

LIFE NEWS—JUNE 2024

LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE

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Life Newsbytes

2/3 of Adults Who Read the Bible Regularly Oppose Abortion—By slicing and dicing various demographics, Pew Research does some fascinating work ... “Views about abortion among adults who read Scripture at least once a week by parental status” is one of those findings that would conform to your common sense. By “parental status,” Pew means those adults who have kids under 18 versus those adults who don’t have children (“non-parents”). The question they asked is the “% of adults who read Scripture once a week who say abortion should be” For those with minor children: 66% say abortion should be “illegal in all/most cases,” and 30% say abortion should be “legal in all/most cases.” For those without children: 62% say abortion should be “illegal in all/most cases,” and 33% say abortion should be “legal in all/most cases.” What to think? For starters, the bar is not set terribly high to qualify: You read Scripture “at least once a week.” It would have been interesting to see how different the results would have been if they made the amount of Scripture read at twice a week or four times a week or even every day. That having been said, it’s very encouraging that 2/3 of adults with children and 62% of adults without children who read Scripture at least once a week would make abortion illegal in all or most cases. (Source: *Dave Andrusko, LifeNews.com, 5/20/24*)

Speaking up For Life

“The God who created us and redeemed us and lives in us has put His seal of ownership on us! He has chosen us and appointed us for a purpose—to live as Jesus’ disciples by bearing fruit for His kingdom. By God’s grace, and with His help, may we bear good fruit and make God-pleasing choices that glorify God who chose to create us and save us!” *Rev. Craig Michaelson, Faith Community Lutheran Church, Las Vegas, Nevada*

“Have confidence in God. Jesus Christ died for you, and Jesus Christ lives for you ... By faith in Christ, enjoy real life without that constant covetousness which makes life a living hell for so many people. By faith in Christ, know once and for all what this means: A man’s real life in no way depends upon the number of his possessions. A man’s life does not consist of the abundance of the things he possesses.” *Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffman, Guest Speaker on “The Lutheran Hour”*

“We need campfires and cookouts and picnic lunches filled with laughter. Yet, as members of the household of God, we also need conversation and consolation and prayer. We need to gather, in person, at the Communion rail. Surrounded by our eternal family, we need to hear God’s promises and rejoice in His forgiveness.” *Michelle Bauman, Y4Life*

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Made For Life

by Pastor Michael Salemink

It seems rather important to distinguish between living and not. It also seems quite instinctive and simple. Kindergartners can typically tell the difference. But we age, and confusion sets in: Medical experts disagree about whether an embryo or an incapacitated hospital patient qualifies as alive, at least alive yet or alive anymore.

Biological science has long since settled on consensus criteria. When an entity undergoes respiration, metabolizes energy from nutrients, grows and reproduces, and adapts to the environment, we categorize this as life. (The embryos and patients obviously constitute living human beings.)

Christian truth and faith understand it even better.

"In him [the Word made flesh] was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:4).

"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life'" (John 14:6).

"Because I live, you also will live" (John 14:19).

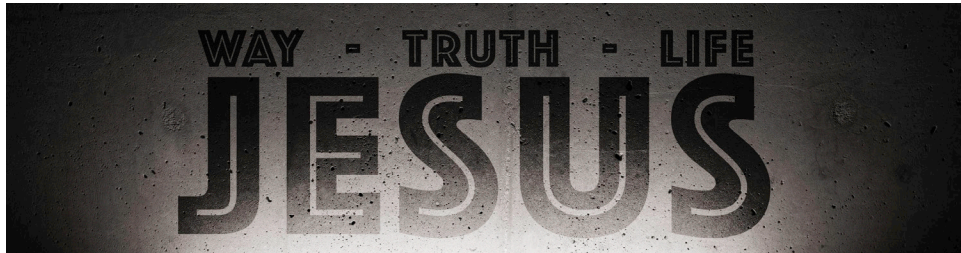
"Your life is hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

"It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (Galatians 2:20).

This definition sets humankind apart. This dimension distinguishes Adam's and Eve's race even from animals and plants. It categorizes us instead in connection to God. Life's worth consists not in bodily attributes or abilities alone but in gracious relationship with Christ Jesus. The species He creates with His breath, redeems by His incarnation, and calls into His family shares His life with a nature and to a degree that the other creatures do not.

Life—real life and full life—has as its purpose more than merely thinking and feeling or choosing and doing. It means receiving from the Almighty Maker, rejoicing in the Heavenly Father, and reigning with the Lord and Savior.

You and I are made for life, abundant and everlasting. And this Gospel is made for all our neighbors, every genetic member of humanity.



Coming this fall: 2024 LFL Regional Conferences
September 14, 2024 • Bristol, Connecticut (Hartford area)
October 12, 2024 • Shawnee, Kansas (Kansas City area)
November 9, 2024 • Winter Garden, Florida (Orlando area)

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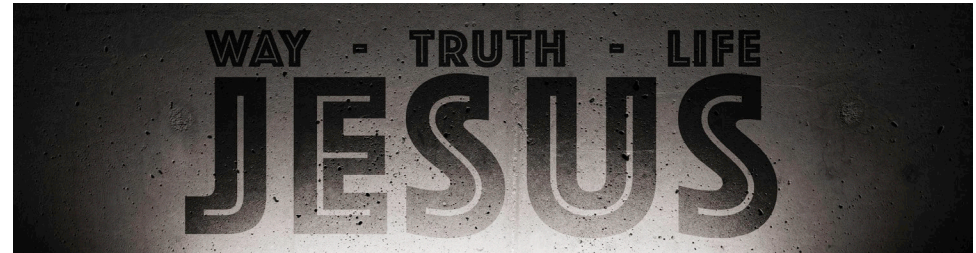
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