



2021 LFL Regional Conferences

**God Chose You**

*John 15:16*

Las Vegas • Sioux Falls • Conover



Lutherans For **Life** Regional Conference

August 21, 2021

Faith Community Lutheran Church

Summerlin (Las Vegas), Nevada

[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.



## *A Word from Our President*

**W**elcome to this 2021 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.

**“God Chose You”** is this year’s theme taken from John 15:16, “You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit,” which promises to be theologically and practically packed with life-affirming lessons!

We are so thankful that God has invited you to join Lutherans For Life. 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

**Lutherans For Life Regional Conference Agenda**  
Faith Community Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, Nevada  
October 21, 2021

Registration	8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Opening devotions/worship	9:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
Plenary I - Dr. Kim Marxhausen “ <i>God Chose You: The Caregiver’s Journey</i> ”	9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.</b>
National Essay Contest Winner – Grades 6-8: Emma Roth “ <i>Bearing Afflictions and Bearing Fruit: Hope for the Handicapped</i> ”	10:50 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
Meet the Staff: Who is LFL? What do I do? Why do I do it?	10:55 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.
Plenary II – Patti Smith “ <i>Shaking the Family Tree</i> ”	11:25 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
<b>LUNCH/VISIT EXHIBITS</b>	<b>12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>
Essay Contest Winner – Grades 9-12: Grace Ann Roth “ <i>Destroying the Fruits of the Spirit and of the Womb</i> ”	1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.
LCMS Life Ministry Greeting – Deaconess Tiffany Manor	1:05 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.
Servant Project – Michelle Caven shares the work of Woman’s Resource Medical Center kicking off the servant project	1:10 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>2:10 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.</b>
Plenary III: Rev. Scott Licht “ <i>God Chose You</i> ”	2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
<b>CLOSING PRAYER</b>	

## Conference Speakers and Topics



**Dr. Kim Marxhausen** is a Lutheran educator with a doctorate in Educational Psychology. She has authored three books and writes the Parent Pages newsletter for LCMS School Ministry as well as a parenting and devotional blog. She will present “**God Chose You: The Caregiver’s Journey**” based on her personal experience as a caregiver for two loved ones with dementia that provided the inspiration for her book, *Weary Joy: The Caregiver’s Journey*. Kim Marxhausen enjoys a ministry of supporting Lutheran educators and families. She uses her doctorate in Educational Psychology to help people see their work and God’s support in a new way. She presents at conferences all over the country. You are welcome to check out her parenting blog, devotional blog, and ministry resources at [faithparent.marxhausen.net](http://faithparent.marxhausen.net).



**Rev. Scott Licht** is the Executive Director of Finance and Operations for Lutherans For Life. He is also the pastor at Shepherd of the Prairie Lutheran Church in Huxley, Iowa. He will speak on “**God Chose You**” as he shares how God chose you—and you—and you—regardless of your age, stage, ability, past, present, or future. He will especially consider victims and those who are vulnerable to human trafficking. Scott grew up in New Ulm, Minnesota, and graduated from Martin Luther Preparatory School, Northwestern College (the WELS pastor-training college), and attended Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary for a short time. In 2005, he earned an MBA and a Master of Science in Information Systems from Iowa State University. Scott worked for Burke Corporation in Nevada, Iowa, as the Information Technology Manager and Supply Chain Manager. He began his work with

LFL in 2012 as national director. Scott has an adult daughter in the Des Moines area and one daughter, son-in-law, and two grandsons near Colfax, Iowa. He and his wife, Sue, live near Huxley, Iowa, with three horses.



**Patti Smith** is a native of Southern California currently living in Huntington Beach with her husband, Ronald. She is a wife, mother, grandmother, and retired professional employment recruiter. She is an active volunteer for LFL including being a Life Team Leader and speaker. She serves as a sidewalk counselor with 40 Days for Life and much more. In her talk, “**Shaking the Family Tree,**” Patti tells her life journey as a rape conceived and adopted woman of faith. She has three children: Jeremy, Jeffrey, and Amanda. She is also grandmother to Bella, Zach, and Emma. Prior to retiring in 2012, Patti was a professional employment recruiter. Patti is a church musician as well as a pro-life sidewalk counselor with 40 Days for Life. She also serves with a prison ministry, Kairos Outside. Patti is an active member of Savethe1, a support group for the rape conceived. In 2019, Patti was awarded the Olive Meegan Life award for “dedication to human life born and unborn.”



# LFL National Essay Contest Winners

Each year the LFL Council of Federation Presidents sponsors a national essay contest for students in two categories. One category includes students in grades 6-8 and the other in grades 9-12. Students in the Federation states and all other Non-Federation states are eligible to participate. After all of the states have submitted their winners, a national committee selects one winner to be the National Essay winners in each category. This year both winners came from Texas as well as the same family, the first time this has happened. The essay contest rules for 2022 will be published shortly. You will find them on the State Federation webpage on the LFL website. For a student to qualify, they must either belong to a Lutheran church or attend a Lutheran school.

## LFL National Essay Winners



### **Emma Roth**

2021 National Essay Winner – Grades 6-8  
(Texas State Essay Winner Grades 6-8)

Essay Title: *“Bearing Afflictions and Bearing Fruit: Hope for the Handicapped”*

Emma is 13 years old and the second oldest of seven children. She attends Grace Lutheran Church in Elgin, Texas, where her father is the pastor. She is homeschooled and is particularly fond of algebra. She is a talented pianist and guitarist. As the craftiest in her family, she enjoys crocheting, sewing, painting, and drawing. When she isn’t doing an art project, Emma can be found making her family laugh from jokes and puns. Most recently, she has tried her hand at gardening and eagerly awaits her first harvest.



### **Grace Ann Roth**

2021 National Essay Winner – Grades 9-12  
(Texas State Essay Winner Grades 9-12)

Essay Title: *“Destroying the Fruits of the Spirit and of the Womb”*

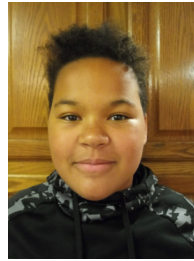
Grace Ann is 15 years old and entering her junior year of high school as a homeschooler. She is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Elgin, Texas, where she is on the altar guild. Playing piano and violin are two of her favorite pastimes. Grace Ann is frequently in the kitchen, baking or cooking for the family. She especially enjoys reading, most recently completing *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy. She enjoys all sciences and plans to study nursing in college.

# LFL State Essay Contest Winners

## GRADES 6-8



**Jillian Dammann**  
Iowa State Essay Winner  
Clarinda Lutheran School  
Clarinda, Iowa



**Emelia Mangold**  
Missouri State Essay Winner  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Columbia, Missouri



**Abigail Clayton**  
Illinois State Essay Winner  
National 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Essay Winner  
Zion Lutheran Church  
Mascoutah, Illinois



**Audrey Weidner**  
North Dakota State Essay Winner  
Grace Lutheran School  
Fargo, North Dakota



**John Bird**  
Indiana State Essay Winner  
Our Shepherd Lutheran School  
Avon, Indiana



**Asher Boggs**  
Nebraska State Essay Winner  
Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Tilden, Nebraska



**Mason Terao**  
Michigan State Essay Winner  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
and School  
Hartland, Michigan



**Ethan Winter**  
Wisconsin State Essay Winner  
St. Paul Lutheran School  
Sheboygan, Wisconsin



**Brent Tebbs**  
Minnesota State Essay Winner  
St. John's Lutheran School  
Chaska, Minnesota



**Christie Keiser**  
Non Federation Essay Winner  
St. Athanasius Church  
McLean, Virginia

# LFL State Essay Contest Winners

## GRADES 9-12



**Lily Wegner**  
Illinois State Essay Winner  
Bethel Lutheran Church  
Morton, Illinois



**Emily Loeske**  
Nebraska State Essay Winner  
St. John Lutheran Church  
Columbus, Nebraska



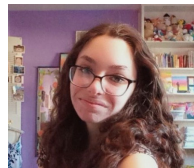
**Grace Levitt**  
Indiana State Essay Winner  
Concordia Lutheran High  
School  
Fort Wayne, Indiana



**Ellie Eckert**  
Wisconsin State Essay Winner  
Living Word Lutheran High School  
Jackson, Wisconsin



**Grace Ricci**  
Michigan State Essay Winner  
Lutheran High North  
Shelby Township, Michigan



**Joanna Douthwaite**  
Non-Federation Essay Winner  
Saint Athanasius Lutheran Church  
Springfield, Virginia



**Ava Butcher**  
Minnesota State Essay Winner  
National 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Essay Winner  
Mayer Lutheran High School  
Mayer, Minnesota



# Thank You to Our Conference Exhibitors ...

## **Patti Smith**

For Life Speaker and member of Lutherans For Life Speakers Bureau  
Huntington Beach, California • 714.552.8078 • pattismith55@yahoo.com

Patti shares a gripping story of her personal experience as a child conceived in rape and adopted as an infant that is outstanding in every regard! You will find her message sincere and Spirit-filled!

## **Dr. Kim Diane Marxhausen**

Educator, Author, Speaker  
Lincoln, Nebraska • 402.641.7203 • kim@marxhausen.net

Her book, *Weary Joy*, can be found on cph.org. Caring for a loved one is full of harsh realities—and unexpected joys. Caregivers often live in the shadow of their loved one’s needs with little time for themselves. They may feel isolated, lonely, and exhausted—and their own needs are left unmet. *Weary Joy* assures caregivers that they are not alone. The stories, explanations, tips, and devotional connections remind caregivers that they walk this journey with others and with God.

## **Woman’s Resource Medical Center**

1701 W. Charleston Blvd - Suite 130, Las Vegas, NV 89102  
702.405.0702 • Michelle@SAVEALiFECLUB.com

We are a faith-based, nonprofit 501(c)3 charitable organization committed to supporting families with pregnancies. We provide complete, accurate information, free high-sensitivity pregnancy tests with immediate results, certified crisis counseling, and state-of-the-art ultrasound services to women and couples who are making decisions about unintended pregnancies. We desire to equip you to make informed healthy and livable decisions. At our facility, you will encounter a supportive, helpful, and compassionate staff that is dedicated to aiding you in exploring all your options.

## **LCMS Life Ministry**

Deaconess Tiffany Manor, Director of Life Ministry  
1333 S. Kirkwood Rd, St. Louis, MO 63122  
800.248.1930 ext. 1085 • 314.996.1085 (direct) • tiffany.manor@lcms.org

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod’s Life Ministry is devoted to upholding the sanctity of human life, both in our church body and the culture at large.

## **Lutherans For Life**

888.364.LIFE (5433) • 515.382.2077 • info@lutheransforlife.org

The message of Lutherans For Life is the heart-changing truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our primary message is not so much: “Here’s what we should do.” Rather it is: “Here is what God has done that gives value and dignity to all human life.”

# A Special Thank You to ...

- Faith Community Lutheran Church for providing their facilities to LFL in order to conduct this LFL Regional Conference in Summerlin/Las Vegas, Nevada. Their hospitality is extremely appreciated.
- Rev. Craig Michaelson for supporting the efforts to organize and carry out this LFL Regional Conference and for conducting opening devotions and serving as conference chaplain..
- Melaney Jones coordinating the planning and overseeing the audio-visual needs and all of the planning efforts to assure this conference is life-affirming and done in a professional and positive way.
- Stephanie Villaluz for managing the audio system during the conference.
- Linda Kurtz for coordinating the needs for the servant project during the conference.
- Liz Cattau for her help in coordinating the needs of LFL during the planning of the conference.
- Carol Casteneda, Kahale Rodrigues, Timothy Jones, Pastor Bob Sundquist, Pastor Robert Rossow, Becky Chaplin, John Molchon and all of the members of the Faith Community staff for their assistance in making this conference one that supports our mission to equip Lutherans and our neighbors to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life.
- Rev. Michael Salemin, LFL Mission and Ministry Executive Director, 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 Operations and Financial Executive Director, 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 conferences.
- 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 and for serving at conferences.
- 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 at both the high school and college levels.
- Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD, Word of Hope Director, for her counseling efforts in protecting life.
- Deaconess Pam Buhler, Word of Hope Assistant, for her support of this ministry through her counseling.
- 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 the conference speakers for providing enlightening presentations on various life topics.
- All of the exhibitors who made an investment of 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.

# 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  
Julie Kyrola – Data Assistant  
Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD –  
Director of Word of Hope  
Deaconess Pamela Buhler – Word of Hope  
Assistant  
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  
Stephenie Hovland, Vice President – Portage,  
Wisconsin  
Ronald L. Soule, Treasurer – Mason,  
Michigan  
Diane Albers, State Representative –  
St. Louis, Missouri  
Rev. Dr. Dennis Di Mauro – Herndon, Virginia  
Col. John Eidsmoe – Pike Road, Alabama  
Rev. Everette Greene – Cincinnati, Ohio  
Rev. Byrene K. Haney – Fort Dodge, Iowa  
Kristi Hofferber – Hoffman, Illinois  
Wayne Oliver – La Crescent, Minnesota  
Diana Vaughan – 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. Dennis Nordby, North Dakota – Valley City  
South Dakota – (Open)  
Wisconsin – (Open)

## **Lutherans For Life**

**1101 5<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Nevada, IA 50201-1816**

**[info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org)**

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

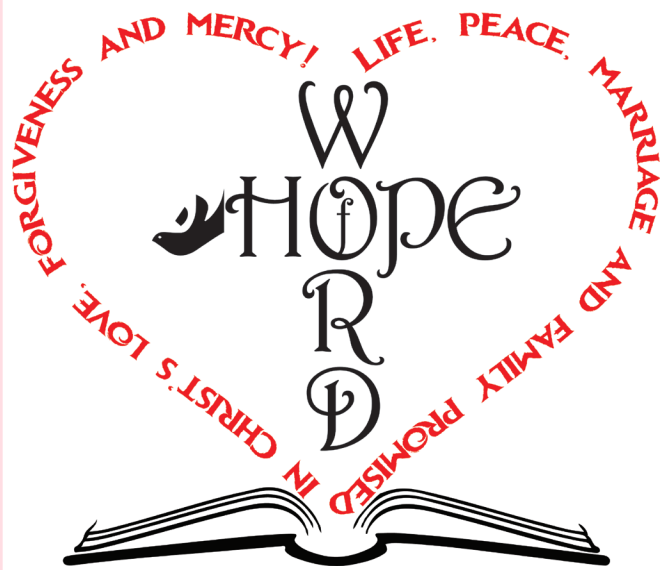
**888.364.LIFE (5433) or 515.382.2077**

### **LFL Business Hours:**

**Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. CDT.**

**Hours subject to staff availability.**





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, October 11, 2021 – 5:00 p.m. PT, 6:00 p.m. MT, 7:00 p.m. CT, 8:00 p.m. ET

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

**CONNECT:** [lutheransforlife.org/event/lfl-frontline-call](https://lutheransforlife.org/event/lfl-frontline-call)

[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 and their neighbors  
to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life**



