



**2020**  
**Lutherans For Life**  
**Regional**  
**Conferences**



**Lutherans For **Life** Regional Conference**  
**October 24, 2020**

**Life in Christ Lutheran Church**  
**Peoria, Arizona**

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

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

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

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

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### **COVID-19 Precautions for Conference at Life in Christ Lutheran Church:**

- Masks are required at all times in the facility except when seated in the Fellowship Room for lunch and breaks. If you get up to move around, please put your mask on.
- We will be meeting in the sanctuary for the conference. Please honor the seating as posted on signs on the pews.
- Lunch will be brought to each table in the Fellowship Room. Please be seated, and you will be served.



## *A Word from Our President*

**W**elcome to this 2020 Lutherans For Life Regional Conference!

Staff and volunteers have worked faithfully, fearlessly, and tirelessly planning and organizing these regional conferences for the third year now, bringing the life-affirming message of LFL to as many life-affirming people as possible.

**“From Invisible to Indispensable”** is this year’s theme taken from 1 Corinthians 12:22, “On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,” which promises to be theologically and practically packed with life-affirming lessons!

We are so thankful that God has invited you to join LFL. It is my prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide and direct the presentations and speakers to help you to be better equipped Gospel-motivated voices For Life.

Serving the Lord of Life with you,

Lynette Auch  
President



# Lutheran For Life Regional Conference Agenda

Life in Christ Lutheran Church, Peoria, Arizona

October 24, 2020

<b>Registration/Refreshments</b>	8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
<b>Opening Devotions/Worship</b> Rev. George Spicer	9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
<b>Plenary I</b> “Protecting the Most Vulnerable Among Us” Carol Tobias	9:15 a.m. – 10:10 a.m.
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>10:10 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.</b>
<b>Frontline Presentation</b> Dr. Barbara Geistfeld, LFL Regional Director of Texas	10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.
<b>2020 LFL National Essay Contest Grades 6-8 Category Winner Video</b> “Pray, Protect, and Provide for People with Disabilities” Abigail Clayton – Mascoutah, Illinois	10:45 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
<b>Plenary II</b> “Love, Beauty, Romance, and Babies through Scripture ... How God’s Design for Families Is an Icon for Christ and the Church” – Kelly Schumacher	10:55 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
<b>LCMS Video Greeting</b> – Tiffany Manor, Life Ministry Director	11:50 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.
<b>Mission &amp; Ministry Greeting</b> - Rev. Jeffrey Duncan	11:55 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
<b>LUNCH/Visit Exhibits</b>	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
<b>Plenary III</b> “So Often Marginalized, Yet Indispensable!” Mona Fuerstenau	1:00 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.
<b>2020 LFL National Essay Contest Grades 9-12 Category Winner Video</b> “Invisible and Indispensable” - Abigail Wagner – High Ridge, Missouri	1:55 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
<b>BREAK</b>	2:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.
<b>Plenary IV</b> “The Least of These: Examining the Ethics of Embryo Experimentation” - Rev. Michael Salemink	2:20 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
<b>LFL Update</b> – Rev. Michael Salemink	3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
<b>Closing Prayer</b> – Rev. George Spicer	3:30 p.m. – 3:35 p.m.

# Conference Speakers and Topics

**Carol Tobias, President of the National Right to Life Committee**

**Title: “Protecting the Most Vulnerable Among Us”**

**Overview:** We are created in the image of God. Although similar in nature, each person is unique and unrepeatable, and each life should be respected, cherished, and protected. This presentation takes a look at societal efforts to discard the most vulnerable among us and what we can do to protect them.

**Kelly Schumacher, Liturgical artist & founder of Agnus Dei Liturgical Arts**

**Title: “Love, Beauty, Romance, and Babies through Scripture ... How God’s Design for Families Is an Icon for Christ and the Church”**

**Overview:** An in-depth look through artwork at these scriptural lessons: how God made Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and asked them to be fruitful and multiply; our biology as male and female and how it is truly miraculous, bone and skin; the fall into sin and God’s promised redemption through a baby (Jesus); a talk about Song of Songs; how Jesus gives His life for His bride the Church and continues to nourish and care for us; a look at Baptism, children, and how we are God’s children. Kelly will share how her artwork and vocation as a Christian artist illustrate all of these concepts.

**Mona Fuerstenau**

**Title: “So Often Marginalized, Yet Indispensable!”**

**Overview:** Looking into 1 Corinthians 12 through the lens of disability. Exploring the place of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Body of Christ. Finding similarities in the experience of others marginalized by difference. Becoming a place of belonging. Practical tools and resources will be shared to support people and families in your congregations.

**Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director of Mission & Ministry of LFL**

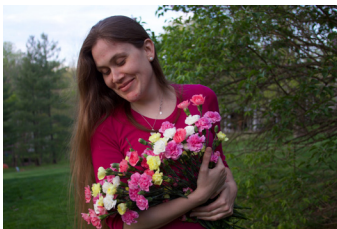
**Title: “The Least of These: Examining the Ethics of Embryo Experimentation”**

**Overview:** Learn to understand stem cell research, in vitro fertilization (and other assistive reproductive technologies), germ-line genetic editing, mitochondrial replacement therapy (three-parent embryos), ectogenesis (artificial wombs), vaccine production, and human cloning. We’ll consider what makes an embryo a member of the human race and reflect on how these biomedical technologies offer opportunities for confessing how Christ’s divine love treasures every human being.

## Conference Speaker Bios



**Carol Tobias** is president of the National Right to Life Committee, the nation's oldest and largest pro-life organization. A native of North Dakota, she has served on the National Right to Life board of directors since 1987. From 1983 to 1991, she was executive director of North Dakota Right to Life and in 1991 was hired as National Right to Life Political Director, a position she held until 2005. During her tenure as political director, pro-life majorities were elected to both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate. In both 2000 and 2004, she oversaw the efforts of National Right to Life's political action committee on behalf of George W. Bush. In 2014, she testified before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee in opposition to the Women's Health Protection Act, which is more appropriately called the "Abortion Until Birth Without Limits Act." She has appeared on ABC's *World News Tonight*, NBC's *Today Show*, CNN, *The News Hour* on PBS, C-SPAN, and Fox News Channel, as well as numerous television and radio programs throughout the country. She has been quoted in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Washington Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *USA Today*.



**Kelly Schumacher** is a 2013 MFA graduate from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. She lives with her family in St. Louis, Missouri. Upon graduation, she started Agnus Dei Liturgical Arts, fine art that is inspired by Lutheran theology. Her cards, paintings, and prints can be found on [agnusdeiarts.com](http://agnusdeiarts.com). In addition to religious art, Kelly paints portraits of animals and children. The sanctity of life is very important in all of her artwork, showing that people are valuable to God.



**Mona Fuerstenau** is a consultant and advocate for those marginalized by disability or difference, particularly in faith communities. She has chaired both regional and national church disability task forces and a state-level disability council. Mona is a former speech pathologist, disability ministry consultant, and director of ministry partnerships for Bethesda. She now speaks, writes, and consults with families, schools, churches, organizations, and communities to create places of belonging for all people.



**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.

# 2020 LFL Essay Winners Grade 6-8



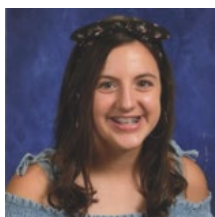
## **LFL NATIONAL WINNER Grade 6-8**

Abigail Clayton  
Zion Lutheran Church, Mascoutah, IL  
**Essay Title: "Pray, Protect, and Provide  
for People with Disabilities"**



## **WISCONSIN Grade 6-8 Winner**

Mary Stoebel  
First Immanuel Lutheran Church & School  
Cedarburg, Wisconsin



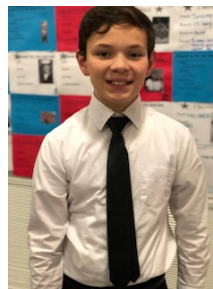
## **INDIANA Grade 6-8 Winner**

Lillian Hildebrand  
St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School  
Fort Wayne, Indiana



## **SOUTH DAKOTA Grade 6-8 Winner**

Olivia Brown  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mitchell, South Dakota



## **MISSOURI Grade 6-8 Winner National Second Place Winner**

Sam Arroyo  
Immanuel Lutheran School  
St. Charles, Missouri



## **MINNESOTA Grade 6-8 Winner**

Reese Merritt  
St. John's Lutheran School  
Chaska, Minnesota



## **TEXAS Grade 6-8 Winner**

Jenna Farrier  
Crown of Life Lutheran School  
Colleyville, Texas



## **NON-FEDERATION Grade 6-8 Winner**

David Wiechec  
Trinity Lutheran School  
Joppa, Maryland

# 2020 LFL Essay Winners Grade 9-12



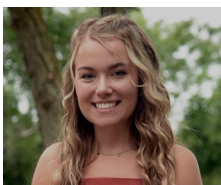
**LFL NATIONAL WINNER Grade 9-12**  
**Abigail Wagner**  
Hope Lutheran Church  
High Ridge, Missouri  
Essay Title: “Invisible and Indispensable”



**NON-FEDERATION Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**National Second Place Winner**  
**Nicole Rodriguez**  
Wittenberg Academy – Online Lutheran Edu.  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church, Billings, Montana



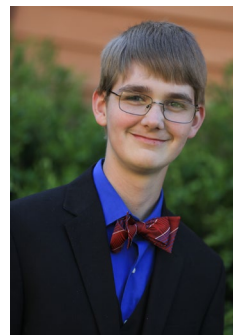
**TEXAS Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Tabitha Waiser**  
Lutheran High North  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
Houston, Texas



**SOUTH DAKOTA Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Abigail Buchmann**  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mitchell, South Dakota



**MINNESOTA Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Grace MacPherson**  
Mt. Olive Lutheran Church  
Mankato, Minnesota



**ILLINOIS Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Matthew Clayton**  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mascoutah, Illinois



**NEBRASKA Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Emily Loseke**  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
Columbus, Nebraska



**INDIANA Grade 9-12 Winner**  
**Lillian Van Houten**  
Lutheran High School of Indianapolis  
Indianapolis, Indiana



# A Special Thank You to ...

- Life in Christ Lutheran Church for providing their facilities to LFL in order to conduct this LFL Regional Conference in Peoria, Arizona. Their hospitality is extremely appreciated.
- Rev. George Spicer and Rev. Christopher Crume for supporting the efforts to organize and carry out this LFL Regional Conference at Life in Christ Lutheran Church.
- Sherri Spicer for her assistance in organizing and fulfilling our life ministry through this conference.
- Life in Christ Lutheran Church Life Team for their support throughout the day in making this conference a great experience for all in attendance.
- Dan Seabreeze for his technical support in providing audiovisual capabilities for those on site and those live streaming this event.
- Rev. Michael Salemin, LFL Executive Director of Mission and Ministry, for his leadership and dedication to For Life work and for his enthusiasm and desire to lead our mission of equipping Lutherans to be voices For Life.
- Rev. Scott Licht, LFL Executive Director of Finance and Operations, for his continued leadership, technological expertise, and overall organizational vision, keeping the organization focused.
- Virginia Flo, LFL National Conference Director and Regional Director of Minnesota, for coordinating the LFL Regional Conferences.
- Lowell Highby, LFL Director of Communications, for promoting and communicating conference details to all of our LFL constituents.
- Jerilyn Richard for maintaining all of the registration information, promotional efforts, and assisting at the conference.
- Rev. Jeffrey Duncan, Mission and Ministry Director of LFL, for his work in promoting and encouraging the Frontline ministries.
- Kim Nessa for her work managing the financial details and assisting at the conference.
- Jan Nessa for printing and shipping conference materials and her willingness to help wherever needed when our LFL members call the national office for help.
- Katie Friedrich for her dedication in keeping our daily activity recorded and up to date.
- Michelle Bauman, Y4Life Director, for her work in developing our youth life ministry.
- Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, Word of Hope Director, for her counseling efforts in protecting life.
- Dr. Barbara Geistfeld, Regional Director of Texas, for her For Life work in Texas.
- Lynette Auch, LFL National President, and the entire LFL Board of Directors for their faithful leadership.
- The LFL Council of Federation Presidents who keeps LFL active and moving forward in our State Federations and the Frontline.
- Our Life Teams and Life Chapters who work so diligently every day to affirm life in so many God-pleasing ways.
- All of our LFL staff for their efforts in all aspects of LFL's ministry.
- All of the conference speakers for providing enlightening presentations on various life topics.
- All of the exhibitors who invested time and money to share their For Life work.
- All of the conference attendees for helping to continue life-affirming work in their churches and communities and for attending and supporting our LFL life-affirming ministry.
- All of the sponsors and ongoing donors who support LFL with their financial gifts in order to sustain our work throughout the year.

# Thank You to Our Conference Exhibitors ...

## *Agnus Dei Liturgical Arts*



*Glorifying God and ministering to the needs of the Church*

Kelly Schumacher Agnusdeiarts.com liturgicalartist@gmail.com

**Alliance Defending Freedom  
Joe Deverian & Bridget McCahill**

15100 N. 90th Street  
Scottsdale, AZ 85260  
480.353.1245  
jeverian@adflegal.org

**Choices Pregnancy Centers  
Pastor Alan Thompson**

10555 N. 58th Drive  
Glendale, AZ 85302  
623.826.1586  
athompson@cpcphoenix.org

**LCMS Life Ministry  
Deaconess Tiffany Manor  
Director of Life Ministry**

1333 S. Kirkwood Rd.  
St. Louis, MO 63122  
1.800.248.1930 ext. 1085  
314.996.1085 (direct)  
tiffany.manor@lcms.org

**Life in Christ Lutheran Church  
Life Team**

**Sherri Spicer – Life Team Leader**  
14802 N. 75th Avenue  
Peoria, AZ 85381  
623.773.1234  
slspicer8@gmail.com

**Human Life Alliance  
Wilma Ruppecht**  
8809 W. Myrtle Avenue  
Glendale, AZ 85305-6931  
630.888.4233  
wlruppecht@gmail.com

**Lutherans For Life**  
888.364.LIFE (5433) • 515.382.2077  
info@lutheransforlife.org  
lutheransforlife.org

# Become a Member of Lutherans For Life ...

Membership in Lutherans For Life will help deepen your commitment to serving the Lord of Life. Membership makes you an active partner in the mission of LFL on a regular basis. Ongoing, regular support is both a way of declaring commitment and developing commitment. Your partnership will help expand our mission of “witnessing to the sanctity of human life, through education, based on the Word of God.”

## Members of Lutherans For Life Receive:

- LFL’s quarterly journal, *LifeDate*, at no cost to you—keeping you informed on all the life issues.
- An initial membership packet that will help you grow in your understanding of the mission, message, and manner of LFL.
- An official membership card.
- Semiannual mailings updating you on new materials.
- An annual report to help you see how your gifts are being used.
- Sponsor members, who give monthly gifts, receive a letter from the executive director each month giving some devotional thoughts, comments on pertinent issues, and updates on what is happening at the national office.

## These items will help you stay connected. Through this ongoing connection you will:

- Be reminded of how the Gospel of Jesus Christ relates to these issues.
- Grow in your faith as you see how God’s Word changes lives.
- Keep informed about what’s going on at the national office.
- Keep up to date on the latest life issues.
- Become better equipped to do more to make a difference in your congregation and community.
- Receive encouragement as you realize you are partnering with your fellow members all across the country.
- Learn about becoming involved at the local and/or state level of LFL.

**[lutheransforlife.org/about](http://lutheransforlife.org/about)**

## **National Lutherans For Life Staff**

Rev. Michael W. Salemink – Executive  
Director of Mission and Ministry  
Rev. Scott Licht – Executive Director of  
Finance and Operations  
Lowell J. Highby – Director of  
Communications  
Rev. Jeff Duncan – Mission and Ministry  
Director  
Michelle Bauman – Director of Y4Life  
Jerilyn Richard – Data Analyst  
Kim Nessa – Accountant  
Jan Nessa – Office Clerk  
Katie Friedrich – Office Assistant  
Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD –  
Director of Word of Hope  
Dr. Barb Geistfeld – Regional Director of Texas  
Virginia Flo – Regional Director of Minnesota  
and National Conference Director

## **National LFL Board of Directors**

Lynette Auch, President – Lesterville, South  
Dakota  
Stephanie Hovland, Vice President – Portage,  
Wisconsin  
Sheila Page, DO, Secretary – Aledo, Texas  
Ronald L. Soule, Treasurer – Mason,  
Michigan  
Diane Albers, State Representative –  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Rev. Chris Brademeyer, State Representative –  
Oakes, North Dakota  
Bethany Campbell – Fort Wayne, Indiana  
Rev. Dr. Dennis Di Mauro – Herndon, Virginia  
Col. John Eidsmoe – Pike Road, Alabama  
Rev. Everette Greene – Cincinnati, Ohio  
Hilary Haak – St. Louis, Missouri  
Donna Harrison, MD – Eau Claire, Michigan  
Kristi Hofferber – Hoffman, Illinois  
Diana Vaughn – Ponca City, Oklahoma

## **State Federation Presidents**

Rev. David Bottorff, Illinois – Bourbonnais  
Katie Willman, Indiana – Marion  
Rev. Richard Salcido, Iowa – Ida Grove  
Jeanne Mackay, Kansas – Lenexa  
Rev. Paul Clark, Michigan – Fowler  
Diane Albers, Missouri – St. Louis  
Berniece Stulc, Montana – Belgrade  
Bob Saeger, Nebraska – Waco  
Rev. Chris Brademeyer, North Dakota –  
Oakes  
Kimberlea Lessman, South Dakota –  
Plankinton  
Rev. Doug Reinders, Wisconsin – Fremont

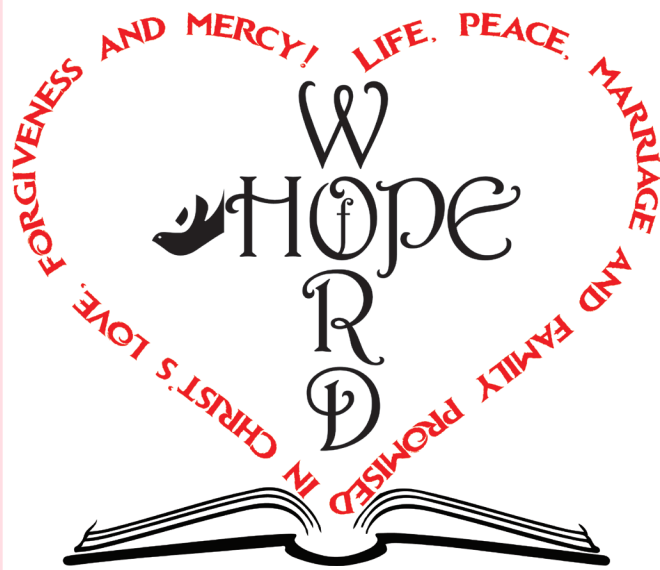
**Lutherans For Life**  
**1101 5<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Nevada, IA 50201-1816**

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

**LFL Business Hours:**  
**Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. CDT.**  
**Hours subject to staff availability.**

**Since 1973: 61,628,584 abortions in America**

Source: [www.nationalrighttolifefews.org/2020/07/abortion-statistics-united-states-data-and-trends-4](http://www.nationalrighttolifefews.org/2020/07/abortion-statistics-united-states-data-and-trends-4)



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

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

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

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

## I'm **4Life** ... Now what?



Become a **Y4Life** Messenger • [y4life.org](http://y4life.org)



# FRONTLINE CALL

## For all Lutherans For Life Frontline Volunteers!



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

**When:** Monday, January 11, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. PDT, 6:00 p.m. MDT, 7:00 p.m. CDT, 8:00 p.m. EDT

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

**CONNECT:** Dial: 646-876-9923, Meeting ID: 868 2321 1980, Passcode: 355706

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86823211980>.

[lutheransforlife.org/grassroots](https://lutheransforlife.org/grassroots)



## Lutherans For Life

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

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

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

# NOTES

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# Life Sunday Resources for 2021

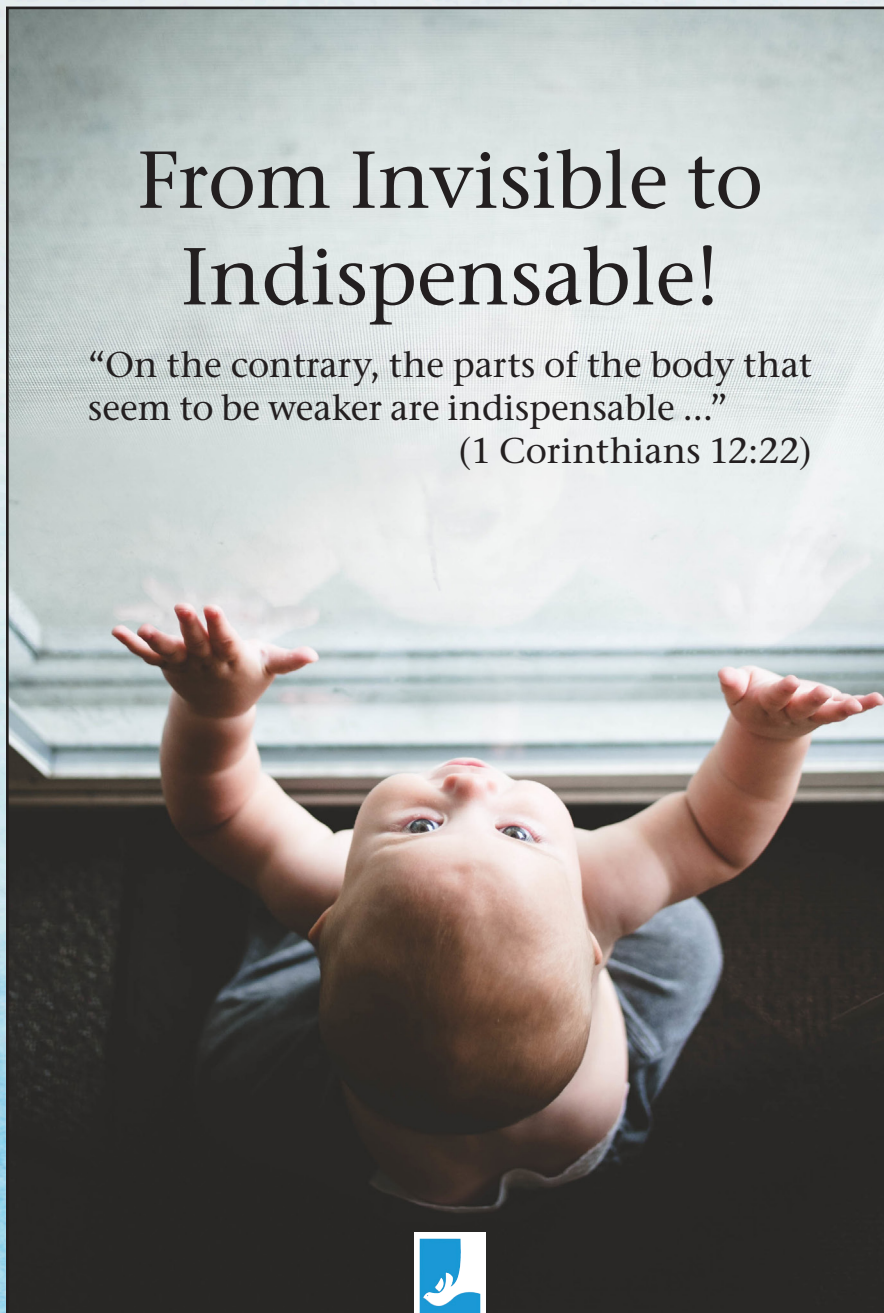
Equipping Lutherans to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life



## From Invisible to Indispensable!

“On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable ...”

(1 Corinthians 12:22)



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

## New for Life Sunday 2021

Bulletin Inserts • Bible Study • Children's Message  
Worship Service • Sermons • Sunday School Lesson