

Things to Consider

Engage Church Leadership – It is essential that you speak with your pastor when you intend to sponsor one of the Frontline Playbook events at your church. Get your pastor's approval and ask for insights regarding your plans for conducting the event. Take your pastor's advice on whether you need further approval.

Schedule – When scheduling your event, check the church and school calendars to avoid conflicts. Place your event on the calendar.

Promotion – Create a poster/flyer and/or invitation to get the word out to those you intend to invite. Prepare notes for church bulletins (yours and other congregations) and plan when you intend to send those to the various church offices in advance of your event, giving everyone a recommended two weeks to publicize. Use the Fact Sheets and Activity Sheets to gather information you may want to post in your church newsletters and on the website. Work with whoever manages your church social media and send out notices about your event as you near your date.

Pray – Ask the Lord to guide your planning and implementation, sharing your thanksgiving with Him upon completion of each part of your For Life activity.

Need Help?

If you have questions about how to utilize the Frontline Playbook resources or how to conduct an event, reach out to our Volunteer Relations Team at lutheransforlife.org/volunteer-relations/.

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Frontline Playbook Series

This is a collection of life-affirming resources in a series of programs with each having its own theme. All items are usable in group settings or one-on-one activities. Each life topic has multiple elements. Use them as a complete program or as a stand-alone resource.



BELONGING

*“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)*

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Playbook Components

Devotions - Each life topic will include a corresponding devotion.

Videos – A life topic video from LFL archives of expert presenters will be provided. They have been edited, making them usable as a formal presentation to your entire congregation or in a small group setting. The video links and all of the Playbook Components are found in the Resource section of each life topic page.

Speakers (*Optional*) – You may prefer to have a speaker onsite. If you need help securing an expert topical speaker, contact LFL or consider Spotlight on Life at lutheransforlife.org/spotlight-on-life/.

Fact Sheets – These facts sheets explain the importance of the life topic from the viewpoint of God’s Word and provide a Christian response based on Scripture.

Activity Sheets – These sheets provide a variety of activities to implement in your church, school, congregational members’ homes, or wherever you determine. Be creative. Create a servant project and use these ideas as equipping opportunities.

Strategies

Use All Components – Sponsor an event that begins with the devotion. Hand out the Fact Sheet, either as reference material or to review as a group during the event. Use ideas from the Activity Sheet as a pre-event, during the event, or post-event project.

Use Select Components – Use any of the components individually, with or without a planned event. The Activity Sheets have great servant project ideas to use at any time.

Be Inclusive – If you sponsor an event for adults, look for ways to include the youth and younger children with an activity. If you have a school, work with the staff to include students in an activity.

Playbook Usage Variations

Four life topics are provided with their associated resources. From the four options, consider using them in any of these variations.

Weekly – One event a week for four weeks.

Quarterly – One event per quarter for a year.

Biannually – One event every six months.

Annually – One event per year.

Equipping Events – Use at your life group meetings or church sponsored event onsite or online.

Promotion

Gospel-motivated – Always maintain your focus on being Gospel-motivated. Equipping your constituents through God’s Word is the primary function in helping to develop voices For Life.

Communication – Use newsletters, bulletins, personal invitations (verbal, in print, or electronic), social media, Synodical websites, and other means of communication available.

Testimonials – Consider asking people from your church or life group to give a short, personal testimonial on a life experience. This might be done after a worship service, before Bible class, or at some other time when people are gathered together. This could be live or via video.

Print Materials – Provide printed promotional material in addition to the church bulletins and newsletters, such as posters, postcards, invitations, and related handouts.

Be Creative – Think outside the box. Consider new ways to reach people about your event. Hand out or mail small bags of popcorn to your church members to invite them to a video showing at church or at home.

Blessed as a Gift



Life Speaker: Rev. Michael Salemkink
Executive Director of Lutherans For Life
Video: "Blessed as a Gift" (50 minutes)
Life Topics: Creation and identity, developmental and intellectual disabilities, the unborn, surprise pregnancy.

Devotion: "Blessed as a Gift – You Are a Gift!"

Fact Sheet:
(Sample)

Blessed as a Gift

BELONGING

Life Issues

- 1**
Creation / Identity
Giving children puberty blockers to delay secondary sex characteristics might not ease gender dysphoria, and delaying puberty beyond one's peers can be stressful and can lower self-esteem.
- 2**
Surprise Pregnancy
Over 60% of surprise pregnancies and almost 30% of all pregnancies end in abortion.
- 3**
Developmental & Intellectual Disabilities
About 17% of children aged 3 through 17 years have one or more developmental disabilities.
- 4**
The Unborn

Activity Sheet: Topics are provided for activities associated with creation and identity, developmental disabilities, the unborn, and surprise pregnancy.

Resources: Find them at lutheransforlife.org/frontlineplaybook/. View the video and download the devotion, fact sheet, and activity sheet.

God Chose You to Belong



Life Speaker: Michelle Bauman
Y4Life Director of Lutherans For Life
Video: "God Chose You to Belong" (43 minutes)
Life Topics: Marriage, family, divorce, adoption, foster care, cohabitation, contraception, infertility, and barrenness.

Devotion: "God Chose You to Belong!"

Fact Sheet:
(Sample)

God chose YOU to belong

BELONGING

"Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it."
1 Corinthians 12:27

Facts of Life

- Barrenness**
About 12% of women in the U.S. 15-44 years of age have difficulty getting pregnant or carrying to term.
- Family**
69% of Americans said "family" provides a sense of meaning in life.
- Infertility**
In a 2020 survey, only 17% of 600 adults noted that infertility did not affect their mental health or relationships.
- Adoption**
Birth parents, adoptees, and adoptive parents often experience adoption related life issues including:
- Contraception**

Activity Sheet: Topics include adoption and foster care, contraception, infertility and barrenness, marriage, family, and divorce.

Resources: Find them at lutheransforlife.org/frontlineplaybook/. View the video and download the devotion, fact sheet, and activity sheet.

Those With Disabilities are Indispensable



Life Speaker: Mona Fuerstenau
Disability Advocate, Parent, Keynote
and Workshop Speaker



Life Speaker: Rev. Scott Licht
CFO and COO of Lutherans For Life

Video: "Those with Disabilities are Indispensable" (40 minutes)

Life Topics: Disabilities and those who are indispensable, no matter their circumstances.

Devotion: "That the Works of God Might Be Displayed"

Fact Sheet:

(Sample)

The effects of sin inflict brokenness upon everybody, not just those with visibly diagnosed disabilities.

Persons with Disabilities are Indispensable

DISABILITY ISSUES *Uniquely You*

Not all disabilities are identical, and the experiences of different disabilities are as different as the individuals who experience them.

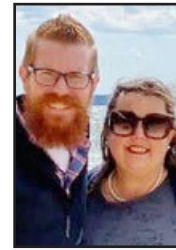
- MOBILITY**
Walking
Climbing Stairs
- SELF-CARE**
Dressing
Bathing
- INDEPENDENT LIVING**
Doing errands alone
- HEARING**
Deafness
Partial hearing loss

1 Cor 12:18
But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each

Activity Sheet: Topics are provided for activities associated with celebration, education, service, and worship.

Resources: Find them at lutheransforlife.org/frontlineplaybook/. View the video and download the devotion, fact sheet, and activity sheet.

Blessed in Longing



Life Speakers: Rev. Steven & Stephanie Cholak
The pastor and his wife at Our Savior Lutheran Church & School, Houston, Texas

Video: "Blessed in Longing" (42 minutes)

Life Topics: Miscarriage, stillbirth, infertility, IVF, surrogacy.

Devotion: "Blessed in Longing!"

Fact Sheet: (Sample)

Blessed in Longing

BELONGING

1
After a stillbirth, fathers tend to experience financial difficulties, financial debt, suppressed grief, and increased substance use, while mothers often report an altered body image and lower quality of life.

2
Infertility is more common among women who are non-Hispanic Black, have lower income or education, who lack access to healthcare, or who have had sexually transmitted infections.

3
Women who conceived after IVF were at more than four times greater risk of stillbirth (16.2 per

4
Surrogacy disrupts the natural links between marriage, conception, gestation, birth, and rearing the child, which is

LIFE ISSUES

- Miscarriage & Stillbirth
- Infertility
- In-vitro fertilization
- Surrogacy

Activity Sheet: Topics include infertility, IVF and surrogacy, miscarriage and stillbirth.

Resources: Find them at lutheransforlife.org/frontlineplaybook/. View the video and download the devotion, fact sheet, and activity sheet.