

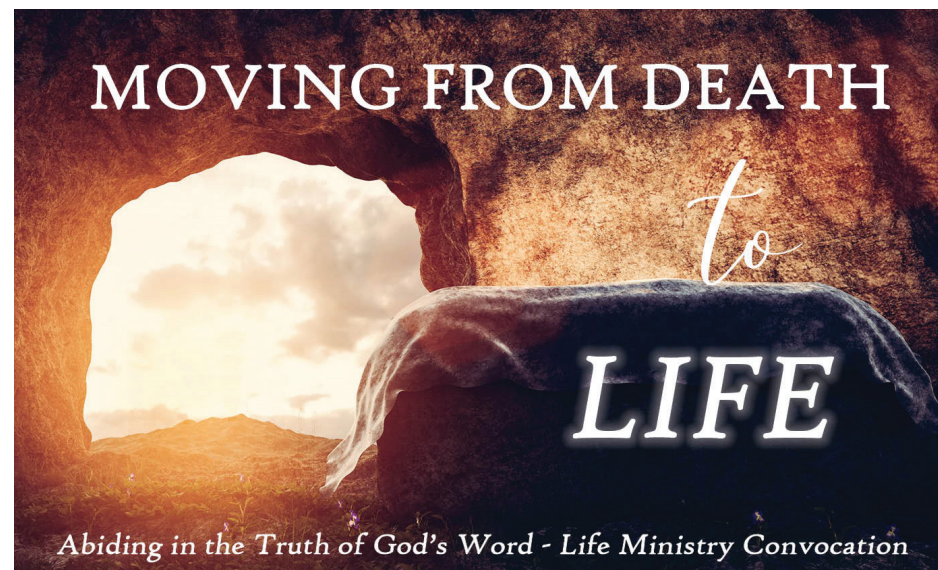
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**Kahler Grand Hotel | Rochester, Minn. | Oct. 17–18, 2025**

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Did you know that *abortion is the nation's single leading cause of death?* Data from the reputable Guttmacher Institute shows that **1,038,100 clinician-provided abortions** were performed in 2024, nearly the same as in 2023. In comparison, in its most recent (2023) annual statistics on the leading causes of death in the U.S., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports: heart disease led to **680,981** deaths, and cancer claimed the lives of **613,352** people. Why have we become so blind and indifferent to the facts? Since an abortion kills an innocent human being, the truth is our nation's leading cause of death is murder. No law makes this act right!

After the U.S. Supreme Court overturned *Roe v. Wade* (1973), returning the legal decisions on abortion to the states, the Minnesota Legislature passed a series of laws describing abortion as a "fundamental right." Viewing abortion as "healthcare", Minnesota now allows the taking of an unborn life for any reason up to birth, and even denies legal protection to infants who survive an abortion procedure, thus permitting babies to be left to die and be disposed of as medical waste. So, how will the Church respond to these state laws which fail to respect and protect defenseless human life?



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From the very beginning, Christian doctrine prohibited abortion and infanticide because it was understood as unjustified killing—a violation of the Fifth Commandment: You shall not murder. In his explanation on this commandment, Martin Luther also adds, “If you see anyone innocently sentenced to death or in similar distress, and do not save him, although you know ways and means to do so, you have killed him (LC I 190).” Christians must love and care for their neighbor in all circumstances.

*It is written, “We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers. Whoever does not love abides in death. Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him. By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world’s goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God’s love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth (1 John 3:14–18 ESV).”*

***At Moving from Death to Life: Abiding in the Truth of God’s Word—you can join in the effort to keep God’s Word and advocate for a “culture of life” in Minnesota and the U.S.***

**For a list of speakers, event schedule,  
registration, and other information visit:**

**[www.gracedc.church/convo](http://www.gracedc.church/convo)**

***Please register by Oct. 10.***



***This event is made possible by generous support from the Minnesota South District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) and the LCMS 1 John 3 Initiative Million Dollar Life Match Grant.***

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