



2021 LFL Regional Conferences

God Chose You

John 15:16

Las Vegas • Sioux Falls • Conover



Lutherans For **Life** Regional Conference

November 13, 2021

St. John's Lutheran Church

Conover, North Carolina

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

Welcome 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
St. John's Lutheran Church, Conover, North Carolina
November 13, 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.
BREAK	10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.
National Essay Contest Winner – Grade 6-8: Emma Roth “ <i>Bearing Afflictions and Bearing Fruit: Hope for the Handicapped</i> ”	10:50 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.
NALC Life Ministry Greeting – Rebecka V.A. Andrae	10:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Plenary II – Dr. Donna Harrison “ <i>Over the Counter Abortion</i> ”	11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
LUNCH/VISIT EXHIBITS`	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Meet the North Carolina Life Chapter #006	1:00 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.
AALC Ministry Greeting – Rev. Joseph Christina, Eastern Region	1:10 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.
Essay Contest Winner – Grade 9-12: Grace Ann Roth “ <i>Destroying the Fruits of the Spirit and of the Womb</i> ”	1:15 p.m. – 1:20 p.m.
LCMS Life Ministry Greeting – Deaconess Tiffany Manor	1:20 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.
What’s New at LFL – Rev. Michael Salemink	1:25 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Servant Project – Pregnancy Care Center of Catawba Valley, Renee Bentley, Executive Director and LFL Servant Event	1:45 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.
BREAK	2:20 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.
Plenary III – Rev. Michael Salemink “ <i>God Chose You</i> ”	2:40 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
CLOSING PRAYER	

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.



Rev. Michael Salemink serves as Executive Director of Mission and Ministry for Lutherans For Life. He will present **“God Chose You.”** We’ll explore how God chooses every one of us into existence, chooses each human life into forgiveness, and chooses all members of our race into making a difference. And we’ll witness how nobody’s an accident or an afterthought!



Dr. Donna Harrison is a board-certified obstetrician and gynecologist currently serving as Executive Director of the American Association of Pro-life Obstetricians and Gynecologists (AAPLOG). She will speak on **“Over the Counter Abortion.”** The end game for the abortion industry is to make every woman her own abortionist. This is close to happening. What does OTC abortion mean for us?

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 winner 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”*

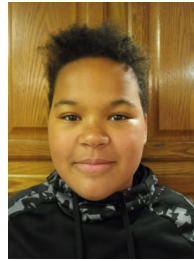
Grace Ann is 15 years old and entering her junior year of high school as a homeschooler. She is a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Elgin, Texas, where she is on the altar guild. Playing piano and violin are two of her favorite pastimes. Grace Ann is frequently in the kitchen, baking or cooking for 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 2nd 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



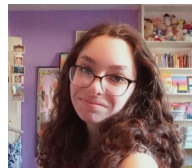
Grace Levitt
Indiana State Essay Winner
Concordia Lutheran High
School
Fort Wayne, Indiana



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 2nd Place
Essay Winner
Mayer Lutheran High School
Mayer, Minnesota

Thank You to Our Conference Exhibitors ...

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.

Pregnancy Care Center of Catawba Valley

Renee Bentley, Executive Director

421 Main Avenue SW • Hickory, North Carolina 28602

828.322.4272 • execdir@pcchickory.com

With the love of Jesus Christ, the Pregnancy Care Center of Catawba Valley has provided a serene location for families facing unexpected pregnancies for over thirty years. The center provides an outreach of compassion, equipping families to make healthy life affirming choices for themselves and their babies through our dedicated staff and trained volunteers. By offering information, limited ultrasound, proof of pregnancy, emotional and spiritual support, abortion alternative information, educational classes (including prenatal, childbirth and budgeting), sexual integrity education, community referrals, fatherhood advocacy, post-abortion counseling, and pregnancy loss counseling and support, we are upholding the sanctity of human life in our community as we proclaim the Gospel.

Remembrance Garden for the Unborn

St. John Lutheran Church, Roanoke, Virginia

Lorita Kelly

4608 Brambleton • Roanoke, Virginia 24018

432.556.8683 • loritarn@gmail.com

Our outdoor “Remembrance Garden for the Unborn” is a new, creative solution to address honoring babies who do not have a grave due to abortion or miscarriage. Through this outreach, the community has a place to mourn a pregnancy loss and a unique opportunity to renew a relationship with Jesus Christ through His forgiveness.

- *GardenForTheUnborn.com* – An interactive website developed to reach affected individuals virtually and offer healing and reconciliation on a potentially global level.
- For the family, an ironwork window was created for padlocks to be attached in honor of an unborn child. The padlock key is kept by the individual as a reminder of God’s forgiveness and faithfulness which He promises to all of His children (Matthew 16:19).
- On a local level, this garden functions as an ecumenical outreach to surrounding churches who support pro-life work. It is also being used by a local pregnancy center for reproductive loss programs.

Our Mission: Remembrance Garden for the Unborn is designed to give women and men an opportunity to grieve the loss of a child, whether it be from a choice or circumstance, and to find peace knowing the unsurpassed love the Lord has for them and their unborn baby.

Thank You to Our Conference Exhibitors ...

North Carolina LFL Life Chapter #006

Rev. Scott Johnson, President

2126 Saint Johns Church Rd. NE • Conover, North Carolina 28613

828.464.6590 • pastorjohnson@stjohnsconover.com

North Carolina Lutherans For Life is a group of people who truly value all human life. They are an active group who support local pregnancy care centers, who strive to motivate other Christians to be active in the pro-life movement, and who strive to take a public stand for life through participation in the local Life Chain and the national March for Life. Anyone living in western North Carolina is invited to come and be part of the group. They usually meet the third Sunday in the month at 2:30 p.m. at St. John's.

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."



Helping You
Connect
God's Word to
Life Issues!

lutheransforlife.org



Lutherans For Life

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

A Special Thank You to ...

- St. John's Lutheran Church for providing their facilities to LFL in order to conduct this LFL Regional Conference in Conover, North Carolina. Their hospitality is extremely appreciated.
- Rev. Scott Johnson for supporting the efforts to organize and carry out this LFL Regional Conference and for conducting opening devotions and serving as conference chaplain.
- North Carolina Life Chapter #006 for their assistance with conference duties in order to make the conference a success and welcoming for attendees.
- Donnie Albert for coordinating the use of the church's technology, making it possible to use it during the conference on site and allowing the use of live streaming.
- Rev. Michael Salemink, 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 and their neighbors 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 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

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

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Jill Johnsen, South Dakota – Wessington
Wisconsin – (Open)

Lutherans For Life

1101 5th Street

Nevada, IA 50201-1816

info@lutheransforlife.org

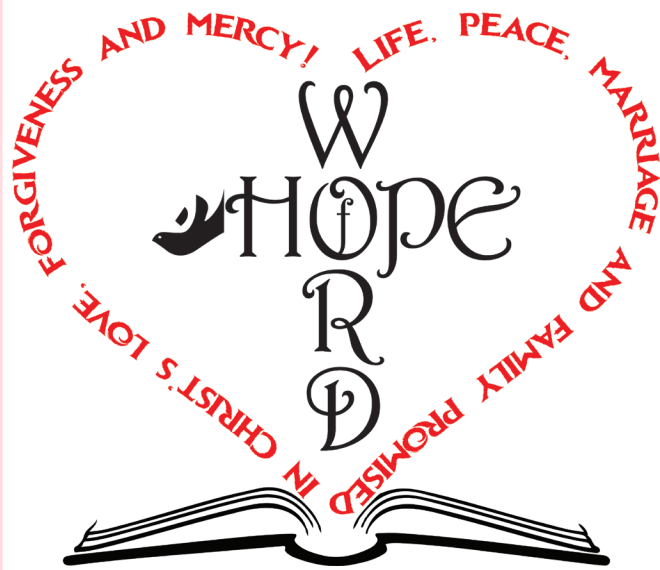
lutheransforlife.org

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.



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.

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



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 10, 2022 – 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

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

NOTES
