, they hope that "no matter which life issue students address, the indispensability of the parts of the body that seem weaker, comes through loud and clear."

Please keep the Youth Essay Contest in your prayers so that students will have an opportunity to examine life issues in depth and grow in their own understanding through the process of writing. Also pray for Russ, Cathy, and the other Board members who will evaluate essays, that they would be blessed with many participants, but not overwhelmed by the task. And of course, join us in thanking God for sending us Russ & Cathy Benning to keep the program going! What a great answer He's given us!

—LL

## The March on Washington

According to their website, NALC Life Ministries has planned a life-filled two days to celebrate God's precious gift of life. It will all begin on Thursday, Jan. 23, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Joppa Maryland, where the NALC will hold its fourth annual Life Conference.

The agenda includes presentations on Pain Perception in the developing Human by Dr. Sheila Page; the Threat of Suicide to our Veterans by Rev. Leslie Haines; other speakers, and opportunities for worship. On Saturday, the NALC participants

will join other Lutherans for the March itself.

According to their website, LCMS will not be holding a Life Conference at the March for Life in Washington this year. They are encouraging members to attend the March for Life Expo at the Renaissance Hotel on the 23rd of January. Anyone planning to attend the rally is asked to RSVP to the LCMS Church Information Center at [infocenter@lcms.org](mailto:infocenter@lcms.org) or



(photo LCMS/Erik Lundsford)

888-843-5267. There will be a pre-march worship service at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Alexandria, VA at 9:00. Other activities that day include a rally at the National Mall at noon, speakers from Silent no More at the Su-

preme Court, and opportunity to speak with your state Representative or Senator. LCMS encourages members to walk with fellow Lutherans at the March., presenting a united voice for life.



## Happy Epiphany!

Epiphany gives us one last chance to repeat Luke's Christmas message: "***Fear Not!*** For behold I bring you tidings of great joy..." Or to repeat Jesus': "***Do Not Fear! Only believe!***" in Mark 5, as He spoke to a father fearing the death of his child. You can get this LFL bulletin insert with the beautiful "Fear Not" message that we bring to Life issues from Concordia Publishing House. <https://www.cph.org/>

LOVE  
AFFIRMS  
LIFE!



## Go Team! — Life Team of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Collinsville, IL

**Rev. Michael W. Salemink** will present the sermon on the sanctity of human life according to God's grace in Christ Jesus from Genesis 3:1-21 for Life Sunday at the Saturday, 5 pm and the Sunday, 8 am and 10:30 am services January 18 & 19, 2020 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Bellville. He will also lead the Bible Class following the 8 am service.

Children will collect items for Mosaic during Children's Bible Study. Anyone wishing to contribute baby items for Mosaic Pregnancy and Health Center can contribute. Items requested include new: diapers, wipes, sleepers, crib sheets, baby wash, baby towels, and diaper rash cream. A door collection for Lutherans for Life will be taken.

Rev. Michael W. Salemink began serving as executive director-elect of Lutherans For Life in August 2015 and became executive director on January 1, 2016. He received a BA in theology from Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, Illinois, in 1999 and a Master of Divinity from [Concordia Theological Seminary](#), Fort Wayne, Indiana, in 2003. He has served as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Webster, Minnesota, (2003-



2005) and as associate pastor of St. James Lutheran Church and School in Lafayette, Indiana (2005-2015). Pastor Salemink and his wife, Heather, have been married since 2000 and reside in St. Louis, Missouri, where they attend [Immanuel Lutheran Church, Olivette](#), with their three sons: Christian, Nathan, and Luke.

Good Shepherd Church is located at 1300 Beltline Road, Collinsville, IL. Everyone is welcome.

This Gospel-motivated voice For Life is presented by the Good Shepherd Life Team.

## Every Good and Perfect Gift is from Above...James 13:7

### A PROJECT IN THE WORKS

An ordinary house will soon be used for extraordinary work. This house is being given by a generous family for the purpose of running a maternity house. The steering committee for this project, would like the congregations in the Northern Illinois District (LCMS) to come together to run this wonderful, life affirming mission.

Are we up to the challenge?

For now they need prayers as the steering committee tries to find answers to some logistical questions. Down the road they will need your

support, both prayerfully, financially, and even physically.

Thank God with us for this good gift, and pray with us for the guidance the steering committee needs to put it to work for Life!



## Celebrating Life around the World

Friends from Lutheran Bible Translators recently visited our church. Their presentation brought back many memories of my own time in Africa. One of the things I remember is the joy with which babies are received. Where everyone understands how fragile life is, everyone is thrilled when a new life enters the community. I recall the birth of my next door neighbor's child. Once the midwife had mother cared for and the cord tied, she literally danced through the living room, front porch, and other areas where family and friends were waiting for the baby. She danced with that baby held above her head for all to see, and she sang in her own language, "Thank God, thank God,

thank God He's given a child" over and over. As she worked her way through the little knots of people scattered around the home, they responded with, "Yes, thank God for the newborn child!" So different from our western way, but what a beautiful recognition of the fact that "*Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward,*" as we are told in Psalm 127:3

When our friends visited, one of the questions our pastor put to them had to do with translation problems. The example they cited was Psalm 22:9-10, where David declares that "*from my mother's womb you have been my God.*" The local

translation team asked the LBT missionary what that meant. They couldn't comprehend the concept of the safe place where a baby grows until it is time for birth as being "my mother's womb." In their world view, that is not something that belongs to the mother, but is "the baby's home". They further explained that they must respect mother for the rest of their lives, knowing that forever she carries within her their first home.

May God help us in the West to recognize life as His gift to us and to honor our parents for allowing us to outgrow our first home!

—LL

## Life Song for Orphans

When the LFL-IL Newsletter interviewed Rich Metcalf of Life song for Orphans one of the questions we asked was about receipts for gifts. They are a 501 (c) 3 organization. If you have made a donation recently, you may have similar questions. Rich explained to me that one way they keep the administrative costs down is to limit mailings. Therefore, if you

have made a sizable donation, your gift was receipted immediately. If a donation was smaller, they try to "batch" the receipts at the end of the year, giving one receipt for everything received during the year from that particular donor. You can, however request receipts at any time and you will receive one. Since we will all be dealing with taxes soon, I thought

you might like to know how that works. Thanks to those of you who have chosen to help Illinois Lutherans with their adoptions! Such donations need to go directly to LifeSong with the words, "Lutherans for Life, IL #P576" written in the memo line.

Here's the address: LifeSong for Orphans, 202 N. Ford Street, Gridley, IL 61744

## A President Affirming Life

—What motivates me to go to the March for Life Chicago each year? At my first MFL Chicago 5 years ago I heard a Congressman share how his daughter brought a young woman wanting to have an abortion to the March For Life Chicago the year before. This young woman made a conscious decision to KEEP HER CHILD AFTER LISTENING TO ANOTHER YOUNG WOMAN SHARE

HOW SHE KEPT HER BABY AND HOW THANKFUL SHE WAS THAT SHE DID BECAUSE HER BABY CHANGED HER LIFE FOR THE BETTER. This woman wanting an abortion was now very much For Life!

The MFL Chicago has changed the lives of people I have encouraged to come with me to be For Life and more proactive in loving and caring

for women considering an abortion. PRAY about who YOU can encourage to go to the MFL Chicago with you and GO! You will have fun marching with joyous people. Please stop by at our LFL of IL tables along with 19 other Life exhibitors at the Congress Plaza hotel before or after the march and say hi to Laura, Liz and me.

—DB

## Pregnancy Information Center of Aurora, Illinois

When Angie Thomas's friend asked who she could suggest to serve as executive director for a not-for-profit she was associated with, Angie joked, "I'm offended that you didn't consider me!" Angie had been involved in efforts fueled by her passion to strengthen the declining American family for most of her adult life. She lived within 3 miles of the Pregnancy Information Center (PIC), but had never heard of them. As her friend described the work of PIC, Angie realized that her life's journey had prepared her to serve in this capacity, all joking aside!

PIC offers free pregnancy testing, sonograms, and a variety of assistance to those who might be considering abortion in an effort to give them a much better choice: Life. At the annual banquet this past fall, PIC celebrated a young couple who gave faces to Angie's dream of building families, the Shields family. They came to PIC "fearing the worst" and not sure what to do when they learned they were pregnant. They committed to PIC's Bible study and parenting classes for nearly half the year, growing more confident in their decision with every

lesson attended. Two weeks before their sweet baby girl was born, the couple took another big step forward and got married!



Angie's "go to" verse when she considers the work of PIC is from John 14: *"I am the way, the truth, and the Life."*

"We need to speak truth. The ultimate choice for truth," she says, "is to choose Jesus, the Truth, who gives Eternal Life!"

Visit PIC at [www.supportpiclife.org/](http://www.supportpiclife.org/)

—LL

## Living Alternatives Center, Peoria, Illinois

Recently, I asked Shelley Hauter of Living Alternatives in Peoria to look back over the past year and share the blessings with us. Shelley said, "It's always a huge blessing to witness the relationships that are formed between mentors and our clients who are part of our HOPE program (pregnancy and parenting educa-

tion classes.) Women can come to these weekly sessions to learn about their pregnancy. The great benefit is the relationships that grow out of these weekly sessions. Our mentors really love on these women and families!"

Shelley tells me the last year has been one in which they have focused

on being rooted in Christ and serving their clients from that base with love and compassion. She says, "Seeing babies saved is always motivating. Seeing the Lord work in the lives of people is priceless."

You can keep up to date with Peoria's Living Alternatives at [www.hopeforafuture.com](http://www.hopeforafuture.com)

—LL

## Mosaic Pregnancy and Health Center of Bellville, Illinois

Mosaic is on the move! They are advancing the cause of life through pregnancy testing, sonograms, and information, including information about the way to eternal Life. They are also listening to God as He leads and that has meant moving in a literal sense. Their mobile unit has been parked next to the new Planned Parenthood in Fairview Heights and has allowed them to serve 60 clients there just since it opened in November! As God is leading them to open a new center within two miles of that abortuary, churches of their community have risen to the occasion and

donated enough for the down payment and renovations to a building that will serve as a location for providing an alternative to abortion.

By the grace of God, 2018 saw 92% of their clients choose life and also saw 43 individuals come to saving knowledge of the Lord of Life, Jesus!

It has been 12 years since Blythe Poston accepted her current position of leadership at Mosaic. I asked her to tell us about that decision. She says, "I have always believed that God gives us different hearts for

different hurts and the talents and gifts to accomplish His will." She saw a notice about the position in a bulletin at church and realized that God had equipped her to carry out the leadership needed in a ministry for which she'd always had the heart.

Maybe God has given **you** the heart and the talents to help heal hurts with Mosaic! Currently expansion of Mosaic means a greater need for volunteers. Orientation will begin January 13th. You can get information at [www.supportmosaic.org/101](http://www.supportmosaic.org/101)

—LL



# Winter has come...bring on the movies, hot cocoa, and popcorn!

Have you purchased your Unplanned site license yet to show the film publicly?

Unplanned is now on DVD, and showing Unplanned in a public setting is a great way to show the truth about abortion and share this message of mercy, hope and forgiveness.

To show Unplanned LEGALLY at your church, school or event, you must have a license or risk violating copyright laws and incurring steep fines. Carmel Communications offers convenient and affordable licenses for your organization. Visit <https://unplannedscreenings.com/>

Other films to consider for a "Popcorn and Movies for Life" event might be "Gosnell", "October Baby", or "Horton Hears a Who", depending on the age of your intended audience.

If you choose to do the unplanned movie, there is a great study guide written by Pastor Craig Meissner that is available on the Lutherans for Life Website. It makes a good way to follow up and share your thoughts about the movie with your brothers and sisters in Christ.

Lesson 3 of the Culture of Life



Who." You can download those for free at <https://culture-of-lifestudies.myshopify.com/collections/moviediscussionguides/products/movie-discussion-guide-horton-hears-a-who-2008-digital-download>

Stay Warm, Have Fun, Affirm Life!

—LL

## 40 Days for Life

If you have an abortion center in your community and it breaks your heart to think of the lives lost in that place, you might consider praying for an end to abortion in that center during 40 Days for Life. There is a vigil coming up during lent, beginning on February 23rd and ending April 5th. If there is no 40 Days for Life vigil scheduled in your community, It could be that nobody from your community has vol-

unteered to lead a vigil there.

The leadership of a vigil requires some sacrifice... 40 Days for Life requires a commitment to a Peaceful, Prayerful Presence. This means sacrificing the right to retaliate when hurt people yell hurtful insults.



Planned Parenthood Aurora

It means praying for conviction, conversion, and grace rather than condemnation for those who work at the facility or who visit the facility for assistance in ending their pregnancy. There is also a time and financial sacrifice in order to receive training. To inquire about training for leadership of a 40 Days for Life vigil in your community, you can contact [shawn@40daysforlife.com](mailto:shawn@40daysforlife.com)

## Life Thoughts

**Born-Alive laws** require that medical care be provided to infants born alive during an attempted abortion. In 2002, Congress passed the Born-Alive Infants Protection Act, which clarified that infants who survive abortion are persons under the law but did not include any legal enforcement.

Currently, 34 states have at least some born-alive protections. However, only 15 states have the three elements of strong born-alive protections, which are reflected in the Born

-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, currently pending in the House of Representatives (H.R.962) and the Senate (S.130):

- a requirement that practitioners must exercise professional skill, care, and diligence to preserve the life of infants who survive abortion;
- a health care requirement (providing for hospitalization of the surviving infant and/or requiring the presence of a second physician during the abortion); and

c) legal penalties for abortionists who do not comply.

*At this moment, federal law and 35 states do not adequately protect the lives of infants who survive abortion. Please pray for the passage of such laws nationally and in other states.*

Illinois: **All Protection Removed**

From an article by Barb Geistfeld of LFL-TX.

## THANKS FOR YOUR GIFTS!

We really appreciate your support! Let's keep the Life-affirming attitude and share the love God has for us and all people. Let's gently give the word of forgiveness to those who are hurting and those who have hurt us...because love affirms life!

Lutherans in our state are disappointed and upset that so many in our society are continuing to cast fragile humans aside ... May God make us into Gospel-motivated voices for life!

Thanks be to God that He has paved the way through Christ for the gift of forgiveness and for us to belong to Him!

(Inspired by LFL-Kansas Newsletter)

Lutherans For Life of Illinois is a State Federation of Lutherans For Life, a 501c3 charitable organization dedicated to equipping Lutherans for becoming Gospel Motivated Voices for Life. We are on the web at <https://www.lutheransforlife.org/lfl-of-illinois/>

Send news items and prayer requests to the editor at: [laeschfamily@gmail.com](mailto:laeschfamily@gmail.com)

*Let your love affirm Life with Lutherans For Life*

### \_\_\_Yes! I want to join LFL...

Please select membership category

\_\_\_Annual \_\_\_\$35 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_Other

Any amount is welcome!

**Note: Membership Contributions are shared with LFL Chapters and State Federations.**

\_\_\_ **Sponsor:** I commit to a monthly gift of \_\_\_.

\_\_\_I'm not interested in membership, but am enclosing a contribution of \_\_\_ to support the work of LFL.

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation\_\_\_\_\_

Church body \_\_\_AALC \_\_\_AFLC \_\_\_CLBA \_\_\_ELCA \_\_\_LCMS \_\_\_Other

Send to: Lutherans for Life, 1101 5th Street, Nevada, IA 50201

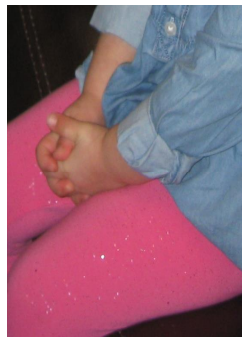
Or donate online at [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org)

## Prayer and Praise

1. Please pray that our nation begins to recognize, respect, and remember the sanctity of all human life- born and unborn.
2. Pray that God would help PIC to make themselves known to those who need the help they have to offer, that they would find good ways to market themselves, and be able to serve more of their community.
3. For Mosaic, pray for a favorable decision in their lawsuit seeking permission for Illinois Pregnancy Assistance Centers to help save life without referring for abortion, that they can reach even more women in 2020, that their staffing/volunteer needs will be met and that more lives will be saved! For more specific and up-to-date prayer requests, requests

and praises throughout the year. Join at [www.supportmosaic.org/pray](http://www.supportmosaic.org/pray) !

4. Pray for Living Alternatives in Peoria that they can reach the women that need to find them--the women who are facing a difficult pregnancy decision. Pray that they meet her with the love and compassion of Christ. Pray that they have the volunteers and finances to do this to the best of their ability.
5. Thank God with us for a new District Life Coordinator for the Southern



**"when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father"  
—Romans 15:30**

Illinois District of LCMS! God bless Monica Shannon as she takes on this responsibility and

help her to serve the congregations of Southern Illinois!

6. Pray that God would continue to move among all Lutherans, drawing us closer to Himself and motivating us to speak for those with no voice of their own.

7. Pray for the students who enter the LFL-IL Life Essay Contest this year. May they grow in their faith and develop life-affirming convictions as they write.

8. Pray for Illinois that all those in authority seek God's direction in their decision-making processes.