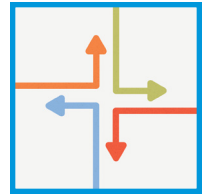


Directions ...

For LFL's Frontline
July-August
2021



Directions is sent bi-monthly to all of Lutherans For Life's Frontline—State Federations, Life Chapters, Life Teams—with Bible studies and articles on leadership, faith in action, fundraising, news and notes, and facts and stats.

“Your hands have made and fashioned me; give me understanding that I may learn your commandments.”

(Psalm 119:73)



This edition of Directions includes ...

Bible Study:
Death with Dignity

In Defense of the First Article

The Mission of the Church

Ambition in the Church

The Power of Christ in Life and Death

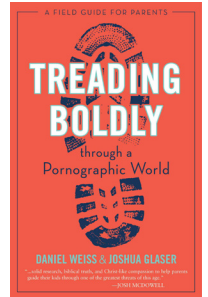
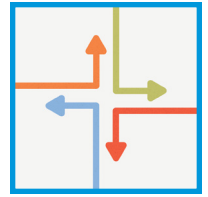
Stand Sunday • November 7, 2021



lutheransforlife.org/resources/journal




News and Notes




- **BE SURE TO FILL OUT AND SUBMIT YOUR ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT!**
- **Recommended Resource:** *Treading Boldly through a Pornographic World* offers practical and spiritual guidance for parents seeking to help their teens navigate this pornographic digital landscape. Combining the latest research with personal and professional experience to guide families into the goodness for which God created us all, the authors skillfully outline the steps necessary for parents to move beyond merely surviving pornography's challenges onto a rewarding path where their children can truly thrive. (faithfilled.family/treading-boldly)
- Check out word-of-hope.org and y4life.org.
- Be sure to “Like” and follow LFL on social media! See links below:

www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife • www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL
www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts
twitter.com/ForLifers • www.instagram.com/lfly4life
www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife

- Join our 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 a great 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. (lutheransforlife.org/resources/journal)
- *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 lutheransforlife.org/media/life-news.



Lutherans
For Life

SEARCH 

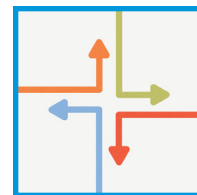
LFL E-MAIL SIGNUP

ABOUT + CONFERENCE RESOURCES + LIFE ISSUES FRONTLINES + DONATE CONTACT US



EQUIPPING LUTHERANS TO
BE GOSPEL-MOTIVATED
VOICES FOR LIFE





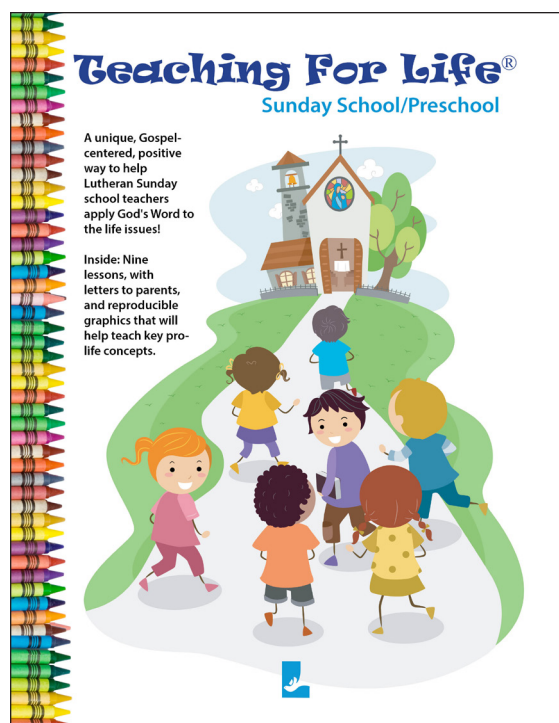
FRONTLINE CALL

For all Lutherans For Life Frontline Volunteers!



Join in on the Frontline Zoom call to get LFL updates and new project ideas:
Monday, July 12, 2021 • 7:00-8:00 p.m. CDT

Check our online calendar for Zoom login info.



Teaching For Life® Sunday School/Preschool provides a unique, Gospel-centered, positive way to help Lutheran Sunday school teachers apply God's Word to the life issues! Inside: Nine lessons, with letters to parents, and reproducible graphics that will help teach key pro-life concepts.

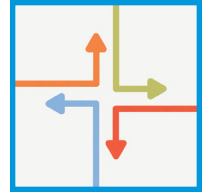
Item LFL732C (Downloadable). \$10.00 ea.

www.cph.org/p-31758-teaching-for-life-sunday-schoolpreschool-downloadable.aspx



Bible Study:

Death with Dignity



Sometimes captives actually begin to sympathize with their abductors. Abuse victims also occasionally develop illogical positive bonds with their aggressors. You may recognize the phenomenon by its popular name, Stockholm Syndrome. Sufferers who develop the disorder may diminish or dismiss the dangers they're facing. That makes Stockholm Syndrome unhealthy, even though it may feel like relief or comfortable.

The idea of physician-assisted suicide bears striking resemblances to Stockholm Syndrome. If I deny the harms death does to me, or if I find them desirable, or if I at least perceive them as preferable to any alternatives, I have asserted my superiority. If I can't get the credit for keeping myself alive, then I'll take the blame for making myself dead, just to have control. A fable from the best-selling Harry Potter children's book series has peddled this elegant lie into the public consciousness. "And then he greeted Death as an old friend, and went with him gladly, and, equals, they departed this life."

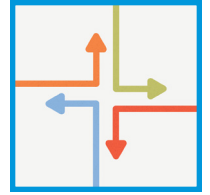
Like lipstick on a pig. Just because you scribble your signature on the sentence doesn't mean you've overcome, outsmarted, escaped, or equaled the executioner. Death's realities remain despite my sentiments. It gives no deliverance however we spin or frame it. It only takes, and it takes everything from its victims and even takes a great deal from the survivors. Surrendering to slavery differs from achieving victory. Both bring an end to war, but only one stops the violence. Feeding oneself to the beast intensifies its appetite instead of taming it. It's not only natural to fear death, it's honest and sensible and commendable. Liking it or making believe so hardly qualifies as liberation.

1. Why can't we regard death as an equal or a friend (Romans 5:14; Hebrews 2:15, 1 Corinthians 15:26, Ecclesiastes 8:8)?
2. Where did Job find his dignity when his own wife recommended assisted suicide (Job 1:20-21, 2:9-10; Isaiah 46:3-4)?
3. How did Jesus respond when given the opportunity to hasten his death (Matthew 26:32-34)? What motivated him to do so (John 12:23-33)?
4. How does elderly Simeon describe death (Luke 2:25-29)? What good news does this give us about who controls death (John 11:25)?
5. Why does Paul look forward to death (Philippians 1:21-25)? What value does he find in prolonging his life even at its most difficult (Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 12:7-9)?



Bible Study:

Death with Dignity



6. What does Jesus' prophecy about Peter's death tell us about whether impairments or appearances affect dignity (John 21:17-19)?
7. What compassionate interventions did the Lord provide when Elijah sought assisted suicide (1 Kings 19:1-18)? What can this tell us about the real reasons people request assisted suicide?
8. Luke 10:30-35 Good Samaritan How did the Good Samaritan treat the half-dead fellow he happened upon (Luke 10:30-35)? What opportunities do we have when those around us are approaching death?

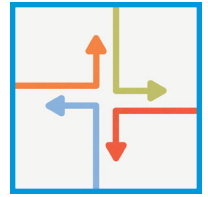
Even Jesus didn't face death as a friend or approach it as an equal. He humbled Himself, obediently subject to it, and then subdued it. He didn't have to, and His innocent divinity emptied death. Our decisions only empower death. Self-interest sustains and sharpens death's sting (1 Corinthians 15:56). We can't will away our guilt, and we must die. He swallowed it up not by relinquishing but with life, relying on His Father (Luke 23:46) and loving His neighbors (Luke 23:34).

We need to get inoculated against death rather than ingratiated to it. So, no manner of death can grant us dignity. Death itself is undignified, and it indignifies all of us. Assisted suicide divests us and our loved ones of dignities such as self-sacrifice, courage, closure, a clear conscience, moments, and memories. Impairments and appearances, on the other hand, cannot negate anyone's innate dignity. Dignity depends upon the character and the composition of a person and not on circumstances or needs. Our faith in God's grace raises us above death's indignities. Indeed, awaiting His will and serving others' well-being actually dignifies all our situations, death included!



In Defense of the First Article

by Rev. Fredric Hinz



I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

Christians have always made this bold proclamation. But, truth be told, what the Church has had to say in the public square about the creative acts of God has recently been less than bold. For more than 200 years, the Christian witness concerning the creation has had a distinctly defensive quality to it as it has sought to fend off nearly constant assaults from militantly secular science.

Secular science confidently asserts that it has (or is on the verge of having) all the answers to all the questions regarding the origin of the universe and the life contained therein. Indeed, it is a confidence crystalized in the account of the famous French physicist, Pierre Laplace, in his 1802 encounter with emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. Asked why his recent writings about the origin of the solar system did not include even a mention of God's creative role, Laplace replied: "Sir, I had no need of that hypothesis."

This confidence—this bluster—has been based on two unsupported assumptions:

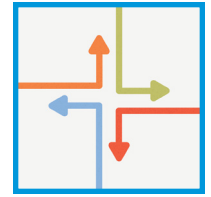
1. The universe is eternal and thus its existence has no need of explanation.
2. The structure of life is really quite simple, and therefore, given enough time, it could be reasonably expected to be generated and advanced through a purely chaotic process characterized by random mutation and natural selection with no need for any kind of intelligent/divine input.

Collectively, this is the foundation on which the secular science worldview has rested. Because these scientific assumptions were largely unchallenged until recently, the Church has, at least from a philosophical perspective, been left to fight a "rear-guard defensive action" when it comes to its public profession of the First Article. But, as is powerfully documented in his new book, *The Return of the God Hypothesis*, Stephen Meyer informs us that things have changed substantially in recent years. Specifically, he points us to three new scientific discoveries which together have effectively dismantled the assumptions on which the secular worldview was built.

1. The scientific community now broadly acknowledges that the universe did have a beginning and is therefore not eternal.
2. The scientific community now understands that the physical conditions required for life to exist are so many and so exacting that one cannot reasonably invoke chance to account for them.
3. The scientific community increasingly sees that the construction and function of even the simplest living organisms requires such an immense amount of highly specified information, primarily contained within the DNA molecule, that there is no intellectually responsible way to offer Darwinian evolution as its source.



All of which means it is time for people of faith—who confess the First Article—to adopt a much more assertive posture as we enter into public discussions about the origins of the universe and the life with which it teems. To that end, let me highly recommend Stephen Meyer’s book *The Return of the God Hypothesis*. In it, you’ll find what you need to give a confident witness not just to “some generic creative force” but to the personal Creator-God revealed in Holy Scripture.



Whether you are a pastor, teacher, parent, grandparent, or another interested party, this is a resource that will allow you to challenge the often-intimidating forces of radical secularism by tapping into the powerful witness that the natural world gives to its Creator. Written in an easy-to-understand fashion, it can be used either by those less scientifically inclined as a means to skim the evidence or by the science enthusiast who wants to do a deep dive into the overwhelming volume of evidence that is now available to us.

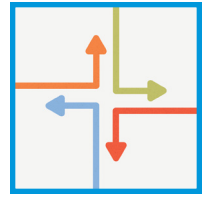
Bottom line: Christians—whether well-versed in the sciences or not—can and should no longer reflexively defer to “the experts,” some of whom have long sought to use science to sow unwarranted doubt in the biblical account of creation. Indeed, as is more obvious than ever, **“The heavens [and the earth do] declare the glory of God, and the sky above [does proclaim] his handiwork. Day to day [they do pour] out speech, and night to night [does reveal] knowledge”** (Psalm 19: 1-2, ESV).

Rev. Fredric Hinz is Public Policy Advocate, Minnesota South and North Districts, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.



The Mission of the Church

by Pastor Michael Stangeland



The Day of Pentecost with the gift of the Holy Spirit marks the birthday of the church. With the Spirit, the disciples were emboldened to venture out of hiding in the upper room into the streets of Jerusalem to proclaim the resurrection and Gospel of Jesus Christ. In the 40 days following the resurrection Jesus prepared them to carry out the purpose of the church as the body of Christ in the world.

As Jesus prepared for His ascension, the disciples were still thinking about the earthly kingdom of Israel. He told them, **“It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”** The purpose of the church is to glorify God and proclaim His wondrous deeds to a fallen world. In Matthew, we read the great commission. **“Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”** The work of the kingdom is calling people out of sin into a new life in Jesus Christ.

This understanding of the church is a part of the basics. God has called us into the priesthood of all believers in order that ***“we may proclaim the wondrous deeds of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.”*** We are explicitly told that this message is for people of every tongue and nation, that is, for everyone in the world. In Romans, Paul goes to great lengths to tell us, **“there is no distinction, since all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.”** **“No one is righteous, no not one.”** It is not about race, nationality, class, or economic status because all have sinned.

While the church is to proclaim the justice and righteousness of God, it is not our mission to establish a kingdom of justice and righteousness here on earth. Our love for our neighbor means that we act to help them in all their physical needs. It is not a work of imposing government intervention, or using the power and authority of the state to accomplish our mission. The gospel reminds us that Christ is above every power and principality. They all will be put under His feet. They are not the means to salvation.

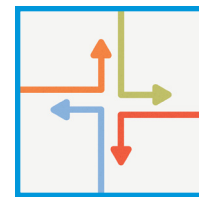
The means of salvation is through faith in Jesus Christ. God has called us to be witnesses to Jesus Christ and His work of redemption on the cross. It is only in scripture that we can come to the knowledge of God and His Son whom He sent. The great commission emphasized the work of making disciples and gave us the responsibility to teach everything Jesus commanded. That starts with the fundamentals. It starts with recognizing our sin and guilt that leads to death. It continues with Jesus’ work to overcome that problem by His death on the cross and His glorious resurrection. The Bible gives us an accurate account of God’s work in the world for us. Those are the fundamentals. It is a starting point, not the end. Jesus said to teach **ALL!** Every Christian is called to be a theologian, to study the things that God has taught us so that we may continue to grow in our knowledge and faith in God. It is preparation to tell others the reason for the hope that is within us, to teach all that He has commanded.

Pastor Michael Stangeland is pastor at Old Westbrook Lutheran Church, Westbrook, Minnesota, and Highwater Lutheran Church, Lamberton, Minnesota.



Ambition in the Church

by Pastor Mark Jeske



These are hard days to be in authority in the church.

We live in an age of severe antiauthoritarianism. It seems as if nobody trusts institutions any longer. Some of that skepticism is deserved—stories abound of pastors who sexually abused their young parishioners and of supervisors who protected the abusers and covered up the crimes. Some church leaders have disgraced their ministries with adulterous affairs and embezzlement.

Still—God’s church needs leaders, needs structure, needs overseers. In spite of our many human failings, the soul-saving work of the church must go on, for God doesn’t have a Plan B. The church will always be the most effective place to learn, receive the sacraments, worship publicly, pray en masse, and be mentored in your serving. That means that Christians still need to recruit, train, and encourage leaders for tomorrow. For all the obvious weaknesses in the organized church, the only alternatives are a disorganized church or no church at all.

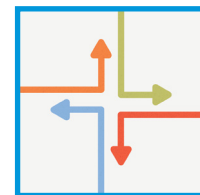
Humility in church workers is a good thing. But, you know, we need ambitious people too. Ambition can be selfish, but, in a godly way, it can just mean that a person wants to use God-given gifts. St. Paul agreed—he told his young trainee Timothy, “Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task” (1 Timothy 3:1). Whom do you know that you can encourage to go into full-time ministry? Whom do you know who is serving well and whom you are convinced could serve at a higher level?

(Source: timeofgrace.org)



The Power of Christ in Life and Death

by Pastor Peter Sulzle



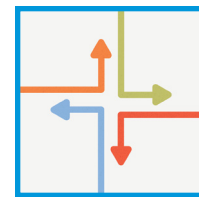
“When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, ‘Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.’ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, ‘Lord, do not hold this sin against them.’ When he had said this, he fell asleep” (Acts 7:54-60 NIV).

What if it were you? What if you were the prophet Elijah fleeing from your persecutors alone in the desert thinking you were the only one left and they wanted to kill you too? What if you were the Apostle Paul in prison waiting for death because you preached the gospel? What if you were Stephen seeing the angry mob rushing at you to kill you? If you were Elijah, Paul or Stephen, would you remain faithful? When persecution comes and when death draws near, will you remain faithful? How do you remain faithful? Faithfulness in life and death is no small task. It requires great power. Elijah, Paul, Stephen, and every believer have trusted the power of Christ in life and death. His power keeps us faithful. In power, he crowns us with glory.

We see the power of Christ in the lesson of Stephen. The Lord called him to work in Jerusalem among the first-century Christians. The Bible says he was filled with the Holy Spirit, a man full of God’s grace and power. Stephen displayed that power in preaching the gospel in the face of opposition. In this lesson, he found himself standing before the Sanhedrin, the Jewish ruling council, accused of denying the true God. But notice where his faithfulness lay—God’s Word. He was bold to speak the truth, **“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist**



the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your fathers did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One (Jesus). And now you have betrayed and murdered him.”



When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. They were convinced that they were justified in what they did to Jesus. But their consciences convicted them even though they didn't want to admit it. Their stubborn hearts would not accept the message of God's Word. They hated it. They hated Stephen. Their anger heated to the boiling point. And Stephen's reaction made them even more furious! He didn't even seem to notice how angry they were getting. *Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.* The Sanhedrin had their hateful eyes fixed on him, but Stephen had his eyes fixed on heaven. He saw the glory of God and his Savior Jesus. In giving him this vision God kept Stephen faithful to the end. He finished his testimony, **“Look, I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”**

This was the last straw for the Sanhedrin. *They covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him.* They didn't want to hear him condemn their actions, so they covered their ears. They yelled at the top of their voices like soldiers about to engage in battle in an attempt to silence their consciences. Then they united in a murderous mob to stone him. They tried to ruffle Stephen's feathers, but the believer's feathers aren't easily ruffled. Stephen was calm, collected, and comforted.

That's the power of Christ. He keeps the Christian faithful throughout the trials and temptations of life. You may not have people rushing at you in hatred, but some people strive against Jesus and the church with evil passion because what he says doesn't line up with their thoughts and desires. They may want to ease their troubled consciences. They may envy the Christian's calm and collected demeanor in perilous times. They may not even realize why. But whatever the reason, it happens.

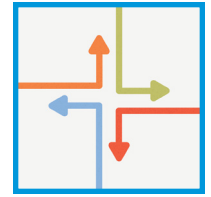
It's very difficult to remain faithful in a sinful world. People consistently contradict God's Word and God's people. At the very least, they tempt and pressure us to turn from God's Word. At the worst, they hurt and even kill believers. Then there are the “Sanhedrins” of our day who use their power to make decisions without any concern for human life, good morality, or Biblical teaching. There are neighbors who scoff and sneer at your belief of the Bible that make no sense to them. There are so-called friends who pressure you to set aside the Christian heart and participate in sinful activities from drinking too much to watching immoral videos to using bad language. Your faithfulness is tested on a daily basis just like Stephen's. You may feel like there's a crowd rushing at you to laugh at your faith or grit their teeth in anger against you.

And at times it's exhausting! You may think you lack the strength to remain faithful to God. Being as faithful as Stephen seems like a distant dream...especially when you're prone to do the opposite of Stephen and shut your mouth or change your message to keep the peace. You leave your Christian heart at the doors of the church just to fit in. You fall for the Sanhedrin lies that faithfulness to others trumps faithfulness to God.

How do we remain faithful! Evil and hatred of the world try to ruffle your spiritual feathers. It may be illness or disease. It may be scoffing and mocking. It may be inner struggles of the sinful nature. It may be temptations of the devil and the world. How do we remain faithful? Let Stephen remind you. He didn't rely on his own power. He looked to Jesus, his Savior. You may not see heaven opened up and



Jesus standing at the right hand of God. But you see Jesus just the same. You see him in his Word saying, **“Well done, good and faithful servant.” “I will strengthen you and uphold you with my righteous right hand.” “Be faithful to the point of death.”** He is your Savior. He knows your needs. He defeated your enemies. He guards you against temptation. He keeps evil from you. Fix your eyes on Jesus. Your ascended Lord rules on high for you. He has power to keep you faithful in life. He crowns you with glory in death.



God gave Stephen a vision to welcome his faithful witness into heaven. Stephen knew he was going to die. But it didn't terrify him. He wasn't focused on what these people did to his body. He was more concerned about his soul. *While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.”* Does that phrase sound familiar? Jesus spoke these words on the cross, *“Father, into your hands I commit my spirit.”* God gave Stephen the faith to imitate Jesus and commend his soul into God's care. Even though Stephen's body was beaten and broken, he knew his soul was safe in Jesus.

He was so comforted that his Spirit would be with Jesus that he modeled for you and me what Jesus wants us to do. He prayed for his persecutors. **“Lord, do not hold this sin against them.”** Even in death, the believer's heart reaches out to those who have no comfort of salvation because the believer is completely comforted. Stephen wanted his enemies to repent and find forgiveness. And after these powerful prayers, Stephen fell asleep in death.

Do you and I have that kind of peace and comfort in death? The fear of death can creep into our hearts. Death can be scary. We don't know when it will come. Some people say they aren't afraid of dying, but just the way they are going to die. Well, we don't have much of a choice in either one, do we? Death causes fear because death is punishment for sin. Death is unknown. Then we think of these precious bodies beaten and broken from an accident, frail and falling apart from age, rotting and decaying in the grave. Not a pretty picture.

No wonder the unbeliever says, “Live life for the moment.” They don't want to think about death. But for the believer, God has given a solution to the devastating problem of death. Jesus suffered the wage of sin and the punishment of hell on the cross. You may fall asleep, but since Jesus rose and rules in heaven, you will be there with him when you die. That's the power of Jesus in death. The soul is at peace. The body falls asleep in Jesus. There are no perfect earthly comforts in a dying moment. Long process or sudden, young or old, peaceful or painful...the best comfort comes in the power of Jesus over death. He is at the right hand of God awaiting the arrival of his faithful witnesses. So you can commit your soul into his care when you fall asleep. He crowns the Christian with glory everlasting.

Stephen saw that glory before he died. You see it too. Not in visions of the Savior, but in what he gives you to help you look forward to heaven—receiving the Lord's Supper, remembering your baptism, singing hymns as a congregation, comforting the down-hearted with Bible verses, lifting up our voices in prayer. All these blessings give a clearer, brighter vision of heaven where everything pales in comparison. When you fall asleep and commit your spirit into God's care, you will awake again—crowned with glory.

See the power of Jesus in life and death. He has the power to keep you faithful in this life. When this life ends, he has the power to crown you with glory in life everlasting. Praise God for his power in life and in death! It's the power he used in the heart of Stephen. It's power that he works in you. Amen.

Pastor Peter Sulzle is senior pastor at St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota.





November 7
2021

*"I have called you
by name, you are
mine. When you pass
through the waters,
I will be *with* you."*

Isaiah 43:1-2

—stand
sunday
ONE DAY. ONE VOICE. ONE PURPOSE.

| 20 years of
observance

An Initiative of the Members of the Christian Alliance for Orphans ...

In 2021, the global church will come together in over 123 nations with one voice to observe the 20th year of Orphan Sunday and Stand Sunday.

On November 7, 2021, thousands of Christ's followers will embrace adoption, foster care, and initiatives to care for the vulnerable child.

Request FREE digital resources to discover your congregation's path to serve & join the Global Prayer Observance online on November 6 & 7.

STANDSUNDAY.ORG



2021 LFL Regional Conferences

God Chose You

John 15:16

Las Vegas • Sioux Falls • Conover

Lutherans For Life regional conferences allow our team to come directly to you with the For Life Gospel message. These gatherings are wonderful times spent together where we can provide valuable information and encouragement to you, your community, and the life-affirming work you are engaged in.

Please check the schedule below to see which of our 2021 conference locations is near you. We're excited to see you there!

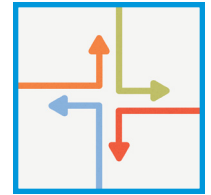
- AUGUST 21 – Faith Community Lutheran Church, Summerlin (Las Vegas), Nevada
- OCTOBER 16 – Living Word Free Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, South Dakota
- NOVEMBER 13 – St. John's Lutheran Church, Conover, North Carolina

“You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit.” (John 15:16)

Find more info at: lutheransforlife.org/conference.



LAMBs – Mercy Blankets



Although our world might tell us otherwise, children are truly a blessing. Lutherans For Life would like to celebrate children—especially those families with a lot of them! Through the skillfulness of some LFLers in Ohio and elsewhere, along with the Miami Valley Life Chapter, a project called “LAMBs” (**L**utherans **A**ssembling **M**ercy **B**lankets) was established.

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

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

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

LAMBs – Lutherans Assembling Mercy Blankets

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

Your Name: _____

Your Congregation: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Mother's & Father's Names: _____

Baby's Gender: Boy ____ Girl ____

Mother's Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

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



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





Lutherans For Life • Life Team Tools Order Form 2021

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

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

Name _____

Title _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime phone _____

Email _____

Ship to (if different):

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Telephone _____

ITEM #	QTY.	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	TOTAL
LTTDVDR		Life Team Tool DVD Replacement: (Circle) 1 2 3 4	\$10	
LTTBN		LIFE TEAM TOOL BUNDLE (Includes tools 1-4 and field manuals)	\$30	
			TOTAL	
			SHIPPING	\$15
			GRAND TOTAL	

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

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

Church Name: _____

Pastor: _____

Church Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD:



Amount \$ _____

Credit Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Phone _____
Month / Year

Signature _____

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

What is a LifeTeam?

TOOL 1
Life Team
Introduction
and Roadmap

TOOL 2
Life Team
Leader
Training

TOOL 3
Life Team
101

TOOL 4
Resource
Disc



OFFICE USE ONLY

Received: _____

Transaction #: _____

Mailed: _____

Emailed: _____

- ☐ Rev. Jeff Duncan
☐ Virginia Flo (MN)
☐ Dr. Barb Geistfeld (TX)

☐ Mail

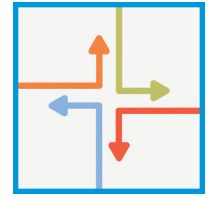
☐ Email

☐ Phone

☐ Conference

☐ Other: _____

Owen's Mission



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

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

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



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

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



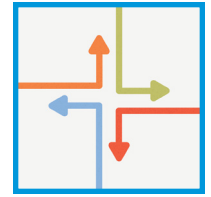
As Owen's grandpa, Dr. Lamb wanted to do something special to remember Owen, honor Jesus, and help others understand the value God gives to even the smallest of lives. With the help of Owen's family, *Owen's Mission* was born. We are training facilitators to present these fetal model sets along with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

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

lutheransforlife.org/owens-mission



Need a Speaker?



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

General speaker guidelines (may vary by individual):

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

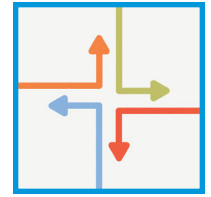


Speakers:

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



The Basics of Lutherans For Life



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

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

Structure and Relationships

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

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

Membership Information

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

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

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

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

Membership Classifications

Annual Membership

- Annual members join by making a membership donation accompanied by a completed copy of the membership form (or by joining online).

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



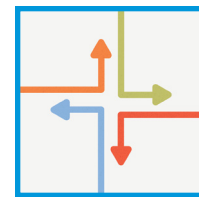
National Lutherans For Life Staff

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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
Deaconess Pamela Buhler – Word of Hope
Assistant
Virginia Flo – Regional Director of Minnesota
and National Conference Director
Dr. Barb Geistfeld – Regional Director of
Texas

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Valley City
Kimberlea Lessman, South Dakota –
Plankinton
Rev. Doug Reinders, Wisconsin – Fremont

Lutherans For Life
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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. CST.
Hours subject to staff availability.

Since 1973: 62,502,904 abortions in America

Source: www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2021/01/roes-legacy-more-than-62-5-million-lives-lost

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