## Directions • Lutherans For Life • News and Notes

## **News and Notes**

• Meet Chrissie Gillet – Word of Hope Director – When asked where she's from, Chrissie describes herself as an "Eastern Mutt." She was born in upstate New York but equally claims the great state of Texas where she grew up. Yet, neither state is "home." She reserves that title for the place she awaits to return to with Christ—her Heavenly Home. She was baptized in her late 20s and truly recognizes "her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much" (Luke 7:47).



Loving the rural life with her boots and blue jeans, Chrissie is a country girl at heart. Down-to-earth and

modest, she prefers genuine conversation on a first-name basis over haughty titles related to her education or vocation. Chrissie recently married her best friend, Steph, who is an LCMS pastor. They enjoy working side by side in the ministry as a husband-wife and pastor-deaconess team. Together they have seven children, but only the youngest still resides at home along with their Labradoodle in therapy dog training.

Chrissie earned a doctorate in clinical psychology from Spalding University and completed her psychology residency as an officer in the United States Air Force. She served four years active duty and continues in the Inactive Reserve. God blessed her with a range of counseling experiences that include working in a domestic violence shelter, suicide crisis hotline, military mental health clinic, and Christian counseling agency. She is presently in the Distance Deaconess Program at Concordia Theological Seminary and serves as the Deaconess Intern at her husband's dual parish. In April of 2017, she humbly accepted the position as Word of Hope National Director, an affiliate of Lutherans For Life.

Chrissie values a Christ-centered lifestyle of serving others on behalf of our Lord. She dedicates time to family activities like game night, gardening, and gathering around the fire pit. For her church family she hosts meals, oversees the Telecare ministry, crochets newborn baby blankets, and visits those who are hospitalized or shut-in. She serves the community as Ruritan secretary, and she presents on a range of topics at conferences. She also enjoys painting, exercising, and making natural health products. To know Chrissie is to know she is your sister in Christ who is praying for you.

Chrissie Gillet, PsyD cgillet@lutheransforlife.org Deaconess Intern Word of Hope Director 888.217.8679

## Directions • Lutherans For Life • News and Notes

- The opportunities for LFL's Frontlines to apply the For Life message are endless. For example, November is National Adoption Awareness Month. Check out and order LFL's resources on adoption (booklets, brochures, bulletin inserts) and share them with your congregation: www.lutheransforlife.org/life-issues/adoption. Here's one more:

  Orphan Sunday (https://cafo.org/orphansunday/) is November 12. The Christian Alliance for Orphans (www.christianalliancefororphans.org) offers a wealth of resources to help Christians stand up for the orphan ... defend the fatherless ... care for the child that has no family ... visit orphans in their distress.
- Be sure to "Like" and follow LFL on social media! See links below:

www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife
https://twitter.com/ForLifers
www.instagram.com/lfly4life/
www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL/
www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts/
Also see:
www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife
https://vimeo.com/user4132928

- Please note that we have a Facebook group for Life Chapters, Life Teams, and LMCs: www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL/. The group includes an idea exchange and is a place to connect with other frontline volunteers.
- LifeDate is another way to share the For Life message with your congregation. Order LifeDate in bulk quantities at no charge. (Donations for shipping cost will gladly be accepted.) Call 888.364.LIFE (5433) to order.
- *Life News* is available each month to download and print. *Life News* is a free monthly bulletin insert with life-issue news and more. Go to: www.lutheransforlife.org/media/lifenews.
- AmazonSmile Shop at AmazonSmile, and Amazon will make a donation to Lutherans For Life! Check it out through the link on our Store and Give pages at www.lutheransforlife.org and in our weekly *Life Notes* e-newsletter. (This is not an endorsement of all things Amazon, but it is a free opportunity for Amazon shoppers to support Lutherans For Life.)
- Real Estate for Life "It takes so little to do so much to save the life of a child." Real Estate for Life makes it easy for you to help Lutherans For Life by using funds a real estate company has already earmarked for commission fees at no extra cost to you. Under real estate law, Real Estate for Life will receive a referral fee. Pro-life organizations will receive 100% of the profits of that fee as a donation. Find out how it works at www. lutheransforlife.org/real-estate-for-life; 877.543.3871; proliferealestate@yahoo.com.
- Lutherans For Life Frontlines: LFL has 11 State Federations, 96 local Life Chapters, 110 Life Ministry Coordinators, and 58 Life Teams in the US.

# Directions • Lutherans For Life • Bible Study

# On Giant Shoulders – A Reformation Life Bible Study

God justifies sinners by grace through faith for Jesus' sake. Salvation comes as a gift and not because of one's own works. This truth stands at the heart of all Christians say and do. The Lutheran reformers called justification "the doctrine by which the Church stands or falls." Even more than the Fifth Commandment, God's graciousness governs how we engage life issues. Not only are human beings forgiven, redeemed, and resurrected by grace, but every human life is valued and beloved by grace—age, appearance, and ability notwithstanding. Even after 500 years, we rejoice to proclaim and perform this Gospel.

- 1. How does human sinfulness affect our exercise of free will? (Genesis 6:5; Romans 7:19; John 8:34)
- 2. In what condition does this leave a person's relationship with God? (Ephesians 2:1, 3; Romans 8:7; John 15:5)
- 3. What change does the Holy Spirit bring to this situation? (John 6:63; 2 Timothy 2:25; Acts 2:38)
- 4. What is justification? (Romans 3:23-24; 2 Corinthians 5:19; Romans 5:8-10; Romans 4:5)
- 5. What is grace? (Titus 3:4-5; Psalm 103:8, 10)
- 6. What part does faith play? (2 Corinthians 3:5; 1 Corinthians 4:7; John 1:12; Philippians 3:9)
- 7. What then is the purpose of obedience and good deeds? (1 Corinthians 10:31-33; Matthew 7:18)
- 8. What does everyone have in common with unborn or unresponsive persons? (Mark 10:15; 1 Corinthians 12:3; Philippians 2:13)
- 9. How might this inform the ways we advocate or act with respect to those struggling with life issues?

# Directions • Lutherans For Life • Leadership

## What Kind of Worker Are You?

Source: www.redeemerclc.info/ministries, 7/27/16

It has been interesting to watch our building contractor and all the subcontractors work together along with our congregation in our remodeling project. Onlookers to any type of project, event, or work setting notice a lot about the workmanship, craftsmanship, and relationships between workers. We often make quick comparisons to others when we see these qualities (or lack thereof) and find ourselves questioning ....

The Apostle Peter spoke about working and serving with the gifts God has graciously given us. But under divine inspiration he uses the word "minister" (which means "to serve") when discussing how we use our God-given gifts.

1 Peter 4:10-11 (NKJV): As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Peter reminded the Christians in and around Jerusalem that God has given every single person a variety of gifts, and he tells them "minister it to one another." In other words, use those Godgiven gifts to serve others, to serve God! We have the sinfully selfish habit of using God's gifts to only think about and serve ourselves. Whether it be an attitude of only focusing on our career and income or the attitude of pride and a holier- or better-than-thou attitude with our service. That's why Peter goes on to exhort us to use those God-given gifts so that "God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."

What kind of a worker was Jesus? He lived to glorify His Father in Heaven by doing His will and completed the selfless, sacrificial work of the cross to pay for our debt of sins with His holy and precious blood (the only thing that could). When Jesus spoke, He did exactly as Peter encourages all Christians to do, with "the oracles [Scriptures] of God." After all, we are reminded again today that our purpose is to continue to serve Christ our Savior by building up His kingdom. That is done when we share the Word of God with others. That is done when we lead them from their sin to their Savior, just as Jesus did for us!

Like construction workers or any other kind of worker, let's ensure that our gifts and attitudes serve Christ our Lord as we remind ourselves this is our good and reasonable service and duty to Him, "to whom belong[s] the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

# **A Birthday Tribute**

by Lindsay Noreen

On July 8, 2017, a 90th birthday party was held in Lamberton, Minnesota, for Marian Kopperud. Marian and her husband, Roger, (shown below with their great-grandson, Jacob) have been longtime supporters of Lutherans For Life. Marian's granddaughter, Lindsay Noreen, wrote this beautiful tribute. Perhaps it will remind you of someone in your life. It certainly captures Marian very well and is, as Rev. Salemink wrote, "a testimony to the value of the elderly among us." Lowell Highby

I was asked to write something for this party. I said I would write something, but someone else needed to read it. I was refused that request, so here I am. As I thought back on all the memories I have of Grandma, I realized that they all fall into one of two categories: her hands and her feet. I know that sounds a little strange, but just go with me.



When I think of Grandma, the first thing I think of is how giving she is. And not just

to us grandkids but to everyone she knows—and even people she doesn't know, but who will surely never forget her after she spent time with them (and the tracts that she put into their hands at the end of their conversation).

Grandma has always been there for us grandkids. Her hands were in we girls' hair French braiding it. Her hands were making tea parties for us to have in some tree in the grove behind their house. Her hands carried satchel after satchel filled with goodies for us when they would come for a visit. Her hands were making clues for the scavenger hunts she sent us on around the yard, hiding the thimble, making angel food cake, and soothing our fears.

Grandma's hands were quick to pull out her camera and take pictures, to which most of us groaned and rolled our eyes, "Not another picture!" Her hands pulled out photo albums for everyone to look at, some filled with people none of us knew but were supposedly related to. "Oh, you know them! They are your second cousin twice removed from your great aunt's brother-in-law." Of course they are ...

Her hands were playing hymns on that old piano and thumbing through the old Precious Memories Bible that we read from every night for devotions. They were putting on her swim cap so she could go swimming in the lake at the ARC (Association Retreat Center) with us every afternoon (after our nap, of course).

Her hands filled her house with calendars—most of which were never for the right year—but she loved the pictures, so they became "art." There really wasn't a bare spot on any wall in their

house. Pictures of her loved ones, newspaper clippings, and devotionals were everywhere. And the outside was just as vibrant. There were flowers everywhere, and where there was an area devoid of color, there were laundry bottle caps on spikes to brighten up an area—you all know what I'm talking about! But the most important thing her hands did were folding together in prayer for every person she loved, knew, or had met in the grocery store five minutes before.

Her feet carried her through the grove every day with us kids, exploring new territory, walking the farm fields, riding bikes down the road, and pulling us in the trailer behind the lawnmower around the farm. They walked us to the school bus, played with us at the park, and ran around the backyard chasing us. Her feet kept going when life got hard because she knew her God was right next to her every step of the way. When she was tired, she still walked on. She persevered, never wavering in her faith that her God would keep her wrapped in His arms.

Her feet carried God's message of salvation everywhere she went. Every person she met got a conversation they probably weren't ready for when they said "Hi" to her. But everyone knew that she was passionate about her God. And where her feet couldn't go, she made sure her blessings were passed to other people so they could share God's love. We all remember the coffee can under the Christmas tree that had "Mexico" scribbled on it for any extra change we might be carrying.

Grandma has always talked—a lot. Phone conversations were always funny because you were lucky if you got in an "uh huh" before she was off talking about something else. She was just eager to talk to you about her day and what was going on in Grandpa and Grandma's lives. The four-minute voicemail messages left on all our phones are a testament to that. Grandma may talk a lot, but she never makes you feel like you aren't important. She wanted to know what was going on in our lives so she could pray us through whatever circumstances we were dealing with.

And who can talk about Grandma without thinking about the letters that we all have received in the mail? Each letter is filled with about seven sheets of paper with her handwriting everywhere. You really have to be on top of how you open that letter in order for all of it to make sense. The cutout devotionals, pictures, stickers, and partial cards have everything you need to know about what is happening in their lives. And, of course, the "May We Share?" at the top of newspaper clippings—those always make me giggle.

While we often tease her for her little quirks, we all know none of us would change her. She has raised four exceptional children who because of her have raised some pretty amazing grandchildren, if I do say so myself. And we love her. We love her strong and unwavering faith. I can honestly say that there is not another person I know who is so passionate about her God and about sharing His amazing story of salvation with everyone she meets.

We love you very much, Grandma. You truly are the hands and feet of Jesus. Happy Birthday.

## A Letter from Ruth

This is a letter by Ruth Menge that arrived at the Lutherans For Life national office in May 2017.

As part of our senior pastor's sermon series on "Joining Jesus on His Mission," he interviewed a retired LCMS pastor and theologian, Ted, about his involvement at the local Planned Parenthood. Ted and his wife led a small group who prayed and picketed outside the facility on a weekly basis about 20 years ago.

At one point, Ted contacted the leader of the Planned Parenthood, Robyn, and asked if she would be willing to talk with him and the group. She agreed and invited some local newspaper reporters. He said, "It was an amazing conversation; there were assumptions on both sides. It helped to see where the other person was coming from. It didn't excuse the abortion involvement, but it did help to hear her story, which was laced with childhood horrors."

After their meeting, she waved whenever she drove past the group as they prayed at Planned Parenthood. At a subsequent meeting over coffee, Ted was able to convey the plan of salvation to her, which she found wistfully "interesting, interesting."

One day she came out and asked if she could join their prayer group. She had been diagnosed with cancer and had recently adopted two children, ages four and two, and wanted to be around to raise them. They did pray, and the cancer went into remission. This happened several times, but after about 10 years, the cancer returned and Robyn died. At her memorial service, many kind things were said about her, but there was no mention of God or Jesus until the very end. The person conducting the service said, "Robyn had one last request before she died. She asked that 'Amazing Grace' be sung at her memorial service." Was she saved? Ted finds hope in her final request, and his testimony encourages us all to remember that God wants all people to be saved, regardless of which side of the picket line we are on ... We do thank you for your work and publications. May Jesus continue to bless "the work of your hands" and increase the number of pro-life people, nationally and worldwide.

To view the entire interview, go to www.stlukeaa.org. Click on worship, then sermons, move from home to videos, and down to Joining Jesus on His Mission, week 2.

# What We Can and Can't Do as a Chapter

by Rev. Scott Licht, National Director of Lutherans For Life

Recently, a question came into the national office of Lutherans For Life: "What is it we can and can't do as a Life Chapter and not jeopardize our nonprofit standing?"

As you might expect, there is not a really simple answer to the question. Legally, a Life Chapter or Life Team cannot endorse candidates for office, nor can you expend a "substantial" portion of your resources (time or money) for lobbying activities. What is "substantial"? We have been advised that the IRS generally considers that to be about ten percent of your organization's time OR money (or fair market value of in-kind donations). So, if you don't name names of people for whom to vote (or vote against) or spend more than ten percent of your time, talent, and treasures lobbying, you're within the letter of the law. You can also, legally, host a candidates' forum where you invite ALL candidates for a specific office to appear, either jointly or individually, if you give them the same opportunity for the same amount of time to speak.

Lutherans For Life has generally stayed out of the "public square" as an organization because, frankly, the rhetoric can turn away from being "Gospel-motivated" quite quickly. There are many life-affirming groups that use polemics to make their points and win battles but end up harming the witness of those who choose to "speak the truth in love."

However, it IS possible to find like-minded life advocates. For example, I am part of two coalitions in Iowa, one dealing with the beginning of life and another dealing with the end of life. Each group meets monthly, and we are working to inform legislators and the public about life issues. Each of us are members of different life-affirming groups (Iowans for Life, Iowa Right to Life, Personhood Iowa, Iowa Catholic Conference, etc.). We work to encourage one another and to keep informed about what's going on in the legislature and culture. We will even go to the Capitol to meet with—and pray with and for—our legislators.

Our mission statement is to "Equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life." At some point, then, we hope that those Lutherans whom we have equipped will actually BE voices For Life. This leads us to our vision statement: "Every Lutheran, both individually and in community, upholding the God-given value of human life and influencing society to do the same." Working together with other groups—who share our non-polemic, Gospel-motivated approach—serves to amplify our voice and demonstrate to those who are watching (and, believe me, others ARE watching) that we can provide a unified voice For Life even if we belong to different groups.

# **Project Idea: Medical Lending Closet**

Grace Episcopal Church of Cedar Rapids provides a medical lending closet to their community. Would this work as a project for your Life Team, Life Chapter, or congregation? Here are a few highlights from their brochure.

#### Who Are We?

Grace Episcopal Church has been serving the medical equipment needs in our community for many years. We recognize that medical equipment is expensive and not always covered by insurance. Did you know that Medicare will not routinely cover bath equipment without special waivers? We make our equipment available to anyone and everyone. Our Lending Closet is run by a number of dedicated, helpful, and friendly volunteers. We strive to make the lives of others in our community a little easier. There is no charge for our medical equipment. We ask that our clients return the equipment clean so that we can loan it to the next person in need. We do charge a small (\$25.00), refundable security deposit on some of our larger items such as hospital beds, electric wheelchairs, and life chairs.

#### **Donations Accepted ...**

As we operate strictly on donations, we welcome all donations of medical equipment and funds. Of course, all your donations are tax deductible. Your donated monies are used to repair existing equipment or to purchase equipment to fill the ever-growing need.

#### Our Clients and Their Medical Needs ...

We work with individuals, home health care workers, and both Mercy and St Luke's Hospitals to provide for the medical needs of anyone in need. Frequently, people cannot be released from the hospital until their equipment needs can be met. We often work with senior citizens who wish to stay in their homes and maintain an independent lifestyle.

#### Our Hours of Operation ...

Monday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wednesday 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Friday 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

#### We Wish to Thank ...

All our many supporters for their donations and discounts, especially Care Pro Home Health Care Walgreens

#### **Testimonial**

"When my sister had a severe stroke and needed medical equipment, we were at a loss. She had no medical insurance and could not afford to rent or buy a wheelchair or hospital bed. It was a true blessing to find out about your program and to be able to take the financial worry from her family's shoulders. We were able to pick up the equipment with absolutely no hassle and were told she could keep it as long as she had a need. We are very grateful and thankful that there is such a program in our community. Thank you for being there when we needed you!" RMP

# **Project Idea: Bundles of Joy**

From Apryl Brand, RN, BSN, Parish Nurse: "Twice we have used this as a congregation and LWML combined project to assist new low-income parents in our community of Yuma, Arizona. Last year we packed 35 bundles, and this year so far we have packed 21 bundles. We promote an ingathering throughout our church to gather donations, which include small baby clothing (onesies, shirts, pants, socks, hats, receiving blankets, lotion, baby shampoo, toys, rattles, wipes, bibs, burp cloths, Bibles, diaper bags, and diapers). Our sewing group makes baby-sized quilts. We pack everything in the quilt with a congratulatory card, which includes the name of our church and an invitation to come and worship with us. Then we tie it in a bundle with a big bow.

"We deliver these to our local New Life Pregnancy Center and our local hospital's mother-baby unit. We ask that the bundles be given to those parents who are low-income and are in need of these items for their new babies. All our church members and LWML members are very pleased with our project because we are happy that these families have chosen life."







# **How Churches (and Christian Schools) Can Prevent Abortion**

by Michele D. Shoun

Source: www.atcmag.com/Issues/ID/534/How-churches-and-Christian-schools-can-prevent-abortion *This article is reprinted by permission of "At the Center" magazine.* 

Most women who obtain abortions say they rarely attend church, if at all. According to the research, Protestants are actually under-represented in the population of women having abortions. But it's troubling to learn that "one in five abortion patients (of those who report a religious affiliation) identified themselves as born again, evangelical, charismatic, or fundamentalist."

The bottom line is, too many teens from Christian homes wind up at an abortion clinic. They know having sex before marriage is wrong and don't want to disappoint their parents by admitting their sin and the pregnancy that results from it.

Their reaction is almost as old as time. After Adam and Eve sinned, their natural inclination was to hide and cover up. From Eden on, sin has driven us away from God and each other. Yet the good news is that the cross of Jesus Christ brings sinners back together and to God.

**Redeemed people should know better**, but sometimes our messages express an utter lack of grace: "Don't bother coming home if you get pregnant!" "I'll disown you if you ever humiliate me that way!" or "You'll be expelled from your Christian school!" ... as though unwed pregnancy is the unpardonable sin.

Sometimes teens mistakenly *perceive* this is how adults will respond without anyone having said such a thing to them. It's appalling to think that babies have died as a result of a false assumption. Parents would be horrified and heartbroken to learn a grandchild has died on that basis. We must be pro-active.

## Let's get a few things straight:

- A) Sex is God's good gift, intended for the protective provision of marriage.
- **B)** Sexual sin is wrong whether it results in pregnancy or not.
- C) A baby is God's gift no matter how conceived.
- **D)** Human beings bear God's image at every stage of life.
- E) Children (born and unborn) should not be killed for a parent's sin.

Some teens are confused on this point and see ending a pregnancy as a way to avoid admitting sexual sin. Some parents of wayward teens may also see abortion as a way to preserve their reputations. The message that's too often heeded is this: "Get rid of the unborn baby and get rid of the problem."

Abortion does not, however, solve problems. It does not bring the freedom, joy, grace, acceptance, love, peace, blessing, and hope that confession of sin provides. No, instead it compounds the sin and sorrow.

**How can we spare each other the pain?** What messages can parents, churches, and Christian schools give teenagers to help them understand *both* the sinfulness of sex outside marriage *and* the futility of hiding a resulting pregnancy under the cloak of abortion? Can we encourage confession and pave the way for transformation ... long before our children face these temptations?

Here are six things we can do:

- 1. Leave doors of communication open: "You can talk to me about anything."
- **2.** Express a willingness to help in times of trouble: "Whatever happens, we'll get through it together."
- **3. Be honest and mature about your emotions:** "I may feel hurt and get angry when you disappoint me, but I'll never stop loving you."
- **4. Show mercy to anyone who confesses sin** (sexual or otherwise), following Paul's example in 2 Corinthians 2:5-8: "You are forgiven."
- **5. Demonstrate compassion** to families who struggle with their teenagers' unplanned pregnancies: "How can I help?"
- **6.** Celebrate every baby's life, regardless of how he or she was conceived: "Thank you for not choosing abortion!"

Where will a teenager go when she becomes pregnant outside marriage? To her parents or to her friends? To the pregnancy care center or to Planned Parenthood? To her church or to the abortion clinic?

No one wants to be an unwitting accomplice in an abortion. Pregnancy care centers can help churches and other Christian institutions avoid abandoning people to abortion through thoughtless comments. We can all choose our messages wisely.

- 1. "Characteristics of U.S. Abortion Patients, 2008," Guttmacher Institute, May 2010, page 9; note that this would be 15 percent of the total number obtaining an abortion (20 percent of the 75 percent who report a religious affiliation). An earlier study found that 13 percent of women obtaining abortions call themselves 'born again' or 'evangelical' (Jones et al., "Patterns in the Socioeconomic Characteristics of Women Obtaining Abortions in 2000-2001," Perspectives on Sexual & Reproductive Health, 34:5, September/October 2002). The pattern continued, for the most part, in the most recent report: "Characteristics of U.S. Abortion Patients in 2014 and Changes Since 2008," Guttmacher Institute, May 2016; accessed 6/19/2017.
- 2. Gallup Poll Social Series: Values and Beliefs, Gallup News Service, May 8-11, 2014, <a href="http://www.gallup.com/file/poll/170798/Moral\_Acceptability\_140530.pdf">http://www.gallup.com/file/poll/170798/Moral\_Acceptability\_140530.pdf</a>, <a href="http://www.gallup.com/poll/170789/new-record-highs-moral-acceptability.aspx">http://www.gallup.com/poll/170789/new-record-highs-moral-acceptability.aspx</a>; accessed 7/7/2014.



## Lutherans For Life • Life Team Tools Order Form 2017

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

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

Name				
		Ship to (if different):		
		Name		
City/State/Zi	р	Address		
Daytime phor	ne	City/State/Zip		
E-mail		Telephone		
ITEM #	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
LTT1DVD		Life Team Tool 1 DVD	\$10	
LTT2DVD		Life Team Tool 2 DVD	\$10	
LTT3DVD		Life Team Tool 3 DVD	\$10	
LTT4DVD		Life Team Tool 4 DVD \$10		
LTT1FM		Life Team Tool 1 Field Manual \$10		
LTT2FM		Life Team Tool 2 Field Manual \$		
LTT3FM		Life Team Tool 3 Field Manual \$10		
LTTBN		LIFE TEAM TOOL BUNDLE (Includes tools 1-4 and field manuals)	\$30	
			TOTAL	
LFL Business H Hours subject to		nday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT.	SHIPPING	\$15
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IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:		
MasterCard MasterCard MasterCard		
Amount \$		
Credit Card #		
Exp. Date Phone		
Signature		
You may also purchase Life Team Tools by credit card by calling 888.364.LIFE (5433).		

**GRAND TOTAL** 





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

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

Owen's Mission is a very special project of Lutherans For Life. The goal of this project is to

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



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

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

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

## You can support Owen's Mission by:

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

To give a gift online to Lutherans For Life go to:

www.lutheransforlife.org/give

Please designate your gift to "Owen's Mission."

You can also send your check to:

Lutherans For Life 1101 5th St. Nevada, IA 50201-1816

Please designate your gift to "Owen's Mission."

Lutherans For Life is a 501(c)(3) ministry and contributions are deductible as a charitable donation.

Please keep Lutherans For Life in your prayers.

You can also find out about many other ways to give, including estate-planning assistance, at our Give page.

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10)

You will find many more photos from Owen's Mission events on LFL's Facebook page.



Lutherans For Life is a nonpolitical ministry whose mission is to equip Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. We produce a variety of multimedia resources that connect the life issues to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We affirm life at all stages of development and in all conditions of health. We are For Life, not because we live in a society that isn't, but because we serve a God who is.

# A Story about Owen's Mission

The following was received on April 26, 2017, at the Lutherans For Life National Office.

Dear Lutherans for Life,

I was reading through your newsletter and was reading the different accounts in the Owen's Mission section, and thought I would send you a story on the fetal models.

I purchased three sets of the models for the two Christian schools in town and one for myself at the church. I bought the three different skin-tone sets and mixed them up as students in the schools have different skin tones. The set I have in my office is on a stand so the kids who come in to get a piece of gum can see them. I have three 12-week ones on my pencil and business card stand as well as the set.

The other day a little girl (three years old) came in while her grandmother was busy with the homeschoolers and was looking at the "babies." Impressed, she soon had them all lined up on a chair.

A few days later her grandmother stopped by my office and asked if I knew where babies come from. I thought, what is the catch? She informed me that her granddaughter had been telling people at a wedding they had attended that she had been playing with "squishy babies" and when asked where babies came from, she replied, "Pastor's office."

I thought you might get a grin out of this story.

Thanks for your work in promoting life, especially now when life seems to be less sacred.

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Bill Heithold Trinity Lutheran Church Alamogordo, New Mexico

# **Speakers Bureau**

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

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

## General speaker guidelines (may vary by individual):

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

### **Speakers:**

Jean Amundson (nationwide – based in Cleburne, Texas)

Linda D. Bartlett (nationwide – based in Iowa Falls, Iowa)

Paul M. Clark (nationwide – based in Fowler, Michigan)

Connie Davis (nationwide – based in Macomb, Michigan)

Daniel M. Domke (within five to six hours of Huron, South Dakota)

John Eidsmoe (nationwide – based in Pike Road, Alabama)

Kim Hardy (nationwide – based in Grand Haven, Michigan)

Kimberly Ketola (nationwide – based in Peachtree City, Georgia)

Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb (nationwide and Canada – based in Marshalltown, Iowa)

Sheila Luck (nationwide – based in Scandinavia, Wisconsin)

Ryan C. MacPherson (nationwide – based in Mankato, Minnesota)

Allen Quist (within Minnesota and Iowa – based in St. Peter, Minnesota)

Rev. Michael W. Salemink (nationwide and Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)

Andrew Schatkin (nationwide – based in the New York/Long Island area)

Rev. Caleb Schewe (nationwide – based in Corona, South Dakota)

Alvin J. Schmidt (nationwide and in Canada – based in St. Louis, Missouri)

Carl F. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)

Diane E. Schroeder (nationwide – based in Lombard, Illinois)

Patti Smith (nationwide – based in Huntington Beach, California)

Francis W. Szarejko (nationwide – based in the Kansas City, Kansas, area)

Ed Szeto (nationwide – based in Virginia)

Luke Timm (nationwide – based in Des Moines, Iowa)



# **Speaking Engagement Report Form**

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

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

## Directions • Lutherans For Life • Facts and Stats

#### **National Lutherans For Life Staff**

Rev. Michael W. Salemink – Executive Director

Rev. Scott Licht – National Director John Hawkins – Director of Development Lowell J. Highby – Director of

Communications

Hilary (Murray) Haak – Mission and Ministry Director

Laura Davis – Director of Y4Life

Jerilyn Richard – Data Analyst

Kim Nessa – Accountant

Debra Freese – Office Clerk

Katie Friedrich – Office Assistant

Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, Deaconess Intern –

Director of Word of Hope

#### **National LFL Board of Directors**

Lynette Auch, President – Lesterville, South Dakota

Rev. Everette Greene, Vice President – Cincinnati, Ohio

Sheila Page, DO, Secretary – Aledo, Texas Ronald L. Soule, Treasurer – Mason,

Michigan

Keith Alabach, State Representative – Marion, Indiana

Diane Albers, State Representative – St. Louis, Missouri

Dennis Di Mauro – Herndon, Virginia

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Bethany Glock – Wenona, Illinos

Stephenie Hovland – Portage, Wisconsin

Deaconess Tiffany Manor – New Hartford,

Connecticut

Paula Oldenburg, State Representative –

Rhinelander, Wisconsin

 $Rev.\ Charles\ St-Onge-Deux-Montagnes,$ 

Quebec, Canada

## **Regional Directors**

Barb Geistfeld, DVM (ret'd), Texas

— Spring Branch

Virginia Flo, Minnesota — Eagan

Virginia also serves as national conference director.

#### **State Federation Presidents**

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

# Lutherans For Life 1101 5<sup>th</sup> Street Nevada, IA 50201-1816

Paula Oldenburg, Wisconsin – Rhinelander

info@lutheransforlife.org www.lutheransforlife.org 888.364.LIFE (5433) or 515.382.2077

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

#### Since Roe v. Wade in 1973: 58,586,256 abortions in America

Source: www.lifenews.com/2016/01/14/58586256-abortions-in-america-since-roe-v-wade-in-1973

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## Directions • Lutherans For Life • Facts and Stats

## The Basics of Lutherans For Life

**Our Mission:** Equipping Lutherans to be Gospelmotivated voices For Life.

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

#### Structure and Relationships

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

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

#### **Membership Information**

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

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

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

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

#### **Membership Classifications**

#### Annual Membership

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

#### Sponsor Membership

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

#### The Remittance Program of LFL

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

#### Annual Memberships:

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

#### Sponsor Memberships:

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

