



Lutherans For Life of Illinois

Affirming Life In Illinois

Proverbs' Wisdom For Pastors and Political Leaders

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight" (Proverbs 9:10). What are the three levels of knowledge, insight and wisdom in Scripture?

Proverbs 1:7: "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, fools despise wisdom and instruction." Knowledge includes reading and memorizing God's Word and respect/awe (fear) of God. We get understanding/insight into God's Word by studying God's Word alone and in Bible study groups with others for their God-given insights. Wisdom comes from an in-depth understanding of God's

Word applied to our and others' lives to discern and do God's will.

PRAY for pastors to receive God-given insights into God's Word, discern God's will in His Word and share the application of God's will with His people in their law and gospel messages, articles, Bible studies, counseling and FOR LIFE leadership at their church and in society.

PRAY for pastors to encourage their members to join them for April 17th March For Life in Springfield.

PRAY for our national, state and local political leaders to be receptive to

FOR LIFE Biblical positions on sup-orting LIFE.

Prayerfully consider picking a day each week to pray for your political leaders by name. I pray for them by name each Wednesday to discern and do God's will and exercise wisdom in their office. I pray YOU will pray for them too! Lord, lead us to discern and do Your will daily.
Pastor Dave Bottonff, President of LFL of IL

Pastor Dave Bottonff
President, LFL-IL



Lutherans For Life of Illinois Newsletter

Volume 6, Issue 2

Spring 2024

Save the date, Illinois

- * Apr. 10-11, LFL Adoption Conference, Houston, TX
- * April 17, 2024, March for Life Illinois at the State Capital
- * April 17, 2024, Pre-March service at Trinity Lutheran Church, Springfield
- * April 25, 2024 PCC Rockford Celebration of Life
- * May 18, 2024 — East Dundee, RLOM Home Open House, Noon till 4:00

Wisdom for Life

I love proverbs, those short, pithy sayings that pack so much wisdom into memorable little packages! Every tribe and nation has its own set of proverbs that contain the folk wisdom of their particular culture. Though sin has tarnished human wisdom, it remains one of those earthly evidences of the "mark of the maker" each of us received at creation, when the all-wise God created us in His image.

God dedicated one whole book of His Word to Proverbs (untarnished proverbs!), many of which give us wisdom for dealing with Life Issues. That will be the focus of this issue.

From Proverbs 8, we receive the following insights for Life..."Does not wisdom call? ... All the words of

my mouth are righteous; there is nothing twisted or crooked in them...
By me kings reign, and rulers decree what is just;
¹⁶ by me princes rule, and nobles, all who govern justly.^[a]
¹⁷ I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me...

Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it.
³⁴ Blessed is the one who listens to me, watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.
³⁵ For whoever finds me finds Life and obtains favor from the LORD,
³⁶ but he who fails to find me injures himself;

all who hate me love death."
Proverbs differ from commandments, as they are more commentary on life in the real world, than directives. However, they clearly present the choices that lead to life and those that lead to death. From the youngest of our children, to the most elderly of our seniors, from those in positions of power and might to those who are utterly powerless, from the wealthiest tycoons, to those who populate the homeless encampments; we all need the wisdom that leads to Life! **Let's pray that the call of wisdom will be heard by many in our nation and that wisdom will prevail everywhere so that the Lord of Life will be honored among us all!** —LL

Inside this issue:

Chapter News	2
Life Week	3
Life Team News	4
Celebrate Life	4
Opportunities for prayer	5
New Maternity Home	6
Life Shines in the Darkness	7
Pray with Us!	8

Life Comes in Chapters

Here is a new idea from the Dupage Chapter. We've heard about the possibility of using the Spotlight on Life speakers from LFL to help share the news about Life Ministry and I imagined something taking place at church or some public venue when I first heard about this, but what if a speaker could take part in a more "honey" gathering?

"On November 15th, Lutherans For Life Development Director, Dave Probst and Executive Director, Pastor Michael Salemink visited the

home of Carl and Diane Schroeder in Lombard who had invited guests to



come hear what Lutherans For Life was doing in the life arena. About 20 people attended including Pastor Corey Estby, Life Ministry Coordinator for the NID. A light supper was served and then Pastor Salemink presented on Lutherans For Life, their

many upcoming conferences (Adoption and Gender), the youth involvement in Y4Life and his positive attitude for the future of the life movement, despite the cultural reaction to the reversal of Roe v. Wade. He believed that the losses at the ballot box were caused by political spin and a very deceptive media. Participants were enthusiastic about the future of LFL and the impact they are making particularly within our Lutheran churches."

—by Diane Schroeder

Find a Chapter

Altamont Area Lutherans for Life
(A new Chapter being organized in Altamont, IL)

Coles County Chapter LFL

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month
At St. John's Mattoon
Contact: Velma Price,
217-246-2553

Dupage County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
Contact: Beth Kraegel,
630-279-0041

Four -S Chapter LFL

Meets 2nd Tues of Month
At member homes
Contact: Dale Wetherell,
dwet@hofnetinc.com

Heartbeat Chapter LFL

Meets quarterly

At Trinity, Roanoke
Contact: Trinity, 309-923-5251
Illinois Valley Chapter LFL

Meets via email and as needed
At Salem Lutheran, Jacksonville
Contact: Libby Nobis,
217-491-3026

McHenry County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
Contact: Genny Hertel,
815-568-8425

Metro East Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
Contact: Ruth Walther,
618-277-5744

New Hope Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
At Faith or Calvary in Watseka
Contact: Lowell or MaryAnn Cluver,
815-383-2339

Northwest Suburban Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
At St. Peter Lutheran, Roselle
Contact: Greg Frey,
630-215-3062

Peoria Area Chapter LFL

Meets 4th Monday of the month
At Bethel, Morton
Contact: Robert Wegner,
309-481-4886

Southwestern Illinois Chapter LFL

Meets via Facebook & email
Contact: Jennifer Roscow,
618-972-5366

Will County Chapter LFL

Meets as needed
At St. Peter's, Joliet
Contact: Kelley Riley,
815-723-9158

Tolling the Bells April 17 at 1:00

Here is an idea presented by the Central Illinois District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod for taking a stand for Life, even for those of us unable to attend the March for Life in Springfield.

"We recommend that our churches across the District toll their bells just when the March for Life will be stepping off in Springfield. The time is 1:00 p.m. CDT on **Wednesday, April 17**. Consider tolling the bell either for 56 minutes or a total of 56 times.

Either would mourn the loss of 56,000 lives to abortion in Illinois. Each toll could be a plea to God that next year these bells may stand silent.



Let it be known why your church's bell is tolling. This will serve to put people all over the state in mind of the Illinois March for Life in Springfield, and remind them of the scourge of legalized abortion throughout our country. It may remind Christians and others of their responsibility to support life.

Suggest to churches of other confessions near you the same bell tolling, and for the same reason. It may be interesting to hear how many bells toll statewide on April 17!"

Essay Contest- "a word in season, how good it is" Proverbs 15:23

Lutherans For Life
2024 ILLINOIS
Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents

For Students in Grades 6-8 and 9-12

Any student in a Lutheran school or Lutheran congregation, e.g., confirmation class or youth group, when validated by a teacher or pastor, is eligible. Students may also enter through a Lutheran home school when validated by their Lutheran pastor.

Contest Guidelines

Students will write a life-affirming essay based on the theme: **Life Shines in Darkness** with the Bible verse: "In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." John 1:4-5

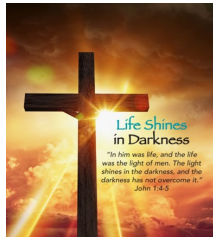
Not incorporating the **theme and verse** in the essay will disqualify the entry.

All essays must include a title. Using the theme as the title is acceptable, although it does not count as using the theme within the essay, which is required.

Examples of topics the essay

could deal with are, **but are not limited to**, abortion, living with disabilities, adoption or foster care, infanticide, cloning, stem cell research, physician assisted suicide, euthanasia, etc.

Essays should include student's name, grade, school or church, email address, and phone number. All entries submitted by a teacher or pastor should include their name and email address.



This information must be submitted on the rubric page used in grading the essay. Please consult the rubric to submit qualified entries.

tries.

All sources for references, statistics and quotes should be incorporated within the essay and then included in a bibliography at the end.

Grades 6 - 8 should submit essays up to 400 words (body copy only).

Grades 9 - 12 should submit essays up to 750 words (body copy only).

Entries should be submitted digitally using **Microsoft WORD** or **Google Docs** to cathy.benning.os@gmail.com by **April 1, 2024**. Any pdf or other format submissions will not be accepted.

There will be a \$100 first place award and \$50 second place award for each of the two categories. The two first place category winners will advance to the national contest. Email cathy.benning.os@gmail.com with any questions.

Grand prize for the national winning entries in each category if: \$250 for first place plus free conference registration to the 2024 Lutherans For Life conference and one night stay at the conference hotel. \$125 for the second-place winner.

All entries, including exclusive copyright, become the property of Lutherans For Life.

For questions or resources on the sanctity of life, see lutheransforlife.org

That's today!

Last Chance!

"Where There's Life, There's Hope" 40 Days for Life

The Spring 40 Days for Life Vigil was completed on March 24th. Here are some of the hope-filled stories that have come out of it here in Illinois:

From Aurora, (by Phil Price):

"...a couple pulled into Planned Parenthood's parking lot and parked in a spot facing Mariano's close to the access road. When the lady and man got out of their car to walk towards Planned Parenthood's lobby the Sidewalk Counselor reached out to this couple, but they were not willing to speak at this time. About 45 minutes later the couple walked back to their car. The sidewalk counselor continued to reach out to them, again they were not willing to speak. The Sidewalk counselor could hear them talking to one another in the car in what appeared to be a heated discussion. The woman seemed to be emotional, and the man

appeared to be upset. The conversation went on for a good twenty minutes before they started their car to leave. As they were pulling out of Planned Parenthood's parking lot, **they rolled down the window and told the Sidewalk Counselor they were pregnant and keeping the baby!! Praise the lord!! Please continue to pray for this couple.**"

From Downers Grove (by Terry Strakalaitis):

"...on Tuesday, we had several 40 Days prayer participants praying out there at Access Health. This 'baby save' was not easy or pretty for mom-Miss D.. It started off by one of the sidewalk counselors handing some pro-life literature to the Uber driver to give to Miss D. Unfortunately, after receiving the literature, Miss D. still went into the clinic. While she was in the clinic for near 1.5 hours, Miss D. had time to rethink matters. Later this is what

she said, "This was a horrible experience. They were pressuring me to have the abortion. They said that they could give me numbing medication. I was laying on the abortion table with my feet in the stirrups. I told them, NO, I do not want to go through with this abortion. I took the stirrups off my feet and I walked out. This was such a horrible experience". Still shaken up, while Miss D. waited outside for her 2nd Uber driver to arrive, our caring sidewalk counselors began reaching out to her. They consoled her, gave her money toward her dinner and even gave her a big warm hug. What genuine Christ-like kindness on display.

PLEASE PRAY for Miss D. and her family, friends and support system in the days ahead. She is going to need a lot of encouragement during her pregnancy. however, she is a very courageous women!

Go Team!

The Life Team at Cross Lutheran Church, Yorkville, recently hosted a Disability Awareness Day for Cross Lutheran School. The team worked with the special education teacher, principal and church volunteers.

The day began with Chapel, during which children were reminded that God made each of them, God doesn't make mistakes, and every one of their unique features was planned by

God to bless them and so they could be a blessing to others.

1st and 2nd graders were supplied with "Welcome to My World" coloring books (available from Concordia Publishing House, designed by Bethesda) along with packs of crayons that had been modified for an object lesson reiterating the value of those who are "different" or who have different needs.

3rd & 4th grades were treated to interactive activities designed by Voice of Care Ministries. More info at: [VOC](#)
Preschool students had a guest reader who shared an age appropriate book, while 5-8th grade classes received a link to the 2024 Youth Essay Contest winner, Sam Jopp, sharing about growing up with a hearing disability. You can hear it [here](#).



"...New Wine is for Fresh Wineskins."

As Jesus referred to "New Wine", He was speaking of the Gospel. The Unchanging Gospel is never "same old, same old". As we consider applying a Gospel-motivated approach to Life Issues, we want to look for the fresh packaging that will deliver His timeless message to the hearts and minds of those we serve. Here are several examples of new approaches for that precious Word of Life.

The Southwest Coalition for Life has a history of thinking outside the box. I shared before about the idea of Sanctuary Cities for the Unborn, that originated with them, where local laws are written to enforce Federal regulations that disallow using the postal system to send and receive equipment or chemicals to induce abortion.

They're taking a new approach to celebrating lives protected through the 40 Days for life campaign this year in the form of "Triumphant Palm: A Celebration of Life's Victories" potluck event. Now they are working to turn local Crisis Pregnancy Centers into Birthing Centers, upgrading facilities, bringing in committed For Life, licensed medical staff to practice there, and assisting all the way through to birth. You can read more at:

[Guiding Star Southwest](#)

As we consider supporting the family in the Life arena, a new need has been uncovered...One you and your church might want to address. More numbers than we can probably imagine of parents are being cut off by their adult children. Politics is dividing families to a greater degree than it has since the Civil War. This is one reason parents

are being cut off by their grown children. Other influencers include TikTok personalities who promote the notion that the family is outmoded and that young people can go farther without parents in their lives. There are several other players in the "ditch your parents" movement, but the bottom line is that there are increasing numbers of hurting people who are grieving the emotional loss of their children even while those children are still very much alive. This sad situation gives us opportunities for ministry via a listening ear, support groups, personal encouragement, and prayer. Read more at [No Contact Epidemic](#)

If your church is looking for resources to help carry out Life Ministry, remember [Her Plan](#) and of course,

[Lutherans For Life!](#) Both have resources to help you create some "New Wineskins" for your own ministry.

Good News for Life; "Good News refreshes the bones", Proverbs 15:30b



"Katelyn Perry already had four kids when she found out she was pregnant with her fifth child, and given the financial struggles she and her husband were facing, she had decided to visit Planned Parenthood to discuss her options.

"When I tried to ask questions, they were kind of shot down. They weren't really answered in full," Perry said of her trip to the clinic. "They used a lot of medical terms that I didn't understand."

After taking the first abortion pill at Planned Parenthood, Perry was instructed to go to her local

pharmacy to pick up the other pills to complete the abortion, but she decided she wouldn't do that. She called... a nurse who told her it was possible that her baby was still alive and could be saved. The nurse connected Perry with a pregnancy resource center about an hour away in Lynchburg, Virginia. When she arrived, the first step was an ultrasound to see whether the baby was still alive.

"We do the ultrasound; she still has a heartbeat," Perry said of her baby. The medical staff at the pro-life center explained to Perry how the abortion pill reversal works through a 12-week hormone therapy.

Today, Perry's baby girl, Aubrey, is just over a year old, healthy and "the sweetest little girl you would ever meet," her mother says."

You can read the full article at The [Daily Signal](#).

You could be the "one person" to make a difference for a young mother in distress!

Author Dave Andrusko writes about the effects of a song he heard by sung by Pat Barrett. In the song he speaks of God forming us wonderfully (Ps. 139) and of how He works all things for our good (Romans 8:28).

Andrusko was reminded of the panic faced by those with surprise pregnancy when hearing the words, "There's a healing light

just beyond the clouds,

Though I've walked through fire,

I see clearly now."

It reminded him that studies show that the vast majority of post abortive women say they would not have aborted, had just one person shown support for them in their struggle! For your blessing and inspiration, the article and song are on the [NRL](#) site.

Recognizing and Sharing the Wisdom of God...

"Whoever trusts in his own mind is a fool," Proverbs 28:26

Have you ever stared in awe at the beauty of the Grand Canon or the majesty of Denali? I'm sure we have all been impressed by the sheer beauty of so many places in God's world. But how many of us have thought about the human body and what a marvelous, intricate creation it is? David knew as we read in Psalm 139:13-14, "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Our bodies are made up of millions of cells, all working together in one unit. God arranged the cells in our body, each and every single one, just as He wanted them to be. There are many cells, but one body. God has also arranged the cells in unborn children from the very moment of conception, just as He did for His own son, Jesus.

Medical technology has allowed us to witness the wonders of a child's development through sonograms. To anyone who has seen a sonogram of an unborn child, there is little doubt that they are looking at a developing human baby. But with abortion (choice), "death with dignity", and

assisted suicide, it's clear that the current social acceptance of these practices exposes our culture's confusion about what it means to be a human.

Society has assumed the practice of deciding the value of a human life and they promote the elimination of a life unworthy or unwanted. What a sad commentary on this nation that God has so richly blessed. God's power has been set aside by man's decision to assume he knows what is best. But Isaiah 55:8 tells us, "My thoughts are not your thoughts, and my ways are not your ways" God is the giver of life and he values each and every life as His own precious child. In Fact, He sent his own precious Son to die in our place for our sins so that we might have life eternal. Romans 8:32, "He who did not spare His own Son, but gave him up for us all, how will He not also along with Him graciously give us all things?"

After suffering and dying on the cross, Jesus rose again in victory of death and the devil. Jesus paid the price for our salvation and told us in Matthew 28:19, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." All

nations includes all humans, including the unborn. We need to pray unceasingly for an end to the culture of death that has overtaken our wonderful nation.

Even though Roe V. Wade has been overturned for the bad law it was, we still need to use the gifts God has given for us to press forward in educating the people of our nation of the evils of abortion and euthanasia.

Some states are already making plans to include abortion as a "right" in their state constitutions and it will be on the ballot as early as the upcoming Fall 2024 election. So, my dear friends in Christ, the battle is far from over. Ephesians 6:12: "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Let us put on the whole armor of God and soldier on with the sure hope that ultimately the victory is in the hands of God.

—By Jeanne Strubbe
Chapin, IL

"Rescue those who are being taken away to death;" Prov. 24:11

I received the following from Heritage House, folks we usually think of in terms of vendors of pro-Life materials. Since we are a praying people, I share it with you today.

"We started Infinite Worth to help centers meet clients on their phones at all times. Our dedicated nurses help women navigating challenging decisions around the clock. Their work is both incredibly rewarding and emotionally taxing. They have helped over 22,000 clients and can have anywhere from two to five abortion-determined clients chatting with her at the same time. These nurses need your help.

Today, I am reaching out to our community with a special request: to stand in prayer with our nurses, by name, as they continue to extend love, support, and guidance to those they serve. If you are able to be a part of this ministry of prayer and wish to support our nurses in this personal and powerful way, please reach out to [Maria](#), the Infinite Worth Relationship Coordinator. You can contact her via phone ([928-476-0353](tel:928-476-0353)) or [email](#) to express your willingness to pray for one of our nurses. Maria will assign you to a specific nurse and provide the name of a nurse who would be blessed by your prayers. The nurses will be given updates on those who are praying for them and we will let you know how they are doing with their clients.

This is a beautiful opportunity to uplift and support those who give so much of themselves in service to others. Let us join together in prayer, strengthening Infinite Worth nurses as they carry out their vital work.

To participate, please contact Maria at
Phone: 928-476-0353
Email: Maria@InfiniteWorth.org

Thank you for considering this heartfelt request. Your prayers will make a difference in the lives of our nurses and those they help.
Sincerely,
Brandon Monahan"

Pregnancy Care Centers—Rockford; “A Friend Loves at All Times.” Prov. 17:17

Nikki Tibbets, the new Director for Pregnancy Care Centers of Rockford started working part-time at The PCC in August of 2021 as the Director of Education, which means she directed their sexual risk avoidance education program in local schools and community organizations. In May the Executive Director position opened up, and she felt led to apply since her youngest child had just graduated from high school. Nikki is passionate about families and knows first hand how one life saved can have a lasting generational change. Her husband was scheduled to be aborted when his teenage mom discovered she was pregnant. Their family is proof of the power of one life saved. They are incredibly grate-

ful his teenage mom said “yes” to life. Nikki says, “Our Annual Celebrate Life Banquet is Thursday, April 25th at Embassy Suites in Rockford. We are planning a beautiful event that will share stories of our abundant God and how lives are saved and changed when God writes their story. This year we are planning two events. Guests can choose to attend either a brunch at 11am or dinner at 6pm.” Contact Amanda Geaschelif you would like more information (Phone: 815-680-5107 or email: amanda@thepregnancycenter.org)

Access to abortion has returned to the Rockford area. PCC needs our pro-life community to help her find them **first** so she can make a choice

in a place that will not profit from the decision she makes. We know minds and hearts are changed in the ultrasound room when a mother sees the beating heart of her baby on the screen. **We also know minds and hearts are changed when they learn abortion is not their only option because they have a community who genuinely cares** and there are resources available to prepare them for parenthood and beyond. More information at:

Website:
friendsofthepcc.org
Facebook:
[@friendsofthepccofrockford](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofthepccofrockford)

From an interview with Nikki Tibbets

Lutheran Adoption Conference

“More than 114,000 children in the U.S. are currently awaiting an adoptive home and a forever family ([AFCARS, 2021](#)). Lutheran leaders across the nation are urgently called to attend the **Lutheran Adoption Conference, April 10-11, 2024, in Houston, Texas, at the Hyatt Regency Intercontinental Airport**. At this conference, Lutheran pro-life leaders, policy makers, adoption experts, and life issue advocates will collaborate and explore ways to impact the national adoption crisis through the increase of biblically-

based Christian/Lutheran adoptions ... Keynote speaker and former adoptee, Mark Schultz, will share both his adoption story and talents as a Dove Award-winning musician. Additional adoption stories will be shared touching on embryo rescue, infant adoption, and foster care. Lutheran leaders will facilitate important round-table discussions and lead informative and engaging sessions ...

“Adoption represents the opportunity to imitate

Christ’s love and share the message of salvation. This conference is the inaugural step in what we hope will connect generations of children with Lutheran homes grounded in biblical truth at the cross of Christ,” said Rev. Bob Fleischmann.

More info and registration at:
LutheransAdopt.org

From March 28 Lutherans for Life Notice

New Maternity Home...

Everyone is welcome to Redeeming Life's Maternity Home

Celebration Open House!

Saturday, May 18th noon-4 PM

at Immanuel Lutheran Church of East Dundee

310 E Main Street East Dundee

Food served continuously! Come as your schedule allows.

Shuttle service provided to visit the maternity house to allow tours and avoid parking hassles.

Come meet the founders of Redeeming Life and celebrate the opening of this Illinois maternity home!

In other news- Redeeming Life is prayerfully accepting applications for staff members to serve in our Dundee, IL location. Interested applicants should email HR@rlom.org for more info or to submit their resume.



RLOM is now taking applications for residency at the home! We've all been waiting for this! Thank you for your prayers, your financial support, and your volunteerism that have been used of God to help bring it about!

Let's thank God for Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries and their new provision for mothers in need here in Illinois! Let's thank God for all those who have stepped forward to help in getting this venture off the ground! Let's thank God for those who have dedicated themselves to serving in the East Dundee home. Let's thank God for the willing hearts of the congregation at Immanuel Lutheran Church, East Dundee, as they provide Christian community for the residents of the home!

Let's pray for the staff at the home as they provide a loving, caring environment and the kind of mentoring that blesses and nurtures moms in their hour of need! May God grant them the right words at the right time, a gentle, Christ-like approach at all times, and the strength they need to deal with whatever comes there way every single day!

Let's pray for the moms and babies who will share this home! May God provide for their every need and draw them close to Himself through our dear Lord Jesus!

—LL



The Fool Says in His Heart 'There is no God.' Proverbs 14:1

A Position Statement from LFL

Did you know that Lutherans For Life has developed a number of position papers on Life Issues? Here is the one on **evolution**:

WHEREAS,

Evolution is commonly understood by major science organizations and many educational institutions as "an unsupervised, impersonal, unpredictable, and natural process of temporal descent with genetic modification that is affected by natural selection, chance, historical contingencies, and changing environments"¹; and

WHEREAS,

God, in His divinely inspired Scripture, has clearly stated that He (the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) created the earth and all that dwells upon it in six literal days and, on the sixth day, personally and lovingly created man and woman in His image (Genesis 1:27; Genesis 2:7; Genesis 2:21,22; and

WHEREAS,

Theories of evolution are a result of our fallen, sinful state and are a rejection of God's planned and orderly creation of the world; and,

WHEREAS,

The value we attach to human life, the way we live, the choices we make, and the way we treat one another are directly affected by our view of origins; and

WHEREAS,

Wide acceptance of the human race being the result of mere chance has placed all human life at serious risk, as evidenced in abortion, infanticide, assisted suicide and euthanasia; therefore be it

RESOLVED,

That Lutherans For Life supports the Biblical statements that "the God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth...He himself gives all men life and breath and everything else" (Acts 17:24,25) and "through Him all things were made; without

Him nothing was made that has been made. In Him was life" (John 1:3,4); and be it further

RESOLVED

That Lutherans for Life base its education and service on the inerrant Word of God which, through the Holy Spirit, reveals the truth of creation and, through the selfless love of Jesus Christ, gives purpose, meaning, and value to all human life.

¹ Official Statement of the American National Association of Biology Teachers (1995)

You can check out all of the Position statements on the [Lutherans For Life](https://www.lutheransforlife.org/) website.



Life Shines in Darkness! LFL Regional Conferences 2024

Lutherans for Life will host the following Regional Conferences in 2024:

September 14, 2024:

Regional Conference Northeast

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Bristol, Connecticut (Hartford area)

October 12, 2024:

Regional Conference Midwest,

Hope Lutheran Church and School

Shawnee, Kansas (Kansas City area)

November 9, 2024:

Regional Conference Southeast

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Winter Garden, Florida (Orlando area)

Plan ahead to gather and be renewed! More information and links to past conference presentations at:

[LFL Conferences](https://www.lutheransforlife.org/conferences/)

March for Life Illinois - "Whoever walks in integrity walks securely".

The Illinois March for Life will be held on April 17th in Springfield. At 10: a.m. Lutherans will gather for a Matins service prior to the march at Trinity Lutheran Church right across the street from the Capital. Southern Illinois District President, Rev. Timothy Scharr will preach. Following the service, a light lunch will be served in the ballroom of the Statehouse Inn, 101 East Adams St. (\$5.00 donation suggested) This year, parking is permitted at one of the Statehouse Inn's parking lots, but carpooling is still highly recommended to reduce congestion.

At noon, the Rally begins in front of the Capital. This year's speakers include: Father Thomas John Paprocki, of the diocese of Springfield Catholic Church, Erin Getz, Director of State March Program of March for Life, Mary Kate Zander, the Director of Illinois Right to Life, Minority Leader, Tony McCombie of the Illinois House of Representatives, Rev. Michael Mohr, President, Central Illinois District LCMS, Julie Garafalo, Executive Director of Waterleaf Pregnancy Resource Center Aurora, and Kristi Hofferber, Pro Life Advocate. The Rally has always been a blessing to me personally, and is an energizing point for beginning the

March itself. Walking together, secure in the Gospel, the Lutherans have chosen to sing their way through the course.

If you've never been to the March for Life, I'd like to remind you that "there's a first time for everything!" This is a public witness, yes, but bears no resemblance to the protests we so often see on the news. Rather this has been an occasion to celebrate both the gift of Life and the Giver, to grieve the premature loss of Life, and to learn and to be inspired. Come walk with us, securely in the integrity of our Gospel-motivated approach to Life Ministry, together with other For Life people to the Glory of God. —LL

THANKS FOR YOUR GIFTS!

We really appreciate your support! Let's keep the Life-affirming attitude and share the love God has for us and all people. Let's gently give the word of forgiveness to those who are hurting and those who have hurt us...because love affirms life!

Lutherans in our state are disappointed and upset that so many in our society are continuing to cast fragile humans aside ... May God make us into Gospel-motivated voices for life!

Thanks be to God that He has paved the way through Christ for the gift of forgiveness and for us to belong to Him!

(Inspired by LFL-Kansas Newsletter)

Lutherans For Life of Illinois is a State Federation of Lutherans For Life, a 501c3 charitable organization dedicated to equipping Lutherans for becoming Gospel Motivated Voices for Life. We are on the web at <https://www.lutheransforlife.org/lfl-of-illinois/>

Send news items and prayer requests to the editor at: laeschfamily@gmail.com

Let your love affirm Life with Lutherans For Life

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Any amount is welcome!

Note: Membership Contributions are shared with LFL Chapters and State Federations.

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Send to: Lutherans for Life, 1101 5th Street, Nevada, IA 50201

Or donate online at www.lutheransforlife.org

Let's Pray! About...6 things the Lord hates, 7 that are an abomination to Him: (Proverbs 6:16-19)

¹⁷ **haughty eyes,**

1. Pray that we would see others with our Father's eyes, viewing them with compassion and seeking the gift of Life in all its fullness for them. Grant us true humility!

a lying tongue,

2. Pray that we who love Life would speak the truth in love. Pray that those who persuade for death with lies in order to gain financially, will be silenced and their "marketing schemes" uncovered.

and hands that shed innocent blood,

3. Pray for the unborn, those feeble of body and those feeble of mind, that they would be protected from the hands that would shed their blood. Pray for family members to have great wisdom, seeing these lives as valuable and belonging to God, Himself!

¹⁸ **a heart that devises wicked plans,**

4. Pray that God would continue to protect those who serve the most vulnerable from the plans of those who want to take advantage of the most vulnerable. May God continue to guard those who serve



"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him."
James 1:5

in pregnancy resource centers! feet that make haste to run to evil,

5. Pray that God would touch those hearts that are so hardened that they are offended at the very sight of righteous behavior!. May God make Himself real to them and turn their feet from the goal of seeking evil to a goal of following His will! May their hurts be healed, their guilt be lifted, and their lives find purpose in the mercy of Jesus! May He help each of us to "run the good race" and receive the crown of Life!

¹⁹ **a false witness who breathes out lies,**

6. Pray for all judges in our

nation, that they would be able to see right through any lies that come before them! Pray for one another that we may not yield to the temptation to exaggerate or bend the truth as we defend Life! May God protect His people from the lies of their accusers!

and one who sows discord among brothers.

7. Pray that God would silence those who seek political gain by sowing discord! May families be drawn together in faith and trust in the King of all kings! May Christians be the blessed peacemakers, known as the children of God! May each of us keep a focus on the Eternal that diminishes the value of the temporary kingdoms of this world and simultaneously makes us better neighbors, better citizens, and dearer family members!

8. May all who need wisdom this day, ask their Father in Heaven and receive it, to the Glory of God! May each of us have the discernment to recognize lies when we are told them and the wisdom to know how to respond in God-pleasing ways!