CONGREGATIONAL HOUSE OF REFUGE STATEMENT

Our congregation is publicly designated as a Congregational House of Refuge. We pledge ourselves as a place of safety and support for anybody experiencing an unplanned pregnancy.

We believe that every child – no matter what age or origin, appearance or ability – comes as a gift from Almighty God Himself.
- We believe that pregnancy is not a sin and that carrying a baby is not a punishment.
- We believe in receiving and loving not only these little ones but also their mothers and fathers and families.

As a Congregational House of Refuge, we pledge not to endorse or advise abortion.
- We pledge not to gossip about you, ridicule, belittle, or abandon you in your pregnancy.
- We pledge not to tolerate any members of this assembly hurting you with comments or conduct contrary to God's truth and Christ's love given in His own holy Word.

As a Congregational House of Refuge, we promise to surround you with encouragement and assistance.
- We promise to unite our collective efforts to walk with you every step of the way, helping you carry and care for your child both before and after birth.
- We promise to empower and encourage men to become loving fathers who protect women and children to faithfully fulfill their God-given vocations as fathers and husbands.
- We promise to support and accompany you if compassion and courage for your child draws you toward the choice of adoption.

And as a Congregational House of Refuge, we rejoice that the grace of God redeems even our difficulties.
- The Gospel of Jesus Christ extends also to abortions anyone may have already undergone.
- If you are suffering grief or guilt over an abortion, please hear that our Heavenly Father loves your life as much as the one that was lost, and our Savior was crucified and has risen for this sin as well.
- The Lord beholds and forgives your repentant heart, and you may go forth in peace.
- We stand ready to connect with further spiritual care and resources to bring about complete relief, healing, and freedom.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE