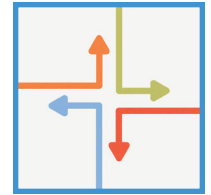


# Directions ...

For LFL's Frontline

May-June  
2022



*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.*

**A**s you do not know the way the spirit comes to the bones in the womb of a woman with child, so you do not know the work of God who makes everything.

*Ecclesiastes 11:5*



*This edition of Directions includes ...*

Churches on Abortion: Why We Differ

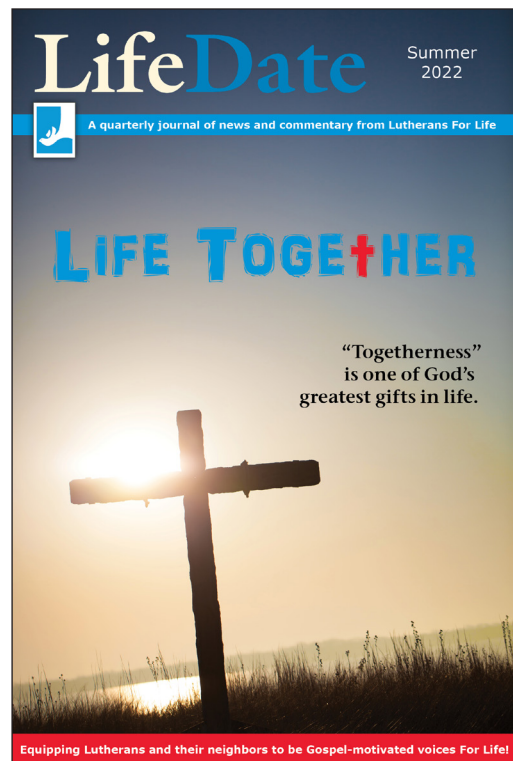
Opportunity Knocks

Volunteering Is Healthy!

Step Up 4 Life

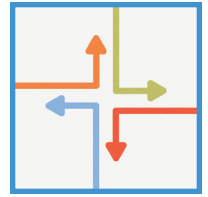
2022 LFL National Conference

The Basics of Lutherans For Life



[lutheransforlife.org/resources/journal](https://lutheransforlife.org/resources/journal)

# News and Notes



- Check out [word-of-hope.org](http://word-of-hope.org) and [y4life.org](http://y4life.org).
- Be sure to “Like” and follow LFL on social media! See links below:

[www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife](http://www.facebook.com/LutheransForLife) • [www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL](http://www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL)  
[www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts](http://www.facebook.com/WordOfHopeHealingHearts)  
[twitter.com/ForLifers](http://twitter.com/ForLifers) • [www.instagram.com/lfly4life](http://www.instagram.com/lfly4life)  
[www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife](http://www.youtube.com/user/LutheransForLife)

- **Join our Facebook group for Life Chapters, Life Teams, and LMCs:** [www.facebook.com/groups/teampageLFL](http://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](http://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](http://lutheransforlife.org/media/life-news).

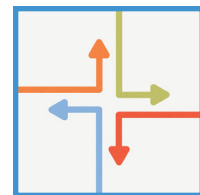


## Lutherans For Life

Available in App Stores







# 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 11, 2022 • 7:00-8:00 p.m. CDT**

Check our online calendar for Zoom login info.

# Step Up 4 Life



**#GODCHOSEYOU**

**Y4  
LIFE**

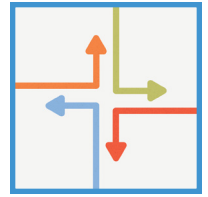
[lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2022/](https://lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2022/)





# Churches on Abortion: Why We Differ

by Rev. Robert Fleischmann



In early May 2022, a working draft of a majority opinion in the U.S. Supreme Court case of *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health* was leaked. In it, the Court looked ready to severely weaken if not overturn the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision, which liberalized abortion laws throughout the United States and its territories. For those favoring abortion rights, the outcry was quick and loud.

What was troubling is a statement that came from the president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), which read in part: "... the leaked draft does not represent the Supreme Court's ruling in its final form; nevertheless, it contradicts this church's teaching. This church teaches that abortion and reproductive health care, including contraception, must be legal and accessible."

In contrast, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS), the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS) find and teach that abortion is clearly contrary to the Word of God. Both positions cannot be correct, yet how can each church body speak so confidently? We see similar contrasts on such issues as marriage, gender, birth control, and assisted suicide.

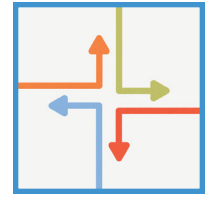
## Ideology vs. Theology

The Apostle Paul provided Timothy with an interesting observation about the nature of people. He wrote:

**"Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear" (2 Timothy 4:2-3).**



When people look for a teacher to tell them what they want to hear, what do they point to as their source of authority? They themselves become that authority. They want instruction that fortifies what they already believe.



This is understandable. Most of us create circles of friends based on shared interests and likes. We welcome the like-minded and ostracize those with whom we differ.

That is fine when talking about ways to decorate, what to plant in a vegetable garden, or what to wear at a picnic. It becomes problematic, however, when the issue takes on a moral or theological tone. It is our nature to think ideologically. We think in terms of issues (ideas that we highly value or believe in) and then construct a support base around those convictions. Ideology is what drives people to seek out teachers who will say what their itching ears want to hear. Some people like to think they don't have any ideology—that they just work with facts—but of course, defining certain things as “fact” and others as not is itself an ideology.

We run into problems when ideology clashes with theology. In other words, when our ideas clash with what is revealed as authoritative instruction, we are faced with a question: Does our theology drive our ideology, or does our ideology drive our theology?

The answer seems easy for those of us who have been raised in our Christian faith. Of course, our theology drives our ideology. In practice, however, it is much more difficult for two reasons:

## REASON #1: AUTHORITY

What is the standard by which we make judgments involving right and wrong? Let's take slavery as an example. Slavery is pretty much universally unacceptable in our society today. There was, however, a time in our history when many people believed slavery to be an acceptable and perhaps even good thing. Are we “right” to oppose slavery, or were they “right” to favor slavery? Why? Was it just a matter of opinion? Is that enough to take a stand? What is it that makes our anti-slavery position correct and the pro-slavery position wrong?

Now let's wade into the deep end of the pool:

What if an adult wants to be sexually active with a 14-year-old child? What if the child is agreeable? Is it still wrong? Why? What makes it wrong if both the adult and child think it is right?

What about abortion? Why is it wrong? Why would it be acceptable? How do we know the right and wrong position?

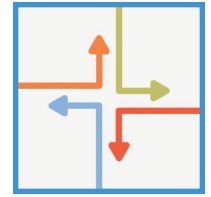
Ask yourself: “Am I led theologically or ideologically?” Ideological convictions unite us on issues like slavery and pedophilia, yet separate us on issues like abortion, gender, and marriage. For many of us, the Bible answers the questions.

So, how do we handle this source of authority? Do we believe the Bible “contains” the Word of God or that it “is” the Word of God?

Historical Lutheranism holds to what are called the “Three Solas”: *Sola Fide* (faith alone), *Sola Gratia* (grace alone), and *Sola Scriptura* (Scripture alone). In other words, we believe we are saved by faith; it is entirely without works (grace); and that Scripture is the only reliable, inspired, and inerrant standard for truth. The Bible not only contains God's Word but *is* God's Word.



Some Lutheran churches (and other church bodies in general) have spun the meaning of *Sola Scriptura*. Here is an example of how they do that:



*Lutherans follow a man, Jesus Christ, not a book. The Holy Scriptures testify to the Word of God becoming flesh in Jesus Christ. The authority of the Lutheran church is rooted in the testimony of scripture. The Lutheran church reads that testimony through the eyes of the gospel, which is the good news of Jesus Christ who defeated death and bridged the gap between humans and God. [ELCA church in the state of Washington]*

This is a convoluted way of saying, “The Bible ‘contains’ the Word of God.” What follows from that position is that not all parts of the Bible are true, reliable, or binding on Christians.

What is important to note is that the statement is presumptive (i.e., “Lutherans follow...”) as if it speaks for all Lutherans. (It doesn’t.) Second, it distinguishes between “The Holy Scriptures” and “The Word of God.” Finally, it subordinates all of Scripture to the “eyes of the gospel.” Notice how that obscures, rather than clarifies: Because only the message of Jesus defeating death defines the rest of Scripture, that position permits the church or any person to ignore the parts that are uncomfortable. That brings us to the second reason that living by theology is difficult:

## REASON #2: INCLINATION

Three passages of Scripture are especially haunting for me:

**“The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: ‘Never again will I curse the ground because of humans, even though every inclination of the human heart is evil from childhood’”** (Genesis 8:21). *[emphasis added]*

**“Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold”** (Matthew 24:12). *[emphasis added]*

**“For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing”** (Romans 7:19). *[emphasis added]*

In my younger days I looked at the evil *others* did, I read the stories of *others* who did not help those in their time of need, and I understood Paul had a problem practicing what he preached. That examination was superficial. In time I came to understand the inclination of my heart is evil, my love grows cold, and my actions do not always reflect the good I desire. In other words, I had to discover the plank in my own eye (Matthew 7:3-4).

So, to ask the old Lutheran question: “What does this mean?” This means that even while recognizing the authority of Scripture, I am engaged in a constant and unrelenting battle with an inclination to reject the authority of Scripture. As Paul also said:

**“The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God”** (Romans 8:7-8).

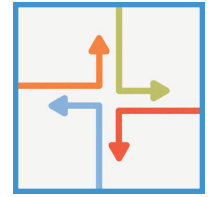
The problem with chasing after teachers to tell us what our itching ears want to hear is that our itching ears are not a reliable standard of what is right and wrong. And when we gather people around us who think and feel as we do about passionate issues, we become reinforced in notions that may very well be wrong.





## Tension

Often when I preach or teach, I say something on the order of, “If you find living the Christian faith is going well for you, you are likely doing it wrong.” When considering my own inclinations, it means there are all sorts of things God says that should make me squirm. I am at war with Him. Like Paul, the good that I would do, I do not.



Sometimes I sense what is right and wrong, without ever knowing what the Bible says on the matter. We are told:

**“Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law” (Romans 2:14).**

That is why my inner being rebels against things like slavery and pedophilia. Yet even those with what would be considered an especially strong faith can stumble in their faith life. There is infidelity, slander, thievery, and worse from those who seemed to live exemplary lives of faith. We see it even in the people the Bible gives us as examples of faith, and we see it around us today. And we feel it within ourselves. When society says one thing and the Bible states another, it is so, so, so much easier to side with society. In examining this reality, Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote:

*Those who wish even to focus on the problem of a Christian ethic are faced with an outrageous demand—from the outset they must give up, as inappropriate to this topic, the very two questions that led them to deal with the ethical problem: “How can I be good?” and “How can I do something good?” Instead they must ask the wholly other, completely different question: “What is the will of God?” [Ethics]*

My point is simple: Left to our own reasoning, we are flawed. It is within our nature to rebel, challenge, bend, and twist the truth to suit our desires. We, too, have itching ears.

This is how Christians, who in one breath proclaim salvation through faith in Christ alone, will in another breath take a position contrary to what is found in Scripture. When finding portions of Scripture uncomfortable, they contrive a reason to ignore it. This is why abortion-rights advocates focus on how “God is love” and then presume that “love” permits what they wish to promote, without consulting the more uncomfortable portions of Scripture that might actually show their presumptions are wrong.

## Surrender

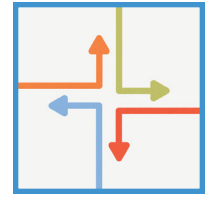
So, now what do we do? First, let’s focus for a moment on the plank in our own eyes. It is harder to be pro-life when we could be the ones facing an unwanted pregnancy. It is harder to recognize two genders (male and female) when we are facing gender confusion. It is harder to want to go on with a life that has become filled with discomfort and sadness. Yet, we surrender to an authority beyond our comfort levels. We acknowledge that our inclination shifts with the degree to which we find ourselves in crisis. And we recognize our inclinations need to be checked and balanced.

That is why we talk about a “surrender” in the Christian faith. We do not surrender to be saved or to earn God’s attention and forgiveness. We surrender because life is not about earning God’s favor. Rather, it is a demonstration of what it means for us to be favored by God. We surrender to the Scriptures not in worship but in obedience. We are told:

**“In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands” (1 John 5:3).**



The Apostle is not talking about keeping the commands we like or those that make us happy or bring us pleasure. We keep all of God's commands in surrender to a wisdom and truth that far exceeds our notions of good and evil. We surrender to God's commands because our desire is to first demonstrate to God our love for Him and the sacrifice he made with the gift of his own Son for our sins.



The Apostle Paul described life as a “good fight” and a “race” to be finished (2 Timothy 4:7). Jesus said, when we follow His Word, the world hates us because it hated Him first (Matthew 10:22). When Paul and Barnabas lived God's Word and suffered for it, they reminded the people:

**“We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God”** (Acts 14:22).

It is not easy. It is seldom popular. It is rarely comfortable. Yet, submission to the authority of Scripture is always right.

### **Correction**

Identifying a problem is of little value if we do not serve as a force of good to bring about correction. Once we surrender our will to the perfect will of God expressed through His Word, we can then begin to help others correct themselves. We do it not like a wild man beating off an attacking bear. Instead, we are told to:

**“Correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction”** (2 Timothy 4:2).

People spend a lifetime forming their opinions and values. Rarely can change be brought about overnight. Think of what that involves. What do you think it would take for the president of the ELCA to back away from what she wrote about abortion? She is a theologian and holds the highest position in that church body. Even getting past the obstacle of illogic, everyone's great internal foe must be tackled, namely: pride. Change comes hard.

So, if we wish to see Christians with unbiblical positions change them to biblical ones, we need to approach them with “great patience and careful instruction.” Loving correction means showing error, not just in their position, but also in the process used to arrive at their position.

The most powerful word in your arsenal is “Why?” When someone argues in favor of abortion rights, ask, “Why do you feel abortion is a right to be protected?” Because there is no right to abortion in Scripture, there is ultimately some perceived sense of rightness extracted from a flawed notion about themselves.

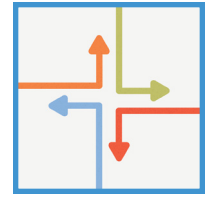
In a world of sin, there are many examples of generally unacceptable behavior, prompted by an individual's suspicions, notions, or sense of justice. It could be a brutal murder, an act of rape, terrible vandalism, horrible slander, and the list goes on. These examples point out how others, using their own internal sense of right and wrong, arrive at very unpopular (wrong?!?) conclusions. How can we be certain that they are not right, and we are not wrong?

Do not look for a mountaintop conversion experience. As with most of our ministry of God's Word, we are planting seeds and fertilizing. God, in His own time and through His Holy Spirit, will not permit His words to have been wasted when we speak them (Isaiah 55:11).





Also, remember why you seek correction. For the unbeliever, our motive is to connect them with their Creator. Correction is of secondary concern as we set out to illustrate the consequences of sin and God's solution in Jesus Christ. Our premier concern is for their soul.



For believers who have pursued the conclusions of itching ears rather than the truth, we need to help them get back to the truth. We need to help them realize that the right obedience of God's Word is the expression of gratitude for God's solution to sin. To do that, we want to seek out and find common ground.

Remember that in a world driven by ideology rather than theology, the rapport is built around a common ideology that, for us, is rooted in Scripture. Maybe we can't find common ground on abortion, but perhaps that common ground is in fighting for better care for single mothers and babies. Maybe we cannot find common ground on a binary (male/female) understanding of sexuality. Maybe our common ground is to feed the hungry or house the homeless.

As we build a rapport, we earn a place at the table to discuss the more delicate differences that divide us. Because our goal is NOT to win the argument but to either lead someone to Christ or to help someone improve as God's servant, we walk the difficult and time-demanding path of correction rather than conquest.

Again, it is a process. The Apostle Paul said:

**“All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you” (Philippians 3:15).**

Be as patient with others as you know God is with you. In so doing, you will be keeping your head in all circumstances (2 Timothy 4:5). You will find the resolve to remain calm and patient, even though ideologically you may become incensed. Theologically, you know what it means to be the object of perfect love. Let Christ be your role model.

It is troubling when anyone expresses a view that speaks “for the church” when it is lacking a biblical foundation for what it says. While it is tempting to get into a battle with words, our greater concern is to speak the truth with clarity, love, and patience. We shall continue to do so.

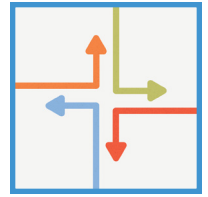
*Rev. Robert Fleischmann is National Director of Christian Life Resources.*

(Source: [christianliferesources.com/2022/05/31/churches-on-abortion-why-we-differ](https://christianliferesources.com/2022/05/31/churches-on-abortion-why-we-differ))



# Opportunity Knocks

by Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer



How shall we shine the light of Christ? That's always the challenge, but perhaps the choices have never been so stark. Our world is not pagan. Paganism is something we can deal with. The African church is thriving as it shines the light in the darkness of witch doctors and assorted evil spirits. But our culture is beyond paganism. It is not only post-Christian; it's virulently anti-Christian, and along with a prosperity that makes madness possible, it is anti-nature, anti-male, anti-female, anti-children, and, in short, anti-human.

So what should we do? For starters, we need to see the world for what it is: the enemy of Christ. The world will hate you, Christ says. You will be hated by everyone, yes, everyone, because of Me, Christ says. Even more so now as the time grows short. Perhaps we might think it's enough to defend, but what's left to defend? Girls' sports? Okay. But what does it mean when you play along with the idea that Olympian Jenner is a woman? Social Emotional Learning and Critical Race Theory and all the rest of the indoctrination has taken over our public schools, which seem beyond redemption. But what then of our church schools at every level? Is it enough to say, well, some good things are happening there?

Why not instead say that in our schools, we will only teach the truth, that we will not be places where the lie has a home? There is a reason people are sending their kids to Hillsdale. There's a reason homeschooling has skyrocketed in popularity. We are no longer living in a time when we can make the best of things, when a little spring cleaning can make the house habitable. It's a deep rot that has set in, a dangerous mold. We don't need schools where Christians are tolerated if they remain relatively quiet. We need to raise our children up in the Christian faith. We can no longer pretend that we are sending our kids to be little evangelists in a secular world, when in fact it's just tossing our little lambs to be feasted on by the wolves.

So what's left for us to do? Be Christian in every way. Stop pretending as if the world can be won over by a charm offensive or by being inoffensive. Stop apologizing and saying things like "We can do better." We have the Word that alone brings life, so we should act like it. Every professor at our school should be Christian and should renounce the devil, and the world, and, now, the world of Critical Theory and the Rainbow Pride. It's not enough to have Christian schools where good things happen. Instead, true goodness and truth should be the charter and hallmark of all we do.

The Left has been successful in taking over our institutions, and Christian schools are now on the brink. In such times, halfway measures are no good. There is no good to be had saving an institution for the sake of the institution. The cancer is far too widely spread. So, what—again—shall we do? Be more Christian, not less. Be more Lutheran, not less. See the world for what it is, and what it has become, and save your family from it. Save your friends from it. And save your neighbors from it. How? Not by pandering, nor by apologizing for being who you are.

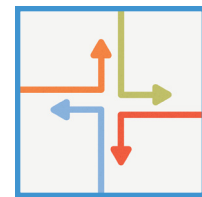
As a rule of thumb, the more difficult it is to speak a particular truth, the more important it is for you to speak that truth. The Church is under an incredible assault, but perhaps never has the opportunity been greater. The question is whether we wish to take it, whether we want to be salt, or whether we'll just mark time, leaving nothing but ruins for those who follow in our footsteps.

(Source: News from the Center Friday Digest, 5/27/22)



# Volunteering Is Healthy!

by Virginia Flo



“All for one and one for all.” You have probably heard that saying before. The Three Musketeers used it as their motto. It stood for having a common purpose, helping each other, having each other’s back, and just being good friends. The Musketeers may not be the best example of the work we do in volunteering as we serve the Lord, yet we can agree with their desire to work together and make things better for others.

As Christians, we have a special purpose in being faithful servants in gratitude for what God has done for us and giving glory to God for His creation and all the blessings He has bestowed on us. That’s why we volunteer—because we want to share that joy with others, and while doing so, grow in our faith.

Jesus was the ultimate example of servanthood as He gave His everything, including His life, to serve and to save. We can’t repeat His ultimate sacrifice, but we can emulate His passion to serve others, His compassion in doing so, and His mission in sharing the Gospel message and, in doing so, leading people to salvation.

It has been written that volunteering can bring better health through the satisfaction of sharing your gifts for a greater cause. It even been said that volunteering can assist in lowering your blood pressure. You may have felt some stress at times in your volunteering, but as you give it some thought, remember the times you felt good about the accomplishments that were visible and the seeds you were able to plant. After all, we are just planting seeds while God does the watering, sheds the needed light, and makes things grow. In our volunteering, it may seem like we are dealing with life and death issues, and maybe at times we are. In the end, however, God is in charge, and being His servant and following His path is the work we have been assigned. He will do the rest.

Our entire LFL team wants to say “thank you” to all the volunteers who support and provide life ministry every day. It’s not always easy, but it surely is the Lord’s work. The scriptural perspective on life needs to be shared with the world, and our army of volunteers is key to keeping God’s love for life visible and audible.

Please keep up the great work and may you be blessed in many ways as you give your personal service as a faithful volunteer.

# VOLUNTEER





# Step Up 4 Life



[lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2022/](https://lutheransforlife.org/step-up-4-life-2022/)

Summer is often a time of togetherness—picnics, watching fireworks, chasing lightning bugs, vacations at the beach or in the mountains or just in the backyard with dear family and friends—and all these things are meant to be enjoyed with loved ones! *Life Together* was God’s intent from the very beginning.

**“So God created man in his own image ... male and female he created them. And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth ...’”**  
(Genesis 1: 27-28).

Paul reminds us that, in Jesus, our family expands, and we become brothers and sisters in Christ.

**“So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and *members of the household of God* ...”** (Ephesians 2:19).

That is a *lot* of togetherness and a *lot of family*!

Lutherans For Life would love to see you experience life together with all these brothers and sisters in our second annual **Step Up 4 Life** fundraising campaign. By now, you have probably seen all kinds of announcements encouraging you to join in the fun. Here is another reminder that you can *still* be a part of this fun. We encourage you to become a sponsor, a donor, a walker, a runner, or participant in any activity that earns steps and raises money For Life! Our goal of \$60,000 will allow Lutherans For Life to continue our unparalleled commitment to helping others become *Gospel-motivated voices For Life*. Our ministry provides education and support to those people—both brothers and sisters and those *not yet* our brothers and sisters—who may be facing many different life issues that occur anytime from fertilization to natural death.

Just visit the link to learn all about our campaign, sign up yourself and others, and then get out there and spend some fun time *together* as you and your family and friends **Step Up 4 Life!!**



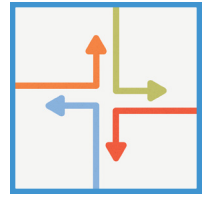


Blessed For Life

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Lutherans For Life NATIONAL Conference**  
**October 21-22, 2022**

**Rock Island, Illinois (Quad Cities)**  
**[lutheransforlife.org/conference](http://lutheransforlife.org/conference)**



**The LFL National Conference is back!** Lutherans For Life national 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!

**Friday, October 21 – 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. | Saturday, October 22 – 8:30 a.m. to noon**

### **Speakers**

Melissa Ohden | Jeanne Mancini | Steve Deace

### **Workshop Leaders**

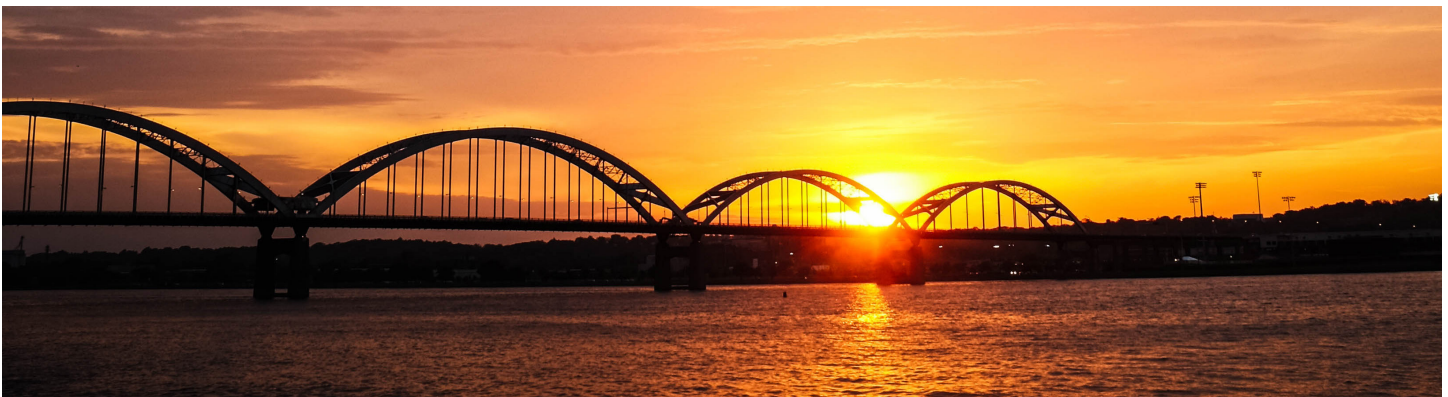
Rev. B. Keith Haney | Father Frank Pavone | Rev. Fred Hinz  
Col. John Eidsmoe | Rev. Dr. Wade Mobley | Deaconess Pam Nielsen  
Dr. Roni Grad | Dr. Kim Marxhausen | Deaconess Tiffany Manor  
Rev. Michael Salemink | Rev. Scott Licht | Michelle Bauman  
Virginia Flo | Deaconess Chrissie Gillett | Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz, PhD

### **Special Friday Night Banquet Music**

Wendysue Fluegge

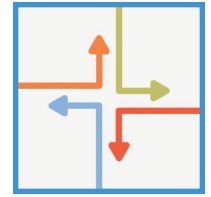
### **Conference Registration**

LFL Members: \$125 | Non-Members: \$150  
Students: \$25 | Children 12 and under: FREE



# Spotlight on Life

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**Spotlight on Life** ([lutheransforlife.org/spotlight-on-life](http://lutheransforlife.org/spotlight-on-life)) is a focus on featured life topics that can be presented at a local church or community gathering. Lutherans For Life staff are offering to be featured speakers and extend their expertise on the various life topics (see below).

With **Spotlight on Life**, your event will be equipping many others to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life. It's simple! You conduct the event, and LFL will provide the speakers, based on availability. The cost will be minimal as we are excited to bring these life-affirming messages to your area. Whether your event is one hour, a half day, an evening, or something else, LFL will be pleased to assist you in planning.

If you are interested, please email [info+spotlight@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info+spotlight@lutheransforlife.org).

## Presentation Topics

### FACTORS AFFECTING LIFE AND DEATH

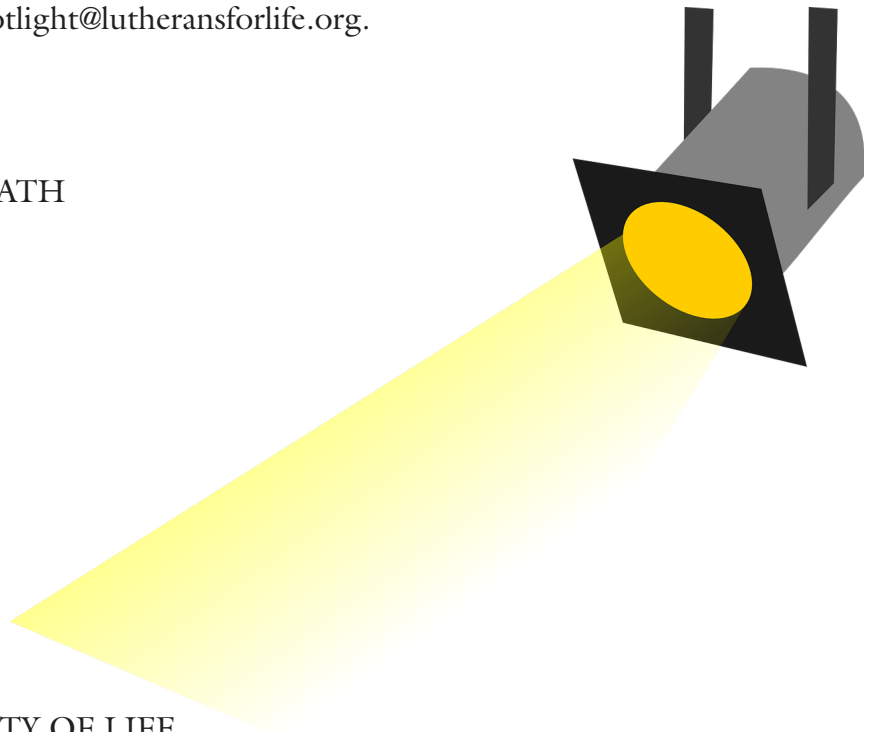
- Fetal development
- Unplanned pregnancy
- Mental health
- Physical & mental disabilities

### LIFE AND DEATH

- Abortion
- Suicide
- Assisted suicide & euthanasia
- Fertilization to natural death

### FACTORS REGARDING THE SANCTITY OF LIFE

- For-Life apologetics
- Human-trafficking
- Sexuality & gender
- Family

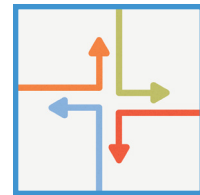


**Lutherans For Life**  
*Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors  
to be Gospel-motivated voices For Life*





# 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 assistant director of volunteer relations, at [jduncan@lutheransforlife.org](mailto: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 2022

**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		<b>LIFE TEAM TOOL BUNDLE</b> (Includes tools 1-4 and field manuals)	\$30	
			<b>TOTAL</b>	
			<b>SHIPPING</b>	\$15
			<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	

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

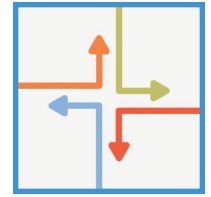
☐ Email

☐ 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.

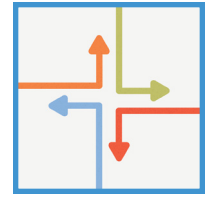
**You can support Owen's Mission by encouraging your Lutheran elementary or high school to have an Owen's Mission presentation! Call 888.364.LIFE (5433) or email [info@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:info@lutheransforlife.org).**

[lutheransforlife.org/owens-mission](http://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.



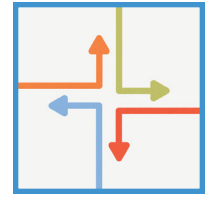
## Speakers:

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. Salemkink (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

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**Our Mission:** Equipping Lutherans and their neighbors 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



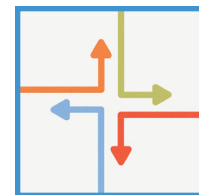
## National Lutherans For Life Staff

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  
Michelle Bauman – Director of Y4Life  
Cori Meier – Y4Life Assistant  
Virginia Flo – Director of Volunteer Relations  
Rev. Jeff Duncan – Assistant Director of Volunteer  
Relations  
Dr. Barb Geistfeld – Assistant Director of  
Volunteer Relations  
Jerilyn Richard – Donor Relations Director  
Kim Nessa – Accountant | Conference Director  
Jan Nessa – Administrative Assistant  
Deaconess Chrissie Gillet, PsyD –  
Director of Word of Hope  
Deaconess Pamela Buhler – Word of Hope  
Assistant  
Katie Friedrich – Gift Entry Specialist  
Julie Kyrola – Data Assistant

## National LFL Board of Directors

Lynette Auch, President – Lesterville, South  
Dakota  
Stephenie Hovland, Vice President – Portage,  
Wisconsin  
Diana Vaughn, Secretary – Ponca City,  
Oklahoma  
Ronald L. Soule, Treasurer – Mason,  
Michigan  
Diane Albers, State Representative – St. Louis,  
Missouri  
Rev. Paul Clark, State Representative – Fowler,  
Michigan  
Rev. Dr. Dennis Di Mauro – Herndon, Virginia  
Col. John Eidsmoe – Pike Road, Alabama  
Roni Grad – Tucson, Arizona  
Rev. Byrene K. Haney – Fort Dodge, Iowa

Pamela Nielsen – Ballwin,  
Missouri  
Rev. Dennis Norby, State  
Representative – Valley City,  
North Dakota  
Katherine Pietrantonio –  
Cedarburg, Wisconsin  
Alice Steljes – Pawnee, Illinois  
Ed Szeto – Locust Grove, Virginia  
John Talley – Newark, Illinois



## State Federation Presidents

Rev. David Bottorff, Illinois –  
Bourbonnais  
Katie Willman, Indiana – Marion  
Rev. Richard Salcido, Iowa –  
Ida Grove  
Shari Weber, Kansas – Vassar  
Rev. Paul Clark, Michigan – Fowler  
Diane Albers, Missouri – St. Louis  
Berniece Stulc, Montana – Belgrade  
Bob Saeger, Nebraska – Waco  
Rev. Dennis Norby, North Dakota –  
Valley City  
Jill Johnsen, South Dakota – Wessington  
Wisconsin – The position is 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.**

**Since 1973: 62,502,904 abortions in America**

Source: [www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2021/01/roes-legacy-more-than-62-5-million-lives-lost](http://www.nationalrighttolifenews.org/2021/01/roes-legacy-more-than-62-5-million-lives-lost)

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