

LIFE NEWS—FEBRUARY 2025



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

New Poll Shows 67% of Americans Want Limits on Abortion | The 2025 Knights of Columbus-Marist Poll results, released January 23, show that 67% of Americans support placing legal limits on abortion, and that 60% support limiting abortions to, at most, the first three months of pregnancy. This survey, conducted by the Marist Poll and commissioned annually by the Knights of Columbus, also found that, for the second consecutive year, 83% of Americans support pregnancy resource centers, which offer support to mothers both during their pregnancy and after their baby is born. Additionally, the poll found that 62% of Americans believe healthcare professionals with religious objections to abortions should not be legally required to perform them, while 82% of respondents believe that laws can protect both the mother and her unborn child. "This year's survey results show that Americans are once again firm in their belief that abortion should be significantly limited, yet laws should include exceptions for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother," says Dr. Barbara L. Carvalho, Director of the Marist Poll. "This consistent year over year trend found in the annual Knights of Columbus-Marist Poll has continued, now nearly three years after the Supreme Court's landmark Dobbs decision." (*LifeNews.com, 1/23/25*)

Speaking up For Life

"Please rejoice in knowing prayer works and keep praying for the states who still haven't banned abortions and for those states trying to ward off those who want to bring it back. We are not done praying and never will be. God is on our side, and He has a plan. We need to stand firm and, with faith, never give up praying. God controls the power of prayer, and He is amazing." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life*

"We live dripping with the promise of Baptism. We live fueled by the fire of God's Word. We live created on the sixth day and recreated by God's grace to be followers of Jesus seven days of the week until that great eighth day, called eternity, when we will sing praise in His presence forever. We live and we love and we are loved in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sin forgiven, shame erased, status: all very good." *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour"*

"Our Heavenly Father remains active and almighty, especially in the difficult circumstances that life issues involve. In joining Himself to us with His incarnation, wisdom, power, atonement, and resurrection, Jesus makes every human life blessed—and a blessing! He lovingly and ably handles decisions about welfare and affliction, life and death, so that we don't have to do it on our own." *Pastor Michael Salemink*

LIFE NEWS—FEBRUARY 2025



**LUTHERANS
FOR LIFE**

lutheransforlife.org



Life Newsbytes

New Poll Shows 67% of Americans Want Limits on Abortion | The 2025 Knights of Columbus-Marist Poll results, released January 23, show that 67% of Americans support placing legal limits on abortion, and that 60% support limiting abortions to, at most, the first three months of pregnancy. This survey, conducted by the Marist Poll and commissioned annually by the Knights of Columbus, also found that, for the second consecutive year, 83% of Americans support pregnancy resource centers, which offer support to mothers both during their pregnancy and after their baby is born. Additionally, the poll found that 62% of Americans believe healthcare professionals with religious objections to abortions should not be legally required to perform them, while 82% of respondents believe that laws can protect both the mother and her unborn child. "This year's survey results show that Americans are once again firm in their belief that abortion should be significantly limited, yet laws should include exceptions for rape, incest, or to save the life of the mother," says Dr. Barbara L. Carvalho, Director of the Marist Poll. "This consistent year over year trend found in the annual Knights of Columbus-Marist Poll has continued, now nearly three years after the Supreme Court's landmark Dobbs decision." (*LifeNews.com, 1/23/25*)

Speaking up For Life

"Please rejoice in knowing prayer works and keep praying for the states who still haven't banned abortions and for those states trying to ward off those who want to bring it back. We are not done praying and never will be. God is on our side, and He has a plan. We need to stand firm and, with faith, never give up praying. God controls the power of prayer, and He is amazing." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life*

"We live dripping with the promise of Baptism. We live fueled by the fire of God's Word. We live created on the sixth day and recreated by God's grace to be followers of Jesus seven days of the week until that great eighth day, called eternity, when we will sing praise in His presence forever. We live and we love and we are loved in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, sin forgiven, shame erased, status: all very good." *Rev. Dr. John Nunes, guest speaker on "The Lutheran Hour"*

"Our Heavenly Father remains active and almighty, especially in the difficult circumstances that life issues involve. In joining Himself to us with His incarnation, wisdom, power, atonement, and resurrection, Jesus makes every human life blessed—and a blessing! He lovingly and ably handles decisions about welfare and affliction, life and death, so that we don't have to do it on our own." *Pastor Michael Salemink*

Carrying Our Message Forward

by Pastor Michael Salemink



Every year, our annual **LFL State Federations Essay Contest** renews my joy and hope. Hundreds of junior high and high school students across the country participate. They declare profound truth and love in giving voice to the sanctity of every human life. Their testimonies affirm that you're raising and instructing them well. But you should hear it for yourself:

"In 2020, my family fostered two beautiful girls, Athena and Roseanne ... We fostered for 3.5 months. As time went on, I realized God's plan for these girls and why He placed them in my home. As my love for them grew, I realized what a blessing foster care is—not just for me but for these children as well. We provided a safe home and a chance for them to see Christ." *Ally, Illinois*

"Last December, I coordinated a Christmas piano program for a local nursing home. As the facility doors swung open, I was slammed with the pungent smell of antiseptics, incessant beep of medical equipment, and overall presence of suffering in the room. A veil of pain, fatigue, and confusion seemed to shroud the residents. When the first notes of 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' rang on the piano, that veil was lifted immediately. The residents' faces brightened. Most of them started singing along. Through the gift of music, the assembly was bathed in Christ's light of salvation. After the last hymn ended, they begged us to come again soon. The adults in that room may have lost the ability to walk and talk as they once could, but they will never lose the ability to enjoy God's radiant blessings." *Emma, Texas*

"When I walked into a dilapidated Dairy Queen to meet another possible child to foster, I met Wylynn. The whole time we talked to Wylynn, you could see the light of life inside her. Wylynn was one of our many missing pieces. I am so thankful her mother chose life instead of abortion because without her, I would not be who I am today. We were so glad that God gave us a chance to live out our faith by adopting Wylynn and supporting life. There is a light inside every single foster child out there, a light of hope!" *Gracelynn, South Dakota*

"One of my sisters has dyslexia and dysgraphia. Often, she says she is dumb because of what she has. She thinks that because of her dyslexia and dysgraphia, she will never be considered intelligent. Once she gets past that, however, she is as happy as ever; we just need to help comfort her. She is incredibly smart; things are just much more difficult for her than people realize. Everyone's life shines in darkness." *Maria, Kansas*

"God created every one of us to shine brightly in the world He made for us. Each person is a candle, sustaining His light to share with others. When a baby is aborted, his or her candle is extinguished. Clearly, that is not what God wants for us. None of us is unimportant to God; He cares about all of us, no matter our size, age, parents, gender, or disabilities. Every candle has a special purpose God designed." *Christina, Missouri*

Find out more at lutheransforlife.org/2025-lutherans-for-life-essay-contest.

Carrying Our Message Forward

by Pastor Michael Salemink



Every year, our annual **LFL State Federations Essay Contest** renews my joy and hope. Hundreds of junior high and high school students across the country participate. They declare profound truth and love in giving voice to the sanctity of every human life. Their testimonies affirm that you're raising and instructing them well. But you should hear it for yourself:

"In 2020, my family fostered two beautiful girls, Athena and Roseanne ... We fostered for 3.5 months. As time went on, I realized God's plan for these girls and why He placed them in my home. As my love for them grew, I realized what a blessing foster care is—not just for me but for these children as well. We provided a safe home and a chance for them to see Christ." *Ally, Illinois*

"Last December, I coordinated a Christmas piano program for a local nursing home. As the facility doors swung open, I was slammed with the pungent smell of antiseptics, incessant beep of medical equipment, and overall presence of suffering in the room. A veil of pain, fatigue, and confusion seemed to shroud the residents. When the first notes of 'O Come, All Ye Faithful' rang on the piano, that veil was lifted immediately. The residents' faces brightened. Most of them started singing along. Through the gift of music, the assembly was bathed in Christ's light of salvation. After the last hymn ended, they begged us to come again soon. The adults in that room may have lost the ability to walk and talk as they once could, but they will never lose the ability to enjoy God's radiant blessings." *Emma, Texas*

"When I walked into a dilapidated Dairy Queen to meet another possible child to foster, I met Wylynn. The whole time we talked to Wylynn, you could see the light of life inside her. Wylynn was one of our many missing pieces. I am so thankful her mother chose life instead of abortion because without her, I would not be who I am today. We were so glad that God gave us a chance to live out our faith by adopting Wylynn and supporting life. There is a light inside every single foster child out there, a light of hope!" *Gracelynn, South Dakota*

"One of my sisters has dyslexia and dysgraphia. Often, she says she is dumb because of what she has. She thinks that because of her dyslexia and dysgraphia, she will never be considered intelligent. Once she gets past that, however, she is as happy as ever; we just need to help comfort her. She is incredibly smart; things are just much more difficult for her than people realize. Everyone's life shines in darkness." *Maria, Kansas*

"God created every one of us to shine brightly in the world He made for us. Each person is a candle, sustaining His light to share with others. When a baby is aborted, his or her candle is extinguished. Clearly, that is not what God wants for us. None of us is unimportant to God; He cares about all of us, no matter our size, age, parents, gender, or disabilities. Every candle has a special purpose God designed." *Christina, Missouri*

Find out more at lutheransforlife.org/2025-lutherans-for-life-essay-contest.